



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH

— ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD —

CHRISTMAS SEASON BULLETIN

DECEMBER 24 & 31, 2023

“TODAY IS BORN OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST THE LORD.”

MASS SCHEDULE

Masses are currently being held
in the St. Dominic Savio Center
to the right of the school.

MASS TIMES

Saturday..... (Vigil) 4:00pm
Sunday..... 8:30am, 10:30am, 7:00pm
..... (Spanish) 3:00pm

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday..... 8:30am

CONFESSIONS

One half hour before each Mass daily
and Sundays.

PERPETUAL ADORATION

CHAPEL - Currently open every day
9:00am - 9:00pm.

OUR CLERGY

REV. CYRIL BUYEERA

Pastor

aolpastor21@gmail.com

REV. MR. THOMAS ST. PIERRE

Deacon

tjstpierre@yahoo.com

REV. MR. JULIUS LAURENT

Deacon

jlaurent@arch-no.org



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christ was born for you, exactly as you are. But he has
come to offer you a new life. A better life. Don't be afraid
to cast off the darkness. Step into the light of Christ's love.

©LPi

1900 GREENWOOD DR. | WWW.AOLPARISH.ORG
PARISH OFFICE ~ 799 FAIRWAY DR., LAPLACE, LA 70068 | 985-652-2615
SCHOOL ~ 985-652-4532 | PREK2 THROUGH 7TH GRADE | WWW.AOLCRUSADERS.ORG

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

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dawnell Anders
aolparishoffice@gmail.com

SECRETARY/SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

Amarna Englert
aolrectory@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Cindy Grosse
aolpublisher@gmail.com

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION COORDINATOR

Andree Gurdian
andreegurdian.psr@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

andreegurdian.psr@gmail.com

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD SCHOOL

Addie Melancon, Principal
985-652-4532
amelancon@aolcrusaders.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

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



VIGIL LIGHT FOR DECEMBER

Norman & Verna Millet,
Rosalind M. Hutson, Deborah Acosta,
& Jessica Fournet

VIGIL LIGHT FOR JANUARY

In Memory of Rory & Jourdan Growl

CHAPEL CANDLES BURN FOR:

Week of December 24

In Memory of David Snyder

Week of December 31

In Memory of Clem M. Washington, Sr.
& Dr. Constance J. Washington,
Special Intention

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 24 • Vigil of Christmas

4:00 pm Deacon Paul & Philip Dupuy, Edith Layton, Living & deceased members of the Larousse & Brock Families, Melvin & Nellie Powell, Dan Guidry, Gregory Hymel, EJ & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Jeffrey Andry, Dolores Fajardo, Tony & Dolores Dottolo, Sam & Anne Miller, Marilyn & Ellis Torres, Brent Waguespack, Shirley Nason
6:00 pm Hoffman & Scofield Families, Fr. Benjamin Piovan, Jourdan Growl, John Snyder, Sr., Thiel Bueto, Rory Growl, Lynn Hymel, Jr., Dolly Ocmund

Monday, December 25 • The Nativity of the Lord

Midnight Steve Navarre, Tom & Teresa Bautsch, Harold Strehle, Living & deceased members of the St. Pierre & Poche Families, Karen Angelo
10:30 am Norman & Verna Millet, Rosalind M. Hutson, Deborah Acosta, Jessica Fournet, Frank & Connie Miano, Joe & Ramona Hebert, Emma & Dewey Weber, Sr., Bernice & Dewey Weber, Jr., Greg Barbeln, Nelson Madere, Eula McMurry, Rodrick Guerra
3:00 pm (en espanol) Spanish Community

Tuesday, December 26 • St. Stephen

8:30 am All Souls

Wednesday, December 27 • St. John

8:30 am Aubrey Coniglio

Thursday, December 28 • The Holy Innocents

8:30 am AJ & Mary Clyde Melancon, Souls of the Unborn Babies

Friday, December 29 • St. Thomas Becket

8:30 am Eula McMurry

Saturday, December 30

4:00 pm Melancon & Fisher Families, Christopher Nguyen, Frances Blount, Dan Guidry, Gregory Hymel, EJ & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Marilyn & Ellis Torres, Nelson Madere, Tommy Duhe, Sr., Mitchell Haase, All Souls

Sunday, December 31 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

8:30 am Maxie, Max, & Mary Lee, In Thanksgiving, Eula McMurry, Dang Van Dat, Ly Muoi, Special Intention, Doris Beadle, Karen Angelo, Souls in Purgatory, Special Intention, Peter Pham Quang, All Souls, Gioan Binh Phan, Gioan Huy Phan, Gioan Ai Pha, Jamie Brady
10:30 am Our Parishioners, Kerry Joseph Ford
3:00 pm (en espanol) Dolores Fajardo
7:00 pm Deceased members of the Favorite, Pierre, Simon, & Duronslet Families

Monday, January 1 • Mary, The Holy Mother of God

8:30 am Melvin & Nellie Powell, Dolores Fajardo, Eula McMurry, Rosalind M. Hutson, Norman & Verna Millet, Deborah Acosta, Jessica Fournet, Clem M. Washington, Sr., Dr. Constance J. Washington

Tuesday, January 2 • Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8:30 am Marilyn Torres

Wednesday, January 3 • The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 am Special Intention

Thursday, January 4 • St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 am Shirley Nason

Friday, January 5 • St. John Neumann • First Friday

8:30 am Felicie, Vincent, & Joseph Favorite, Eric & Joseph Dangerfield

Saturday, January 6 • St. André Bessette • First Saturday

4:00 pm Melancon & Fisher Families, Dan Guidry, Gregory Hymel, Jeffrey Andry, EJ & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Rauch & Stumpf Families, Tommy Duhe, Sr., Thiel Bueto, Christopher Nguyen, Grady Duff, Jr., Scott Duff, Tieu Sen, Nguyen Quang Hai, Christine Nguyen, Steve Navarre, Tom & Teresa Bautsch, Living & Deceased Members of Larousse/Brock Family

Sunday, January 7 • The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 am Eula McMurry, Anton Le Hung Bien, Peter Le Van Khoe, Xavier Francis Kim Nguyen, Doris Beadle, Ellis J. Torres, Karen Angelo, Mitchell Haase, Special Intention, Special Intention, All Souls, Gioan Ha Phan, Gioan Tri Phan, Gioan Truc Phan, Clem M. Washington, Sr., Dr. Constance J. Washington, Jamie Brady, Harold Strehle, Living & Deceased Members of St. Pierre/Poche Family
10:30 am Our Parishioners
3:00 pm (en espanol) Dolores Fajardo
7:00 pm Eric & Joseph Dangerfield, Felicie, Vincent & Joseph Favorite



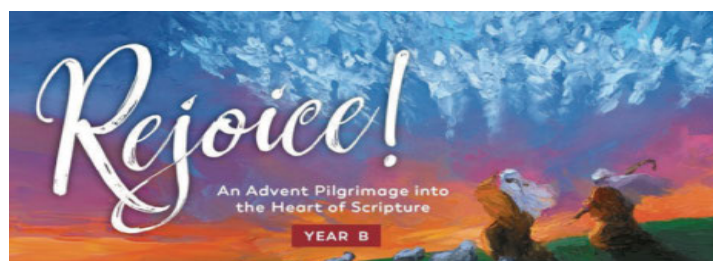
*Father Cyril and the staff at
Ascension of Our Lord wish you a
Holy and Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Blessed New Year!*

*"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you
who is Christ the Lord." LK 2:11*

December 24 - 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm
December 25 - Midnight, 10:30 am,
3:00 pm (Spanish)

The Solemnity of Mary is not a
Holy Day of Obligation this year.
Mass on January 1 will be at 8:30 am.

The Parish Office will close at
noon on December 22 and will
remain closed through the holidays.
We will reopen on January 2.



Visit aolparish.org and click on the *Rejoice* link to
access the Advent Week 4 video.

Fourth Week of Advent (December 24)

- ♦ What are you taking from this Advent into the rest of your life? What lessons did you learn, what fruit did your prayer bear, and how did you notice God speaking to you?
- ♦ How did sitting with Mary and Joseph this week prepare you to meet Jesus on Christmas Day?
- ♦ Video Reflection: Do you think it is impossible to have silence in your state in life? What are you putting ahead of prayer and silence? How can you make the space and take the time to sit with the Lord in stillness?
- ♦ **How has your prayer changed this Advent?**

CCRNO Holy Spirit Teen & Young Adult Retreat

OVERSHADOWED
Luke 1:35

January 5-7, 2024
Cost: \$245
includes housing, meals, and t-shirt
Our Lady of Hope Retreat Center
Head to ccrno.org to register!

Come Hungry
LUKE 1:55

HOLY SPIRIT WOMEN'S RETREAT
JANUARY 26-28, 2024
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
LAFAYETTE, LA
REGISTER AT CCRNO.ORG

KITTY CLEVELAND BISHOP SCOTT MCCAIG CASEY SPREHE FATHER BILL HENRY

CHRISTMAS SEASON BULLETIN

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Monday, December 25

Parish Office Closed through January 1
School Closed through January 7; No PSR until January 8

Saturday, December 30 & Sunday, December 31 • Team 4

Monday, January 1

6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet - Adoration Chapel

Tuesday, January 2

Parish Office reopens
7:00pm Baptismal Seminar - Parish Office

Wednesday, January 3

11:00am Altar Society Meeting - Piovan Parish Hall
7:00pm KC Planning & Director's Meeting - KC Home

Friday, January 5

9:00am Soldiers for Christ Prayer Group - Savio Center

Saturday, January 6 & Sunday, January 7 • Team 1



PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL



ADORERS ARE NEEDED!!

The Adoration Chapel is open every day from 9am to 9pm.

The Chapel will close at Noon on Christmas Eve and reopen at 9am Tuesday, December 26.



Beautiful Eucharist - by Matthew Kelly

Beautiful Eucharist is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives.

The world needs the healing and hope only Jesus can provide. He is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole. And all of that begins with your own life-changing encounter with him today.

All families are invited to pick up their gift of this book at Christmas Mass.

“He remains among us until the end of the world.”

Go to your Adoration as one would to heaven, to the divine banquet.

Kids Corner

Prayer

God, help me to trust you and say "yes" to you.

Mission for the Week

Saying "yes" to God takes practice. When your parents ask you to vacuum or set the table or take the garbage out, say "yes" to them.

Sharing the Gospel

Mary and Joseph put all their trust in God. Once they found out what God wanted, they did it. God wanted Mary to have a special baby, and she said "yes" to God. God wanted Joseph to be a good husband and father, and Joseph said "yes" to God. When that special baby from God was finally born, Joseph named him Jesus. One day God would ask Jesus to save the world from sin on the cross, and Jesus would say "yes" to God.

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

MARY
JOSEPH
HOLY SPIRIT

WEDDING
ANGEL
DREAM

BABY
JESUS
VIRGIN

V	I	R	G	I	N	T	H	W	I	S
J	C	S	H	U	J	O	S	E	P	H
D	R	E	A	M	R	W	I	D	A	O
S	O	B	Y	A	O	N	U	D	G	W
M	E	N	G	R	W	E	A	I	S	D
T	B	A	B	Y	B	M	O	N	A	E
R	E	N	D	R	O	I	T	G	J	O
S	P	G	O	H	F	J	E	S	U	S
K	A	E	I	V	N	A	G	M	D	L
H	O	L	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T	Y
S	R	H	N	E	D	L	S	E	H	A



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 at 985-652-2615.

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

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

GOSPEL MEDITATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

ENCOURAGING DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE - *Father John Muir*

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 24

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, **"But she was greatly troubled at what was said."** An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her precisely when she is troubled. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, **"Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."**



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - DECEMBER 25

"She gave birth to her firstborn son." The pain of childbirth is something that boggles my mind. I'm sure I couldn't handle it. I can't even watch scenes in movies in which a woman gives birth. I understand it's a beautiful part of nature, but there's still something awful about it and the attendant suffering.

Which is why it's worth pondering an often neglected and currently unpopular part of the Church's theology around the birth of Christ, his was miraculous because it caused no pain to his mother. Even her physical virginity remains intact. Of course, we modern scientific people scoff at such an idea.

Without obsessing over the obstetrical details, we discover a glorious illumination in the symbolic meaning of this birth that we moderns find so embarrassing. *God comes into the world in an utterly non-violent way.* He himself will suffer his own bloodshed but will never shed that of others. He is so peaceful and non-violent that he will even rise from the dead without breaking the seal of the tomb. All of humanity, in the Church, will give birth to him in the Church free from the terrible pain due to original sin. How badly we need the truth of this miraculous birth today!

Let's delight in this great mystery and miracle of Jesus's birth. He is the Prince of Peace and always nonviolent. We need not fear him, ever.

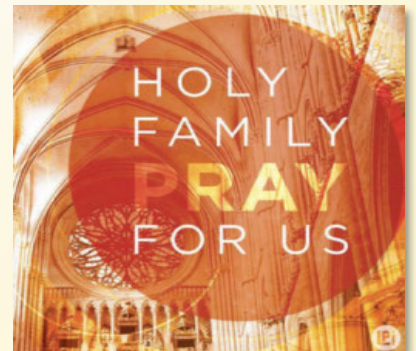


THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH - DECEMBER 31

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence? Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him on, too. ©LPi





COMBINING COST AND QUALITY
IS WHAT WE DO BEST

985.652.4208



**NO JOB TOO
BIG
NO JOB TOO
SMALL**

Commercial, Industrial, Residential,
Service Work, Parking and Street Lights
504-466-3303 • 24 Hr. Service Calls

DON'S

SEAFOOD Since 1934
Restaurant & Oyster Bar
4801 Veterans Blvd.
504-889-1550
Open 7 Days A Week



**FAUCIEUX
LAW FIRM**

Attorneys At Law

985-651-2889

robert@faucieuxlaw.com
Robert Faucieux | Litcher, LA

St. John Memorial Gardens

Perpetual Care Cemetery

985-652-6160

Mausoleum Crypts and Cremation Niches

Call Ann to preplan now for your peace of mind.



KYLE BOURGEOIS

70 Dominican Rd. Laplace

985-652-1245

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

They allow us to print
this bulletin. Thank you!



FAMILY DENTISTRY

DR. ROBERT D. ORY, SR

DR. ROBERT D. ORY, JR

DR. BENJAMIN M. ORY

430 WEST FIFTH STREET • LAPLACE

985.652.9616

WWW.ORYDENTISTS.COM



**MATHERNE'S
MARKET @
RIVERLANDS**

1424 W. Airline Hwy, Laplace, LA 70068

PH: 985-652-9234

www.mathernes.com

**MAYEUX'S
A/C & HEATING, LLC**

**GENERATOR
SYSTEMS**

985-764-2426

This Space
is Available

FISHER'S

ACE Hardware

504 Hemlock Street

652-1497

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

Authorized
Provider SafeStreets

833-287-3502

AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION LLC

RESIDENTIAL REMODELING

Licensed and Insured

Demolition • Drywall • Painting • Wood Fences

504-201-9390

americanconstructionnola@gmail.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME
Debra Mayeux**

dmayeux@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6524



1506 West Airline Hwy.
LAPLACE

985-651-2947



Fred DeFrancesch, M.D.

Metairie • Hammond

Baton Rouge

866-437-3733

www.nmaclinic.com

**LET US PLACE
YOUR AD HERE.**

This Space
is Available

WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

Authorized
Provider SafeStreets

833-287-3502



Since 1983

Laplace, LA

(985) 212-6012

lancoconstruction.com



P.O.P.S

Protecting Our Precious Seniors For Homebound Citizens

Weekly Visits For Homebound Citizens

(985) 652-7058



"One Nation Under God"
**FIRST NATIONAL
BANK • U.S.A.**

HERE TODAY • HERE TOMORROW

377 BELLE TERRE BLVD.

LAPLACE, LA 70068

985.651.0781 | www.fnbusa.com



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH



Support

Knights

of Columbus

Council #9623

504-388-2452

Proceeds Benefit
The Church Parish



2-C-4-2

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-1596