



# *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: January 6-7, 2024

We recognized that there are still some people who are still struggling with our new sound system due to decreased hearing or because of their use of hearing aids. I can sympathize with ya'll for I also wear hearing aids. I have the latest crossover hearing aids which unfortunately I haven't been able to use since the pandemic and currently it is now being serviced by the manufacturer. Our new Sound System has a Wi-fi- Assisted feature for Bluetooth enabled hearing aid devices and a separate independent loop (for hearing aid telecoils) devices for those whose devices are not Bluetooth enabled. We will provide instruction guide flyer and schedule a set up day for all hearing aid users later on for those who are interested in using this added feature. Stay tuned.

The Christmas Season officially ends on the weekend of January 6-7, 2024. The Christmas decorations and the Jubilee Banners will all come down on the following Monday or Tuesday (check with the church office) and **we need help!** Thank you! The Poinsettias will be left underneath the Walkway outside the Sacristy Door Entrance and they are free to take by anyone!

As the Christmas Season ends, on behalf of Fathers Rholly and Sebastian, we would like to **THANK** all of you who remembered us these past hectic weeks with words of encouragement, gratitude, well wishes and gifts! It sure was a challenging Advent/Christmas Seasons but the help of many from our Staff to Volunteers made everything bearable and possible! **Thank you "Church!"**

And now we pause for a while (5 weeks to be exact) before we enter another Holy Season – of Lent!

This weekend, we will celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The word "epiphany" came from the Greek word, "*epipháneia*," meaning manifestation or appearance. This event and readings narrate the "manifestation of the glory of the Lord to the Magi," a precursor to Messianic revelation. This event and manifestation were made possible thanks to "***the Star that they had seen at its rising and preceded them***" to Bethlehem to find the child Jesus laying in a manger. The Star led the Magi to Jesus!

Interestingly, the prophecy of Isaiah the Prophet in the 1<sup>st</sup> reading this weekend was fulfilled NOT to the Hebrew people of old, but to a group of "outsiders" (also known as Magi, Wise Men, Three Kings, Men from the East) who simply wants to know who is the newborn King of the Jews that they can pay their homage! The "epiphanies" (manifestation or appearance) of the newborn King of the Jews happened to these men from outside of Judea who was led by a

Star, and among those outside of the society (the shepherds) directed by the Angels! Perhaps the reason why we always put a Star and Angels above our Nativity Display is to do the same – lead all people to Jesus.

For the last centuries, scientists and astronomers have been trying to investigate and validate the so-called "Bethlehem Star," to no avail. Many theories and treatises have been introduced and yet, their scientific research and studies have alluded the brilliant minds. I think I know why. These people were trying to prove a celestial event that happened centuries ago and yet fail to see a billion (or more) strong "witnesses to the event." Just like the Magi, many of these witnesses were led "by a star/s" to Jesus through their faith and love of God.

One of the early "stars" of our faith is St. Paul, who in his own admission, was the least qualified to witness for the Lord. Despite the human weaknesses of St. Paul, he managed to travel across Asia minor and convert people from every city and town he went. He wrote letters to them and encouraged them to be witnesses of the gospel too. Because St. Paul led many to Christ not only by his preaching and writing but by his living examples, many followed Jesus to martyrdom and sanctity. St. Paul was an "epiphanies" of the Lord to all those that was converted because of his faith.

Being "living examples of faith" is what will make each one of us "shine in the darkness," as the Prophet Isaiah described in the first reading. When one becomes faithful to the Lord and walks in His ways, one's witness will become the "light" that will attract all people and bring them to the Lord. In return, our fidelity to the Lord will bring us riches and rewards beyond this life and this world. This would only be possible if each one becomes an "epiphanies" of the Lord to all people.

How about you, who led you to Jesus? Who was the star/s whose light of faith shone forth that helped you find your way to God? Who showed you the way? Before the Christmas Season is over, go ahead and thank them! Perhaps even better – be a witness to others just like them. Who knows, perhaps you may be the "star" that someone is looking for to precede them Jesus.

*Father Vic+*

**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
**December 23rd/ 24th , 2023**

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 14,161.50
Weekly Loose	1,670.76
Online Giving	360.38
<u>Weekly ACH</u>	<u>530.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,722.64</b>

***Christmas Collection***  
***December 24th/ 25th, 2023***

Total Collections: \$ 21,863.37  
Christmas Quota: <17,595.00>  
\$4,268.37

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.

**JACOB'S LADDER Volunteers Needed !**

Jacob's Ladder meets every third Tuesday for 1 1/2 hours to clean, organize and decorate the church for Christmas & Easter. It is a great way to give your time and talent to our church community.



Call the Life Center @ 446-1387 for more information.

**\*JANUARY 9TH, we will meet to take down the Christmas decoration.**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
OF THE WORD**



We are taking registrations for children to participate in the Children's Liturgy program that will take place during the 9:30 Am Mass. The child must be at least 3 years of age (potty trained) and have not yet celebrated their 1st Communion. Visit our website under Youth Formation to get download the registration form. Return forms to pmckee@htdiocese.org.

All children must be registered ahead of time to participate. Anyone wishing to help with this ministry (subs are needed) is asked to call Natalie Landry at 985-859-4608

Volunteers are needed to lead our Baptismal Seminars. If you are looking to help in some way and don't have much time to give, this may be the ministry for you.

We all know how important it is to have our children baptized and to have parents and godparents lead them on their spiritual journey through the formative years.



Volunteers lead our seminars on the last Thursday of each month. It can be individuals, couples or a team. If you are able to give an hour or so once a year, please call the Life Center at 446-1387. Training will be provided.



***Here's a new way for you to receive text messages and emails from us.***

- 1. Connect with us at**  
***stjosephcathedral.flocknote.com OR***
- 2. Click the link on our website OR**
- 3. Text VALERIE to 84576 and follow the directions OR**
- 4. Call us with your email address and cell number or email to pfolse@htdiocese.org.**



**CONFIRMATION MASS**  
**Tuesday January 16th**  
**6:00 PM**

There will be **NO 5:30 PM MASS** on this day.

*Wedding Banns*

Drey Benoit & Taylor Acosta (3)  
Mason Like & Taylor Naquin (3)  
George Molaison & Beth Bourgeois (3)  
Andrew Templet & Claire Chiasson (2)