

The Pastor's Corner

Today we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent, also referred to as Gaudete Sunday, which is from the Latin word for "rejoice." Traditionally, the primary sanctuary color of Advent is purple. Purple is the color of repentance and fasting (preparation) as well as the color of royalty to welcome the Advent of our King, Jesus Christ. The purple of Advent is also the color of suffering used during Lent and Holy Week. This points to the important connection between Jesus' birth and death. The nativity, or Incarnation, cannot be separated from the crucifixion. The purpose of Jesus' coming into the world and dwelling among us is not only to reveal God and His grace to the world through Jesus' life and teaching, but also to reveal God and His grace to us through his suffering, death, and resurrection. The 3rd Sunday of Advent has come to be a time of rejoicing in anticipation of the joy and peace that the presence of Christ in our lives will bring. There is a shift from the Advent liturgical color of purple to rose for the 3rd Sunday of Advent. We see this shift in the Advent wreath candles, and the shift in color reflects the lessening emphasis on repentance as our attention is turned more to the celebration of receiving the gift of Christ at Christmas (anticipation).

Fr. James Brady

Reminder from Fr. Brady

Please remember to join us for a social with coffee, juice and donuts after the 8am and 10am masses in the south sacristy. ALL are welcome and it would be especially nice to meet our new parishioners as well as visitors. CHILDREN: Don't forget to see Father after Mass and receive your Children's Bulletin!

Pray for our Troops

Jonathan David Ardoin, Christopher Briley, Brandi Darbonne, Jacob DeKerlegand, Brian James Dendy, A.J. Korn, Andre Ledoux, Benjamin Pitre, Danny Pitre, Julian Wiltz Please call the office (942-6552) to add names.

All Powerful God, we pray for your continued guidance and blessings on all who serve our country in the military.

Pope Benedict XVI's Intention for December

General: That our personal experience of suffering may be an occasion for better understanding the situation of unease and pain which is the lot of many people who are alone, sick or aged, and stir us all to give them generous help. Mission: "That the peoples of the earth may open their doors to Christ and to His Gospel of peace, brotherhood and justice."

READINGS FOR FAITH SHARING

Week of December 12, 2010

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Reading I Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 The desert will bloom. Psalm 146 "Lord, come and save us." Reading II James 5:7-10 Be patient like a farmer waiting for spring. Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 In prison, John received word of the coming of Christ.

THEME

God's kingdom is close -it is Jesus.

As our celebration of Christmas nears, we stand in the tension between a world longing for peace and justice, and the coming reign of God, where there will be no more tears, no more war, no more violence. As we await the coming of this kingdom, let today's sacred word fill us with hope.

The Advent 2010 Penance Services & Missions North Region, Diocese of Lafayette

"Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom." [Collect Prayer, First Sunday of Advent, Roman Missal, 3rd Edition.]

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

Church: St. Thomas More (Eunice) Date: Dec. 13th (Monday) Time: 6:00 p.m. Tri-Parish Penance Service. Church: St. Augustine (Basile) Date: Dec. 15th (Wednesday) Time: 7:00 p.m. Parish Mission: Dec. 13th, 14th, 15th, & 16th (Monday - Thursday) Time: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Deacon Cody Miller

Church: St. Joseph (Plaisance) Date: Dec. 15th (Wednesday) Time: 6:00 p.m. Parish Mission: Dec. 14th and 15th (Tues. and Wed.) at 6:00 p.m.

Church: Our Lady Queen of Angels Church (Opelousas) Date: Dec. 20th (Monday) Time: 6:30 p.m. City Wide Penance Service.

Doll and Toy Fund

The annual Doll and Toy Fund, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters, is now underway. Monetary donations may be mailed to Janis Courvelle, 1826 Edwards St, Opelousas, La. 70570. Make checks or money orders payable to DOLL AND TOY FUND. We welcome NEW toys, which may be brought to Valentin Hall during office hours. Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am until 11:45 and again from 1:00pm until 4:00pm. On Fridays, no later than 11:45am. For more information, call 789-0971.

Thank You

Dear Friends of the Bereaved, Thank you so much for the lovely food, your prayers and so many acts of kindness. Sincerely, The Martin Family

MASS INTENTIONS



FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 11 4:00 p.m. Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally, Ronnie J. Vidrine, Oscar, Agnes and Dr. Robert Lee Roy, Angela and Martin Cosgrove, Jeanette Lalonde, Kelly Danaher, M/M Lee Martin Sunday, Dec. 12 8:00 a.m. Youle and Therese Fontenot, Martin J. St. Amand, Carol Pitre and M/M E.J. Leonard, Eddie DeKerlegand 10:00 a.m. Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marian Smith, Pierre Titard, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. and Doris H. Philippe, Frank Miller, Elvire Landry (DA), Harold Savoy, Bobbie and Julie Mouton, Steve and Ronnie Ardoin, and the Rider family, Mary B. Martin, Mae H. Moore 5:00 p.m. St. Landry Church Parishioners, Allen Hudspeth Sr., Van, Edward and Allen Jr., Preston & Marguerite D. Wyble Monday, Dec. 13. 12:10 p.m Angela (DA) and Martin (DA) Cosgrove Tuesday, Dec. 14 NO MASS Wednesday, Dec. 15 8:40 a.m. Pauline Christ, Terrel Wayne Fontenot Thursday, Dec. 16 12:10 p.m. Pauline Christ Friday, Dec. 17. 12:10 p.m. M/M Jesse J. Pitre Sr. Saturday, Dec. 18 4:00 p.m. James E. Martin, Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally, Ervin & MarcyLee Thibodeaux and Louis & Regina Burleigh, Ronnie J. Vidrine, Angela and Martin Cosgrove, Jeanette Lalonde, M/M Lee Martin Sunday, Dec. 19 8:00 a.m. Youle and Therese Fontenot, Martin J. St.Amand, Carol Pitre and M/M E.J. Leonard, Eddie DeKerlegand, A.B. Courvelle Sr. (DA) 10:00 a.m. Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marian Smith, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. and Doris H. Philippe, Frank Miller, M/M Ezra Martin and Denise Hull, Irl White, Mae H. Moore, Mary B. Martin 5:00 p.m. St. Landry Church Parishioners, Bobbie and Julie Mouton, Ronnie and Steve Ardoin, and the Rider family, Preston and Marguerite D. Wyble

Confessions, Saturdays 3:00-3:45 p.m. 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

Second Collection Week of December 19, 2010 Retired Religious Fund

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Your Stewardship To God Regular Offertory Collection \$6,904.99 St. Landry Church Maint./Repair Fund \$2,145.90 St. Landry Maint/Repair Endow. \$300.00 St. Landry Church Cemetery Fund \$35.00 Opel. Catholic Foundation Fund \$18.00 BSA \$20.00 Christmas Flower Donations \$160.00 Thank you for your generosity!

Every Gift Comes From Above.



REMINDERS OF THE WEEK Sunday, Dec. 12 10:55am Practice for 10:00am Mass Choir Religious Ed for High School Students Monday, Dec. 13 5:30pm Choir Practice for 5:00pm Mass 6:15pm Rosary at Monument Thursday, Dec. 16 5:30pm Meeting of 1st. Communion Candidates with Parents Friday, Dec. 17 8:40am Elementary Penance Service

Save the Date Faith, Love, You (FLY Fest) Jan. 8, 2011. Where's Your Peace! 8:00am -6:00pm with a closing Mass with Bishop Jarrell Location: Opelousas Catholic Campus.

Prayer Intentions

Betty Jane Andrus, Janet Andrus, Clifford and Jane Ardoin, John Aucoin, Thelma Aucoin, Antoine Bajat, Anna Lee Beadle, Steve Bienvenu, Jerry S. Bouchereau, Gerard Boudreaux, Wilbur Briley, Chris Brewster, Dr. Dan Buller, Holly Burleigh, Brandon Castille, Raylyn Chapman, Robert Danaher, Glenn Derington, Dr. Seldon Deshotels, Harley Doucet, Brad Douget, Vickie Duplechain, Kacey Dupre, Shirley Emonet, Tristen Estes, Linda and Terry Fontenot, Paul Franks, Craig S. Guillory, Ted Guillory Jr., Agnes Kidder, Renella Lavergne, Edward Leblanc, Norma Jean Leger, Deacon John & Mrs. Laura Miller, Julie Mouton, Lonnie and Cindy Ortego, Helen Richard, Melanie M. Richard, Joseph James Robin, Jimmy Roy, Novella Sebastien, Al Soileau, Special Intention, Vernita Stelly, Patrick Steward Jr., Ervin Thibodeaux, James Touchet, Annette Voorhies, Brandy Willingham, Warren Wyble

It is Diocesan policy that to put someone on the Prayer List, you must first have his or her permission.

OC Corner

Class masses in the St. Agnes Chapel are being celebrated by Msgr. Louis Melancon during Advent at 8:00am. Parents and grandparents are invited to attend. Scheduled for this week: Monday, 6th grade; Tuesday, 5th grade; Wednesday, 4th grade; Thursday, 3rd grade; and Friday, 2nd. grade. The new Opelousas Catholic School Choir under the direction of Mrs. Marla Faust is to be commended for their beautiful performance of Christmas carols at the local nursing homes. and school events.

Looking For A Special Christmas Gift?

Copies of "St. Landry Catholic Church - 100 years" by Dr. Richard Harmon and "But He Dies Not" by Peter J. and Suzanne Dore Guerra are both available for purchase in the church office in Valentin Hall. Dr. Harmon's book is \$30.00 (hardback) and "But He Dies Not" (the Life, Faith and sacrifice of Fr. Joseph Verbis LaFleur) is \$20.30 for the soft cover and \$29.65 for the hardback.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)

The mission of CASA of St. Landry Association is to promote and support court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children so that they can thrive in safe, permanent homes. CASA recruits, trains and supervises competent volunteers who speak in the best interest of abuse and neglected children. CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to watch over and advocate for abused and neglected children, to make sure they don't get lost in the overburdened legal and social service system or languish in an inappropriate group or foster home. For many abused children, their CASA volunteer will be the one constant adult presence - the one adult who cares only for them. For more information visit CASA at 729 W. Cherry St., call 948-3550 - 948-4751 or go to the website at www.casastlandry.org.

Flowers for Christmas

Donations for Poinsettias are currently being accepted in the Church office in Valentin Hall. These monetary donations may be made in Thanksgiving or in memory of someone. The plants are costing \$25.00 this year, but we gladly accept however much you are able to give. Donations will be listed as an insert in the Christmas bulletin, NOT WEEKLY. Thank you for helping to make our church look more beautiful during this Holy, Christmas season.

SANCTUARY LIGHT CHURCH Victims of P.B. School Bus Accident CHAPEL Souls in Purgatory

ALTAR SOCIETY Group VII Gwen Fruge, Week of Dec. 18, 2010 Group I Alverda Deshotels, Week of Dec. 24, 2010