



St. Joseph Co-Cathedral

P.O. Box 966 721 Canal Boulevard Thibodaux, LA 70301

Pastoral Staff

Most Rev. Mario E. Dorsonville, STL, D.Min.
5th Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux

Very Rev. Vicente N. DeLa Cruz, J.C.L, V.F.
Pastor

Rev. Rholando Grecia
Parochial Vicar

Permanent Deacons
Deacon Joseph Bourgeois

Mrs. Miriam C. Guillot
Office Manager

Ms. Renée E. Guillot
Secretary

Adult Formation & Service Ministries Coordinator
Ms. Pamela Folse

Youth Formation Program
Mrs. Susan Manning
Ms. Patty McKee

Maintenance
Mr. Carl Waguespack

Contact Information

Church Office: (985) 446-1387
Fax Number: (985) 446-6571

Website: www.stjoseph-cc.org
Email Address: stjosephcc@htdiocese.org

Facebook Page:
St. Joseph-Co-Cathedral – Catholic-Church-
Thibodaux

Mass Schedule

Weekday	Monday to Friday 6:30 AM and 5:30 PM Saturday at 6:30 AM
Weekend	Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 PM Sunday 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM; 6:00 PM

Confession/Reconciliation

30 minutes before each Weekday and weekend
Masses and from 3 to 4 PM on Saturday

Baptisms

FIRST Sunday of each month (except during Lent)
following the 11:30 AM Mass. Baptismal Seminar
on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the
Life Center Building. Please call the Church Office
for arrangements.

Weddings

Arrangements should be made six months before
the wedding. Please call the Church Office to
schedule.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School

501 Cardinal Drive, Thibodaux, LA 70301
Ms. Jami Chadwick, Principal
Email Address: stjoeelm@htdiocese.org
(985) 446-1346

Church Office Hours

Monday to Thursday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM
Closed for Lunch 12 noon to 1:00 PM

TRMC Hospital Chaplain

Rev. Sebastian Stephen
985-438-0215

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: December 2-3, 2023

As we begin the Holy Season of Advent, I give thanks to God for sending cheerful givers who assisted us with our Sound System Replacement Project. *Through the prayers and intercessions of Saint Joseph, I pray that God bless y'all and all those who in their own ways, help us keep this beautiful dwelling place of God in good shape. Amen.*

Please make plans to join us this coming December 16th as we come together to celebrate the Closing of our Jubilee Year with music, songs, prayers, and food! The Season of Advent call us to prepare God's dwelling place in our faith, lives, hearts, and community. Come, let us welcome Him together and give thanks for all His blessings to us and all!

Every Advent Season our Ushers and Pam Folse ask families who bring up the offertory gifts to also light the Advent Candle/s on our wreath. Why? Because each one of us are part of the "advent-waiting" and preparing for the Coming of the Lord! This is the basic message of Advent. While the wreath and the candles are symbolic of our waiting, each one of us who lights the candle/s are the ones to whom the Lord will come. As the Angels proclaim: for unto us, a child is given; to each one of you the Savior will come. So, go ahead, light the way for the Lord, prepare His paths!

Our Advent journey this Season begins with our FIRST lesson of advent which is "**hope**." Online dictionaries defined "**hope**" as a "feeling of expectation, a desire or wish for a certain thing/s to happen." In the Scriptures, it is defined as "expectation with certainty that God will do what God has said will be done." While the two definitions are a little bit different, they share a common word – **expectation**. The question is "who's expecting whom or what?"

In the 1st reading for the 1st Sunday of Advent, the Prophet Isaiah was **hoping** that the Lord will return to the Hebrew people after abandoning them because of their (the people's) infidelities towards the Lord. A recurring theme among the early writings, the people of old think that the Lord "has abandoned them" when bad things happen in their kingdom, lives, and faith (e.g., invasion, deaths,

misfortune, calamities, pestilence, etc.).

The psalmist in Psalm 80, however, was **hoping** that his people "return to the Lord" so that they will continue to enjoy the Lord's blessings.

In the short gospel narrative from St. Mark, Jesus clearly spoke about what He wants all of us to hear about His coming: "*Be watchful! Be alert! What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!*" Nobody knows the day, time, hour, moment when the Lord will return OR when you, I or anyone will return to the God! Our **hope** is that the Lord will indeed return and/or you, I and everyone will return to the Lord, whichever comes first!

St. Paul's introductory words to his letter to the people at Corinth is filled with **hope** for they are "not lacking in any spiritual gift as they wait for the revelation Jesus Christ (second coming)." St. Paul was insisting that they have been given enough grace to wait for the Lord with fidelity and they must remain faithful and ready.

While we **hope** for the Return of the Lord and/or our return to the Lord someday, just like the readings this weekend, our "**hope**" has some expectations attached to it. Some **hope** that the Lord will return to fix everything that is wrong in our lives. Some **hope** that the Lord will return to take care of all the mess that we have in the world. Some **hope** that when the Lord returns, we will have everything that we longed, prayed for, and hoped for.

Each one of us has our own reasons for hoping and expectations attached to them -- including me. My hope is that someday when I have done all the Lord has asked me to do in ministry, the Lord will welcome me to His kingdom to be with Him and my beloved ones.

How about the Lord, what is God "**hoping**" for?

God is only **hoping** for one thing: "*I will be your God and you will be my people.*" (See Genesis 17:3-8; Exodus 6:7; Ezekiel 34:23-24; 36:28; Jeremiah 30:22; 31:33). God has always been consistent in His **hope** for us from the beginning of time (Genesis) until the end. God wants to be united with us at His Kingdom!

As you begin your journey through the Advent Season, what is it you are **hoping** for?

Father Vic+

WEEKLY OFFERING
November 18th/ 19th , 2023

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 10,514.55
Weekly Loose	1,761.25
Online Giving	236.13
Monthly ACH	4,217.00
Weekly ACH	570.00
TOTAL	\$ 17,298.93
CCHD	\$2,637.00

Thank you for your generosity !

Our Sunday Bulletin is supported by the advertisers who are listed on our back page. What better way to say THANK YOU than to remember them the next time you go shopping.

Fall Plants

Donated in Memory of

Michael "Mike" Ory, Jr.
By: Family

Please remember

**Martha Dolese &
 Edgar McLendon, Jr.**



Who passed on into the Kingdom of our Father recently. Please pray also that their families may find comfort and consolation through their faith.



The following were
 Baptized into the family
 of Christ recently:

Adrian Lawrence
 Child of Mark & Paige Charpentier

Wedding Banns

Jesse Pizzolato & Adele Broussard (3)

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral invites
 Everyone to a

Community Christmas Celebration

6 PM, Saturday, December 16th

Beginning with an Indoor Christmas

Concert featuring —

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral Choir,

Omaggio Community Chorus

Nicholls Chamber Choir

Rejubilation Evangelical Community Choir

***Outdoor Children's Nativity on the
 Rectory Porch***

The "Voices of Christmas" interpreted by adult
 members of our church

The choirs will lead us outside for caroling.

Gumbo, Potato Salad, Hot Cocoa & Cookies serve
 in the Life Center.

Bring your camera for pictures with
 Santa & Mrs. Claus.

OUTDOOR CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

Children of all ages are invited to participate as
 shepherds, kings, angels and animals.

Wear your own costume or we will provide one for
 you (while supplies last). If you have a child who
 would like to participate, please call
 Sara Day @ 985-803-0100.

GIVING TREE

This project is St. Joseph's contribution to
 the Thibodaux Area Christmas Toy Drive and
 reaches out to the families in our parish that are in
 need.

Ornaments will be available on the tree
 before and after all masses. On each ornament you
 will find information indicating both the age and
 gender of the child it represents. We ask that you
 donate gifts that promote "peace and family value"
 and encourage everyone to participate.

Newly purchased wrapped gifts are to be
 brought to the church and placed under the Giving
 Tree by Sunday, December 10th. Remember to
 securely attach the ornament :

**Please write the gift type in the provided
 space on the label.**

NO GIFT CARDS OR CLOTHES

Bagging & Tagging: Thursday, Dec. 14h @ 9 am
Distribution: Saturday, Dec. 16th @ 9 - 10:30 am

Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.