

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. ANTHONY MISSION CHAPEL

St. Joseph Catholic Church
232 St. De Porres Street • P.O. Box 278
Broussard, LA 70518

Phone: 337-837-6218 • Fax: 337-837-2072
Email: stjosant@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.stjostant.org>

St. Anthony Mission Chapel
1639 Old Spanish Hwy. • Cade, LA 70519
Founded 1933

Office Hours

Monday & Friday 9:00 a.m.–12 noon
Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Tuesday **CLOSED**
(Parishioners: For any emergency or sacramental needs please contact Fr. Richard, SVD at (337) 714-9327)

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: *St. Anthony* 8:00 a.m.
St. Joseph 10:00 a.m.
Monday - Thursday - Friday 7:00 a.m.
Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Confession

Saturday 4:00–5:00 p.m.
Weekdays following weekday masses
or by appointment

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Ryszard Zawadzki, S.V.D.
(337) 714-9327

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Ms. Peggie M. Bellow

Sacristan: Mr. Dan Foster

Maintenance: Mr. Terry Flugence

Musicians: Mr. Harris Flugence
Ms. Carla Bernard

Trustees: Mr. Ervin Flugence
Mrs. Dianna Darby

Victims Assistance Coordinator:
Mr. Joe Pisanco, Jr. (337) 298-2987



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
- Lk 3:5-6

Sacrament of Baptism

Contact the Church office to schedule Baptisms

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples should contact the Priest 6 months prior to the wedding date. NO wedding date should be planned, till after the Marriage Preparation has been completed.

Funerals

Please call the office to inform of the death of a church member and to schedule an appointment to plan the Funeral. Only after meeting with the Secretary, should one contact the funeral home with the final arrangement.

Meetings

Ushers Association: Third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.—Bishop Perry Learning Center
Adult Choir Practice: Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
Come Lord Jesus Group: Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Knights & Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver: 2nd Sun of the month

Mission Statement

“As a community inspired by the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and our ancestral heritage, we the parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Anthony profess to proclaim God’s goodness. And through our faith and commitment to the Holy Word we join together in spirit, truth, love and service working together for the good of our church parish.”

GOSPEL MEDITATION

OPEN THE DOOR FOR CHRIST

“St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. “You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on

your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him.” When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort. We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God’s gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God’s promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts’ doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present. We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God’s simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.

Mass Intentions

Sat. 5:00 p.m: Hilda Johnson, Alexson Mathieu, Audrey Mathieu, deceased members of the Mathieu & Mouton families, Christopher J Anderson, Wilbert & Thelma Jeanlouis, Harold Anderson Sr & Ethel Mae Decuir, Mazel Norbert, Alton Chambers, Ronald Filer, Lou Ella Verrett, and for all deceased Ushers of the parish. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and donor and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 8:00 a.m. For all deceased Ushers of the parish. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 10:00 a.m: Joseph Leo Sias III, Christopher Anderson and the deceased members of the Decuir & Anderson families, Lionel Ryes, M/M Curley & Mary Ann Flugence, deceased members of the Flugence & St. Julien families, Mrs. Agnes Broussard (*Birthday Mass*) & Howard Broussard Sr, Howard Broussard Jr, deceased members of the Broussard & Adams families, Jordan Porter, M/M Joseph & Delores Porter, M/M Harold & Velma Flugence and for all deceased Ushers of the parish. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.



Prayers for the Sick:

Merciful Jesus, onto Your Compassionate Heart we recommend: Charles Lee, Gustavia Thibeaux, John Albert Ledet, Mark Tauriac, Shavawna Flugence, Mayola Williams, Lester Mouton, Louvenia L Gibson, Audrey Armelin, Rodney Dupuis, Bessie Johnson, Edna Nickerson, Carolyn Flugence, Emery Joe and Sylvania Cormier.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2021

- Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
- Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

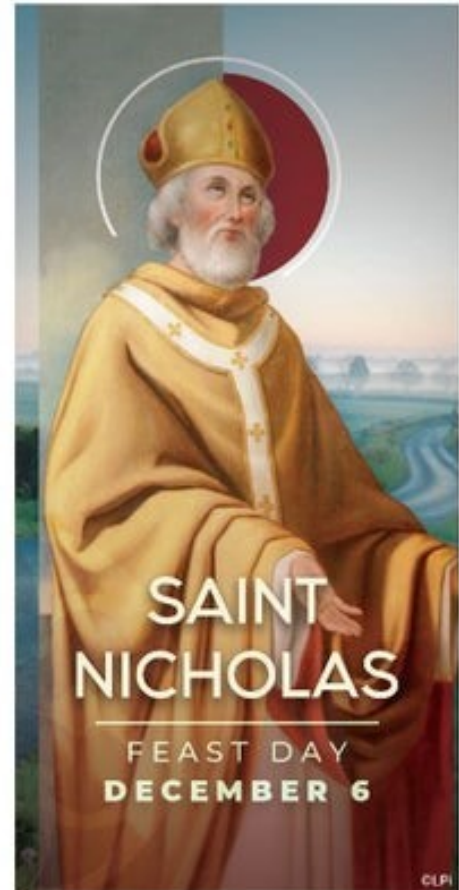
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2021

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. Nicholas, Bishop
- Tuesday:** St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thursday:** St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
- Friday:** Our Lady of Loreto
- Saturday:** St. Damasus I, Pope
- Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Sometimes, especially when life gets overwhelming and difficult, we can find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable. Wallowing in this uncomfortable darkness seems to be our norm and it's difficult to see a way out of, or through, this experience. If we listen carefully enough, we will hear God's voice calling out deep within, beckoning us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Faith tells us that God has already begun the creation of a good work in us and is with us, bringing it to completion, until Christ Jesus comes again. It is this light of God's glory for which we are asked to pave the way and straighten the paths of our lives so that it can shine. With all that life can ask of us and bring to us, it is our task to constantly discern what is of value. So that we do not get so weighed down by things that we no longer see, or feel, God's salvation.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.

PASTORS CORNER


Luke 3:1-6

John’s mission was to preach repentance, to get the people to turn back to God and it was customary among the Jews to go through the external rites of washing to represent the internal cleansing of the heart. The place Jordan was opportune and symbolic of the repentance of the chosen people of God. He was preparing the people to receive the chosen one of God. We are preparing ourselves to receive Christ at Christmas and the prophet tells us how we should prepare ourselves if the welcome we give our savior is to be sincere and true. Even the best and the holiest among us have to admit that our paths namely our dealings with God have to be smooth and straight. When a king or a person of high rank was to visit another king or the dignitary, the host sent his slaves to level the paths and smooth the roads for the guest’s camels. Similarly, it is necessary for people to prepare their minds and smooth their consciences by wiping away all that can be offensive to God. Such a building up of fervor would be a good way to prepare for the coming of the messiah. The Gospel reminds us that our own role is not unlike that of John the Baptist. Like him each one of us has a mission to communicate the Spirit of Christ and his message of hope, love, freedom and peace to others. To help people fill their valleys and make their rough paths smoother. A word of affirmation and encouragement can work wonders. To have a naturally cheerful disposition can be a real witness of Christian joy. John heard the word of God in the desert. Our cities and towns are often such busy places and our lives are often so hectic. We really do need some quiet so that we can hear God speaking to us. Christmas is the commemoration of the greatest gift of the mercy of God bestowed on this world. The feast invites us to turn ourselves to God in gratitude and repentance and experience his abounding mercy. Christ will come to us with the salvation of God and we can confidently hope to live the coming year with gratitude to our Father in heaven. During the course of this week, let us reflect upon our spiritual ancestors our saintly brothers, and sisters who have gone out from Jerusalem so we may share in the joy of the Gospel of Christ. Let us reflect upon their message which has become our message. Let us prepare ourselves to celebrate the past coming of the Lord that is commemorated on Christmas day. Let us constantly pray for each other with joy in every one of our prayers.

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Inspirations for Your Week

Have you ever stopped and wondered what God has done in your life that you aren’t aware of? Maybe He healed you before you were even sick. Perhaps He saved you from a fatal car crash that never happened. I feel like God has protected me more times than I can count, so I can only imagine the times He’s rescued me when I wasn’t aware that I was in danger. I thank Him for watching over me, even when I didn’t realize it. What an awesome God we serve.



Our Giving

Nov 27th & 28th, 2021

St. Joseph: (82 Envelopes) **\$1,159.00**
St. Anthony: (30 Envelopes) **1,016.00**
\$2,175.00

2nd Collections:

Campaign for Human Development: **5.00**
Building Maintenance: **75.00**
Building Insurance: **432.00**
Thanksgiving Offerings: **150.00**
TOTAL: **\$2,837.00**
October Assessment Paid: **\$932.68**

Stewardship Quotes:

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (Philippians 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 5TH, 2021

| Mass | Lectors | Extraordinary Ministers of Communion | Altar Servers | Ushers |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| SATURDAY Dec 11, 2021 5:00pm | Michael Keefe | Michael Rabon | | |
| SUNDAY Dec 12, 2021 8:00am | George Hebert | | | |
| SUNDAY Dec 12, 2021 10:00am | Jennifer Harris | Barbara Thomas | | |

Please Note: Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion; by calling for a replacement when you are scheduled but cannot serve, you honor your commitment and help to ensure that there is no interruption for mass. Thanks!!

God's Housekeepers:

St. Joseph: Thanks to all of the ladies in **Group B** that cleaned the church on December 4th, 2021. The next group is **Group C:** Mary Domingue, Brenda Washington and Mary Celestine – December 11th, 2021.

St. Anthony – December, 2021: (Group C) Anne Tate, Marie Decuir, Rosemary Lee, Theresa Jones and Lorita Jeanbatiste *Your hard work and time dedicated is appreciated!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Next weekends 2nd Collection will be for the "Retired Religious Fund"
- ◆ On Wednesday we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – A Holy Day of obligation Mass at 6.00 PM



Friday, December 24th and
Friday, December 31st

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Dec 24th — 5pm St. Joseph
Christmas Day, Dec 25th — 8am St. Anthony
10am St. Joseph

****There will be NO Evening Mass at 5pm**

Sunday, December 26th — We celebrate:
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8am St. Anthony
10am St. Joseph

New Years Eve, Friday, December 31st:
6pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph

News Years Day, Saturday, January 1, 2022:
10am St. Joseph

****There will be NO Evening Mass at 5pm**