

WELCOME TO ALL!!

Christmas is such a wonderful and joyous time. One of the reasons for this joy is that our churches are full of worshippers, both Catholic and non-Catholic, to marvel at the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus the Christ, our Savior. This coming together of so many to worship God is a wonderful thing to see and experience.

With so many new worshippers present, it may be helpful to recall what is necessary to receive Holy Communion at Mass. Following the dictates of Sacred Scripture (1 Cor. 11:27), the Church teaches that one should be properly disposed before receiving Holy Communion. In order to be properly disposed to receive Holy Communion, one must be Catholic and, after a reflective examination, not aware of having committed a serious sin. If a Catholic has committed serious sin, then Sacramental Confession should be made prior to receiving Holy Communion. One such serious sin is the failure to worship God by missing Mass on any Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation without good reason. After proper examination, if you know you are not properly disposed to receive Holy Communion, then you should make a Sacramental Confession prior to presenting yourself for Holy Communion.

Those who are not Catholic or are Catholic and not properly disposed to receive Holy Communion, if they so desire, are welcome to come up in the communion line and receive an individual blessing. They should put their index finger over their lips as they approach the minister to indicate their desire to receive a blessing.

Again, I am so delighted that you are with us during this special time. Together we rejoice in the Incarnation of Jesus and the promise it holds out to all of us - our hope for eternal life.

The Pastor's Corner

The Lord is Risen, Alleluia!! Today we begin to celebrate Christmas. Of course, we celebrate today in a special way, it being the day of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. However, we continue to celebrate the Christmas Season until the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord on January 9, 2012. The secular world will be finished with Christmas by tomorrow morning, but we continue to celebrate the Mystery of the Incarnation for more than two weeks. Our Blessed Mother reflected on the marvel of the Incarnation in her heart (Luke 2:19). So should we. Enjoy reflecting on the gift God the Father has given us in His Son. Enjoy reflecting on the gift Jesus has given us in His Life, Death and Resurrection; the events that have led to our salvation. Enjoy reflecting on the gift of the Holy Spirit, who prompts and empowers us to live a life in imitation of Christ. Ponder the gift of eternal life (our one true Hope), given to us if we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Let us, as a community, not follow the world, but continue to celebrate and reflect on the great gifts we have all received at Christmas: the gift of God Himself dwelling among us, leading to eternal life with Him. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Fr. James Brady

Evangelization

I would like to thank our missionaries this past weekend for taking time away from their families to bring good cheer to those in our community. We did not get to see many families because so many people were out last minute shopping for Christmas. Even though Christmas has become so secular, we still consider it a time of giving, giving of gifts but more importantly, a giving of our time and ourselves for the betterment of others. Let us not forget what Christmas is all about; the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ who truly gave of Himself for the betterment of us.

Merry Christmas - Deacon Sammy Deisi

REMINDER FOR CHILDREN

Children, don't forget to get your bulletins from Fr. Brady after Mass.

READINGS FOR FAITH SHARING

December 25, 2011

Vigil Mass Page 80 in Missalette

In the word of God proclaimed this Christmas Eve, we truly hear "tidings of comfort and joy." The glorious day foreseen by Isaiah is at hand, when heaven is wedded to earth as, in the birth of a Son, God declares us no longer "Desolate" or "Forsaken", but rather God's "Delight" and "Espoused". [What comfort too as we "read between the lines" of Matthew's long genealogy, for Jesus' "family line" includes women, usually excluded from Jewish genealogies, and among those women, Gentiles and sinners—Matthew's way of proclaiming that Jesus will truly be the Savior of all the world.] But, as always, God's word challenges us as well. Gabriel's message puts Joseph's faith to the test, as Joseph acts decisively and daringly to further God's purpose by giving Mary and the child, who is not his own, a home and heritage. Thus Joseph challenges us to believe and trust, then to dare to act, that God's saving plan may unfold. Let us open our hearts to the Christmas message of reconciliation, healing, and salvation. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Morning Mass Page 88 in Missalette

"Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Savior has been born!! Today true peace comes down to us from heaven: for a child is born for us, a son is given to us; and he is called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages; and his reign will be without end." As this Christmas celebration "fills our hearts with the radiance of God's incarnate Word, let us pray that the light of our faith in Jesus may also shine forth in our lives." As we rejoice in the angels' song of "peace on earth to people of good will," let us resolve to be faithful "heralds of Christ's Gospel" of peace.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND

MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND

December 24, 2011 Saturday, 8:00 a.m. in Valentin Chapel (Regular Weekday Mass)

Children's Christmas Vigil Mass

4:00pm Saturday, Christmas Eve

Instructions for children bringing gifts:

Please process in with Father Brady, before Mass begins. Meet at the inside entrance of the church at least 5 minutes before Mass to line up and process into church.

Please bring a new, unwrapped gift for a child.

As you come into the altar area, bow before the altar and place your gift where shown, and then return to the pew with your family.

Christmas Vigil Mass

6:00pm Saturday

Christmas Day

9:00am Sunday

This is the only Mass on Christmas Day

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND

December 31, 2011

Saturday, 8:00am in Valentin Chapel (reg. weekday mass)

4:00pm Anticipated Mass for the Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, January 1, 2012

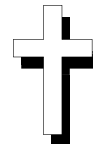
Feast of Mary, Mother of God

8AM; 10AM; 5PM

Thanks

Dear St. Landry Church "Friends of the Bereaved", We would like to thank all of you for providing sandwiches, cake and chips for our Dad's post-funeral gathering. Everything was delicious! God bless all of you, Family of Bobby Nicholson

MASS INTENTIONS AND CELEBRANT



Saturday, Dec 24. 8:00 am Father Brady

Good Samaritan

4:00 pm Father Brady

Gertrude A. and Alvin Marks & Willard Andrepont, Amar Courville, Maryina & A.B. Courville, Sr. Ervin & Marcylee Thibodeaux and Louis & Regina Burleigh, Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally, Velma & Gail Boss, Clayton & Mary Titard, Daniel & Louise LaGrange, Jeanette Lalonde; Lloyd, Evelyn, & Carolyn Arnaud and Hilary Dupre, Ray Thibodeaux, Lois Harmon, Marcel LeBlanc, Larry J. Fournier, Frank Miller, Charles Montgomery, Kurt Cormier, Charles Roy Doucet, Harold Doucet, Georgia P. Gudry, Annabel Moran Eckman A.H. Jr. and Loretta W. Hargroder, Bobbie & Julie Mouton, Steve & Ronnie Ardoin & the Rider Fly, Earl & Frances Mistrot, James & Callie Palmer, Harrison & Roy Fontenot Fly, Henry & Aniza Roy Fly, Onezim & Eva Fontenot Fly, Alex Agnes & James Guillory, Donata Guillory Fly, Clement Ned Sr. & Alma DeJean and Hester Richard, Curtis Sr., Sons & Sue, Orelia Marks, Carl Venable, M/M Jules Marmotlin Sr. & Sons and Daughters; Jeffery & Volta David; J.C. Brown; Joe Bona & Percy Trahan, Beverly Faul

6:00 pm Father Brady

Allen Hudspeth Sr. Van, Edward & Allen Jr., Jerry Chauvin, Doris & R.J. Philippe, Helen & Priscilla Kleinpeter, Gladys & Curby Hidalgo, Jr., Marie Grace Soileau, Alexis & Carl Lanclos, Sal Diesi, Sr., Clyde & Ruby Pitre, Harry Hebert, Elvin & Ena Ortego, Earl & Frances Mistrot; Ernie & Steven McKinney; Lawrence, Lilly, Mickey and Joyce Hollier; Harold Savoy, Sol & Katherine Reed and Theresa & Eli Speyzer

Sunday, Dec. 25. 9:00 am Father Brady

James E. Martin, Cora, Lucille, Walter & Mary Baillio, Guy & Hattie Elder & Daughters, Joseph & Ruby Lalonde, Ann Tuminello, Eddie DeKerlegand and Olivier & DeKerlegand families, Jerry FaKouri, Vernita Stelly, Novella F. Reed, James Roland Boone, M/M Lee Martin, Margaret V. Martin, Jeffrey Paul Miller & Clevence Mott, Ray Thibodeaux, Arthur Fontenot & Eva Johnson, Marcel LeBlanc, Pat & Agnes Doucet, Jerry Chauvin, Doris & R.J. Philippe, Helen & Priscilla Kleinpeter, Gladys & Curby Hidalgo, Jr., Mary & Kathleen Cryer & Thomas Huckaby, Sr., Elvin & Ena Ortego, Charles Roy Doucet Joseph Lastrapes, Sam & Anne Chachere, Rebecca Chachere Curtis, Carol Pitre & M/M E.J. Leonard, M/M John FaKouri, Sr., John Jr., and Jacob, Sam & Helen Guillory, Chester, Marus & Myra Rozas, Oliver & Dully Fruge, Nestor & Etha Joubert, Alton, Elizabeth & Louis Vernon Joubert, Ernest & Basilese Fontenot & family, Louis & Emma Brown & Fly; Arthur Fontenot; Youle & Theresa Fontenot; Martin J. St. Amand; Lee, Kristie and Vivian Artigue; M/M Ezra Martin and Denise Hull; Irl White; Kossuth Doucet family; Conrad O. Martin family; LaFond-Kaufmann family; Earl and Frances Mistrot; Hal Guillory; Ernest Meche; Mayance Dupre; M/M Clayton Soileau and M/M Joseph A. Fontenot; Mary Eva Credeur; The Hollier, Stelly & Fontenot families; Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marian Smith; St. Landry Church Parishioners, Kenny (BD) & Bertha (BD) Reed

Monday, Dec. 26. 12:05 pm Father Brady

Loretta Hargroder

Tuesday, Dec. 27. 12:05 pm Msgr Melancon

Wednesday, Dec. 28. 12:05 pm Father Brady

Thursday, Dec. 29. 12:05 am Msgr. Melancon

Charles Roy and Geraldine Doucet

Friday, Dec. 30. 12:05 pm Father Brady

Joseph Lastrapes; Guy & Hattie Elder and daughters

Saturday, Dec. 31. 8:00 am Msgr. Melancon

Confessions, Saturdays 2:30-3:30 p.m. 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Your Stewardship To God Regular Collection\$7,508.40 Maintenance/Repair.....\$341.00 Flowers for Christmas.....\$25.00 Assist the Poor of the Parish.....\$30.00 Retirement for the Religious.....\$6.00 Opelousas Catholic\$30.00 Maintenance/Endowment.....\$30.00 TOTAL\$7,970.00

Every Gift Comes From Above.



Thank you for your generosity!

Second Offertory Collection Today Opelousas Catholic Foundation

Second Offertory Collection Week of January 1, 2012 St. Landry Parish Maintenance Fund

OC Corner

Congratulations to the "overall" winners in recent Opelousas Catholic academic fairs. Louis LaBruyere and Adam Bernard with their team project on Pearl Harbor in the History category of the Social Studies Fair; And Karer Bacque with his project on Bovine Embryos in the Animal Science division of the Science Fair. Good luck to all participants who are going on to the parish competition.

From the Opelousas Catholic family to yours, Merry Christmas!!!

Prayer Intentions

Ashley Allemond, Clifford and Jane Ardoin, John Aucoin, Bobby Aymond, Gervis "BB" Babin, Dennis Bahr, Anna Lee Beadle, Roberta Bernard, Nita Bordelon, Keith Borne, Gerard Boudreaux, Wilbur Briley, Chris Brewster, Leanna Briley, Dr. Dan Buller, Holly Burleigh, Brandon Castille, Nelson "Shorty" Castille, Raylyn Chapman, John Clary, Thom Daly, Lou D'Avy, Robert Danaher, Glenn Derington, Harley Doucet, Olivia Doucet, Sophie Doucet, Lane W. Dugas, Vickie Duplechain, Bessie Durio, Roy (Bubba) Elder, Shirley Emonet, Tristen Estes, J. Bernel Fontenot, Linda and Terry Fontenot, George Gremillion, Craig S. Guillory, Ted Guillory Jr., Joy Harms, Margie Hebert, Agnes Kidder, Brittany LeBlanc, George LeBlanc & Family, Olivia Lanclos, Dottie Lavergne, Olivia LeBlanc, Pat LeBlanc, Theresa Mallet, Dale Martin, Georgie Meche & family, Michael E. McKinney, Gloria Miller, Laura Miller, Brandy Monde, Julie Mouton, Lonnie and Cindy Ortego, Gil Ortego, Joyce Ortego, Marty Ortego, Yvonne F. Pellerin, Carl Pitre, Helen Richard, Joseph James Robin, Jimmy Roy, Lauren Sebastien, Novella Sebastien, Emmadine Soileau, Patrick Steward Jr., Thomas Stoute, Yola Stoute, James Touchet, Lena Trahan, Lou Vidrine, Annette Voorhies, Brandy Willingham, Warren Wyble, Mike Young

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

Pray for our Troops

Jonathan David Ardoin; Christopher Briley; Jacob DeKerlegand; Hunter Dubuc; Brian James Dendy; Dakin Doyle; Clint Duhon; Eric Hart; A.J. Korn; Garrett Ryan Lanclos; Andre Ledoux; Benjamin Pitre; Danny Pitre; Trevor Reilly; Zach Reilly; Joshua Thomasse; 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.

FIRST TIME EVER

Catholic Ads are airing nationally on Prime-time TV, beginning December 16. Pray and spread the word by sharing the following link with all the Catholics you know: www.CatholicComeHome.org/Advent

REMINDERS OF THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 26 OFFICE CLOSED Tuesday, Dec. 27 6:30pm RCIA Wednesday, Dec. 28 6:30pm Revs VS Sems Basketball at OC gym Friday, Dec. 30 OFFICE CLOSED Saturday, Dec. 31 8:00am Mass in Valentin Chapel Monday, Jan. 2 OFFICE CLOSED

New Diaconate Class

The Diocese of Lafayette is planning to form a new diaconate class and is currently making plans for it. Interviews will occur early next year at the diocese. If you are interested in the diaconate program, please call Fr. Brady to make an appointment for an initial interview here at St. Landry so he can provide you more information. Thanks Father Brady

Around the Diocese

Slammin' vs. Running Revs: 6th Annual Basketball Game on Wednesday, Dec. 28 at 6:30pm. This year the game is sponsored by KC Council 1173 and hosted by Opelousas Catholic School.

There will be door prizes, an auction and raffles; and the KC's are asking your help by providing items. The funds raised will be used for Religious Vocations in the Diocese.

For more information call Charlie Roy at 337-942-9701. Admission will be \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children (ages 5-18). Children under 5 years are admitted free of charge.

Bus to Baton Rouge March for Life

Acadiana Right to Life is chartering a CALCO/HOTARD bus to go to the La. Life March in Baton Rouge on Saturday, January 21, 2012.

The bus will be at the LA AVENUE MALL, near I-10 for pickup at 8am. The return to Lafayette will be no later than 2:30pm.

Cost is \$12.00 per person or \$25.00 per family. Contact Suzanne Tierney @ 235-4327 or Jackie Richard @ 981-1596 for more information

Attention Confirmation Students

Anyone who has not registered for confirmation, please register before Dec. 31. We require an official total of registered students. The introduction class for confirmation will be held on Sunday evening January 15, 2012 at 6:15 pm. A parent is required to attend the class with the student. A Safe-environment presentation will be held on that evening.

SANCTUARY LIGHT

CHURCH....In Thanksgiving to Blessed Seelos for favors granted CHAPELWorld Peace

ALTAR SOCIETY

Group V..... Betty LeLeux Week of December 31, 2011 Group VI..... Norma Hargroder Week of January 7, 2012