

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

## **MASSES & INTENTIONS**

### **SATURDAY, December 26, 2015**

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Angelle L. Durio, Jeremy Rider, Eve Smith Guilbeau, LeRoy J. Fontenot, Pereda Fontenot, Sox Gordon, Mr. & Mrs. Nevelle Vizena, Helin McCauley Family living and deceased, Corey Viator

### **SUNDAY, December 27, 2015**

**7:30 A.M. MASS** – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Joseph & Mildred Guillory, Florence S. Guillory, Francis & Hosey Guillory, Andrus & Ella May Frilot, Helen Sonnier, Leonard Beaubouef, Stacey Beaubouef, Glenn Sonnier, Mary Lovenia Courville, Jordy B. Pitre

### **MONDAY, December 28, 2015**

**12:05 P.M. MASS** – Claiborne Durio

### **TUESDAY, December 29, 2015**

**12:05 P.M. MASS** – Penny Schneider

### **WEDNESDAY, December 30, 2015**

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – E. J. & Mary Hance

### **THURSDAY, December 31, 2015**

**6:00 P.M. MASS** – Eve Smith Guilbeau

### **FRIDAY, January 1, 2016**

**8:30 A.M. MASS** – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

### **SATURDAY, January 2, 2016**

**8:00 A.M. MASS** – Sr. Zélie Thérèse of the Redeemer

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Jeremy Rider, Alee Gobert & Mrs. Colonial Gradney Gobert, Joseph Lee Gobert, Bernadine Cezar Logan, Aaron & Fabian Cezar, Ashley Cezar, P.J. Logan, Samuel Papillion, Bish LeJeune, Simon, Leora & Freddie Sonnier, Lucis A. Victorian, Keith LeJeune

### **SUNDAY, January 3, 2016**

**7:30 A.M. MASS** – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Dallas & Billy Bertrand, Sr., Leonard Beaubouef, Stacey Beaubouef

### **Last Week's Collection**

**\$3,223.00**

## **Mass Schedule for Mary, Mother of God**

### **Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:30 P.M. Confessions  
6:00 P.M. Holy Mass (Anticipated)  
8:00 P.M. Movie Night (parish hall)  
11:00 P.M. Holy Hour  
12:15 A.M. Reception and fireworks

### **Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>**

8:00 A.M. Confessions  
8:30 A.M. Holy Mass

### **Youth Group T-Shirt Quilt Winner- Lynne Boggs**

Thank you to all that bought tickets or gave donations for this youth group fundraiser.

### **SJoA Youth Group Attends "March for Life" Pilgrimage 2016**

Adults and youth group members from SJoA will join the Diocese of Lake Charles in attending the "March for Life" Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., January 18 – 23, 2016. This event coincides with the anniversary date of Roe vs. Wade on the decision that legalized abortion in our country in 1973. More than 250,000 people from across the U.S. attend this event. Please pray for all involved in this pilgrimage and in particular for an end to abortion.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Pro-Life Candlelight Memorial Prayer Vigil**

On Friday, January 22, 2016, New Life Counseling gathers our area together on the anniversary date of Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion in our country in 1973. We understand the grave importance of this date as we peacefully unite our prayers with the nation to overturn this decision. We will gather to memorialize the more than 55 million babies that have tragically lost their lives by abortion and for the healing of all those that mourn their loss. This year we unite with the national theme "Pro-Life/Pro-Woman GO Hand-in-Hand". Meet at the L.C. Civic Center steps and walk united to the steps of the District Courthouse for a One Hour Candlelight Prayer Service and hear testimonials.

### **Glad Tidings Program**

Sunday, January 10, 2016 – **The Baptism of the Lord:** Bishop Glen John Provost is joined by Father Jay Alexius, Parochial Vicar of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, for a dialogue on the Gospel of the day (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

### **Catholic Mission Trip**

The Abrazando Cristo Mission Trip for 2016 will be July 1-10 to Nicaragua. The cost of the trip is \$1,950.00 (covers all air and ground transportation, meals, lodging, tips, taxes, retreat, and mission shirts). For an information packet/registration form please contact Monsignor Daniel Torres at 337-439-7400 or contact by e-mail [connie.perkins@lcdioocese.org](mailto:connie.perkins@lcdioocese.org). A \$300.00 non-refundable deposit with the registration form is due by Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> to secure a seat. Only 25 seats are available. First come first serve.

### **Diocese of Lake Charles Respect Life Banquet**

The Diocese of Lake Charles Respect Life Banquet will be held on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Charles Civic Center. Doors open at 6 P.M. The guest speaker is Ramona Trevino, Planned Parenthood Manager-turned Pro-Life Activist. Tickets are \$50 and can be obtained by going to [www.lcdioocese.org](http://www.lcdioocese.org) or call 337-439-7400.

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### **This Week @ SJoA**

- ❖ Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – NO RCIA
- ❖ Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup> – Mass @ 12:05 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> – Mass @ 12:05 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> – No Holy League
- ❖ Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – Bishop Provost's Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral @ 5:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Adoration: No Adoration this Wednesday.**
- ❖ Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>: Office Closed

### **PRAYER LIST FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER**

Linda Aguilard, Cathy Autin, Phil Beard, Gerry Beaubouef, Jerome, John, & Josie Bergeron, Joann Bertrand, Michael Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Renate Bourque, Virginia Bowles, Velma Brakel, Steve Campbell, Kary Cole Briscoe, Leslie Busher, Charles Chaumont, Jerry Chaumont, Florence Comeaux, Pam Dequeant, Carol Deshotel, Jeremiah Deville, Mavy & Emmalyn Ducote, Edward Duhon, Sheryl Duplechain, Jaylen Fitzgerald, Cathy Fontenot, David Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Rodney Fontenot, Tanner Fontenot, Elsie Foster, Juanita Francois, Tim Germany, Monsignor Ronald Groth, Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Jim Guillory, Keith Guillory, Todd Guillory, Sybil Haas, Harrison Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Jennifer C. Hibbs, John Jackson, Perella Jackson, Sheenita Jackson, Brandon Johnson, Pat Klein, Essie Langley, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joe, Adam and Mary LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Joy Mancil, Kevin Manuel, Lula Manuel & Fly., Marlin Manuel, Pat Manuel and Fly., Trista Marler, Fran & Ronnie Meaux, Beau Montou, Kathy Montou, Gloria Morris, Carolyn Morgon, Glenn Morgan, Marvin Morgan, Beau Montou, Odrey & Dorothy Montou, Nicholas Odum, Lucas Orsot, Marie Parker, Devin Pelt, Mary Mott Peterson, Sally Pitre, Linda & Don Portie, Ashton Read, Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Terry Reeves, Leonard Richard, Johnathan, Christina, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skylei, Richard, Sharon, Martha, Rusty, Patsy, Matt, & Josh Rider, Rev. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Bill Scheffler, Tucker Scimemi, Donald Paul Sonnier, Kermit Sonnier, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Suzanne Stringer, Devin Swarthout, Carl Tarver, Diane Thomas, Maynard Topping, Matthew Truman, Danika Treweak, Ticky Family, Roselyn Victorian, Zachary Villereal, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young, Laura Zaidan

### **Leading the Rosary before Mass this Weekend**

4:30 P.M. – Haddie Goodly                      7:30 A.M. – Lucy Brandon  
10:00 A.M. – Deacon Norris Chapman

### **Vocations Candle** – Mrs. Virgie Granquer

(Call the rectory to sponsor the green vocations candle)

### **Vocations Cross** – Mrs. Seмония Harmon

## FROM FATHER CONNER

Next Sunday we commemorate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord in the Ordinary Form. This is an important feast and we should prepare for it appropriately. To do this, I include material for your consideration below. I would point out that the articles below assume that the Epiphany will be observed on its proper day, that is, January 6<sup>th</sup>. I find that some are unaware that in these United States the Epiphany has been relocated to the Sunday nearest January 6<sup>th</sup>. It's worth knowing that transferring the Epiphany to the nearest Sunday is common practice throughout the world. With that said, we leave you with two articles:

### **From Fishereaters on Twelfth Night**

The Eve of the Feast of the Epiphany is the twelfth day of Christmas, and tonight is known as "Twelfth Night" (or "Twelfthnight"). It begins the celebration of Christ's revealing His Divinity in three ways, which is formally celebrated tomorrow:

- to the Magi who, guided by the great and mysterious Star of Bethlehem, came to visit Him when He was a Baby (Matthew 2:1-19).
- through His Baptism by St. John, when "the Spirit of God descending as a dove" came upon Him and there was heard a voice from Heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1), and all Three Persons of the Most Holy Trinity were manifest (Note: the Baptism of Our Lord is also commemorated on the 13th of January).
- through His first public miracle -- that of the wedding at Cana when Our Lord turned water into wine at the request of His Mother (John 2). Just as God's first miracle before the Egyptian pharaoh, through Moses, was turning the waters of the Nile into blood, Our Lord's first miracle was turning water into wine.

In many Catholic homes (especially Italian ones), it's not Christmas Day that is for giving presents to children, but the Feast of Epiphany, when the gifts are given in a way related to the Magi. So today will have a "feel" of Christmas Eve, and because of the Epiphany's association with the Magi's' gift-giving, tomorrow is often referred to colloquially as the "Little Christmas."

It is today that the Three Kings should reach the *crèche* (heretofore, they should be kept away from it) and that Baby Jesus should be adorned with signs of royalty, such as a crown, ermine, and gold or purple cloth. Set up golden candlesticks around the manger where He lies.

Along with the crowns, scepters, gold, and royal purple, peacocks are also a symbol for the day. They are more generally a symbol of immortality (and therefore a good symbol for Easter, too), but also a symbol of royalty and of the glory revealed by Christ today. The most profound symbols of all, though, are light as a symbol of theophany; wine in memory of the miracle at the wedding in Cana; water and the dove in memory of Christ's Baptism by St. John; the Three Kings, their gifts, and the Star of Bethlehem.

### **From Fisheaters on the Feast of the Epiphany**

As described on the page on Twelfth night, this Feast -- also known as the "Theophany" or "Three Kings Day" -- recalls Christ revealing Himself as Divine in three different ways: to the Magi, at His Baptism, and with His miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

For families who practice traditions involving "the Magi" or "La Befana" leaving gifts for children, the day begins with the wee ones discovering what was left for them while they slept on Twelfth Night. At today's Mass, there will be a blessing of gold, frankincense, myrrh, Epiphany Water, and, after Communion, a blessing of chalk. Bring small special items of gold to have with you during the Mass, and they will be blessed if they are exposed as you sit in your pew with them (wedding rings, rosaries, an heirloom piece of gold jewelry, for example).

When Mass is over, you will take some of the blessed chalk, frankincense, myrrh, and Epiphany Water home with you, so it's good to bring a container to transport Holy Water and one to put some grains of incense and a piece of chalk into. (Note: if you can, take and keep 5 pieces of blessed incense for your Paschal Candle this Easter.)

When you get home, sprinkle some Epiphany water (otherwise and afterwards used as regular Holy Water) in the rooms of your house to protect it and bring blessings. This Holy Water recalls the waters of the Jordan, and is a visible reminder of Christ's Divinity, of Jesus' revealing Himself as God at His Baptism, when we heard the words from the Father: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased." This rite of blessing the home -- led by a Priest, if possible, or the father of the house if no priest is available.

*[Editor's Note: Parents are **highly encouraged** to bless their homes with the blessed water and chalk, using the prayers provided by SJoA. They will be in the parish hall after the January 6<sup>th</sup> Mass.]*

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### **Special Epiphany Blessings**

As noted on the students' class syllabi, we have a special Mass on the actual feast of the Epiphany, Wednesday, **January 6<sup>th</sup>**. **The Mass will be at 5:30 pm and is mandatory for all students.** Immediately after Mass, we're going to have a CCD Christmas/Epiphany party at the parish hall. There'll be gumbo and desserts and other delightful things to eat. We'll enjoy music and even have a bit of gift exchanging. (Please feel free to bring a gift for someone, but do not feel obliged to give a gift to anyone.) At the beginning of the CCD Christmas/Epiphany Party I will bless the chalk and incense and gold described in the articles above. (Bring your own gold!!!) Also, please note the January calendar: on Twelfth night (**Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>**) we are going to have the special ceremony for the blessing of the Epiphany water, which is **VERY COOL!!!** I invite you to attend the ceremony, which begins at 5:30 pm. Mass immediately follows the blessing of the Epiphany water.

### **Eating Meat on New Year's Day**

As our awareness of the necessity of doing penance on Fridays increases, someone asked me whether it was permissible to eat meat on Christmas Day and New Year's Day this year. (Remember, they each fall on a *Friday* this year.) The answer is Yes, eating meat is permissible. While every Friday of the entire year is a day of penance, when a Solemnity (for example, Christmas -- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> or Mary, Mother of God -- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>) falls on a Friday, that particular Friday is no longer observed as a day of penance. So, I say to one and to all: eat meat this coming Friday. Eat meat at each and every meal, and enjoy it. I certainly plan on doing that!