

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. ANTHONY MISSION CHAPEL

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

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



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. - Jn 1:6-7

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 8:00 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

Maintenance: Mr. Terry Flugence

Musicians: Mr. Harris Flugence
Ms. Carla Bernard

Trustees: Mrs. Dianna Darby

Victims Assistance Coordinator:

Mr. Joe Pisanco, Jr. (337) 298-2987

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.

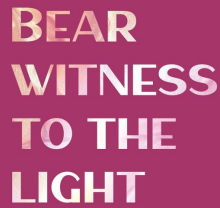
Come Lord Jesus Group: Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

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



BEAR
WITNESS
TO THE
LIGHT

“Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We’ve never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had

mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we’ve never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John’s Gospel we hear: **“There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him.”** The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a *pattern* at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God’s promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist’s spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let’s commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light. — *Father John Muir*



Saturday 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, Samuel Faul, Lance Faul, Katie Smith, M/M Walton & Lillian Lewis, Donna Claire Lewis, Joyce Cormier, Antoine Cormier, Clifton Cormier and Charles Walker Sr.

Sunday 8:00 a.m.:

Sunday 10:00 a.m.: Joseph Leo Sias III, Christopher Anderson, deceased members of the Decuir & Anderson families, Lionel Ryes, M/M Curley & Mary Ann Flugence, deceased members of the Flugence & St. Julien families, Jordan Porter, M/M Velma & Harold Flugence, M/M Joseph & Delores Porter Sr, Jimmie Billeaud and all deceased & surviving members of his family, Lester Mouton, Catherine Walker, Brenda Miller, M/M Shirley Paul Thomas, Helena Thomas, Eddie Paul Thomas, Michael Thomas and Christine Thomas.



Prayers for the Sick:

*Merciful Jesus, onto Your
Compassionate Heart we recommend:*

Charles Lee, Gustavia Thibeaux, John Albert Ledet, Mark Tauriac, Mayola Williams, Audrey Armelin, Rodney Dupuis, Bessie Johnson, Edna Nickerson, Shavawana Flugence, Katherine Gregoire, Julius Gregoire, Victor Jackson, Christopher Trailer, Jessica Doucet, Sylvania Cormier and Mary Alice Cormier.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10)

Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

Gospel:

"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you whom you do not
recognize,
the one who is coming after me,
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
(Jn 1:23)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God sends a John the Baptist into every person's life — someone who prepares His way, who calls out His truth. Look for the John the Baptist in your life. Pray you can be this person for someone else.

Observances for the week of December 17, 2023

- Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Thursday:** St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve



Saint of the week

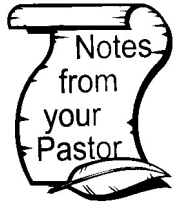
Blessed Maria Franziska Schervier was a German Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and the sick. She founded the Franciscan Sisters of Aachen and began chapters in the United States where she and her sisters also founded a number of hospitals.

Prayer

Almighty, just and merciful God, Blessed Frances Schervier spent her whole life giving back to You all the gifts that You had given her. She cared for the poor and the sick and radiated Your loving presence to all that she met. We beseech You now to glorify your servant, Frances. Give her the honor of sainthood if it is in accordance with Your will.

We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

(Prayer Source: http://franciscansisters-en.sfp-poor.org/images/stories/2016/PDF_2016/pr_canoniz_en.pdf)



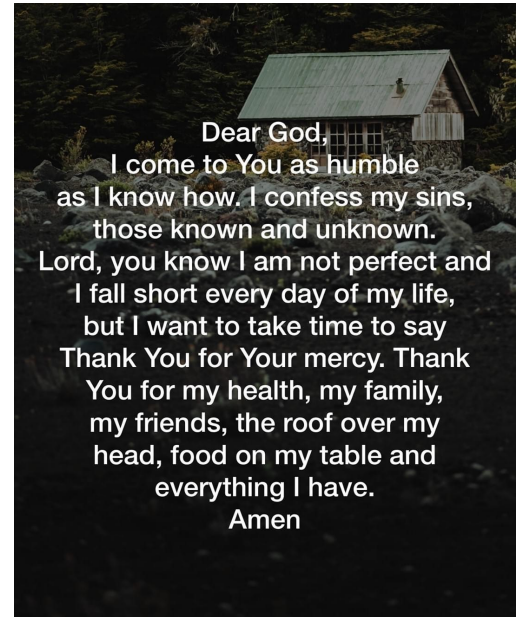
PASTORS CORNER

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Rejoice because the Lord is near is the theme that permeates the entire liturgy of this Sunday. It is not a question of a superficial happiness or a passing excitement because Christmas is coming, but it is the joy of salvation. Salvation is glad tidings given to all the people of the universe and more particularly to the poor and lowly. The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (meaning rejoice) Sunday inviting all Christians to rejoice at all times. It is a command taken directly from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians as in today's second reading to rejoice always because the Lord is near. It is a positive command one that we are to keep at all times and in all circumstances. Today's liturgy indicates that in the joy salvation and a more just and human world are somehow interconnected. It is not the pursuit of human happiness and fulfillment or of social justice that brings salvation rather the salvation that comes from on high, enables us to be instrumental in bringing about a more just world and to find the joy that no one can take away. In the Gospel of today we learn the role of John the Baptist is to bear witness to Jesus. He tells the people that he is not Messiah and he himself is not worthy to untie the lace of his shoes. Life of John the Baptist despite his sacrifices and hardships was full of joy that is if we define joy as a state of bliss over having or expecting something or someone that you love. In this sense Christianity is a way of life in Joy which is not a passive waiting for the coming of Christ but an active participation in his presence. We express our gratitude to him who has placed on us multitude of gratuitous gifts. We heard the word of God today. These beautiful texts we heard proclaimed to us in their totality remind us that true joy and happiness is to be found only in God. If we are not finding our joy and happiness in God we are under an illusion and sooner or later God will give us the painful grace of allowing that illusion to give way to reality. God is the answer. Only in God can we find true joy and happiness. Those who abandon God are on the road to sorrow and pain. Advent reminds us that the joyful answer to our problems lies in God. So when Jesus summarized the first three commandments as loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength he was really giving us a prescription for deep and permanent joy and happiness. Any unhappiness we experience is really an experience of the lack of God. God is the fulfillment of our anxieties and worries, of our needs of our greed.

Fr. Ryszard Zawadzki, SVD
pastorjabroussard@gmail.com
 (337) 714-9327

Inspirations for Your Week



Dear God,
 I come to You as humble
 as I know how. I confess my sins,
 those known and unknown.
 Lord, you know I am not perfect and
 I fall short every day of my life,
 but I want to take time to say
 Thank You for Your mercy. Thank
 You for my health, my family,
 my friends, the roof over my
 head, food on my table and
 everything I have.
 Amen

Our Giving

Dec 9th & 10th, 2023

St. Joseph: (82 Envelopes)	\$2,463.00
St. Anthony: (24 Envelopes)	<u>203.00</u>
	\$2,666.00

2nd Collections:

Campaign for Human Development:	15.00
Retired Religious Fund:	269.00
Building Maintenance:	85.00
Building Insurance:	15.00
TOTAL:	\$3,050.00

Stewardship Quotes

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Mass	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Ushers
SATURDAY December 23, 2023 5:00pm	Michael Keefe	Judy Keefe		
SUNDAY December 24, 2023 8:00am	Theresa Cormier			Lucinda George Eddie Chretien
SUNDAY December 24, 2023 10:00am				
SUNDAY December 24, 2023 5:00pm	Christella Spurlock	Harold Anderson		
MONDAY December 25, 2023 8:00am	George Hebert			Lucinda George Eddie Chretien
MONDAY December 25, 2023 10:00Am	Brenda Washington	Terry Flugence		

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 that cleaned the church on December 16th, 2023. Please let us know if and when you might be available to help clean our church.

St. Anthony — December, 2023: (Group C): Anne Tate and Marie Decuir

Your hard work and time dedicated is appreciated!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS & NEY YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec 24: Christmas Vigil Mass
5pm St. Joseph

Monday, Dec 25: Christmas Day Mass
8am St. Anthony
10am St. Joseph

Monday, Jan 1: 10am St Joseph Mass

TODAY'S READINGS: Page 275 of
The Word of the Lord



Eucharistic Devotion Renewal

"God dwells in our midst, in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar."

"The culmination of the Mass is not the consecration, but Communion."

"Eucharistic adoration is the greatest power in the universe, capable of transforming us and changing the face of the world."

- St. Maximilian Kolbe



Parish School of Religion:

Classes are on Saturdays

9am – 12 Noon
K– 11th Grade