

**YEAR OF ST. PAUL**



Paul says to the Thessalonians: you must not "grieve as others do who have no hope" (1 Thes 4:13). Here too we see as a distinguishing mark of Christians the fact that they have a future: it is not that they know the details of what awaits them, but they know in general terms that their life will not end in emptiness. Only when the future is certain as a positive reality

does it become possible to live the present as well  
Encyclical letter On Christian Hope (Spe Salvi), no.2  
November 30, 2007

**THE ADVENT 2008 PENANCE SERVICES  
NORTH REGION, DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE**

Let us hear Isaiah the prophet tell us in the Bible, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Let confession help us prepare our hearts and lives for the Lord's Coming. Let us meet Jesus Christ "conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion." [Source Bible Readings for 2nd Sunday of Advent, Cycle B]

Catholics are invited by Msgr. J. Robert Romero and the priests of the North Region to use the penance services as a way of preparing for the Lord's coming. These services are as follows:

**Church: St. Charles Borromeo Church (Grand Coteau)**  
Date: Dec. 10th (Wed.) Time: 7:00 p.m.

**Church: St. Anthony of Padua (Eunice)** Date: Dec. 15th (Mon.) Time: 6:00 p.m. Tri-Parish Penance Service.

**Church: St. Leo the Great (Leonville)** Date: Dec. 16th (Tues.) Time: 6:30 p.m.

**Church: Holy Family (Lawtell)** Date: Dec. 17th (Wed.) Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Parish Mission: Holy Family (Lawtell) Dates: Dec. 15th, 16th, & 17th (Mon., Tues., & Wed.) Time: 7:00 p.m.

**Church: St. Ann (Mamou)** Date: Dec. 17th (Wed.) Time: 6:30 p.m.

**Church: St. Bridget Church (Lawtell)** Date: Dec. 18th (Thurs.) Time: 6:30 p.m.

**Church: Our Lady Queen of Angels Church (Opelousas)**  
Date: Dec. 22nd (Mon.) Time: 6:30 p.m. City-wide Penance Service.

**NOTICE**

Donations for Poinsettias in Memory Of and/or in Thanksgiving for will be listed as an insert in the Christmas bulletin, **NOT WEEKLY**. Suggested donation is \$20.00 for 10 inch plants.

**RETURNED TO CHRIST THROUGH DEATH**

The St. Landry Church parishioners offer prayers and sincere condolences to the families of:

Eugene Hebert and Verlie Boudreaux Savoy

O Lord, grant to those who have died the joy of your presence, and us who are living, the happiness of knowing this.

**READINGS FOR FAITH SHARING  
Week of Dec. 7, 2008**

- Reading I Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
The glory of the Lord will be revealed.
- Psalm 85 "Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation".
- Reading II 2 Peter 3:8-14 The day of the Lord will come like a thief.
- Gospel Mark 1:1-8 John the Baptist appears in the desert.

**THEME**

**Preparing a pathway in our lives.**

Today God speaks tenderly to us a word that announces the coming of the Lord Jesus. In both the first reading and Gospel, the way of the Lord is carved through a dry and weary desert land. Let us prepare ourselves to know the presence of the Lord, especially when our hearts are parched dry. Today's word is like a stream of life-giving water to the thirsty.

**Question for Children:**

How do you experience God taking care of you, even in times of trouble?

**Question for Youth?**

John went out to announce the good news of the Messiah's coming. How can you be good news to your friends and family this week?

**Question for Adults?**

When you hear Isaiah comfort the people by promising that God is like a shepherd who gathers the lambs into his arms, what is your response?

**FORMING GOOD STEWARDS**

**"One mightier than I is coming after me." Mark 1:1-8**

Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God. It is a very special moment for all Christians. It is a time of giving. Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Have you even finished making your Christmas list? What gift have you prepared for Jesus? Is Jesus even on your Christmas list? Should he not be at the top of our list? In the first lines of Mark's Gospel, we see that Jesus is at the top of John's list. He has prepared the way for Jesus. He recognized that "One mightier than I is coming after me". John's gift was his humble recognition of Jesus as the one who "will baptize you with water and the Holy Spirit." If we have no other gift for Jesus, we can humbly acknowledge God as the source of all that we are and have and spend time pondering how we use all that God has given us to the best of our ability in the year to come. Jesus would love such a gift.

**STEWARDSHIP EXPRESSIONS**

December 8...Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Born without original sin, the Blessed Virgin Mary faithfully responded to God's call to become the mother of God the Son. Baptism removes our original sin and commissions us to come to know and serve God through our own special relationship with Him.

**Masses on December 8, which is a Holy Day of Obligation, are as follows:**

8:40 a.m....Opelousas Catholic Students  
12:10 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. all held in Church  
There is no anticipated Mass for this Holy Day at St. Landry Church.

**MASS INTENTIONS**



**FOR THE WEEK**

- Saturday, Dec. 6** ..... 4:00 p.m. Walfred LeBlanc, Sr. & Wally, M/M Robert Going Sr., Glenn & Vickie Vidrine, Sr. Mary Joseph LaFond, M/M Clayton Titard, James E. Martin, Martin & Angela Cosgrove, Elizabeth Puckett, Jeanette Lalonde, Yves Kidder (DA)
- Sunday, Dec. 7** ..... 8:00 a.m. M/M John FaKouri, John, Jr. & Jacob, Howard & Mabel Richard, Martin J. St. Amand, Youle & Therese Fontenot, Alton & Elizabeth Joubert, Ezra (BD) & Velma Martin & Denise Hull (BD), Irl White, Carol Pitre, Betty "Nan" Valin, Willard Andrepont (BD), Joey Prather
- 10:00 a.m.** ..... Wilfred, Annette, Richard & Marian Smith, Quentin Joubert, Mary Manouvrier Parker (DA), Francis, Elise & Al Gautreaux & Bart Bernard, Dr. Sidney & Alice Rozas & Dr. Dudley & Putsy Bienvenu, Bobbie, Julie, Ruth Mouton, Ronnie & Steve Ardoin & The Ryder Fly, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. & Doris H. Philippe, Bill Gallagher, Deanna Dohmann Chachere, Mazie Bertinot DeJean
- 5:00 p.m.** ..... St. Landry Church Parishioners, Lee Martin
- Monday, Dec. 8** ..... 8:40 a.m. Opelousas Catholic Students
- 12:10 p.m.** ..... Hilary Dupre & Carolyn D. Arnaud, Marcy Lee Thibodeaux, Ludy David Latiolais, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. & Doris H. Philippe, Inez L. Mott (DA), Gervis (Blackie), Ted & Madelyn Dohmann, Eugenia (BD) & Hensley Hargroder & Family
- 5:30 p.m.** ..... St. Landry Church Parishioners
- Tuesday, Dec. 9** ..... NO MASS
- Wednesday, Dec. 10** ..... 12:10 p.m. Terry & Eula Lavergne
- Thursday, Dec. 11** ..... 12:10 p.m. Norma Cortez DeBallion & Joseph
- Friday, Dec. 12** ..... 12:10 p.m. Ludy David Latiolais
- Saturday, Dec. 13** ..... 4:00 p.m. Walfred LeBlanc, Sr. & Wally, Glenn & Vickie Vidrine, M/M Clayton Titard, Martin & Angela Cosgrove, M/M St. Ange Fournier, Sr., Anna & St. Ange Fournier, Jr., Cindi Durcho, Jeanette Lalonde
- Sunday, Dec. 14** ..... 8:00 a.m. Martin J. St. Amand, Youle & Therese Fontenot, M/M Ezra Martin & Denise Hull, Carol Pitre, Betty "Nan" Valin, Eve Reed, Joey Prather, Eugene Hebert & Jonie, Genie & Troy
- 10:00 a.m.** ..... Wilfred, Annette, Richard & Marian Smith, Quentin Joubert, Dr. Sidney & Alice Rozas & Dr. Dudley & Putsy Bienvenu, Ernie & Steven McKinney, Lawrence, Lilly & Mickey Hollier, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. & Doris H. Philippe, Elizabeth Puckett, Marise Martin, Deanna Dohmann Chachere, John Harold Kewley
- 5:00 p.m.** ..... St. Landry Church Parishioners, Lee Martin

**Confessions: Saturdays 3:00-3:45 p.m.  
11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.**

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**  
**Your Stewardship To God**

Total Offertory Collection .....	\$5,757.42
Maintenance Fund & Repair Fund .....	\$105.00
OCS .....	\$15.00
Thanksgiving.....	\$230.00

*Every Gift Comes From Above.*

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Second Collection for week of Dec. 7  
4TH PLEDGE FOR BISHOP'S SERVICES APPEAL**

**REMINDERS FOR THIS WEEK**

Sunday, Dec. 7	10:00 a.m.	Elementary Religion Classes attend Mass as a group.
Monday, Dec. 8	6:00 p.m.	Religious Education
Tuesday, Dec. 9	6:00 p.m.	CDA
	6:30 p.m.	RCIA
Thursday, Dec. 11	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	KC Meeting
Friday, Dec. 12	7:00 p.m.	Altar Society Social

**PRAYER INTENTIONS**

Mason Alsandor, Bonnie Amy, Jack Andrus, Leola Arnaud, Ella Attole, Mary Bertha Attole, Angela Aymond, Dorothy Beaug, Dusty Bellard, Shirley Bellard, Dougie Bergeron, Katherine Bertrand, Gloria Berzas, M/M Nathan Berzas, Stephen Berzas, Mary Aline Bihm, Lillie Briggs, Jared Broussard, Rick Carter, Estelle Chautin, Peggy Chelette, Logan Comb, Franklin Courville, Ward Courville, Shelton Daigle, Robert Danaher, Angela Dautrueil, M/M Billy Dean, Hilda Debillion, Lillian Delafosse, Sue Deville, Sharon Doucet, Carl Dupre, Michael Dupre, Raymond Dupre, Wanda Dupre, Georgia Fiegel, Harold Fontenot, Joseph L. Fontenot, Dempsey Fuselier, Lauren Giminez, George Gremillion, Larry Greer, Ann Guidroz, Elaine L Guillory, Louis Guillory, The T. Guillory Family, Gabrielle Marie Hanson, Brooke Hargroder, Sydney Harmon, Carlos Hebert, Glenn Hebert, Andrea Hernandez, Glenda Hicks, Doris Hudspeth, Annie & Austin Jagneau, Agnes Kidder, Brenda Lafleur, Richard Lafleur, Raymond Lashute, Bradley Lastie, Dotty & Floyd Lavergne, Glenn Lavergne, Renella Lavergne, Dustin Lavoie, Mary Alice LeBlanc, Phyllis Cormier LeBlanc, Therese Leger, Tony Leger, Tonya Londerno, Andre Magallanes, Therese Major, Mary Martin, Mistic & Prudhomme Families, Byron Miller, Jeffery Miller, Shirley Morris, Julie Mouton, James Naquin, Dot Nezat, Craig Ortego, Marty Ortego, Cameron Ozenne, Gene Paillet, Callie Palmer, Louis Paternestro, Johnny Pellerin, Gentry Peltier, Tracie Peltier, Keith Perry, Mary Perry, Irene Pitre, Ruby Pitre, Brandon Prudhomme, Frances Reed, Emery Richard, Ronald Richard, Joseph James Robin, Ruby Romero, Rose Ryder, Marie Saucier, Harold Savoy, Anna Belle Soileau, Elaine Soileau, Aaron Stelly, Annabelle Stelly, Erika Stelly, Melanie Stoute, Adolph Taylor Sr., Russell Thibodeaux, Lena Trahan, Pierre Trosclair, James Vidrine, Lou Vidrine, Wayne Wyble and Ivy Zerangue

Please help update our list. If any name is omitted and should be on the list, please call if anyone is well enough to be taken off the list, please call. We appreciate your cooperation.  
*St. Landry Church Staff*

**O C CORNER**

Opelousas Catholic students and faculty will attend an all school mass on Monday morning at 8:40AM in St. Landry Catholic Church for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Students in the elementary grades will perform in their annual Christmas play on Wednesday evening at 6:00PM in the school gym. Parents, grandparents, family, and friends are invited to attend.  
OC plans to hold a special Open House for prospective students and parents on Tuesday evening, January 13, 2009.

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**WHAT:** Advent Concert Series @ Fatima  
**WHERE:** Our Lady of Fatima Church  
**WHEN:** Every Sunday in Advent  
**CONTACT:** Andre Courville @ 232-8945

**WHAT:** Opelousas Community Choir Christmas Song Fest  
**WHEN:** Dec. 6 @ 7:00 p.m.  
**WHERE:** St. John's Episcopal Church Washington, La.  
**WHEN:** Dec. 12 @ 7 p.m.  
**COST:** La. Methodist Lauman Hall Free

**WHAT:** Dedication of sculptor of Blessed Francis X. Seelos  
**WHEN:** Dec.13 @ 4:00 p.m. Mass  
**WHERE:** St. Theresia Church, Abbeville  
**CONTACT:** 893-5631  
**HOMILIST:** Fr. Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.Exec. Director of Nat'l Shrine in New Orleans, La.

**SANCTUARY LIGHT**

Church.....Universal Human Rights  
Chapel.....For Those Who Are Grieving

**ALTAR SOCIETY**

**Group VII**.....Gwen Fruge, Week of Dec. 13, 2008  
**Group I**.....Alverda Deshotels, Week of Dec. 20, 2008