



Visitation of Our Lady School is Accepting Applications for 2025-2026

Applications for the 2025-2026 school year are currently being accepted for new students. School tours can be scheduled for prospective families at your convenience. Families will be able to visit classrooms as well as receive necessary information regarding registration. Please visit our school's website at school.vol.org for more information, to schedule a tour, and to complete an online application. If you have any questions, please call Jessica Doherty at 504-347-3377.

SPECIAL APPRECIATION!

Fr. Jude wishes to congratulate and express his profound gratitude and appreciation to all parishioners especially those who contributed immensely towards the successful hosting of our archbishop, the blessing of our completed renovated Church and rectory and also for his installation and reception. Special thanks go to the members of the Knight of Columbus (KC) and the Ladies Altar Society, our florist – Mrs. Lenora and individuals who brought food for the reception. Thank you so very much for all that you do in service to parish community.

Offering Envelopes



We wish to remind all parishioners that the 2025 Offertory envelopes are available. Please check at the the entrance of the church to collect your envelopes and sign the sheet to check out your envelopes.

The second collection for February 23rd, 2025 will be for **Archdiocesan Catholic Charities**.



Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

- Psalm 24

The Holy Father's intention for the month of February is *"For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life."*

The **"Blessing of Throats"** will be done next Sunday weekend at the end of each mass in commemoration of the Feast Day of St. Blaise which is on Monday, February 3, 2025. Please take note.

Mass Intention Envelopes are located for your convenience at the entrance of the church. The cost is **\$5 per mass intention**.

Simply drop the envelope in the collection basket, mailbox or the office located at the parish hall.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT
As a Catholic Church Family, we respond to Christ's call, evangelize, and welcome all generations to the Holy Eucharist

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday Masses: 9:00a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
 First Saturday Mass: 8:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration:

Tuesdays in St. Anthony Church Chapel following Mass and the rosary @ 8:00 a.m.

RCIA: Parish Hall - Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Confessions:

30 minutes before each of the Sunday Weekend Masses (Sat. 4pm Vigil, Sun. 9am and 11am) or by appointment.

Baptism:

Second Sunday of the month. The Seminar is the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Please contact the rectory for forms prior to seminar.

Marriage:

Please contact Fr. Jude six months prior to desired ceremony date.

Funeral:

Please contact Fr. Jude before final arrangements of funeral.

Anointing of the Sick:

Call the rectory in case of emergency.

C.C.D. Classes:

Grades K - 11 Tuesdays at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Parish Hall.

Ministry to the Sick and Shut In:

Parishioners unable to attend mass and receive communion, please call the rectory.

St. Anthony Catholic Church

St. Anthony, 2653 Jean Lafitte Blvd., Lafitte, LA 70067

Phone: 504-689-4101 Fax: 504-689-4102

Email: stanthony@arch-no.org Website: stanthonylafitte.org

Pastor: Rev. Jude Emunemu **Deacon:** Edward Cain

Office Staff: Laura Melancon - Bulletin **CCD Director:** Jenea Hatty

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Scripture Outline & Reflection

*Malachi 3:1-4;
 Psalm 24:7,8, 9,10;
 Hebrews 2:14-18;
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32*

Jesus the King of glory (Ps), yet like us in all things (2), comes to his temple (1) to be a light for all the nations (3).



My eyes have seen your salvation,
 which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples

- Luke 2:30-31

Reflection for the Feast of Presentation of the Lord, Year C

LET THE KING OF GLORY ENTER INTO HIS TEMPLE

Today, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple exactly forty days after His birth. Historically, this feast was observed in the Western Church as early as the end of the 4th century. In the early 8th century, Pope Sergius I inaugurated the candle light procession as part of the observance of this Feast; and by the end of the same century, the blessing and distribution of candles became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name “*Candlemas*.”

As the firstborn, Jesus belonged to God. And according to the Mosaic Law, Mary and Joseph were required to bring Him to the Temple to “*redeem*” Him by paying five shekels. At the same time, Mary His mother, was also required by the Law to present herself to the priest in the Temple to offer a sacrifice for her purification. This was required because a woman was considered unclean for forty days after childbirth. Today’s feast shows a curious turn of events. We see Christ who is the Redeemer brought into His own Temple to be redeemed. We also see Mary who is immaculately conceived and who was a virgin before, during and after the birth of Christ presenting herself to be purified. Such was the humility of both Jesus who is God the Son and Mary. They faithfully submitted to the Law in humility even though they were not bound to it.

The parents of Jesus because they were very poor, they could not afford the five shekels—the required offering to redeem Jesus. Alternatively, they offered what is popularly called the “*Offering of the poor*” —a pair of turtle doves. Biblical history reveals that they belonged to a religious group called the “*anawim*.” The *anawims* were the *poor of Yahweh* —who depend on the providence of God because they simply didn’t have material wealth or position to count on (poverty of spirit). Their poor offering of the two turtle doves in the Temple indicates the “*Blessed poor*.”

During the presentation in the Temple, extraordinary events took place. Simeon—a righteous and devout man who had awaited the consolation of Israel, was led by the Spirit and came into the temple. He took the Child in his arms and blessed God. He felt a sense of fulfilment just by setting his eyes on the promised Messiah—a light for revelation to the Gentiles—*Lumen ad revelationem gentium*. He not only prophesied about the child, destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel and a sign to be contradicted, but he also prophesied that a sword of sorrow would pierce the soul of Mary “*so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed*.” Also present was another woman of faith—Anna. We were told, since becoming a widow and now 84, she never left the temple but worshipped night and day with fasting and prayer. She too gave thanks for this gracious moment and spoke about the child to all those who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. In one of his homilies, St. Pope John Paul II says: “*Simeon and Anna are representatives of the Old Covenant, who, in a certain sense, had lived their whole lives for the moment when the temple of Jerusalem would be visited by the expected Messiah. Simeon and Anna understand that the moment has come at last, and reassured by the meeting, they can face the last phase of their life with peaceful hearts.*”

But what exactly is the significance of this Feast to us? On this feast day, before the candle light procession into the Church, the Deacon or the priest announces to us: “*Let us go in peace to meet the Lord*” in his temple. Meeting the Lord in his temple is about encountering Him in His Word and also recognizing Him at the breaking of the Bread of the Eucharist. Christ, comes into his Temple to meet us His believing people. He comes not to be purified by any ritual offering or be redeemed by any sacrifice but to come purify us who are the temples of the Holy Spirit and to offer for us as our High Priest, the sacrifice of the Holy Eucharist to redeem us. All the readings today concern the Temple and the sacrificial rites. In the first reading, the Prophet Malachi called the priests to return to faithful service and foretold a day when the Messiah would come to His Temple for a definitive purification of the priesthood—for he says: “*...he will purify the sons of Levi...*” The Psalmist invites us to open the gates and let the King of glory come in. But what is this gate? It is the gate of our hearts—the gate to God’s temple that is within us. Are we ready to let Jesus, the King of glory into the temples of our bodies today to come purify us and establish His reign within us? On this world day of consecrated life, we pray that many young people may open their hearts and embrace the call to the priesthood and consecrated life. No doubt, the Lord constantly seeks to draw us into an intimate relationship because of his love for us. Can you give him a change today by letting him enter into the temple of our hearts?

Reflection by:
Rev. Fr. Jude Ochuko Emunemu

We need to recognize the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence. The signs of the times, which include the yearning of human hearts in need of God’s saving presence, ought to become signs of hope.

-Pope Francis, Hope Does Not Disappoint, 7



STEWARDSHIP

We gratefully acknowledge all that God has given to us. In gratitude, we have returned to Him.

Collections for January 18th & 19th

1st Collection	2nd Collection
\$ 2,017.25	\$ 777.25
Online Giving \$ 452.00	
Children’s Collection \$ 29.00	
Online Giving Fund \$ 33.00	

Total Weekly Offering \$ 3,308.50

MASS ATTENDANCE

4:00pm	9:00am	11:00am
43	229	0

Collections for January 25th & 26th

1st Collection	2nd Collection
\$ 1,372.26	\$ 637.02
Online Giving \$ 545.00	
Children’s Collection \$ 21.00	
Online Giving Fund \$ 33.00	

Total Weekly Offering \$ 2,608.28

MASS ATTENDANCE

4:00pm	9:00am	11:00am
47	54	104

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Parishioners and Father John Ryan, Caleb Favaloro, Simon Hingle, Belvina Kuhn Bundy, Roy Rogers, Arthur Matherne, Clavin Wade, Jr., Marie Sevin, Shirley Prestenbach, Eddie Sapia, Jr., Bobby Hale, Jr., Madeline Rojas, Theresa Wiseman, Raymond Griffin, Sr., Shelby Deselle, Joseph Rogers, Jr., Allyn Rogers, Evan Whipple, Nick Dinet, Jerry Lynch, Keith “Ike” Madison, Judith Ann Verdin, Dwight Rudolph, Faye Rae Guidry, Dale Boudreaux McWhorter, Edward Cantrelle, Sr. Lloyd Kraemer, Sr. Rosebud Kraemer, Gareth Ross Leblanc, Sr., Earline Perrin, Martha Pizani, and Lavin LeBlanc.

MASS INTENTIONS

- 4:00 p.m. Chris Dufrene, Jr.
Tommy Robeaux, Jr.
Teddy Johanson, Jr.
Ulrick Johanson
Narris & Trudy Cheramie
John C. Heutin, Jr.
Most Abandoned Souls
in Purgatory
- 9:00 a.m. All Parishioners
- 11:00 a.m. Charles R. Robin, Jr.
Tommy Ory, Jr.
Joyce Bruce
Betty Ortego
Florence Knuppel
Theresa Comaredelle
Lillia Coulon
Lavin LeBlanc
Adeline Arcement
Charles Touchard
Gareth LeBlanc Ruby
Collins Landry
Maryianna Enclade, LeBeau
For A Friend
Repose of Souls
of Unborn Babies
Conversion of Family
and Friends



Sanctuary Lamps are in memory of

Charles Raymond Robin, Jr.

