

# ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH

-- ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD --

DECEMBER 15, 2019
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# MASS SCHEDULE

### **MASS TIMES**

### **DAILY MASS**

#### **CONFESSIONS**

One half hour before each Mass daily and Sundays.

# PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL—Open 24 hours daily.

# **OUR CLERGY**

VERY REV. WALTER AUSTIN, V.F. Pastor

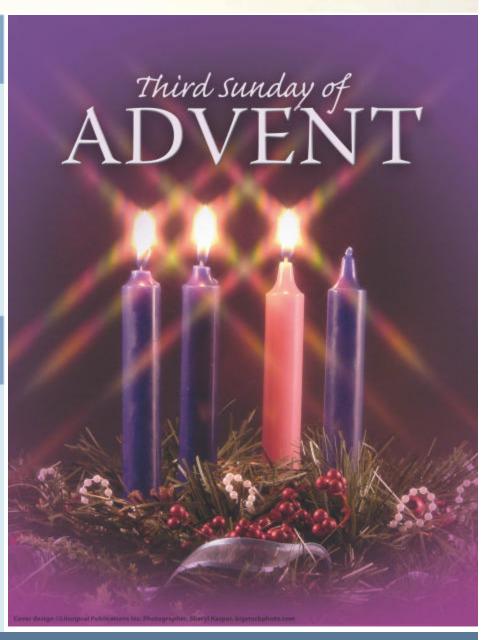
aolpastor@gmail.com 985-630-2837

REV. MR. THOMAS ST. PIERRE Deacon

tjstpierre@yahoo.com

REV. MR. DAVID FARINELLI, LPC, LMFT Deacon

dpkc333@yahoo.com



# **DECEMBER 15, 2019**

# **Parish Directory**

Parish Office: 799 Fairway Drive

LaPlace, LA 70068 985-652-2615 phone 985-652-7291 fax

aolparishoffice@gmail.com

www.aolparish.org

Office Hours: M-F 9:00am - 4:00pm

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# PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION COORDINATOR

Andree Gurdian

andreemgurdian@gmail.com

# YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Emily Gurdian aolcyo@gmail.com

#### ASCENSION OF OUR LORD SCHOOL

Toni Ruiz, Principal: 985-652-4532

#### PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Michael Abbate: 985-652-5041 michael.abbate54@yahoo.com

# SYNOD IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATOR

Susie Lanza: 504-650-0496 slanza@lancoconstruction.com



WE ARE GLAD YOU ATTENDED

MASS WITH US!

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PICK UP A

WELCOME ENVELOPE

AND LET US KNOW
HOW WE MAY SERVE YOU.

# **MASS INTENTIONS**

# Monday, December 16

8:30 am Special Intention

**Tuesday, December 17** 

8:30 am Zulma Williams

## Wednesday, December 18

6:00 pm Lynn Hymel, Sr.

Thursday, December 19

8:30 am Jeffrey & Patrick Cupit

Friday, December 20

8:30 am Special Intention

# Saturday, December 21 • St. Peter Canisius

4:00 pm Stuart Torres, Clarence & Myrtle Torres, Irving & Norma

Vial, Paul & Mary Lato, Grace Lamonte, Grady Duff, Jr., Scott Duff, E.J. & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Steve & Nancy Valure, John A. Rauch, Jr., Greg Entremont, Dr. John Wayne Melancon, Sister Juanita

Borbon, Nilton Larousse

# Sunday, December 22 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am James Trosclair, Sr., Gwen Booth, Marie Williams,

Dolores Fajardo, Joseph Marks, Lois Perilloux, Barbara Mondello, Angelina & Frank Purpera, Sr., Cody Lucia,

Special Intention

10:30 am Shanon Graver, Vera & Stephanie Haydel, Tammy

Balliviero

3:00 pm (en espanol) Our Parishioners & Henry Harris, Jr.

7:00 pm Conrad & Brady Families

#### VIGIL LIGHT FOR DECEMBER

In memory of Norman & Verna Millet, Deborah Acosta, Jessica Fournet, & Rosalind Millet Hutson

## **CHAPEL CANDLES BURN FOR:**

In memory of E.J. & Zola Martin



# ADORATION • COMMUNITY • THEOLOGY • SERVICE

ACTS Women's Retreat February 13-16, 2020 Registration Now Open!

Retreat spots will be on a first come, first served basis with a \$100 deposit required to hold your place. Make checks payable to St. Joan of Arc Church.



# Pope Francis' December Prayer Intention The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

# AROUND OUR CHURCH & OUR COMMUNITY



We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the overwhelming support of our 2019 #iGiveCatholic campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a total of \$39,154 for replacement of our sound system components. In addition, we won prize money for the number of donations, and we won the awards for Most Creative Event and Peer-to-Peer Fundraising Champion! The Church Parish receives a total of \$4,000

for these category wins! THANK YOU FOR GIVING CATHOLIC!

# Announcing our 4 Prize Deal Winners

Dinner with Fr. Walter & the #iGiveCatholic Team **Adrienne Comiskey** 

> \$40 Gift Card to Don's Seafood Lou Lanza

> > 4 Perpetual Candles

Dee Bower Vic Gagliano

Rosalie Vitrano

Cheryl Waguespack

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Linda Biven Mary Claire Fisher Debbie Navarre Jona Rojo





All Christmas Giving Tree gifts must be returned to Church by Dec. 15th or to the Parish Office by Dec. 19th. Thank you for

your love and generosity to our neighbors in need!



JOIN US FOR...

# HRISTMAS!

December 28th 5:00 - 6:30 pm Piovan Parish Hall Open to all middle and high school students!





January 10-12 Becoming a Disciple of

Jesus of Nazareth Rev. Glenn LeCompte

January 17-19 Finding God in the Now! Everyday Experience Rev. Jim Sichko

January 24-26 Living the Virtue of Hope Rev. Joe Krafft

January 28 - Day of Prayer Falling in Love with Prayer Rev. Ken Smith

5500 St. Mary Street, Metairie, LA 70006 (504) 267-9604 \* neworleansretreats.org



Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau is responsible for conducting the nationwide census. While the next census will be taken in 2020, the Census Bureau is already recruiting to fill important temporary positions. Apply online at

2020census.gov/jobs.

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# PARISH CALENDAR

# Monday, December 16

**PSR** 6:00-7:30pm

#### **Tuesday, December 17**

## Wednesday, December 18

7:00pm KC General Meeting - KCH 7:00pm RCIA - Parish Office

#### Thursday, December 19

8:30am School Mass Hearty Meal 12:30pm

7:00pm Spanish Bible Study - PPH

#### Friday, December 20

12:00pm School Early Dismissal

12:30pm Setup Christmas Baskets & Gifts - DBH

#### Saturday, December 21 • Team 3

Girl Scouts Daisy Troop Meeting - PPH 8:30am

9:00am Distribute Giving Tree Gifts

#### Sunday, December 22 • Team 3

9:00am Distribute Giving Tree Gifts

# WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need your help assembling and delivering our Christmas Giving Tree presents and baskets.

• Friday December 20th at 12:30pm after school dismissal: bring all Giving Tree Presents/Food Baskets to School Building #1 Hallway



• Sunday December 22nd at 9am: Delivery of Gifts

Help is needed all 3 days!

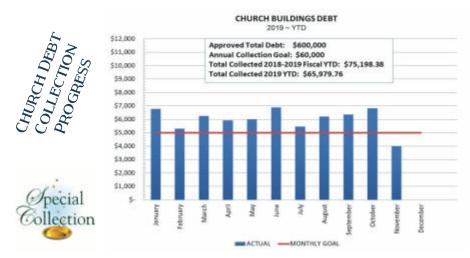






# Christmas Altar Flowers

Please return all Christmas Flowers envelopes in the collection baskets or to the Parish Office by **December 16th**.





# PERPETUAL **ADORATION** CHAPEL.

# **Partners Needed**

Sundays 8-9pm **Tuesdays 6-7am Thursdays 8-9am** Fridays 9-10am Saturdays 4-5pm

### Please call 652-2615

St. Mother Teresa once said, "The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace." What a blessing it is to have a place to come and encounter this peace in the midst of our busy and hectic schedules.



# **SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISMS**: Baptismal seminars are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Parish Office at 7:00pm. Please call the Parish Office to pre-register.

WEDDINGS: Couples must contact the priest at least six months prior to the preferred date of the wedding.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office or 985-630-2837 (evenings).

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE **HOMEBOUND**: To be added to the list, please call the Parish

**FUNERALS**: Family must make arrangements with the priest prior to making final arrangements with the funeral home.

# ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH



# DECEMBER 15, 2019 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"What did you go out into the desert to see? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet."

Matthew 11:2-11

The true story of Christmas centers on a gift given to everyone that we both want and need. God sent His Son Jesus into the world to tell us of God's love for us. Listen to the words of Isaiah in the first reading as he prophesied about the coming of the Messiah: "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, . . . he comes with vindication. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared..."

In the gospel Jesus reaffirms this message when He replies to the disciples of John the Baptizer who asks if He is the Messiah, the one that people have longed for since the beginning of time: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the Good News proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

Soon we will celebrate Christmas Day, the day when God gave us the greatest present we could ever wish for or need. This season of Advent gives us time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' Birth. At the same time we recall that just as God sent His Son among us 2000 years ago, so Jesus promises He will come again at the end of time.

Many people, especially the very young, cannot wait for Christmas Day. They anticipate that day with great joy and hope. Likewise, we as Christians wait for the Lord's coming in glory. We understand the words of St. James today, "Be patient... make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."

In the meantime, we continue with the reality of this time of the year as we pursue the art of the ideal gift for that special someone, an art that consumes our time and energy. As we search to please that person, remember God gave us a gift that does not lose its color, shape or size. His gift does not tarnish or go out of date. His gift of His Son reminds us that despite the difficulties of our lives there is a God who loves and proved it in giving us a gift we both needed and wanted: His Son.

Fr. Walter Austin



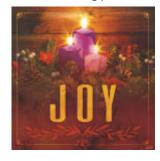


#### **Leading the Way**

There are many examples of false prophets in history. Some of these gifted charlatans have led people away from family and friends. They have led people to do evil things, like stealing, torture, or even murder. It is amazing how those gifted with charisma can lead others down such a destructive path. In today's modern world filled with so much technology and sophisticated communication platforms, one must be careful not to buy into a lie or scam so easily.

John the Baptist didn't have any modern technology in his toolbox as he was preparing the way for the Messiah, Jesus. He moved people with a profound message and by the way he lived his life. People questioned whether he was the One who was to come, but he assured them that he was not the One. Instead, all he did was to prepare people for Jesus' coming.

You and I can either lead people to Jesus by our words and actions, or we can lead them away from him. Our stewardship can be a powerful witness to how Jesus has changed our lives. Unfortunately, if we are not changed and instead act in ways that are contrary to a mature disciple, we can lead people down the wrong path. During the Advent season, there is much



to be done in our homes and with our families to get ready for the celebration of Christmas. However, this is not about a day; it is about Jesus. May our actions and words bear witness to the transformative power of Jesus Christ in our lives, not just during this season, but all year long.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# Building a Future Full of Hope

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas

5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9

[4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt

1:1-17

Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18

-25

Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf.

8]/Lk 1:5-25

Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/

Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-

21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-

7/Mt 1:18-24

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