

# *The 4th Sunday of Advent*



*The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel. Mt 1:23*

*St. Rosalie Catholic Church  
December 18, 2022*

# *The Pastor Jots It Down!\_\_\_\_\_*

My dear parishioners and friends of St. Rosalie and St. John Bosco Parishes and Alumni,

Happy 4th Sunday of Advent!

Almost, but not yet. In the hustle and bustle of our final preparations, let's remember that Jesus is the reason for the season. Let's take some quiet time during these days to stop our physical preparations, slow down our minds and to reflect on the reason why Jesus, the Son of God, took on human flesh.

St. John tells us in his Gospel that God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life, and that the world might be saved through Him. God's great plans for us: to be with Him, and the Father, and the Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the angels and saints in heaven.

Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life was born to show the Father's great love for us and His desire for us to enjoy everlasting life forever in heaven. He came to earth to show us how to live life fully not only by keeping the 10 Commandments but also by living the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-10) and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy (Matthew 25:31-46). He came to model for us a life of service to those in need. In the last hours of His life, he taught us to accept God's will in our lives, no matter the cost. In the final moments of his life, he showed us how to forgive: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." To the "Good Thief": "This day you will be with me in paradise."

In his Gospel, St. John tells us: "Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly." That is not only the mission of Jesus but also our mission as Catholic Christians. Jesus doesn't want us to go to heaven alone. He wants us to share the treasure of our faith and our love for Him with as many as we can. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus tells us to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations."

The last opportunity for confession before Christmas will be Wednesday evening from 7-8 p.m. at both churches. The priests will hear confessions as long as needed.

Next Sunday, Christmas, we will have the opportunity to welcome many to our parishes. Let's acknowledge their presence, introduce ourselves, and make them feel welcome. As members of a Salesian Parish, we are called by Don Bosco to be a "home that welcomes." This Christmas let us go out of our way to make our guests feel welcome and at home.

On behalf of the Salesians, the parish staff and volunteers, prayers and best wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

*F. Mail*

# What Is Christian Happiness?



## *The True Source of Joy*

While almost everyone wants to be happy, there is little agreement about what happiness is. Just look at the diversity of these definitions:

### Happiness Meaning Quotes

Happiness is to love and to work. – *Freud*.

Happiness is the experience of joy, contentment, or positive well-being, combined with a sense that one's life is good, meaningful, and worthwhile.

– *Sonja Lyubomirsky, author of the How of Happiness.*

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

– *Mahatma Gandhi.*

Happiness doesn't depend on any external conditions; it is governed by our mental attitude.

– *Dale Carnegie.*

Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude.

– *Denis Waitley.*

But what would a Christian definition of happiness look like?

Is there such a thing as Christian happiness? If so, what would it include?

### Christian Happiness

I believe there is such a thing as Christian happiness, quite distinct from any other kind of happiness, but the problem is that it is so multi-layered and multi-dimensional that it's probably impossible to define it in one sentence. Believe me, I've tried. Consider even just the following sample sources of Christian happiness.

- God is our perfect Father.
- We know Jesus as our Lord and Savior.
- The Holy Spirit is sanctifying and empowering us.
- Our sins are forgiven.
- God lives in our hearts.
- We are justified and adopted into God's world-wide and heaven-wide family.
- Everything is working together for our good.
- God is our guard and guide
- We have all the promises of God.
- Jesus has prepared a place for us in heaven and will welcome us there.

How do you put all these rich ingredients into one simple recipe? But if you're going to force me into a short one-sentence definition, I'd say: **Christian happiness is the grace of loving and being loved by Jesus, who gave his life for me.** That, to me, is the sum and summit of it all.

By: *David Murray* HeadHeartHead.org

From: <https://bit.ly/3OTWhSK> (shortened link) edited by fmh



## *'The Christmas Angels'*

It was December 23, 1993. For a single mom who was going to college and supporting my children completely alone, Christmas was looking bleak. I looked around my little home, realization dawning like a slow, twisting pain. We were poor.

Our tiny house had two bedrooms, both off the living room. They were so small that my baby daughter's crib barely fit into one room, and my son's twin bed and dresser were squeezed into the other. There was no way they could share a room, so I made my bed every night on the living room floor.

The three of us shared the only closet in the house. We were snug, always only a few feet from each other, day and night. With no doors on the children's rooms, I could see and hear them at all times. It made them feel secure, and it made me feel close to them -- a blessing I wouldn't have had in other circumstances.

It was early evening, about eight o'clock. The snow was falling softly, silently, and my children were both asleep. I was wrapped in a blanket, sitting at the window, watching the powdery flakes flutter in the dimming light, when my front door vibrated with a pounding fist.

Alarmed, I wondered who would stop by unannounced on such a snowy winter night. I opened the door to find a group of strangers grinning from ear to ear, their arms laden with boxes and bags.

Confused, but finding their joyous spirit contagious, I grinned right back at them.

"Are you Susan?" The man stepped forward as he held out a box for me.

Nodding stupidly, unable to find my voice, I was sure they thought I was mentally deficient.

"These are for you." The woman thrust another box at me with a huge, beaming smile. The porch light and the snow falling behind her cast a glow over her dark hair, lending her an angelic appearance.

I looked down into her box. It was filled to the top with delicious treats, a fat turkey, and all the makings of a traditional Christmas dinner. My eyes filled with tears as the realization of why they were there washed over me.

Finally coming to my senses, I found my voice and invited them in. Following the husband were two children, staggering with the weight of their packages. The family introduced themselves and told me their packages were all gifts for my little family. This wonderful, beautiful family, who were total strangers to me, somehow knew exactly what we needed. They brought wrapped gifts for each of us, a full buffet for me to make on Christmas Day, and many "extras" that I could never afford. Visions of a beautiful, "normal" Christmas literally danced in my head. Somehow my secret wish for Christmas was materializing right in front of me. The desperate prayers of a single mom had been heard, and I knew right then that God had sent his angels my way.

My mysterious angels then handed me a white envelope, gave me another round of grins, and took turns hugging me. They wished me a Merry Christmas and disappeared into the night as suddenly as they had appeared.

Amazed and deeply touched, I looked around me at the boxes and gifts strewn at my feet and felt the ache of depression suddenly being transformed into a childlike joy. I began to cry. I cried hard, sobbing tears of the deepest gratitude. A great sense of peace filled me. The knowledge of God's love reaching into my tiny corner of the world enveloped me like a warm quilt. My heart was full. I fell to my knees amid all the boxes and offered a heartfelt prayer of thanks.

Getting to my feet, I wrapped myself in my blankets and sat once again to gaze out the window at the gently falling snow. Suddenly, I remembered the envelope. Like a child, I ripped it open and gasped at what I saw. A shower of bills flitted to the floor. Gathering them up, I began to count the five, ten, and twenty-dollar bills. As my vision blurred with tears, I counted the money, then recounted it to make sure I had it right. Sobbing again, I said it out loud: "One hundred dollars."

I looked at my children sleeping soundly, and through my tears I smiled my first happy, free-of-worry smile in a long, long time. My smile turned into a grin as I thought about tomorrow: Christmas Eve. One visit from complete strangers had magically turned a painful day into a special one that we would always remember...with happiness.

It is now several years since our Christmas angels visited. I have remarried, and our household is happy and richly blessed. Every year since that Christmas in 1993, we have chosen a family less blessed than we are. We bring them carefully selected gifts, food and treats, and as much money as we can spare. It's our way of passing on what was given to us. It's the "ripple effect" in motion. We hope that the cycle continues and that, someday, the families we share with will be able to pass it on, too. -- Susan Fahncke

From: <https://bit.ly/3AW2Y0T> (shortened link)



*Let all that you do be done in love.*

1 Corinthians 16:14

# Announcements

## SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

The Sanctuary Committee for the weekend of December 24th is Team 7, which consists of Toni Savona, Kathy Savona, Pam LaFont, Tally Gros, Louise Punch and Patti Touns.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the month of December



### Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

*Altar Flowers*  
Given In Memory of  
T-Van Falgout

## In Our Parish

**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
will burn in memory of  
Raymond Champagne

**BLESSED MOTHER'S LAMP**  
will burn in memory of  
Steve Tassin

**SACRED HEART'S LAMP**  
will burn in memory of  
Kathleen LaGrange

**ST. ROSALIE'S LAMP**  
will burn for healing of  
Jackie Morvant Bush

**ALTAR WINE**  
is given for healing of  
Julie Kirkland

## SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in New Orleans. The celebration is open to couples married between 1993 - 1998. To register, please contact your parish office before Tuesday, January 17, 2023.



## Christmas Mass Schedule

### ST. ROSALIE

Vigil Mass – Saturday, December 24th – 4:00 p.m.  
Mass at Night – Saturday, December 24th – 8:00 p.m.  
Christmas Day – December 25th – 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

### ST. JOHN BOSCO

Vigil Mass – Saturday, December 24th – 6:00 p.m.  
Mass at Night – Saturday, December 24th – 10:00 p.m.  
Christmas Day – December 25th – 9:00 a.m. and 12 Noon  
*There will be no Youth & Young Adult Mass on Christmas Evening*

**Mary, Mother of God – January 1st – A Holy Day of Obligation**

### ST. ROSALIE & ST. JOHN BOSCO

No Vigil Mass on New Year's Eve  
New Year's Day – Regular Sunday Mass Schedule at both churches.  
*There will be no Youth & Young Adult Mass on January 1st.*

## Young Adult & Youth Mass

*Sunday - 8:00 p.m.*

The latest Mass on the Westbank



*Musically Inclined???*      *Get Involved!!!*

**St. John Bosco Catholic Church**  
2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, La





# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00am All Parishioners

4:00pm Cecilia Doepke

Carmen & Charles Austin

Vincent Baldassaro, Jr.

Alexis & Beverly Vicari

Hilton Lirette

Donald Comeaux

Estanislao & Maria Ana Gongora

Juan B. & Marcela Rodriguez

Troy Dean Williams II

Mae, Verna & June Punch

Margie Montet

Leroy, Edwin, Sr.; Herman

& Lee Richoux

Malcolm & Timmy LeBlanc

Hidalgo, Tassin & Simoneaux Fam.

Conrad & Anthony Saluto

Perkins Family

Malcolm 'Buck' Cortez

Shayna Catherine Cline

Dominick & Conchetta Bellepanni

Craig LeBlanc

Tony & Jaden Phillips

Keller-Richoux Family

Merlin & Vernel Gomez

Jerry Melancon

Antonio Damico

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:30am Mahl & Gerstner Family

10:30am Carlos Savona

Doris & Walter Treadaway

Jake Savona

T-Van Falgout

Nelson Cantrelle, Jr.

Yves 'Vessie' Bourgeois

Kevin Fitzhenry

Byron S. LeJeune

Madeleine Behette

Agnes & Sidney Rotolo

Rodney Isemann

Troy Richoux

Chetta Doming

Laura Ann Ditta Walker

L.J. Doming

Sam & Laura Ditta

Margaret & Joe Panepinto

Kathleen LaGrange

Hepting & Mauro Family

Brenda Zappulla

Martha Martinez

Rosalie Gaspar

Gary Orgeron

Deceased member of Jonathan

Parks KC 15892 Council

All Souls in Purgatory

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00am Fr. Otis Young

Ruth Prats

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00am Vincent Baldassaro, Jr.

Wilda Babineaux

Josie Palermo

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:00am Rosalie Gaspar

Godfrey E. Boudreaux, Sr.

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00am Steve & Tommy Blanchard

Richard Dufour

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

7:00am Steve Tassin

Landry/Terracina/Vicknair family

Estanislao & Maria Ana Gongora

Juan B. & Marcela Rodriguez

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00pm All Parishioners

8:00pm All Parishioners



## MASS FOR HEALING:

Shannon Morvant Olivero

Jackie Morvant Bush,

O.J. Orgeron, Rosalie Oubre

Kim Riley, Julie Kirkland

Linda LeJeune, Gary Guidry

Jan Carnesi, Ryan DeLaCorda

Hunter & Guastella family & friends

## MASS FOR THE LIVING:

Patrick Lofton, Anne, William,

Thomas and Marguerite Hart

## SPECIAL MASSES:

For conversion of sinners.

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

## St. Rosalie Catholic Church

600 Second Avenue – Harvey, LA

504-340-1962 email: office@strosalieparish.com

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB, Pastor

Fr. George Hanna, SDB Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB

Parochial Vicars

Kevin Steel, Deacon

## MASS SCHEDULES:

### ST. ROSALIE

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 pm

Sunday – 7:30 and 10:30 am

Weekdays – 7:00 am

Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions:

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm

### ST. JOHN BOSCO

Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm

Sunday – 9:00 am and 12:00 pm

Youth & Young Adult Mass

Sunday – 8:00 pm

Weekdays – 7:00 am

Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 4:30 - 5:15 pm

Both Churches: Adoration & Confessions Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm



**Life is a  
journey,  
along different  
roads,  
different  
paths,  
which leave  
their mark on us.**

Pope Francis



TurtleQuote.com