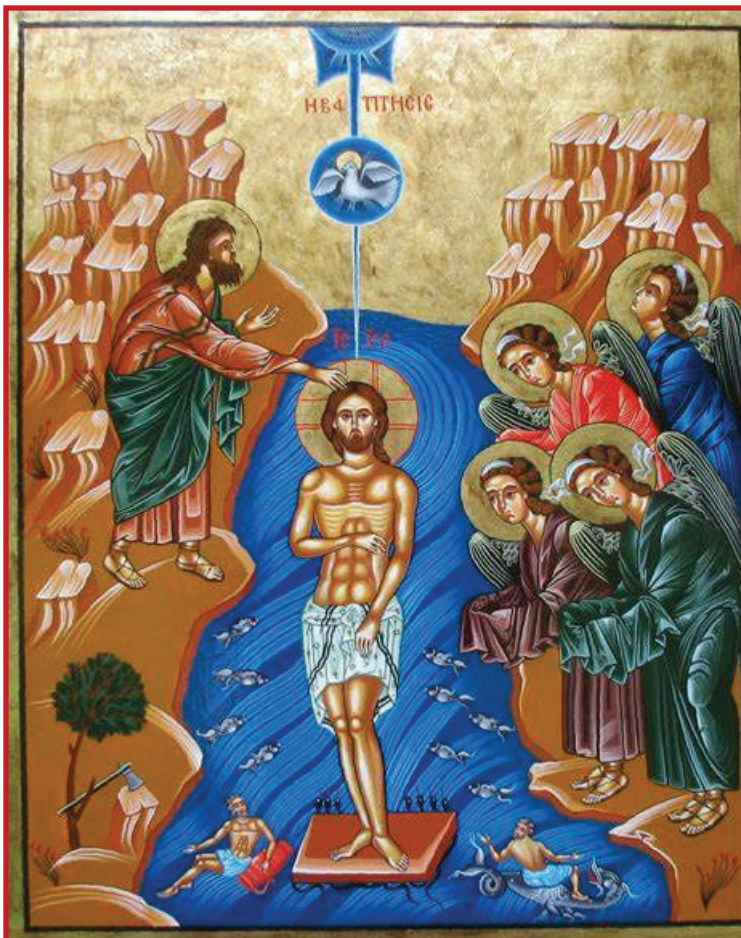


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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 12, 2020

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 Fri. 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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 Vince Liberto (Athletics) 504-834-0340

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Contemporary Choir Director: Jamie Diliberto 504-258-8826

SHARING PROGRAM - Carol Pritchard 504-835-6809

ADORATION CHAPEL - Dottie Watson 504-339-4298

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12N & 6:00 P.M.

Holy Days: Vigil 4:00 PM; Feast - announced

Weekdays: 6:30 & 8:00AM Monday-Friday; Saturday 8:00 AM

School Mass: Friday 9:00 AM (or as announced)

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel: Open 24 hours daily.

Confessions: Monday to Saturday: 7:40-7:55AM;
 Saturday 8:30-9:00AM, 3:00-3:45PM & 5:00-5:30PM

Baptism: Contact Parish Center 1 month prior to due date.
 Seminar 7:00P.M. - Second Monday of the month.

Wedding: Contact parish clergy at least 6 months in advance. Coordinator: Linda Jones 504-421-7946.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

“The Baptism of Jesus” Mt 3:13-17

Why did Jesus, the sinless One, submit himself to John's baptism at the River Jordan, considering that John was baptizing sinners? In this humble act, we see a foreshadowing of Jesus' "Yes" to God the Father on the cross. Jesus' baptism was His acceptance of the mission to be God's suffering servant. He submitted himself entirely to his Father's will, consenting to “baptism” on the cross in order to save us from sin.

At Jesus' baptism, God the Father proclaimed His delight in His Son, saying, “This is my Beloved Son. Listen to Him.” The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove and anointed Jesus for mission.

The waters of the Jordan river (in which Jesus was baptized) recall the waters on earth at the time of creation and God's re-creation of our world after sin. Jesus' descent into the water represents His self-identification with sinners. His rising from the water foreshadows the victory that would come on the cross. By being baptized, Jesus initiated God's plan of salvation so that we could experience new life, freedom and joy in the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus humbled himself to be baptized, can we humble ourselves and submit our lives to God the Father through our baptism? Do we want to see our lives transformed to the likeness of Christ? Do we want to become more effective instruments of God's action in our world? Let us examine Jesus' humility and ask the Holy Spirit to forge that same attitude in our hearts.

"Lord Jesus, fill us with your Holy Spirit and with the fire of your love and goodness. May we always find joy and delight in doing your will as you found joy and delight in doing the will of your Father."



READINGS FOR JANUARY 12 thru 18

Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38;
 Mt 3:13-17

Mon: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20

Tues: 1 Sm 1:9-20; (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28

Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39

Thurs: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45

Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12

Sat: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Nativity Roof, Thank-Yous, Volunteer Party and Daughters' Fundraiser

Why no roof on the Outdoor Nativity? People love the new outdoor nativity figures but a few have asked why only a silhouette of the manger instead of an actual enclosure with a roof. The idea was to show off the beauty of the nativity figures without any obstruction or shadowing by walls and a roof. That's what Notre Dame Seminary does and it has one of the most beautiful nativity scenes around. We will weigh the pros and cons of an actual enclosure versus a silhouette of a manger in the coming year. Thanks for your comments. Glad you agree that the new nativity figures are amazing.

More Christmas Thank-Yous. Fr. Thien and I would like to thank all of you who gave us Christmas gifts and treats. We tried to thank everyone personally, but some of the gift cards fell off the gifts, making it impossible to know who the donor was. So, very simply, thanks to everyone who gave us a Christmas gift or food item. We are grateful – and getting plump!

Volunteer Thank-You Party. Our parish has many good people who offer time and talent to our Church and School. On Saturday, January 25, from 5:00 – 8:00 pm in the School Auditorium, we will say Thank-You to all our Adult Volunteers for their service to St. Francis. Dress nicely and join us for food, drink, music and fun.

Anyone may attend who serves the Church as a Leader or Volunteer, including Sacristans and Coordinators of Adoration; Members of the Sanctuary Society and Music Ministry; Eucharistic Ministers; Lectors; Ushers and Greeters; Teachers in Bible Study, Parish School of Religion, Sacrament Preparation, RCIA, and Marriage Preparation; Members of the Parish Council, Finance Council and School Board; Money-Counters; Leaders of the CYO, Scouts, Home and School, Men's Club, Old Metairie Fest, Knights of Columbus, Daughters of Isabella, Sharing Program, Bereavement Ministry, Respect Life Ministry, and Family/Marriage and Evangelization Ministries; Workers with the Food Bank, St. Vincent de Paul, the Hospitality Committee and the St. Joseph Altar Society.

Volunteers, please join us on January 25 and let us thank you for a job of service well done.

Daughters of Isabella Luncheon Fundraiser. The Daughters of Isabella will host a Luncheon with a Parade Prizes at the Metairie Country Club on Sunday, January 26, at 11:30 am. This event is a fundraiser which funds scholarships for girls attending Catholic high school. See the bulletin for details and ticket info.

God bless, Fr. Joe

COMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH**Every Thursday**

- Helping Hands Food Bank, 9-11 AM, Parish Center
- Deacon Ed's Rosary at 6 PM in Church near Adoration Chapel

Saturday, January 11

St. Joseph Altar Cookie Workshop, 9am-12pm, School Cafeteria

Saturday/Sunday, January 11/12

Special Collection, St. Vincent de Paul Society; Sock Sunday

Sunday, January 12

- SFX School Choir at the 10 AM Mass
- RCIA Session, 11-12:30 PM, Old Rectory
- PSR Classes, 4:15-5:45 PM, begin in School Cafeteria
- Confirmation Class begins at 6PM Mass with session 7-8:30PM
- Communion Rite of Enrollment at 6PM Mass
- Take down Christmas decorations after 6PM Mass

Monday, January 13

Children's Choir Rehearsal from 3-4:15PM in Church

Tuesday, January 14

KC Meeting at 7:30PM in St. Joseph Hall

Wednesday, January 15

- Children's Choir Rehearsal from 3-4:15PM in Church
- Marriage Enrichment Program, 6:30-8PM in Parish Center
- Home and School Meeting at 6:30PM in School Auditorium
- Baptismal Seminar at 7PM in Parish Center, Fr. T Conf Room

Thursday, January 16

- Men's Club Meeting at 6:30PM in School Cafeteria
- Bereavement Support Group Mtg, 6:30PM in PC Fr T Conf Rm

Friday, January 17

- SFX School Grandparent's Day, 9AM & 1PM Prayer Services
- Cub Scout Pack Meeting at 6:30PM in School Auditorium

Saturday, January 18

St. Joseph Altar Cookie Workshop, 9am-12pm, School Cafeteria

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORTING

(Late December 2019 – Early January 2020)

	Dec. 21/22	Dec. 28/29	Jan. 4/5
WEEKLY OFFERING	\$32,237.00	\$10,015.00	\$22,770.00
OTHER (Faith Direct)	\$2,850.00	\$3,355.00	\$2,850.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$4,275.00	\$648.00	-----
TOTAL INCOME	\$39,362.00	\$14,018.00	\$25,620.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$20,395.00	\$20,395.00	\$20,395.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$18,967.00	(\$6,377.00)	\$5,225.00
FOOD BANK	\$1,730.00	\$ 89.00	\$ 238.00
MAINTENANCE FUND	\$1,502.00		\$1,096.00
END OF YEAR DONATIONS		\$8,300.00	\$10,675.00
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION	\$21,437.00		
NEW YEAR'S COLLECTION	\$15,473.00		

SOCK SUNDAY—THIS SUNDAY

Our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry is sponsoring "Sock Sunday" this weekend. Baskets will be in Church to collect new socks to be distributed to the poor and homeless in the New Orleans Metro area. Thank you for your generosity.

COMMUNION ENROLLMENT MASS—JAN. 12

Our First Communion students will participate in the Rite of Enrollment on January 12 at the 6:00PM Mass. The parish assembly will be asked to pray for the students for their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. There will be a bread ceremony in which the students will bring a loaf of bread to someone in the congregation. The person receiving the bread will be asked to pray for the student and may choose to send a card to the student through the Parish Office.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN'S NEW LIFE CENTER—JANUARY 19

St. Francis Parish will once again support the Women's New Life Center through the annual baby bottle campaign. We will have baby bottles at the doors of Church next weekend, January 18/19. Please take a bottle and fill it with your donations. We will have empty bins on the weekend of January 25/26 to collect the bottles. Thank you for your generous donations for this important ministry of the Church.

PARISH VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY — JANUARY 25

We have hundreds of volunteers who work in our more than 50 Parish Ministries. Instead of having a Volunteer Christmas Party to thank everyone during the busy holiday time, we will have our Volunteer Thank-You Party on Saturday, January 25, immediately after the 4pm Vigil Mass: from 5-8pm in the School Auditorium. It will be a big celebration. See the Pastor's Corner in this week's bulletin for a description of the event and those who are invited. Thanks to our Hospitality Ministry and other volunteers for organizing this celebration for us.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA PRESENTS "SAILING THE HIGH SEAS"

The Daughters of Isabella will host their 12th Annual Luncheon and Production on January 26, 2020 at Metairie Country Club. Doors open at 11:30am and lunch will be served at 1 pm. Come early to see all the incredible prizes, including the parade of prizes and the grand raffle prizes. All proceeds benefit a scholarship for young women attending Catholic Schools. Bring your family and friends. Individual tickets and full tables are available. Contact Christine, joanofarc1405@gmail.com or 723-3664.

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY

Cookie Workshops continue for our St. Joseph Altar in March. Cookie-making and baking are part of what makes our St. Joseph Altar the best! All is invited to help at the school cafeteria on Saturdays between Jan. 4th – Mar. 7th from 9am - 12 noon. All work is done by volunteers and we need YOU! High School students are welcome to help; learn this age-old custom and earn service hours. Contact Rick at kc8546@cox.net or [504-460-6014](tel:504-460-6014).

St. Francis Xavier Volunteer Thank-You Party

Food, Drink, Music and Fellowship



*Saturday, January 25, 2020
5:00 – 8:00 PM, School Auditorium*

Come out for an Evening of Food, Drink, Music and Fellowship as Our Parish says Thank You to our Volunteers for a Job Well-done. All who volunteer in Parish Ministries are invited to attend. Dressy Attire. For more information, contact Carol Pritchard, 834-0340.

First graders offer moving Nativity Pageant before Christmas break



Under the direction of Mrs. Zee Mouton, the First graders offered their rendition of the Nativity story with angels, shepherds, Kings, Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. It was very well performed and received.

(Photos — Yearbook staffer Christian J.)



CELEBRANTS/READERS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
FOR JANUARY 11 & 12

Saturday, 01/11—4:00 PM

Celebrant: Rev. Thien Nguyen

EM: Vita DiMaggio, Billy Guste, Julie Holmes

CheeChee O'Conner, Suzanne Thomas

Reader: Robert Thomas

Sunday, 01/12—8:00 AM

Celebrant: Rev. Joe Palermo

EM: Rob Adoue, Dcn. Robert Normand, Gail Siciliano

Jack Siciliano, Frances Dee Tarantino

Reader: Frank Stewart

Sunday, 01/12—10:00 AM

Celebrant: Rev. Joe Palermo

EM: Beth Buchler, Tim Curren, Donna Dantin

Dcn. Kevin Darrah, Jim Folse

Reader: Bill Blessey

Sunday, 01/12—12:00 Noon

Celebrant: Rev. Thien Nguyen

EM: Doug Robicheaux, Norris Robicheaux, Linda Sunseri

Charlotte Syll, William Syll

Reader: Frank Sunseri

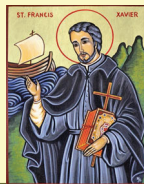
Sunday, 01/12—6:00 PM

Celebrant: Rev. Thien Nguyen

EM: Carol Gambel, Cynthia Graham, Michael Graham

Jennifer Heath, Dcn. V. M. Wheeler

Reader: Marie Puglia



SANCTUARY LAMP

This week the sanctuary lamp will burn **In Memory of Charles Joseph Tusa**. If you would like to schedule a week, call at 834-0340. The cost is \$10. Call the parish office for open dates in 2020.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

As the Christmas Season concludes this weekend, we will begin having other flowers on the altar next weekend. To purchase flowers for a loved one for \$90 per weekend, contact the Parish Office.

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

Ann Marie B. White, Kaylin, Barbara Johnson, L.P.T., Patti, Maria, Beverly Brickman, Arghiro Kleamenakis, Toni Edwards, Anna Smith, Sherron Smith, Michael Harrison, Rose Marie Pontiff, Sr. Janet Dohr, Amanda Beal, Michelle Guidry, Donna Pizanie, Janie Smith, Wayne Wetzell, Lance Peytavin, Connor Vorhoff, Stephen A Losee, Marie L. Sylvester, Alma Weilbaeher {Call 834-0340 for Prayer List.}

VOCATION PRAYER CHALICE

This week the Vocation Chalice will be at the home of **Denise and Lex Allain**. Please join them in praying for vocations to the priesthood, religious life and permanent diaconate. Call 834-0340 to have the chalice in your home for a week.

ADORATION CHAPEL ADORERS NEEDED

The adoration chapel needs permanent adorers for: Sunday 5AM; Monday 8AM (partner) & 10PM; Tuesday 2AM(once/mo.); Wednesday 2AM(once/mo.)& 9AM; Thursday 8AM; Friday 4AM; Saturday 8AM (partner). We also need partners and subs for certain hours. Call Dottie Watson at 339-4298.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 11, 2020—4:00 PM

Jack Culotta, Judge Pat Schott, Beatrice Mestayer

Nina Fox, Carlos Gutierrez, Rita Olivio

Dr Joseph F Puglia, Holy Souls in Purgatory

Lucille Brinz, Geraldine Kern, Jay Carisella

Winx & Jim McCarthy*

Sunday, January 12, 2020—8:00 AM

Eddie Laizer

Sunday, January 12, 2020—10:00 AM

Estelle Laizer, Stephen J. Laizer, III.

Stephen J. Laizer, Jr., Thelma Laizer

Christopher Briede, Bonnie Murray, Judge Pat Schott

Jay Carisella, Dr. Lawrence Bole, Randle Vulliet

Robert Harper, Jr., Kathy Kingsmill Olsen

Carlos Gutierrez, Dorris Sylvester, Lucille Brinz

Pierre "Pete" Smith, Beryl Hannahan

Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, January 12, 2020—12:00 Noon

Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Sunday, January 12, 2020—6:00PM

Sean Patrick Griffin

Monday, January 13, 2020

6:30 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

6:30 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

6:30 AM—Mary Bordelon*

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Thursday, January 16, 2020

6:30 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Friday, January 17, 2020

6:30 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

Saturday, January 18, 2020

8:00 AM—Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier

*Denotes Living

MONTHLY PRAYER REQUESTS FOR PRIESTS

January 12—Rev. Cletus Orji

January 13—Rev. Msgr. Andrew C. Taormina

January 14—Rev. David M. Ducote

January 15—Rev. Colm John Cahill

January 16—Rev. Jonathan L. Brown, S.J.

January 17—Rev. Jonathan Wallis, S.T.L.

January 18—Rev. Gerard Laporte, C.Ss R.

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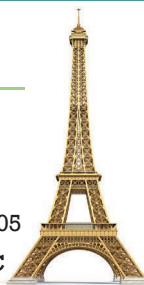
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