

Tuesday Wednesday, & Thursday; 9 a.m. - Noon 1 - 3 p.m.



700 South Broadway • Erath, LA 70533

URL: www.ololcatholic.com Email: ftoups@gmail.com Phone: 337-937-6888



DECEMBER 26, 2021 • THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor
Deacon
. Office/Cemetery Manager
Catholic Education/Music
Receptionist

THE SACRIFICE OF HOLY MASS

Saturday (English)	4 pm
Sunday (English)	7:30 am, 11 am
Sunday (Latin)	9 am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	No Holy Mass
Tuesday	8 am (Latin) and 5:30 pm (English)
Wednesday	7 am (English)
Thursday	5:30 pm (English)
Friday	7 am (English) and 8 am (Latin)
First Saturday Mass	of each month 9:30 am (English)

ADORATION (IN CHURCH)

Morning: 9:00 am - Noon every Wednesday & First Friday Afternoon: 5:00 - 6:00 pm; Wednesday, Friday, & Sunday

HOLY CONFESSION

In the Confessional:

30 minutes prior to Mass or by appointment and 4:30 - 5 pm on Sunday

Drive-Thru Confessions (in semicircle driveway):

6:00 - 7:00 pm on Wednesdays

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Email Fr. Metrejean at andremetrejean@gmail.com. Our baptismal packet may be downloaded from our church website.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK and

THE RITE OF HOLY CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Please contact our church office.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Arrangements must be made with the Pastor at least six months in advance.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam (For the greater glory of God)







GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction, we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a



Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand

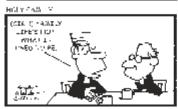
that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can, too.

HOLY FAMILY









SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Reminder:

Second Collection envelopes may be used at any time!

Wednesday, December 8 Immaculate Conception, \$989.00

Offering (December 11-12)

Offertory, \$4,450.00 ⊕ Debt Reduction, \$1,505.00 Insurance, \$20.00 ⊕ Cemetery, \$55.00 The Second Collection was applied to Debt Reduction.

Last Weekend's Offering (December 18-19)
The Second Collection will be applied to Church Insurance.

This Weekend's Offering (December 24-26)
The Second Collection will be applied to Debt Reduction.

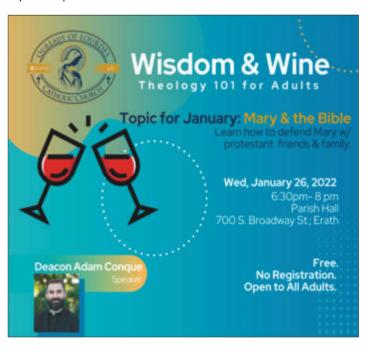
Next Weekend's Offering (January 1-2)The Second Collection will be applied to Debt Reduction.

"Giving is not really giving until it hurts."
~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tabernacle Flower Arrangements

The sign-up for flower arrangements near the tabernacle will begin again the weekend of January 8-9 (which is available at this time). Please call our church office (337-937-6888) to sign up for a specific weekend.



REQUIESCAT IN PACE 4

Kristy Hebert, Dickie Lucas

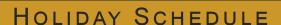






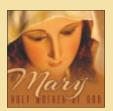






Cancellations:

- Sunday, December 26: Evening Confessions and Adoration
- Monday Wednesday, December 27-29: Weekday Mass, Confessions, and Adoration



The Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God

ATTENTION

Because the Solemnity falls on a Saturday this year, it is <u>not</u> a Holy Day of Obligation! However, please be reminded that a Saturday <u>morning</u> Mass does <u>not</u> fulfill a Sunday obligation.

Friday, December 31:

No Anticipated Mass!

Saturday, January 1:

Midnight Mass (Latin) 9:30 a.m. Mass (English) Reminder: A Saturday morning Mass

Reminder: A Saturday morning Mass (including morning funerals and weddings) does not fulfill a Sunday obligation!

Regular Weekend Schedule for January 1-2:

Saturday, January 1:

4 p.m. Anticipated Mass (E)

Sunday, January 2: 7:30 a.m. (E) • 9:00 a.m. (L) • 11:00 a.m. (E)

Holiday Office Hours

Our Church Parish Office is currently closed for the holiday and will reopen on January 4.



(However, Mrs. Frances will be in the office for previously-scheduled **Prayer Appointments** with First Communion Candidates.)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Although we use this prayer most often when we view a televised or online video of a Mass, we may also choose to pray this prayer when we attend Mass, but don't feel worthy of receiving Holy Communion because we haven't been to a recent Confession. Please note, too, that, according to the quotation from St. Leonard (printed below), if we whole-heartedly offer this prayer several times each day, we can expect to be transformed!



My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot, now, receive you sacramentally, come, at least, spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you have already come and

unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. \sim St. Alphonsus Liguori

"If you practice the holy exercise of Spiritual Communion a good many times each day, within a month, you will see yourself completely changed." \sim St. Leonard of Port Maurice

AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

ANIMA CHRISTI

~ St. Ignatius of Loyola

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O Good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you that with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

VOCATIONS PRAYER

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to the priesthood and consecrated life *from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Erath* to courageously follow Your will.

Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the Sacraments.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.













QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

COMING BACK TO CHURCH

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

PRACTICING FAITH

L'id like to make some new resolutions about practicing the faith in our family during the new year. Do you have any suggestions?

The family is the most essential space for the formation of values and character. Practicing your faith as a family can happen both internally and externally. Consistent prayer

together builds habits that can last a lifetime. With younger children, praying together as a family in the evening or at dinnertime could be fairly doable most nights. In the evening, select a few common prayers such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, or Guardian Angel





prayer. Ask each of your children to thank God for three things that day and include a time for children and adults alike to pray out loud for special needs in your family. This practice could be done with older children, committed to intentional efforts in the midst of increasingly busy schedules.

Look for other opportunities to practice the faith outside the

home as well. Sunday Mass should already be part of your family's weekly routine. Consider setting other monthly goals as well. This could be a family service project in your city, attending the sacrament of Confession together, or hosting a hospitality night in your home. Get

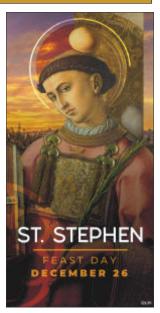


your children involved in the planning process. Ask them where they'd like to volunteer or who they think is having a hard time and might need a special night just for them. Rather than simply imposing new practices, your whole family can have a dynamic role understanding and integrating faith and life. © LPi

SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd



dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

ALL IN THE FAMILY

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who, in your world, needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

















REVISED SPARK Religious Education for Grades 1-5

Four "Sunday Sessions" (9:15 - 10:45 a.m.) in CCD classrooms and the ten days of the Elementary Summer Religion Program

Grades 1-2: February 6, March 20 Grades 3-5: February 13, March 27

SPARK Summer Religion Program: June 13-24, 2022 (M-F, 8 a.m. - Noon)

REVISED EDGE Sessions for Grades 6-7

Monday evening sessions (6:15 - 7:30) in church parish hall

January 10, 24 • February 7, 21 March 7, 21 • April 4, 25 • Retreat TBA

REVISED SCHEDULE:

Theology of the Body (ToB) Sessions for Grade 8

Tuesday evening sessions (6:15 - 7:30) begin in the church parish hall. Boys and girls gather in separate classrooms.

> January 11, 25 • February 8, 22 March 8, 22 • April 5, 26 • Retreat TBA

Confirmation Program for Grade 11

Sunday evening (6:00 p.m.) sessions with Fr. Metrejean and volunteers and a large-group weekend retreat

Teens are expected to complete assigned homework on "No Class" days! Homework assignment details are available on online schedule.

Christmas Break • January 16, 23, 30 February 6, 13, 20, 27 • March 6, 13, 20, 27 April 3, 10, 24 • Month of May (refer to revised chart for details)







Finances should never prevent a child from enrolling in our programs.

Please contact Mrs. Connie or Mrs. Frances at our church office to discuss financial assistance.

REVISED IGNITE! Mentor Program for Grades 9-10

Teens gather for weekly (5:00-7:00 p.m. on Sundays) small group meetings with core members in their homes and a large-group retreat (TBA).

Teens are expected to complete assigned homework on "No Class" days! Homework assignment details are available on online schedule.

Christmas Break • January 16, 23, 30 February 6, 13, 20, 27 • March 6, 13, 20, 27 April 3, 10, 24 • Month of May (refer to revised chart for details)

REVISED First Communion Sacramental Prep for Candidates in Grades 2-5

Thursday evenings (6-7 p.m. in CCD classrooms unless otherwise noted). (Teens are welcome to pursue Sacramental Prep, too! Please contact Mrs. Frances at the church office for details.)

- Parent Meeting #2 and Class for Candidates: January 13; 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Communion Classes: January 27; February 10, 24; March 10, 24
- First Confession and First Communion Retreat: see schedule for details

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the Week

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort, too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.

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Catholic Radio Stations

to learn more about your Catholic faith!

Apple and Android Apps are now available for some of these stations!

- Christ Our King, Kaplan, KLFT, 90.5 FM
- Ave Maria Radio, Baton Rouge, 1380 AM
- Ave Maria Radio, New Orleans/LaPlace, 1010 AM
- Ave Maria Radio, New Iberia, 1360 AM
- Ave Maria Radio, Alexandria, 580 AM
- Ave Maria Radio, Natchitoches, 89.7 FM
- Ave Maria Radio, Lake Charles, 91.1 FM
- EWTN, Sirius XM Satellite Radio, Channel 30























THIS WEEK'S READINGS

For the week beginning December 26:

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8 **Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:

22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40 **Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk

2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Weekly Events:

- [⊕] Confessions, Mass schedule, and Holy Hours: refer to the front cover; when necessary, updates are published on pages 2-3; join Flocknote for our text/email updates!
- Prep classes: refer to page 5
- ₱ Rosary for the end of the pandemic, all Covid patients and medical personnel, spiritual healing of the U.S.A. and all nations around the globe, and personal petitions: 6:30 p.m. in church every Monday
- Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows: 6 p.m. in church every Tuesday
- Wednesday Adoration: 9:00 a.m. Noon each Wednesday in church; cancelled on December 29
- Legion of Mary: temporarily on hold; the group hopes to begin meeting again soon
- RCIA Classes for Non-Catholic and Catholic adults, teens, and "tweens" who desire to receive the Sacraments: Call our church office to register.

Monthly Events:

- ₱ First Saturday Rosary & Mass: January 1; Children of Mary recite a Rosary at 9:00 a.m. while Confessions are heard; Mass begins at 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday Fun Day: January date will be rescheduled ASAP, typically the Sunday <u>after</u> the First Saturday of the month; free lunch plates and, when feasible, indoor and outdoor games for all ages!
- ♣ K.C. Meeting: 6:00 p.m. on January 4 (First Tuesday of each month) in Church Parish Hall
- [⊕] C.D.A. Meeting: 6:00 p.m.; Thursday, January 6 (First Thursday of the month); Church Parish Hall
- ₱ First Friday Mass: 7:00 a.m. (English) and 8:00 a.m. (Latin) on January 7 in church
- ♣ First Friday Adoration: 9:00 a.m. Noon on January 7 in church
- ⊕ C.L.O. Meeting: C.L.O. now meets on the second Sunday
 of the month (January 9); 8:30 a.m. in church office
- Catholics in Recovery: January 12 (Second Wednesday of the month); Classroom 10

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 27 December Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist No Mass

Tuesday, 28 December *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs* Norris Green, Sr. (4th Ann.), Edward Green

Wednesday, 29 December Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr David (Bd.) & Leon Ortemond

Thursday, 30 December Chas Milliman, Gideon Broussard, David Guerra

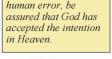
Friday, 31 December Saint Sylvester I, Pope

OLOL Purgatorial Society: Those who have recently died: Florella "Flor" Trahan, Kristy Hebert, Dickie Lucas

Saturday, 1 January 2022 *The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God*All Parishioners (living & deceased)

The Epiphany of the Lord
7:30 a.m.: Danielle Leger (Bd.)
9:00 a.m.: Pro Populo
11:00 a.m.: Parishioners

Sunday, 2 January 2022



Nota Bene: If a name

is not printed due to



WEEKLY REQUESTS

PRAYER LIST: This list features prayer requests on <u>specific</u> <u>dates</u> (examples: birthdays, wedding and death anniversaries, etc.). (**NOTE:** Long-term prayer requests are placed on our telephone-tree **Prayer Line**.)

Saturday, January 1: Andrew Trahan, Sr., M/M Joseph LeBlanc, M/M Fernand Trahan

SANCTUARY LAMP: The Sanctuary Lamp can now burn for one day in memory of your loved one. (\$10 donation per day. Half of the proceeds benefit our Love of Neighbor Fund for the poor of our church parish.)



Tuesday, December 28: The Holy Innocents

Wednesday, December 29: David (Bd.) & Leon Ortemond

Thursday, December 30: In Thanksgiving Friday, December 31: Hadwing LeBlanc (7th Ann.)

Saturday, January 1: Jeremiah Broussard Sunday, January 2: Holy Souls in Purgatory

VOCATIONS CROSS

<u>Weekly</u> Vocations Cross Ministry: Please return the kit to our church office on Tuesday morning so the next family can pick it up on Tuesday afternoon.

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 is available! Tuesday, January 11, 2022 is available!

















-30

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR CHURCH PARISH

The names of and contact information for our **Church Parish Office Staff** may be found on the front cover of this bulletin.



Parish Pastoral Council

Mrs. Yvette D. Hebert and Ms. Loretta Milliman, Co-Presidents
Mr. Matthew Claudet Mr. Darryl Rabassa
Mr. Clarence Fusilier Mr. Kerry Richard, Trustee
Ms. Nichole Green Mr. Kirk Soileau, Trustee
Mr. Richard Greig Mr. Anthony Vice



Sacramental Questions/Concerns

Anointing of the Sick	Any chur	ch office staff member
Annulments	Mrs. Connie Hayes	or Mrs. Beth Lemoine
Baptism questions/concerns		Mrs. Connie Hayes
Confession appointments		Mrs. Connie Hayes
Confirmation for Adults		Fr. Andre Metrejean
Confirmation for Teens		Fr. Andre Metrejean
Diaconate Program (for Dea	cons)	Dcn. Tim Marcantel
First Communion (for Grade	s 2-12)	Mrs. Frances T. Toups
Holy Orders (Priesthood)		Fr. Andre Metrejean
Matrimony questions/conce	rns	Mrs. Beth Lemoine

Ministries, Faith Formation, and Other Organizations Adult Choir Ms. Clevie Thibodeaux Altar ServersMrs. Frances T. Toups Catholic Daughters, Court 1670 Mrs. Annette Oliva Cemetery Manager Mrs. Beth Lemoine Children's Choir (Grades 1-5)Mrs. Frances T. Toups Christian Leadership Organization (CLO)Ms. Sandra Simon Church Cleaning Crews Mrs. Cheryl DesOrmeaux Coffee and Donuts (after 8:00 Mass) Mrs. Billie Landry Come, Lord Jesus! Mrs. Phyllis LeBlanc EDGE Religious Education (Grades 6-7)Mrs. Annette Oliva EMBER (adult evangelization program)Mrs. Elizabeth Romero Homebound Communion Mrs. Connie Hayes IGNITE! Religious Education (Grades 9-10) Mrs. Lindsay Lege Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion .. Mrs. Frances T. Toups Knights of Columbus, Council 3872Mr. Clarence Fusilier Ladies' K.C. AuxiliaryMrs. Tina Bares-Vice Lectors Mrs. Frances T. Toups R. C. I. A. for AdultsFr. Andre Metrejean R. C. I. A. for Teens (Grades 6-12)......Mrs. Frances T. Toups Religious Life (for women or men)Fr. Andre Metrejean Safe Environment Mrs. Cheryl DesOrmeaux SPARK Religious Education (Grades 1-5)Mrs. Frances T. Toups

Theology of the Body for Middle School (Gr. 8) Mrs. Tracy Watson Ushers Mr. Clarence Fusilier

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David Ortemond, Jr.

December 29, 1972 - April 14, 2012

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Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Richard



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