

...blessed is the fruit of your womb.
Lk 1:42

LOVE



© Diocesan / The Athenaeum - Nativity (1730) - Noel-Nicolas Coypell III



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church



8968 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037 † 504-394-0314 † Fax: 504-394-0376

Web: www.olphbc.org † Email: churchoffice@olphbc.org

OFFICE HOURS—Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Please call between these times for routine parish business.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Kyle V. Dave, *Pastor*
kdave@arch-no.org

Rev. William F. Maestri,
Ministry of Sacraments & Education

George "Ed" Merritt, Jr., *Deacon*
emerritt@arch-no.org

Brittany Breaux, *School Principal*
bbreaux@olphbcschool.org

Dawn Bassett, *Administrative Assistant*

Suzette Perrin, *Coordinator of Religious
Education and Adult Formation*
cre@olphbc.org

Angel Boyd, *Receptionist*

Debbie Fagnano, *Director of Music Ministry*

TJ Lejeune & Kenneth Pouwels,
Maintenance Supervisors

OLPH SCHOOL

8970 Highway 23 † 504-394-0757

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

8968 Highway 23 † 504-394-0314

K.C. HALL

9016 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 7:30 a.m. & Vigil 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Monday 7:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. During the school year
(7:30 a.m. when school is not
in session)
Thursday 7:30 a.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m.
First Friday Adoration: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Holy Days: Consult the bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 5:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m.
Saturday 2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (ANOINTING)

By appointment only

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, are a living and growing Catholic community of faith, striving to follow and serve Christ. We are an evangelizing community, and we welcome others to fullness of life in Christ. With Mary we say "Yes" to God's call to pray together, worship consciously, and serve joyfully.

To visit our
church website
scan the QR
code below:





NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to a very friendly and enthusiastic community. Please fill out the information in the Binder on the Welcome Table located in the back of church or register at the Church Office. A Census Form can also be found on our website at www.olphbc.org.

Sacraments



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Baptisms are usually celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Due to demand, some months may be eliminated or another day or time may be chosen by the family if it is available on the church schedule of events." To begin the process, parents are encouraged to go to our website at www.olphbc.org to access the forms under Sacraments and return the forms by email or drop off at the Church Office. Parents and godparents are required to attend a seminar prior to the Baptism. The Baptismal Seminar is held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Day Chapel. If you need more information or have questions, call the Rectory at (504) 394-0314 or email cre@olphbc.org.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION: First Eucharist is celebrated the first Saturday of May for students in the 2nd grade or above. Children older than 2nd grade will be prepared on individual situations. The Sacrament of Reconciliation must be celebrated prior to Communion.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall of 11th grade. Candidates who attend Catholic high school or are enrolled in the High School of Religion program come together for Sacramental preparation. All candidates are asked to pre-register in their freshmen year and no later than December of their 10th grade year. Information and registration can be found on our website: www.olphbc.org.

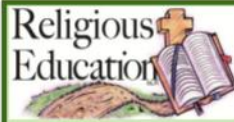
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact the Church Office at least nine months prior to the planned date. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the Church Office.

For more information on any of our Sacraments, contact the Church Office or email cre@olphbc.org.



VISITATION OF THE SICK: Inform the Church Office when someone is sick, shut-in or hospitalized and unable to attend Mass.

FUNERALS: Inform the Church Office as soon as possible when someone in the family dies, preferably before contacting the funeral home.



Religious Education

The mission of OLPH's Religious Education program is to bring the "Good News" of God's love to all children and their families and to call them to commit their lives to Christ. Religious Education is available for children in Kindergarten through adults. We encourage parents to be parishioners of OLPH when registering students for Religious Education classes. Census forms can be obtained from the Parish Office during regular business hours, on the Welcome Table located in the back of church or you can register online. Call the Church Office at (504) 394-0314, or email cre@olphbc.org for more information.

SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD: Children in grades K-2nd are invited with a catechist during 10:30 a.m. Mass to the Day Chapel for the Liturgy of the Word for Children (September-May). A summary of the readings of the day is discussed on their level.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Our PSR program is divided in two parts. Family Faith Formation is the "academic" part with the textbook discussed at home as a family. Our Encountering Engaging Events are a chance to come together as a community to worship together, do crafts, or engage in traditional events like our Nativity Play and Living Way of the Cross.

HIGH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Students in 9th through 12th grade not attending a Catholic High School are offered Faith Formation with academics at home, working at their own pace, but also some time to get together to discuss what they have learned with their peers about three times a year. It is intended to be an informal study with honest Catholic answers.

RCIA: Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic or completing Sacraments? Please join our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). We have a Year-Round RCIA process that you can enter into whenever you are ready. This is for you if you have never been baptized, if you have been baptized into another denomination and now want to become Catholic, or if you are an adult Catholic but have never been confirmed. Sessions will be held in person with day and time to be adjusted to personal schedules. For additional information and to register, contact the Church Office or email cre@olphbc.org.

Archdiocese of New Orleans Safe Environment— Refer to the Web Site: <http://www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment> for policies and procedures concerning safe environment and child protection.

Scripture Readings & Events this Week

Saturday, December 21, Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33-2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)
Confessions, Church—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.
Vigil Mass, Church—4:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent; Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. M) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)
Children's Dismissal—10:30 a.m. Mass

Monday, December 23, Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)
Church Office Closes at Noon

Tuesday, December 24, 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4, 5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Christmas Eve Masses, Church—4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord; Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25; Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14; Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20; Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Christmas Day Mass, Church—9:00 a.m. (Fr. K)
Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 26, Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr; Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. K)
Church Office Closed
Catholicism Class, KC Hall—7:00 p.m. (Fr. M)

Friday, December 27, Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist; 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment
Riverbend Mass—10:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 28, Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs; 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)
Confessions, Church—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.
Vigil Mass, Church—4:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

Sunday, December 29, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. M) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)
Children's Dismissal—10:30 a.m. Mass

Mass Intentions

12/21, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— Larry Avist, Sr., Eric Hansen, Oliver & Margaret Koch, Beverly Hebert, Ruth Ferrell, Francis Gainey, Edna & Eugene Fagnano

12/22, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.—For the Parishioners

12/22, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.— Wayne Perrin, Blaze St. Marie, Eva Vujnovich, Helen Abadie Morris, Eugene D. Fagnano, Sgt. Peter Foltz, Lucille Bernard, Darlene Boudet, Gary Buras

12/23, Monday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

12/24, Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.— Theresa L. Bossier & Leslie J. Casler, Jr., Kerry M. Casler, Rosebud L. Dumesnil & Emmette E. Dumesnil, Sr., Earl J. Bossier, Ronald P. Boudreaux, Rosemary (Schaubhut) Hebert, Pat & Dolly Stakelum, Seth David Chedville, Berislav & Marija Murina, Joseph & Marija Slavic, Al (Pitt) Buras, Evelyn Mistich, Elaine Shelley, Anne Fowler, Dominick Sciortino, Helen Abadie Morris, John W. Lonadier, Sr., Collins Duet, Genevieve Duet, Bernadette Duet, Darrell Roy, Medwick & Clarisse Robichaux, Brian Cooper, Fawn Cooper, Irwin Cooper, Jr., Gary Buras, Peggy Walker

12/24, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.— Francis Gainey

12/24, Tuesday, 10:00 p.m.— For the Parishioners

12/25, Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.— Joyce Ehrhard, Michael G. Tredinich, Edward J. & June Tredinich, Farrell & Martha Nolan, Woody & Beverly Wilson, Ruby Pontiff Tredinich, Beverly Hebert, Peggy Walker, Blaze St. Marie, Helen Abadie Morris, Floyd & Nercy Burmaster, Robert Singley, Glenn Singley, Ante I. Tesvich, Michael Tesvich, Stipo & Anka Cibilic, Andrew & Kate Pobrica, Christopher Lincoln, Dinko & Marija Popich, Eugene D. Fagnano, Johnnie Pennison, Amanda Luneau, Louise & Joseph Johnson, Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson

12/26, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.— Michael G. Tredinich

12/27, Friday, 7:30 a.m.— Rosemary & Johnny Arcement

12/28, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

12/28, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— For the Parishioners

12/29, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.— Barbara & Donald Verret, Sr., Kenneth Pouwels, Sr., Edna & Eugene Fagnano, Patsy & Ray "Pete" Ansardi, Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson

12/29, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.— Dolly Stakelum, Blaze St. Marie, Francis Gainey, Eva Vujnovich, Johnny Arcement, Vernon Devilier, Sr., Eugene D. Fagnano, Alexandra "Allie" Boteler, Lucille Bernard, Darlene Boudet, Gary Buras



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for 2024

December—For Pilgrims of Hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



OLPH School News



The Nativity of the Lord

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

- Angels
- Heaven
- Shepherds
- Mary
- Joseph
- Infant
- Manger
- Message
- Amazed
- Glorify



SUNDAYKIDZ

©Diocesan

The Birth of Jesus



You will find the baby
lying in a _____

Luke 2:12

"This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:12

MROO 1
NGEAL 4 5
BYBA 2
NBOR 6 3

1 2 3 4 5 6

Copyright © 2013 Diocesan Publications/Images courtesy philipmartin.info

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Fourth Sunday

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23



On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/fourth-sunday-of-advent-cycle-c-sunday-connection/>



OLPH Angel Tree Program

Now through **December 22nd** you are invited to participate in the Angel Tree Program **benefitting Padua House**, which is run by Catholic Charities. All are residents of Plaquemines Parish.

Simply select one or more angels found on the tree as you walk into the church. Gifts found on the back of the angels are for essentials that are needed to be replenished each year. Please return your unwrapped gift and place it in one of the boxes found under the tree. You are welcome to then select more angels, if you would like. Thanks to the OLPH school students for providing the colorful angels. Also, thanks in advance for your generosity.



Christmas Flowers

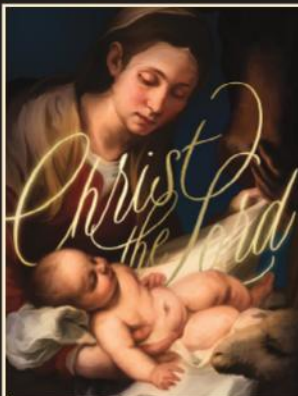
We are accepting donations toward the Christmas Flowers. Donation envelopes are available on the information table. Please write clearly on the envelope so that the memorial may be published.



CHRISTMAS TREES

If anyone is interested in donating one of the Christmas Trees used in church in memory of a loved one, please contact the Church Office at 504-394-0314.

The memorials will be published in the bulletin.



The Signs of God—Midnight Christmas Mass was always my favorite as a kid. We would get all dressed up and enter the beautiful Church with all the decorations and the nativity scene. It's like I can still smell the pine trees and see the glow of the Christmas lights. I think we probably all have memories that bring us back to the Christmas season. Whether it is the smell of freshly baked cookies or the Christmas ham roasting for hours, these physical signs point us back to memories and experiences that we have enjoyed.

The Gospel from the Christmas Mass during the Night proclaims, "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you." This has me thinking about the importance of physical signs. Wedding rings are exchanged as a sign of commitment. Gifts are exchanged as a sign of love or friendship. In today's Gospel we have the signs of the manger and the swaddling clothes that are communicating to us that God has become flesh. Signs are important for us. The beautiful thing about the signs we have in the Catholic Church is that they go beyond mere symbols. Today we commemorate not just a sign of God's love in clothes and a structure, but we commemorate God literally taking on flesh to be a physical and effective sign of his

love. Not just a sign in the sense of symbolic representation, but a sign that is so real and so effective that it literally becomes what it signifies.

We see this played out in every Mass. We start with the Liturgy of the Word where we read from Scripture. But that Word, throughout the course of the Mass, becomes so living, so real, so physical, so effective, that the Word of God literally becomes flesh for us on the altar. This is the very thing we celebrate this Christmas season. We can think back to all the great symbols that plunge us deeply into beautiful memories of family life, but let's set aside some special time today to focus on the fact that God transcends all earthly signs and literally becomes one of us. He wants to be one with you and with me. If there is nothing else we take out of our celebrations today, I think it would do us well to focus on that reality. God loves you enough that he was born in a manger to have a relationship with you and one day be with you forever in paradise. From all of us here at Diocesan, Merry Christmas and God bless! By Tommy Shultz

Next Sunday is The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14. He who fears the Lord honors his parents.

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 or Colossians 3:12-21. Concerning the Christian life in the world

Luke 2:41-52. His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

As God gives us the gift of His Son, come join us.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Vigil Masses: Tuesday, December 24th—
4:00 PM & 6:00 PM

Christmas Carols—3:30 PM

Los Posadas Procession—5:45 PM

Candlelight Christmas Mass—10:00 PM

Choral Program—9:30 PM

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th Mass—9:00 AM

Prelude Music—8:45 AM

New Year's Day

Tuesday, December 31st Vigil Mass—5:00 PM

Wednesday, January 1st Mass—9:00 AM



*On behalf of the entire staff, I wish you
and yours a Merry Christmas and a
Blessed New Year!*

Rev. Kyle V. Davis



The Fourth Week of Advent:
December 22, 2024

Candle Name: The Angel's Candle

The Fourth Week of Advent
Represents: Love

Candle Color: Purple

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?



The Sanctuary Light by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week in loving memory of:

Jerry Pigniolo, requested by Fannie, Children & Grandchildren; **Al (Pitt)**

Buras, requested by Helen Buras;

Blaze St. Marie, requested by Debbie & Jim Theall;

Brian, Fawn & Irwin Cooper, Jr., requested by Carol & Irwin Cooper III; and **Medwick & Clarisse Ro-**

bichaux, requested by Carol & Irwin Cooper, III.

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Light burn in memory of a loved one, call the Church Office. The donation for the Sanctuary Light is \$10.

Stewardship

All things are possible with God



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



A way of life

Church Financials Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

Total Income \$ 749,209

Total Expense \$ 707,120

Net Gain/(Loss) \$ 42,089

*Thank you to our parish
family members who faith-
fully support our parish.
May God bless you for
your generosity!*

Online Giving Is Available on Our Website at www.olphbc.org (click on Give Online), or simply scan the QR code with your phone. You can easily create your donation account online and make changes at any time.



Sponsor of the Week:



Knights of Columbus

FATHER PETER P. BOERDING COUNCIL No. 6357
For Membership Call Rodney Schaubhut, Sr., GK
RodSchaubhut@gmail.com • 504-376-3080
Meetings 2nd Wed. Each Month 7:00 pm
Council Home

Look to the back now! Look and remember to support these businesses when you need a product or service. Also, tell them "thank you" for their interest in Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Straight Talk

by: Father William Maestri
Advent: End and Beginning

An unknown sage once said: "anticipation is greater than participation". This seems to be so. The opened Christmas toys in the morning are ignored by the afternoon. Children of all ages are vulnerable to the Demon of "What's new?". Thanks to our tsunami of technological gadgets our ability to concentrate has shrunk. Our time horizon does not extend beyond the INSTANT, while our frustration and boredom with having to wait, or the repetition required to acquire a skill. However, even our participation or acquisition succumbs to the craving for the stimulation of the novel new thing,

or RELATIONSHIP. We moderns can find ourselves akin to the ancient Alexander the Great who after all his victories was found weeping because "he had no more worlds to conquer". Our tears come from the dread that Silicon Valley "has no new devices to conquer 'the old ennui'".

Throughout history there is and will be until He comes again, the struggle between the Demon of Novelty and the Angel of Hope (Eph 6:12). Such a battle was present before the birth of Jesus. St. Luke reports that "the people were filled with expectations" for the promised Messiah. This 'great expectation' spawned a flood of speculation as to who it might be. Many were "asking in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah." John declares, "I am not". For "one mightier than I is coming who will baptize in the Holy Spirit and fire." He "with a winnowing fan will clear the threshing floor...gather the wheat into his barns, but the chaff he will burn with unquenched fire." (Lk 3:15-18). John, rather "was sent from God...to testify to the light. The true light...was coming into the world." (Jn 1:6-9). The testimony by John reaches its climax when he and two of his disciples watch Jesus walk by. John says to them, "Behold, the Lamb of God". The two disciples "... follow Jesus." (Jn 1:35-37). This brief encounter between two cousins (Lk 1:36) serves as a disclosure model for Christian discipleship and the Discipleship Church of the Lamb.

John as the "voice crying in the wilderness" (Jn 1:23) points to the supremacy of Jesus and says, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30). John's disciples are to enter a new, deeper relationship, that is, they are to follow the "Lamb who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me'." (Jn 1:29-32). John is indicating the pre-existence and divinity of Jesus as the Son of God and the promised Savior (Jn 1:1-3).

By relinquishing his disciples to follow Jesus, John is revealing a deep level of love, that is, it is not that love which holds on (grasp), but that love which surrenders the beloved to another (the Father sending the Beloved Son for our Salvation; in secular fashion, when, in Casablanca, Rick (Bogart) sends Elsa (Bergman) to be with Victor (Henreid) so she can be free and part of her husband's mission). The true disciple dies to self, carries the cross of self-denial, and follow the One who is LIFE (Jn 14:6).

The mission of the Church of Disciples is not to point to itself but to reflect its Lord; the One around whom it knows Who it is, and to Whom it belongs. St. Ambrose (339-397AD) transformed the pagan practice of moon and sun worship by viewing the Church as the moon "not with its own light but with that of Christ [not the sun but the true, eternal Light who is the SON of the Father]". This use of such pagan imagery is not a weakness but "thanks to the unshakable faith [in Jesus as Incarnate Word] ... [the Church enjoys] the wonderful freedom of introducing [this] into the beautiful images of God made flesh; of Jesus dying and rising." (Myths, p. 152. Hugo Rahner SJ).

The importance for those with Church authority to point to Jesus is indicated by the Risen Lord to Peter: "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." (Jn 21:16). The authority of those called to serve is not grounded primarily in an office but in the Person of Jesus the Christ. And Jesus is "among you [us] as one who serves." (Lk 22:27-27).

The days of Advent are dwindling down to a previous few. It is the time for "Great Expectations", for God is about to unfold, and for us to behold, a "new thing", beyond our expectation, anticipation, and speculation - a revelation that infinitely exceeds our deepest longings. It will be a child, in a stable, lying in a crib, and surrounded by a virgin, a carpenter, and shepherds.

For now, the city of Bethlehem lies in slumber, but in a little while, the trajectory of history and the meaning of human existence will be forever altered. The God of the burning bush (Mount Sinai, Ex 3:1-6), and the God of a "gentle and quiet whisper" (1Kgs 19:11-14) will become human flesh! (Jn 1:14), "in a reality such that only God could create." (Pope Benedict. The Infancy Narratives, p. 56).

The empty crib will behold Emmanuel, "God is with us", to fulfill the promise of salvation made through the prophet Isaiah (Isa 7:14; Mt 1:23).

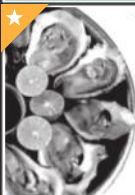
Come! In the stable there is always room for more. The end (Omega) is our new beginning (Alpha) - (Rev 22:13).



504-392-0554



PHONE: (504) 564-3344
FAX: (504) 564-0174
27136 HIGHWAY 23, PORT SULPHUR, LA 70083



BEZ OYSTERS and SEAFOOD

9582 Highway 23
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
504-394-0903
Nick Bezmalinovic (Owner)



Six Generations of Our Family Serving Your Family Since 1895
Planning TODAY to Help Your Family TOMORROW...
For more information call (504) 366-4343.
www.mothefunerals.com



Knights of Columbus

FATHER PETER P. BOERDING COUNCIL No. 6357
For Membership Call Rodney Schaubhut, Sr., GK
RodSchaubhut@gmail.com • 504-376-3080
Meetings 2nd Wed. Each Month 7:00 pm
Council Home



1 Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to
www.DM.CHURCH/5049...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS



Brent & Kathy Laliberte, Owners
1700 Belle Chasse Hwy., Ste. A #200 393-0315



ROBERTSON ROOFING AND SIDING, INC.

Gerard Robertson, Jr., Estimator
900 Woodland Hwy. • 504-394-7200
gerardjr@robertsonroofinginc.com



Greg West

504-382-0973

ADVERTISE HERE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish.

Ray Kelly - 504-338-3058
rkelly@diocesan.com

RUSO'S PHARMACY Sean & Jenny Surrency Owners
Fast Friendly Service
Good Neighbor Pharmacy
M-F 8am-6pm
Sat. 9am-2pm
7902 Hwy. 23
394-4444 www.mygnp.com/russospharmacy

BELLE CHASSE VETERINARY CLINIC, INC.
Dr. C. Duplechain
Dr. A. Page
394-4516
8566 HWY. 23

Salvo's SEAFOOD Est. 1984
Open on Sundays during crawfish season
Dine In or Take Out • Fresh & Boiled
7742 Hwy 23 • **504-393-7303**
www.salvosseafood.com

Belle Chasse Cabinet Works
Custom Cabinetry & Design
www.bccw.net
394-4870
1500 WOODLAND HWY.

CLEAN FLEET AUTO BODY WEST
Metro New Orleans most recommended shop is now in Belle Chasse
Formerly JP's Auto Body, JP and Susan finally retired, however the rest of the team is still the same.
7248 Highway 23
Belle Chasse LA 70037
504-394-6767

Chevron **Guilbeau's Convenience Store & Deli**
Port Sulphur, LA

EMILY LACOUR, DDS
(504) 433-2092
27136 Highway 23, Suite 414
Port Sulphur, LA 70083

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday & Friday 8am-5pm
Tuesday & Thursday 8am-3pm
Wednesday Closed

Fremin's Food Market
Mon-Sat: 7AM to 7PM
Sun: 8AM to 12PM
26277 Hwy 23
Port Sulphur, LA

Riverbend
Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
Quality Care - Close to Home
13735 Hwy. 23 **656-0068**

BP&P
BOWES, PETKOVICH & PALMER, LLC
504-368-2700
BPP-LAW.COM

THE HIVE PLAY. CARE. EVENTS.
1510 Woodland Hwy.
After School Care & Birthday Parties!
504-410-5013
thehiveonwoodland.com

Belle Chasse OPTICAL
Specializing in Eye Examinations, Eyeglasses & Contact Lens
102 Woodland Hwy., #10 **504-393-0002**
Mon-Fri 10am to 5:30pm

State Oil Fuel Center
FAMILY-OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1997
We served you through hurricanes, fuel shortage, fires, & holidays.
We Are Here For You 24 hours a day. 365 days a year.
Plaquemines Owned Plaquemines Proud

COLDWELL BANKER TEC
THE BONNIE BURAS TEAM
Bonnie Buras & Emily B. Hoskin
504.392.0022
BonnieBurasTeam@gmail.com
Each Office Independently Owned & Operated. Licensed in LA.

Edward Jones
JEFF WOOTON, FINANCIAL ADVISOR
7614 Hwy. 23, Ste. A
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
Bus. 504-392-3977 • TF 844-258-7762
Cell 504-289-3271 • Fax 855-379-5740
edwardjones.com/jeff-wooton
jeff.wooton@edwardjones.com

Holiday Inn Express
AN IHG® HOTEL
2433 Manhattan Blvd. • Harvey, LA

RIVERSIDE HOTEL
www.RiversideBelleChasse.com
8280 Hwy. 23 **391-0133**

Adams Catfish House
LUNCH MON-FRI 11-2 & DINNER THURS-SAT 5-9
8523 Hwy. 23 **392-0541**

catholicmatch® Louisiana
CatholicMatch.com/goLA

INSTEP CREDIT UNION
Guiding our communities to bold new financial horizons since 1948
504-394-5574
instepmembers.com

BBC BALLAY, BRAUD & COLON, PLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
EST. 1980
504.394.9841
8114 Hwy. 23 Belle Chasse, LA 70037

ROUBION'S TIRE & AUTO CENTER, INC.
Front End Alignment • AC Repair
Oil Change & Brake Tags
BRIDGESTONE MICHELIN GOODYEAR
7566 Hwy. 23 **392-8861**

GOURMET BUTCHER BLOCK®

DEBONED CHICKEN & TURKEY & PRESEASONED MEATS
A Cajun Meat Market
Turducken • Deboned Stuffed Chicken
Deboned Stuffed Turkey
Homemade Boudin • Stuffed Pork Chops
Stuffed Duck • Stuffed Quail
Stuffed Rabbit • Shish Kabobs
Stuffed Pork Roast • Stuffed Beef Roast
Stuffed Boneless Pork Loin • Stuffed Brisket
Glenn & Leah Mistich, Owners
392-5700
2144 Belle Chasse Hwy., Gretna

PIVACH
— attorneys at law —
BELLE CHASSE COVINGTON
504-394-1870
www.pivachlaw.com

R.R.T. Oilfield Rentals & Service
Locations in Belle Chasse & Lafayette
Telephone: **800-500-6670**

C&C Machine
504-362-7205
www.ccmachineshop.com

#ThankYouForYourPriesthood

Mississippi River
Division of Merchants & Marine Bank
504-392-1111

