

# The Nativity Of The Lord

December 25, 2016

Vol. XXXII, No. 52

## Praise God! Just Praise Him!

It is Christmas Day! Celebration is in the air. Everyone is saying, "Merry Christmas!" Even non-believers say, "Happy Holidays," acknowledging the day is a "holy day" to people whose faith they do not share but recognize as good. What is it about Christmas that threatens no one while opening a door to everyone?



All humans agree with John: "No one has ever seen God." But Christmas offers hope. "The only Son, who is at the Father's side, has revealed Him (God) to us" (*John 1:18*). Even those without the faith to accept this hope can approve it as something that "would be" good.

If indeed "the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us," then "all the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God." Something to dream of!

Christians say this is not a dream. It is "good news." A child is born for us; a son is given to us. . . . To those who accept Him, He gives power to become children of God.

Proclaim it through praise. "Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done wondrous deeds. . . . The Lord has made His salvation known."

Celebrate Christmas. Be light and life for the world.

## New Year's Mass Schedule



**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Saturday, December 31, 2016**

5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

7:00, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

## Holiday Office Schedule

The Church Office will close **Wednesday, December 28**, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the Staff Christmas Luncheon. It will be closed **Friday, December 30**, and **Monday, January 2**. It will reopen on **Tuesday, January 3**, at 1:00 p.m.

## God Is Now Among Us

Now we no longer wait, for You have come among us to share our human fate. Born in a dusty manger, Your only place on earth. God's word and yet no stranger, our life is in Your birth.

H. Oosterhuis from "The Song of the New God"

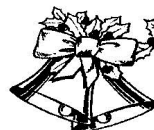
## Offertory Giving

Amidst the beautiful readings at the Christmas Masses is a reading from a small New Testament letter from Saint Paul to his protégé, Titus, read at Midnight Mass. Saint Paul reminds Titus that God has given us a gift in the person of Jesus Christ. This gift represents God's active presence in our lives and in our world. This gift redeems us from evil and death. This gift purifies us as God's people. This is a gift that also comes with an expectation: that we receive it with thanksgiving, allow it to transform us into Christ's image; and from it, learn how to live a life "eager to do what is good." Take time the next few days to reflect on the marvelous gift we celebrate at Christmas, and how we might become better stewards of this gift.

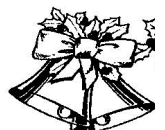
<b>Weekly Budgeted Need</b>	<b>\$7,100.00</b>
<b>Last Sunday Dec. 18</b>	
Envelopes (Adult)	\$5,035.00
Loose	<u>690.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,725.00</b>
<b>Progress Report</b>	
Cumulative Budget	\$177,500.00
Cumulative Income	<u>168,347.35</u>
<b>&lt;Behind&gt;</b>	<b>&lt;\$9,152.65&gt;</b>
<b>Second Collection</b>	
<b>(Clarion Herald)</b>	<b>\$510.00</b>

## Feast Of The Holy Family

To your children, Christmas probably took ages to arrive, but for you, Advent, like lots of other seasons, might have zipped by in a few flashes of your camera phone. If that is the case, take time now to savor and enjoy the true Christmas season. In fact, this Friday, December 30, there is another holiday just for you—the Feast of the Holy Family. So celebrate with your children. Shop the sales together, or stay home and make more cookies and watch your favorite Christmas movies. By doing what your family enjoys, you are saying a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving to God for these funny, smart, beautiful, fearless gifts He has given you. Have fun this year! God bless you.



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!**



**Mass Intentions Requested****Monday, December 26***(Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)*

No Mass Scheduled

**Tuesday, December 27***(1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8)*8:00 a.m. Altar Society Members  
Living and Deceased**Wednesday, December 28***(1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18)*

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

**Thursday, December 29***(1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35)*

8:00 a.m. Terry Brown

**Friday, December 30 The Holy Family of Jesus***(Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23)*

8:00 a.m. Burnick Terrebonne, Sr.

**Saturday, December 31***(1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18)*

5:00 p.m. Capt. Pete Vogt, Rosemary Poche, Robert Jenevein, Justin Hanna, Antonians and Benefactors, Donald Roszczynialski, Tina Mangano, J.C. Spiers, Joseph D'Antoni, Eugene Blanchard Jr., Andrew Lambert, Richard Prince, Edwin Brown, Maurice Poche, Louis Mangano Sr. &amp; Jr., Anna Rita Drake, Ken &amp; Adele Salzer, Jerry &amp; Barbara Roszczynialski, Lee &amp; Yvonne Tracey, Jody Roszczynialski

**Sunday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary***(Nm 6: 22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21)*

7:00 a.m. Thomas J. Jenniskens

8:30 a.m. Pat &amp; Cathy Downey, Kerry Bourgeois, Ronnie &amp; Betty Lambert, Stella Jenevein, Bertha Carrau, Burnick Terrebonne Sr., Sandy Bailey, Marlene Ragusa, Louis C. Funel Jr., Pam Baldo, Tom &amp; Pat Cuccia, Shirley Lightell, Andrew Lambert

10:30 a.m. Parishioners

**Pray For The Sick**

Valdeana Bauer, Diana Bradshaw, JoAnn Brewin, George & Wanda Butko, May Caballero, Patricia Cuccia, Dotsy Chedville, Pat & Cathy Downey, Julia Drake, Steve Dunn, Marcelle Ernewein, Carroll Fourcade, Jeanette Gomez, Deacon John Howard, Virgie Hurstell, Allen & Joan Jagneaux, Maria Kalcic, Gloriette Kiern, Elizabeth Kittel, Catherine Lambert, Pat Langsford, Cheryl Martin, Shirley Matthews, Rose Mire, Bailee Mitchell, Vito Montalbano, Jessie O'Dell, Cheryle Poiroux, Ed Roszczynialski, Cathy Smith

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Legion of Mary**—Monday 7:00 p.m. in St. Anthony Hall

**Tuesday Morning Rosary**—Tuesday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Jude Novena in St. Anthony Hall

**Patriotic Rosary**—Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

**2017 Church Contribution Envelopes**

Contribution envelopes for 2017 can be picked up from the Church Office during regular office hours. If you are a registered parishioner and have not used the envelope system or are not registered yet and would like to use the envelope system, contact the Church Office.

**New Year's Eve Party**

Sts. Peter and Paul Church will celebrate the new year with a New Year's Eve Party from 8:00 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, December 31. It will be an "adults only" party with music and dancing. Please bring your own snacks; set-ups will be provided. There will be no charge for the event. If you have questions about the party, contact Deacon Gene at 985-863-2545.

**Singers Needed**

Do you like to sing? Do you have a good voice? If so, why not consider becoming part of the Sts. Peter and Paul Church Choir. We are in need of many more voices to join in our praise and rejoicing. For more information, call June Calkins at 985-863-2560.

**Pope Francis' Mission Intention**

"That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, truth and goodness of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life."

**Tabernacle Lamp**

This week the Tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary burns in memory of the **Deceased Members of the Altar Society.**

**Merry Christmas!**

from Father Bernie, the Deacons and the Staff of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church



## St. Joseph's Altar Preparations Begin

Preparations for the St. Joseph's Altar, celebrated March 18, will soon begin. An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, January 28, in the Parish Hall. Baking will be held on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in working in this ministry, call Gene Templet at 863-2545.



## God's Northshore Blessings

A Special Needs Mass will be held Sunday, January 15, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 312 Lafitte Street, Mandeville. The celebrants will be Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond and Fr. Charlie Latour, O.P. All are invited to attend. Please join us.

## Louisiana Life March South

Please help gather the people to build a stronger culture of life in Louisiana through the Louisiana Life March South. The walk will begin at the Old State Capitol and end at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge from 10:00 a.m. to noon. on Saturday, January 21, 2017. The theme this year is "Protect Them Both!" The Life March South activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with pre-event remarks and program at Galvez Plaza behind the Old State Capitol. At the conclusion of the walk, the formal program with guest speaker will begin. The mission of this walk is to unite the pro-life people of Louisiana, across all denominational lines, to take a stand for life in our state's capital city, and mobilize them with resources to go make a difference in their community. We believe the LA Life March can lead toward an abortion-free Louisiana. For more information on the schedule of the events of the LA Life March South, visit <http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/events/lalifemarch/southmarch.html>



## Antonians Say "Thank You"

The Antonians of Sts. Peter and Paul would like to thank all the parishioners who donated so generously to the Giving Tree project for the Pregnancy Help Center in Slidell, the Battered Women's Shelter and the Danielle Inn, Covington, a home for expectant women with no support systems. You can be assured that each gift will be given with a spirit of love and compassion at this Christmas season. May God bless each of you and Merry Christmas to you and your family.



## Men's Emmaus Retreat

Put aside the "hustle and bustle" of daily life and attend the upcoming Men's Emmaus Retreat the weekend of January 27-29, 2017. The retreat is held at Rosaryville Spirit Life Center in beautiful, peaceful Ponchatoula. Based on the scripture passage "The Road to Emmaus" (Luke 24: 13-35), this retreat is an uplifting experience that has a profound effect on men's lives. The retreat begins at 5:00 p.m. Friday and ends after the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass. For more information, call Norm Madere at 504-481-0411, Rick Valadie at 504-267-4944 or David Drude at 985-974-0657.

## The Cross In The Manger

If there is no cross in the manger, there is no Christmas.

If baby Jesus does not become the adult Christ, there is no Bethlehem star.

If there is no commitment in us, there are no Wise Men searching.

If we offer no cup of cold water, there is no gold, no frankincense, no myrrh.

If there is no praising God's name, there are no singing angels.

If there is no spirit of wonder, there are no shepherds watching.

If there is no standing up, no speaking out, no risk, there is no flight into Egypt.

If there is no room in our inn, then our wishes of Merry Christmas mock the Christ child; the Holy Family is just a holiday card; and God will loathe our feasts and festivals.

If there is no reconciliation, we cannot call Christ the Prince of Peace.

If there is no forgiveness in us, there is no cause for celebration.

If we cannot go even now unto Golgotha, there is no Christmas in us.

If Christmas is not now, if Christ is not born into the everyday present, then what is all our noise and celebration about?



## Please Support Our Sponsors

### Knights of Columbus

Council No. 11814

3rd & 4th Degree

Monthly Meeting

1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Membership open to Catholic gentlemen & young men in good standing with the Church.

To become a Brother Knight, contact

Donald Conway 649-2755

