

**DECEMBER 24, 2023 — FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2023 — FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

*St. Mary of the Angels*



PHONE: 504-945-3186

3501 N. MIRO STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117

FAX: 504-945-9115

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**“We are a welcoming community of believers who worship God and serve others.”**

**OUR CORE VALUES**

- We are Catholic. ■ We are caring Christians. ■ We give time, talent, treasure and witness.
- We share good news in word and deed. ■ We reach out to the local community.
- We serve through social ministry by works of charity and justice.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**BAPTISMS:** Baptisms are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Parents are expected to call the parish office three months prior to the anticipated Baptism of the child. Baptisms are not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

**CONFIRMATION:** Classes are held for High School students grades 9th –11th following the guidelines of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. These classes are usually held on Wednesday nights.

**VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Please inform the parish office when someone is sick, shut-in, or in the hospital, and are unable to attend mass.

**RECONCILIATION:** Offered Saturday at 3:15 p.m. & Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

**FUNERALS:** Please inform the parish office as soon as possible when someone in the family dies, preferably before contacting the funeral home.

**MARRIAGE:** Engaged couples must call the parish office at least six months prior to the planned date of the wedding.

**RCIA:** Interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church, with or without the intention of becoming a member, please call the parish office.

**PARISH STAFF**

Fr. Michael Haney, OFM.....Parochial Vicar  
 Br. Daniel Barrett, OFM.....Pastoral Associate  
 Br. Juniper Crouch, OFM.....in Residence  
 Vanessa Matthews.....Director of Religious Ed  
 Jeoffre Duplessis.....Director of Music Ministry  
 Paulette Duplessis.....Secretary  
 Lisa Alexander.....Financial Manager  
 Saundria Washington.....Housekeeper

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Peggy Williams.....Chairperson  
 Edwin Shorty.....Vice Chairperson  
 Gail Winsey.....Secretary  
 Gale Armant.....Finance  
 Eric Bennett.....Administration & Leadership  
 Darrin Duroncelet.....Community Life  
 Vaughn Valeary.....Evangelization  
 Marlene Robinson.....Justice & Charity  
 Embra Bridges.....Respect Life  
 Lynn Duroncelet.....Religious Education  
 Debra Theard.....Worship  
 Paula Arceneaux.....Stewardship  
 Lynn Evans.....Pastoral Care

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil Mass.....4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday Gospel Mass.....10:00 a.m.

**Community Center Rental**

504.945.3186

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

(Enter church through side entrance of Friars parking area)

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri.....8:00 a.m.

Tues.....8:00 a.m.

St. Anthony Devotion...Follows Tuesday Morning Mass

**SMA WEBSITE:** [smaneworleans.org](http://smaneworleans.org)

December 24, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent (*liturgical year B*)



*The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:26-28*

What an amazing experience this would have been. This humble servant of God, a young girl, was visited by the archangel Gabriel and greeted with the salutation, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Try to imagine her experience. She was humble beyond comprehension, filled with every heavenly virtue, loved God with all her heart and suddenly came face-to-face with this glorious and most magnificent archangel. And this heavenly visitor showered the deepest of praises upon this lowly servant of the Lord.

At first, in her humility, Mary simply pondered this greeting. She pondered it in her heart through prayer and faith. Then the archangel spoke further: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Though Mary inquired further about how this could be, she quickly gave her consent: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." And it was these words of this young woman that continuously echoed in her heart throughout her life.

Mother Mary was great for many reasons. She was the Immaculate Conception—the one singularly conceived without sin in the womb of her own mother. She was the one chosen by the Father to bring forth the Savior of the World as her only begotten Son. But her greatness is especially found in her ongoing submission to the will of God. "May it be done to me according to your word." This is what she said over and over throughout her life. This is her perfect "fiat" to her God. All she knew was surrender and submission to all that God asked of her. And it is this, more than anything else, that made her the worthy Mother of God.

Though none of us were immaculately conceived within our mother's wombs and none of us have remained without sin throughout our lives, we must all strive to be inspired by this holy woman. We must all ponder her deep humility and her willing acceptance of God's will in her life. And we must all strive to imitate her fiat and her perfect virtue.

[mycatholiclife.com](http://mycatholiclife.com)

Stewardship  
December 17, 2023

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received.....	\$1,946.00
<b>Online Giving.....</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
What we are <b>under</b> this week.....	<b>\$159.00</b>
Envelopes used.....	62
Weekend Mass attendance.....	89

**Our Family Prayer**

Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have appreciated the prayers and love of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in times of war, disaster, epidemic and illness. We come to you, Father, with Mary our Mother, and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which gives respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be peacemakers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence.

Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

Mother Henriette Delille, pray for us that we may be a holy family.



December 24, 2023 – December 30, 2023

**WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS**

*Each Mass is offered for the intentions of all present and for the following: "Deceased Parishioners" will be remembered on every date when a specified Mass intention is not requested.*

Sunday.....	<i>Parishioners of SMA</i>
Monday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioner †</i>
Tuesday.....	<i>Glenna Page</i> <i>Janice Moller</i>
Wednesday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Thursday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i> <i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Friday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Saturday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>

December 31, 2023 – January 6, 2024

Sunday.....	<i>Parishioners of SMA</i>
Monday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Tuesday.....	<i>Evelyn Johnson</i>
Wednesday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Thursday.....	<i>Glenna Page</i> <i>Janice Moller</i>
Friday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>
Saturday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners †</i>

**Catholic Charities**

St. Mary of the Angels Head Start Program.....	504.227.3470
Catholic Charities Care Line.....	866.891.2210



### **"Christmas at Greccio" Indulgence**

This year is the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christmas in Greccio. Greccio is the city in Italy where St. Francis of Assisi displayed the very first nativity scene. Pope Francis recently granted to all churches entrusted to Franciscan care (like St. Mary of the Angels in New Orleans; also the Poor Clare Monastery on Henry Clay) the possibility for all faithful Catholics to receive a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, from December 8, 2023 to February 2, 2024. An indulgence is God's remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance.

The "usual conditions" are:

\*a Catholic in the state of grace

\*an indulgence can be gained only once a day

\*recent reception of the Sacrament of Penance

\*recent reception of Holy Communion

\*a prayer for the intentions of the Pope

It will be very convenient for any SMA parishioner, or any other person seeking the indulgence, to complete these "conditions" before or after any weekday or Sunday Mass before the deadline.

### **Altar Society**

works for the benefit of the church such as: maintain the priest vestments, upkeep of altar vessels and altar linens in preparing for Mass. Mrs. Debra Theard - contact the parish 504.945.3186

### **Bereavement**

provides care for individuals and families especially when losing a loved one. Ms. Deirdre Landry, Chairperson - contact the parish 504.945.3186

### **Mighty Men's Ministry**

faithful leaders working together to fill the gap where things are needed in the church: role models for the youth and support other ministries when needed. Mr. Vaughn Valeary, President - contact the parish 504.945.3186

### **Advocate for Persons with Disabilities**

welcomes persons with disabilities into full participation in the life of the parish and offer them practical assistance, promotes awareness of the existence, concerns and gifts of parishioners and potential parishioners with disabilities. Contact Linda Minor and Vera Landry 504.945.3186

### **Emmaus Ministry Support Group**

Grief comes in all forms and everyone of us handle it differently. If you have lost a loved one, a child, a spouse, a parent, a sibling or a friend, please join us. Contact Embra Bridges or Beverly Bierria. 504.945.3186



### **PRAYER LINE**

If you know any parishioners who may be sick or in the hospital, please notify the Church office at 945-3186. The name (s) will be published in the bulletin and at the Masses so that the congregation can pray for them.

\*parishioner.

Danielle Davis\*  
Taylor Brown  
Beverly Bierria\*  
Althea Augustine\*  
Darril Frick\*  
Gary Medley\*  
Patrick Maheia\*  
Dana Roy  
Shirley Ellsworth\*  
Corey Lee  
Leslie Duplessis\*  
Audrey County\*  
Yvonne Dukes\*  
Rudolph McCormick\*  
Very Rev. Henry Davis, S.S.J., V.F.

Bonito J. Manego  
Shirley Hawkins\*  
Vertner Woods\*  
Patricia Eugene\*  
Geraldine Aguilard\*  
Ronald Cavalier  
Janice Nadler\*  
Mary Nadler  
Helen Legier\*  
Lynn Evans\*  
Jacquelyn Buggage\*  
Albert Evans, Jr.\*  
Shirleen Polite  
Lorenzo Esteen\*

Claude Wiltz\*  
Henry Butler\*  
Aline Robinson\*  
Dorothy Grant\*  
Victor Jackson  
Gerald Cavalier  
Lorraine Jackson\*  
Kent Landry\*  
Robin Jackson  
Jaden Coleman  
Thelma Hall\*  
Patricia Parker  
Anna Cavalier\*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

"Pray for Vocations" to Religious Life and the Priesthood and encourage our youth to think and pray about such a "vocation of life."

Franciscan Friars: [sibvocations@franciscan.org](mailto:sibvocations@franciscan.org);  
website: [www.franciscan.org](http://www.franciscan.org)

Archdiocese of New Orleans: [vocations@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:vocations@archdiocese-no.org);  
[nolapriest.com](http://nolapriest.com)

Adrian Dominican: [vocations@adriandominicans.org](mailto:vocations@adriandominicans.org)

### **Calling All Keys**

In preparation for the arrival of our new and permanent pastor, it is common practice for all parishioners who have keys to church buildings to return those keys, so that the new pastor may issue those keys to whom he wishes. Accordingly, if you are a parishioner with church keys, please turn them in to the Church Office.

**Christmas Raffle winners...**1st prize: Abrielle Laurant, 2nd prize: Janice Nadler. Thank you for participating.

**Parish Office...**will be closed December 26<sup>th</sup> - January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Christmas/New Year Masses**

**Saturday, Dec. 23, 4:00 PM**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday, Dec. 24**

**NO 10:00 AM Mass**

**4:00 PM Mass for**

**Christmas Eve**

**Monday, Dec. 25**

**10:00 AM Mass for**

**Christmas Day**

**Sat., Dec. 30, 4:00 PM**

**Holy Family Sunday**

**Sun., Dec. 31, 10:00 AM**

**Holy Family Sunday**

**Mon., Jan. 1, 8:00 AM**

**Solemnity of Mary**

**Mass (NO Obligation)**



Remember to support our  
**Outreach Food Pantry**  
by placing your food items in  
the little red wagon.  
Thank You



### **PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY**

Quentin Green	Kenneth Cuneo
Edjunique Francois	Christina Valeary
Michael Anthony McCormick, II	Tyler J. McCormick

**St. Alphonsus Liguori's  
Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I  
cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually  
into my heart. As though You have already come, I  
embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to  
be separated from You. Amen.

### BIRTHDAYS

We wish to congratulate all of our brothers and sisters who are celebrating birthdays or an anniversary in **December**:

Marva Phillips, 21	Clifford Anderson, 8	Albert Evans, 21
Johnnie Bridges, 3	Salvadore Guccione, 5	Tyrone Williams, 26
Yolanda, Dancy, 5	Cecil Frezel, 8	Debra Sparrow, 14
Jacquelyn Cordier, 19	Edward Francois, 3	Holley Matthews, 28
Catherine Francois, 26	Jeoffre Duplessis, 25	Lionel Davis, 29
Terrence L'Herisse, 18	Sister Judy Zynda, 12	

### PARISH CALENDAR

Religious Education Class, contact *Vanessa Matthews*

Choir Rehearsal, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm.

Senior Bingo/Luncheon, **Thursday, January 18**, 11:00 - 1:00 pm

Food for Seniors, **Tuesday, January 30** 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Emmaus Ministry, **Wednesday, December 28, 2023**

The Sanctuary Lamp light will bum throughout the month of **December** for the soul of *Sonya DiBartolo* daughter of *Crystal Rondono*

### REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - DECEMBER 31, 2023 – HOLY FAMILY (Liturgical year B)

#### THE FIRST READING

SIRACH 3: 2-6, 12-14

*And when your time comes and rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm.*

#### THE SECOND READING

GENESIS 15:1-6, 21:1-3

*To him be glory forever and ever.*

<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

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#### THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22, 39-40

*But she was greatly troubled at what was said and wondered what sort of greeting this might be.*



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

If you look for me at Christmas, you won't need a special star –  
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem, I'm right here where you are.

You may not be aware of me amid the celebrations –  
You'll have to look beyond the stores and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment from your list of things to do  
And listen to your heart, you'll find I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with, you're the reason that I came,  
And you'll find me in the stillness as I'm whispering your name.

Love,

*Jesus*

**Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, & Blessings of Peace  
On you and your family.**

*Brother Juniper, Father Mike, and Brother Dan*

