

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent



66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452
www.sppcprla.com email: info@sppcprla.com

ABOUT OUR PARISH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

| | |
|-----|-----------|
| Mon | No Mass |
| Tue | 8:00 a.m. |
| Wed | 6:30 p.m. |
| Thu | 8:00 a.m. |
| Fri | 8:00 a.m. |

HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil and Holy Day Mass times vary; please see bulletin or website

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Tuesday: St. Jude Novena following
8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena following 8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Patriotic Rosary in Church
6:30 p.m.

First Friday: The Most Blessed Sacrament
and Eucharistic Adoration following 8:00 a.m.
Mass until 5:00 p.m. closing with Benediction

First Saturday: Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed
by the Rosary and Confession

RECONCILIATION

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Sat | 4:00-4:45 p.m. |
| Wed | 6:00-6:15 p.m. |
| Or by request | |

YOUR CLERGY

Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D.
Archbishop of New Orleans

Very Rev. Gerald Seiler
Dean, Deanery X

Fr. Kevin DeLerno
Pastor

Deacon Bryan McCauley

YOUR STAFF

Karen Dickerson
Office Secretary
kdickerson@sppcprla.com
info@sppcprla.com

Mary Kittel
Director of Religious Education
mary@sppcprla.com

Cedric Konyaole
Web Site
ckonyaole@sppcprla.com

Jerry Broussard
Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00
Tuesday-Friday 8:00-3:00

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax
985-863-5431

REGISTER

If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by filling out a form located in the holder at the Church entrances and place it in the collection basket or come by the office.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Usually the third Sunday of the month (except during Lent) following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration forms at least **three weeks** in advance.

Matrimony

By appointment with the parish priest or deacon at least **six months** in advance. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the priest.

Anointing of the Sick

Upon request for the seriously ill, infirm and those undergoing major surgery. Please contact the Church Office when someone is homebound or hospitalized and in need of the sacrament.

Communion for Ill/Shut-In

Please call the Church Office if you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry.

Funerals

Families should contact the priest (office) before making arrangements.

Parish Mission Statement

It is the mission of our Church Parish to follow the commands of Jesus to Saints Peter and Paul: "Feed My sheep" and "Carry My name among the nations."



WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Jude Novena in Parish Hall

OCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday 6:30 p.m. in classrooms

Altar Society—Thursday 9:00 a.m. Parish Hall

Legion of Mary—Thursday 10:00 a.m. St. Anthony Hall

Widow's Group—Thursday 12:00 p.m. Sedra's Bistro

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday 6:30 p.m. in church

Office Closes—Friday 12:00 p.m. reopens on January 2, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24, 2024— 5:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.

Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25— 2024: 10:30 a.m. ONLY

Solemnity of Mary: Wednesday, January 1, 2025 — 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
(Holy Day of Obligation)

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Audrey Bonnet, May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Bunny Shriver, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Israel & Joyce Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Joseph Decaro, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim & Eydie Richmond, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Lucy D'Antoni, Don & Judy Aleman, Dylan Gornor, Vaughn Gay, Cathy Stanford, Herbert Landry, John McKelvey, Jr., James White

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 16

(Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, December 17

(Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17)

8:00 a.m. Lucille Lorio†

Wednesday, December 18

(Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, December 19

(Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25)

8:00 a.m. Lucas Tracey†

Friday, December 20

(Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)

8:00 a.m. Jerry Roszczynialski†

Saturday, December 21

(Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Lawrence Otillio†, Lee Ann Scogin†, Manual Selva, Sr.†, Bob Murphy, Robert Jenevein†, John Lacourrege†, Helen Story†, Audrey Bonnet†, David Harley, Methe Family, Vaughn Gay

Sunday, December

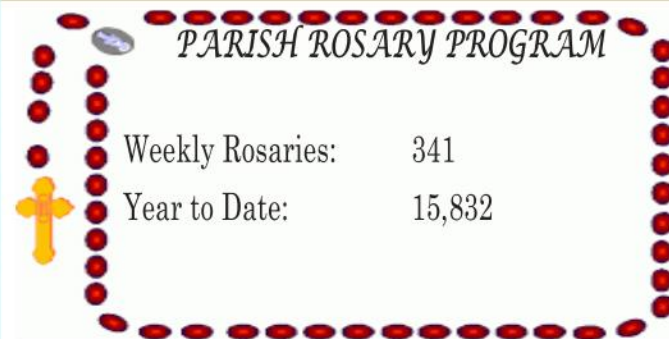
(Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45)

7:00 a.m. The Dickerson Family

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Glen Parker†, J.C. Spiers†, Debra Goodey†, Yvette & Al Bowman, Earline Garitty†, Claude 'Bo' Wolcott, Jr.†, Ross Noel†, Jewel Bailey†, Lou Lou Battle†, Frank & Bessie Cuccia†, Frank Paul Cuccia†, Norman Gilchrist, Sr.†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM



Weekly Rosaries: 341

Year to Date: 15,832



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



TO BE A COMMUNITY

The people ask John the Baptist in earnest what they should do in response to his message. In the verses before today's Gospel, John is preaching a message of repentance and if I'm honest, a bit of fear thrown in. He is challenging the status quo with strong language, calling the Pharisees "vipers" and asserting that God is ready and waiting to cut down whoever isn't producing good fruit in their lives.

"What should we do?" The crowds, tax collectors, and even soldiers ask John. To each group, John gives a different answer. However, every answer is rooted in the same basic principle - be a community.

John tells the crowds to share their food and clothing with whomever among them is lacking. A community takes care of each person's basic needs. It requires that everyone consider the needs of others before their own wants and needs.

John tells the tax collectors to stop overcharging people. He is insisting on selflessness, rather than selfishness. Notice that John doesn't tell them to stop in their profession, but to practice it with integrity and honesty. There is no need to be greedy, especially if the community is practicing John's first assertion to take care of the basic needs of every individual.

Finally, John tells the soldiers to be content in their station and position. Do not flaunt your authority or use it to abuse others. Again, John doesn't tell them to desert their positions, but to fulfill their tasks well and with proper purpose. In a community, each person has something to contribute and the capacity to do it well. Some will be in authority over others, but this does not give them the right to abuse the privilege of leadership.

Today, John the Baptist gives us three foundational elements of a community built upon God's principles. We must be generous, considering the needs of others. We must be honest, contributing our part and not seeking to grasp what is not ours. We must be content, recognizing that what we have is from God and that we are stewards of His goodness and love.

By Kate Taliaferro

NOT READY? NO PROBLEM!

While Advent is a beautiful time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, we often get so caught up in all the things we do to prepare for Christmas that we forget Advent all together. The readings remind us that in spite of the stress we may feel thinking about how close Christmas is, we are called to rejoice for the Lord is near.

The stress we feel may be from fear: Fear that I won't get the shopping done by Christmas, fear that people won't like the gifts I bought, or fear that I forgot someone that should be on my list. But did you ever notice how much easier it is when you have someone to shop with you, or write the Christmas cards, or decorate the tree? "Shout for joy...fear not!" says the prophet Zephaniah in the first reading. (Zeph 3:14) He tells us the Lord is not coming to punish us for waiting till the last minute to put up the tree. The prophet says the Lord is in our midst, we are not alone. "He has turned away your enemies" (Zeph 3:15), enemies like fear, doubts, and loneliness.

And as if that wasn't good enough, he says that the Lord rejoices over us! How many times have you wondered if you could ask the Lord for help? Zephaniah reminds us that the Lord is happy to help. And St. Paul says the same thing in the second reading: "Have no anxiety at all...make your requests known to God." (Phil 4:6) That is where Advent comes in. We can look forward to the Lord's presence in our lives. We can be confident of his love for us. That is why faith and hope are central to the theme of Advent. Our faith in God's love for us gives us hope that he will support us in our weakness and fill us with the joy he has over us.

Tom Schmidt

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, "Gaudete Sunday," is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: *Gaudete* is Latin for "Rejoice!" This year's Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary's visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.

Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary's presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it's all because of the clams!

—James Field,



PASTOR'S CORNER

Today we start the third week of Advent and we light the rose or pink candle. This Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday, which means rejoice. Of course, this is because we are at the half way point in the Advent season and Christmas is almost here. Our time of waiting is growing close to the end, but not quite yet!

This is a time to rejoice and to be happy, not just because Christmas is almost here, but also because we can thank God for all of the good times in our lives, especially the Christmas events of your life that were most enjoyable. I can still remember some of the family events I went to as a child. I remember all of the Nativity Scenes that directed me to think about the birth of Jesus, that would remind me of the reason of the season. Back then there were so many more than there are today. If you remember last year I changed the way the Nativity Scene was displayed by bringing the different statues to the manger over time. The reason for this was that I remember friends doing something similar with their small manger scenes where the figures showed up over time. The wise men

where farther away and Jesus only appeared the night of His birth. So what I was doing was replicating this on a larger scale.

I remember going to look at all of the Christmas lights around town. I remember when Al Copland used to have his great Christmas light display out front of his house years ago. Some of those displays were automated and as a kid that was a beautiful and exciting thing to see. I remember the first time I went to City Park and saw the light show in New Orleans amongst the stately old oak trees and how beautiful that was.

I remember Christmas caroling and the beauty of many people singing beautiful Christmas Carols. These songs always warm my heart and help me to focus on the reason for the season, the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. For the last three years I have gone with our youth choir to the homes of some of our shut-ins and enjoyed the beautiful songs that Cynthia and Mike work so hard to teach our children. Also, seeing the faces of the shut-ins when they listen is so precious as well. One of the little ladies said that this was the best present that she had been given all year. So also make sure to show up for our Choir Christmas program this Sunday December 15 at Noon so you can hear their beautiful music as well.

I remember how simple a time that was and how much joy the simple things were as a child. For those who have young children or grandchildren this is a great time to bring them out to enjoy seeing the lights and maybe even relive the events yourselves as you watch their expressions.



I TRUST IN YOU MAR 15 2025



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MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ALTAR SERVERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

kdickerson@sppcprla.com

ALTAR SOCIETY

Susan Mercier 985-690-6617

3rd Thursday each month 9:00 am

ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY

Deacon Bryan McCauley

985-863-7935

ELIJAH HELPERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613

1st Friday each month 8:00 am

FAITH FORMATION-RCIA

Elizabeth Brent 985-640-6938

FINANCE

Patti Gay 985-863-7935

FLORAL DESIGN

Cathy Downey 985-290-4702

GRAND ADULTS (GASPP)

Alicia O'Brien 985-863-1938

1st Monday each month 12:00 pm

LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

LEGION OF MARY

Paula Hilton 985-707-4539

Meet on Thursdays at 10:00 am

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

rogruiz@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

Braden Eymard 5:00 pm

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold & Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea Leonard 985-640-7412

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

USHERS & GREETERS

Howard Hebert, Sr. 985-863-5319

howardhebert@bellsouth.net

WIDOWS GROUP

Sandra Bailey 985-250-9013

Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3rd Thursday each month 12:00 pm

YOUTH GROUP (CYO)

Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604

In order to keep our data base current and accurate, please contact the office if you have moved and have a new address or new phone number.

Office: 985-863-7935 or

Email: kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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BULLETIN DEADLINE:

The office requires information no later than
Monday, **two (2) weeks** before publication.

For current Parish happenings (funeral information, changes in mass times, etc.),
check the bulletin boards at the entrances to church and www.sppcprla.com.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Good Sams Ministry is open Monday (12:30-3:30 pm), Tuesday-Friday (9:30 am-3:30 pm). Please call ahead for appointment, 985-641-6421

We do not accept clothing or furniture donations. Bring these to
Community Christian Concern at 2515 Carey St., Slidell

HOW TO DONATE:

You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for
every family! You may donate by going to the site below:

<https://saintlukeslidell.org/donategoodsams>

Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry
leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.



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