

Saint Martha Catholic Church

2555 Apollo Drive, Harvey, LA 70058 • Office: (504) 366-1604 • Fax: (504) 366-1100

Email: stmartha@arch-no.org

Website: www.stmarthaharvey.com

Infant Jesus of Prague Mission

700 Maple Ave., Harvey LA 70058 • Office: (504) 368-1397 • Fax: (504) 368-0662 • Infantjesus@arch-no.org

Rev. Lich Van Nguyen, *Pastor*

Deacon Tyrell "Terry" Manieri, Deacon Brian P. Soileau, Deacon Scott Reason

Louise Frederick, Parish Catechetical Leader

January 25, 2026



LIGHT
HAS RISEN

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY MASSES:

SAINT MARTHA

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

SAINT MARTHA

Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
8:00 a.m.

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

Weekday Services are
Suspended until further
notice

ADORATION HOURS

SAINT MARTHA

First Friday of month,
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before Weekend Masses Anytime
by Appointment

SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, ANOIDING OF THE SICK, OCIA

Please call the office

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ST. MARTHA PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

TUESDAYS 6:00—7:00 P.M.

WESTBANK HIGH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

See St Martha Website

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

8:30 & 10:30 MASS



SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is pleased to announce the annual Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2026, 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, New Orleans. This prayer service will honor couples who are celebrating or have recently celebrated their twenty fifth wedding anniversary. The celebration is open to couples married between 1996 - 2001. To register, please contact the parish office by Monday, February 2, 2026. Please Note: The Silver Wedding Anniversary celebration is a prayer service, not a Mass and will not fulfil the couple's Sunday obligation. Couples should plan to attend Mass at their home parishes.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time **A New Way, A New World**

When the people of Nineveh repented, they showed it by wearing sackcloth and fasting from food. Sometimes we might think that way: That repenting means punishing ourselves or feeling sorry. Jesus sees things differently.

He preached repentance that was a change of heart, a new way of looking at things, a new way of acting. In the gospel today, we see an example. The first people he calls to be disciples were fisherman. They would have considered their family, their partners, and their boat as the most important things in their lives. You need all of them to be a successful fisherman.

Yet the disciples don't even hesitate when called by Jesus. They leave behind their boats, their nets, even their father, to follow Jesus. They don't worry about what they will do, or look back at what they are leaving behind. Now they are fishers of men. Their "repentance" was more than just giving up sins. They were beginning a new life and a new way of looking at the world.

Saint Paul refers to this as a new world. When he talks about not using the world fully, he means not fully engaged in the world, but looking to a better one, where God is more important than any passing pleasure or pain. Is your marriage an example of God's love for your friends and relatives? When you are rejoicing, do you give thanks to God? When you are shopping, do you buy what you really need, or what you think will make you happy? Jesus calls us all to this new way of living. With Jesus, we can make a new world.

Tom Schmidt



TO ANSWER THE CALL

Something very profound is going on in this brief passage about the call of the first apostles. Jesus calls, they follow. It's a pretty simple cause and effect scenario. Yet, you and I both know that following Jesus is anything but simple these days... right? Or could it be that this passage is the perfect model for just how radical it is to follow Jesus?

Jesus offered the first apostles no explanations, He didn't try to sway them. He boldly called out an invitation and issued a promise. He continues to stand by the shore near our boats and offer the same to us.

First, He invites us. It's a call, a challenge, a summons to adventure. "Come on, let me show you where you could go." However, Jesus always respects our free will. We freely choose to follow, or to remain behind. The choice is ours.

Then, he makes a promise, "I will make you fishers of men." What does that mean exactly? Each baptized individual is called to be a witness of the faith. This mission looks different for each person. I am called to witness to the faith in this written format. I am also called to share the faith with my children. Others are called to be a witness in the workplace. Some of you might witness before large groups of people. Others will share the faith one person at a time, helping to share the light of Christ candle by candle.

We are invited, each in our own unique way, to participate in Jesus' mission to build the Kingdom of Heaven. No matter who we are, Jesus invites us to get up and go on an adventure with Him.

I think the word "abandoned" is important here. Abandoned is a very active word, it paints a vivid picture of someone throwing an object aside, forgetting it's very existence. The first apostles abandoned their nets when they answered Jesus' summons. They didn't hold onto their tools, just in case. They didn't ask to stow their boats first so they wouldn't get stolen.

The apostles show us how to let go of everything to follow Jesus. This isn't an easy task, and fortunately we have a God who is not outdone in generosity. There isn't a time limit on Jesus' call to discipleship. He calls us every day, every moment. Over and over again, we have the opportunity to more freely say "Yes!" and abandon our own nets to follow Jesus.

By Kate Taliaferro

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. Jan. 24	4:00	<p><u>Infant Jesus</u> Nick Danos, Anthony Peperone Fly., B. J. Leblanc, Rita & Mack Landry, Bonnie Parker, M. J. Perkins, Rodriguez & Strohmeyer Fly., Glenn Morvant, Henry Ball, Ray & Jules Vegas, Gerald & Theresa Causin, Nancy Pitre, Tony Granier, & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC.</p>
Sat. Jan. 24	5:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Ann Bairnsfather, Joseph Tuan Tran, Joseph Sinh Van Vu, Rose Sanzone, Rosalinda Lee Santiago, Dennis Baudoin & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Sun. Jan. 25	8:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Agnes G. Newchurch, Maria Ly Nguyen, Ana Sophia Nguyen, Evelyn Manuel, Amy Bairnsfather, Joseph Dong Nguyen, Maria Soi La, Maria Nheim Tran, Joseph John Amedio, Jr. & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Sun. Jan. 25	10:00	<p><u>Infant Jesus</u> All Parishioners</p>
Sun. Jan. 25	10:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> All Parishioners</p>
Tues. Jan. 27	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Joseph Sinh Van Vu</p>
Wed. Jan. 28	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> World Peace</p>
Thurs. Jan. 29	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Joseph Sinh Van Vu</p>
Fri. Jan. 30	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Holy Souls in Purgatory</p>
Sat. Jan. 31	4:00	<p><u>Infant Jesus</u> All Parishioners, B.J. LeBlanc, Tony Granier, Glenn Morvant, Ray & Jules Vegas, Henry Ball, Nick Danos, M. J. Perkins & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Sat. Jan. 31	5:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Joseph Tuan Tran, Joseph Sinh Van Vu, Rosalinda Lee Santiago, Dennis Baudoin, Ann Bairnsfather, & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Sun. Feb. 1	8:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> All Parishioners.</p>
Sun. Feb. 1	10:00	<p><u>Infant Jesus</u> Vincent Palisi, Hernandez & Wingfield Fly, & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Sun. Feb. 1	10:30	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Agnes Newchurch, Maria Nhiem Tran, Bobbie Gresse, Evelyn Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Maria Soi La, Jim Martin, & Our Bulletin Sponsor, Mothe Funeral Homes, LLC</p>
Tues. Feb. 3	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Joseph Sinh Van Vu</p>
Wed. Feb. 4	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> All Parishioners</p>
Thurs. Feb. 5	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Joseph Sinh Van Vu</p>
Fri. Feb. 6	8:00	<p><u>St. Martha</u> Ron Hoffman</p>

IN MEMORIAM

St. Martha

In your masses and prayers please remember **Brian Bravender, Sr.**, father of Joshua Bravender and father in law of Amanda Bravender. Please also remember all those who mourn him.

In your masses and prayers please remember **Joseph John Amedio, Jr.**, brother of Sheila Mahl. Please also remember all those who mourn him.



Monthly Parish Rosary

As a result of the large turnout at the Fatima presentation and rosary, several parishioners requested a monthly rosary.

Beginning on Wednesday February 25th at 6:00 p.m. we will gather in the day chapel to recite the rosary. Thereafter, we will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Since the 3rd Wednesday of February is Ash Wednesday, our first Rosary will be on the 4th Wednesday, February 25th.

SANCTUARY LIGHT

St. Martha

The Sanctuary Light will burn the weeks of January 25th & February 1st in memory of **Ann Bairnsfather**.

Infant Jesus

The Sanctuary Light will burn the week of January 25th in memory of **Elizabeth Roos** and the week of February 1st in memory of **Vincent Palisi** on his birthday.



FLOWERS

St. Martha

The flowers at the altar for the week of January 25th were donated in memory of **Ellis & Sylvia Winters**.

The flowers at the altar for the week of February 1st were donated in memory of **Joseph Sinh Van Vu**.

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