



# *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](http://www.stjoseph-cc.org)  
Email Address: [stjosephcc@htdiocese.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 9-10, 2023

This Holy Season of Advent, I continue to 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 16<sup>th</sup>** 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! There will be lots of singing, biblical characters portrayal, tree-lighting and community caroling, ending with a shared meal at the Life Center!

The second Sunday of Advent Season continues with the message of "**peace.**" While most people would consider **peace** as the absence of war, conflicts, divisions, pain, suffering, etc., I always consider **peace** as the presence of God! There is **peace** whenever God is present in every situation and persons.

In the first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord speaks to His beloved and chosen people with words of comfort, reminding them that God is in their midst! The Hebrew people of old had been through rough times in their lives and faith and they needed the reassurance that God has not abandoned them, despite their iniquities and moments of unfaithfulness to the Lord. God's words to His people are so uplifting that whatever fear, doubts, or concerns they have, His comforting words strengthened them; they have **peace**!

In the second reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter of Peter, the apostle consoles his friends and followers of Jesus by reassuring them that although the Second coming of Christ is delayed, God didn't forget His promise that He will return to them (and us!). The delay of the Lord's return is not because He is taking His time or have changed His mind. No, God does not change His mind! St. Peter argues in his letter that the delay in Christ's return is because He is giving us time to be ready, prepare and be like Him while waiting. Quote: "*Since everything is to*

*be dissolved in this way* (referring to what will happen when the Lord comes), *what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God ...*" Yes, the Lord delays His return to us to give us a chance to change our ways, become like Him, to be ready when His time comes! There is a wonderful Spanish saying that says, "*Dios retrasa pero no olvida,*" which means, "God delays BUT He never forgets." His delay is for our benefit! This thought should give each one of us "**peace**" knowing and believing that God is giving me ALL the chances I need to be ready for His or MY return to Him before the time comes.

In the beginning paragraph of St. Mark's Gospel, he quotes the words of the Lord in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah which we read in the first reading, identifying John the Baptist as "*the voice that cried out in the desert – prepare the way of the Lord!*" The message of St. John the Baptist was the fulfillment of the promise of old that the Messiah will come and is here in presence of Jesus, *emmanu-El* – God (is) with us! The comforting assurance in the first reading, the encouraging words of St. Peter in the second reading, is now a reality in the Gospel of Mark. A Greek inscription found in the tomb of St. Peter ("*petros eni*", Peter is here), can be used in the gospel of Mark as "**Christos eni,**" the Christ is here! All the doubts and fears of the chosen people, young and old, are now calmed by Jesus' Divine revelation – Peace, I am here. God is present among His people, **peace** is here. In the gospel narratives, Jesus is heard to say always, "Do not be afraid, it is I – I am here."

We are reminded again this Advent Season that God never abandons His people, that He is always with us "until the end of time." God is and wants to be present to us at all times especially in those times we need God, we need His presence, we need peace. The question you have to ask is, do I want and allow God to be present in my life and faith at all times?

If you are troubled and want peace, invite God to be present in and to you.  
If you are worried and disturbed and want peace, allow God to be present with you.  
If you are tired and exhausted and want peace, let the Good Shepherd give you rest.

This Advent Season have peace, He's waiting for you to ask Him!

*Father Vic+*

**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
**November 25th/26th , 2023**

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 10,706.00
Weekly Loose	1,972.00
Online Giving	157.88
Weekly ACH	570.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,405.88</b>

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*



The following were  
 Baptized into the family  
 of Christ recently:

**Nora Conrad**

Child of Francis & Constance Waguespack



### *Breakfast Group*

Join us in the Life Center on  
**Tuesday , December 12th**  
 following the 6:30 AM Mass.

### **2ND COLLECTION PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND**

This collection is used to directly support retired priests of our diocese.

Thank you for your generosity.

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral invites  
 Everyone to a

## *Community Christmas Celebration*

**6 PM, Saturday, December 16th**

Beginning with an Indoor Christmas

Concert featuring —

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

The choirs will lead us outside for caroling.

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral Choir,

Omaggio Community Chorus

Nicholls Chamber Choir

Rejubilation Evangelical Community Choir

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

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.

### **RETURN GIFTS FOR THE 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.