

Office Hours:

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

Fax: 337-937-8650



JANUARY 2, 2022 • THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b*

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1978 CCC.

CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

Fr. Andre Metrejean Pastor
Rev. Mr. Timothy Marcantel..... Deacon
Mrs. Beth Lemoine. Office/Cemetery Manager
Mrs. Frances T. Toups..... Catholic Education/Music
Mrs. Connie Hayes..... Receptionist

THE SACRIFICE OF HOLY MASS

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

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Join our **Flocknote Network** o receive updates when necessary!
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 in church:

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**

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

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy, event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify, but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."



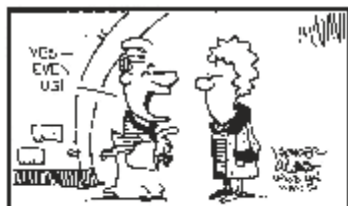
THE EPIPHANY OF THE Lord

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

© LPi

PIP-IANY



SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Reminder:

Second Collection envelopes may be used at any time!

Offering (December 18-19)

Offertory, \$4,097.00 + Debt Reduction, \$120.00

Church Insurance, \$2,171.00

The Second Collection was applied to Church Insurance.

Last Weekend's Offering (December 24-26)

The Second Collection will be applied to Debt Reduction.

This Weekend's Offering (January 1-2)

The Second Collection will be applied to Debt Reduction.

Next Weekend's Offering (January 8-9)

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.

Looking for New Year's Resolutions?

Last weekend's church bulletin provided two questions (and answers) that may help an individual or a family return to the practice of the Catholic faith as well as suggestions to help anyone practice his/her faith throughout the year. Our weekly bulletins (current and previous editions) may be accessed on the "About" tab of our church website: www.ololcatholic.com. Another suggestion, once again, appears in this weekend's bulletin: Listen to Catholic radio to learn more about our Catholic faith. A list of Catholic radio stations is included on page 5 of this bulletin.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

End-of-the-Year Contribution Statements

If you are in need of a financial statement for 2021, please contact Mrs. Connie at the Church Office (337) 937-6888 to leave your name and current address (if it has recently changed). Statements will be mailed by Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

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. ~ 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." ~ 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.

INTERESTING FACTS (AND TRIVIA) ABOUT THE EPIPHANY

Along with a few extra facts, the Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC 528] offers the following details:

- ◆ The **Epiphany** is the manifestation (a state of being; demonstrating something) of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God, and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the **adoration** of Jesus by the wise men (**Magi**) from the East, together with His baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.
- ◆ In the Magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the Good News of salvation through the Incarnation.
- ◆ Their journey means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship Him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.

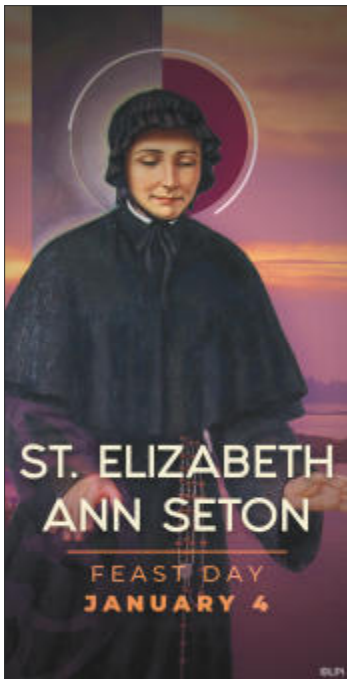
The Catholic Source Book shares a bit of information regarding the three Magi and the gifts they presented to Jesus: "Of the mysterious magi, there is little more than mention in the



gospel. The Venerable Bede is the one who gives the colorful details: "The first was called Melchior; he was an old man, with white hair and long beard; he offered **gold** to the Lord as to his king. The second, Gaspar by name, young, beardless, of ruddy hue, offered to Jesus his gift of **incense**, the homage due divinity. The third, of black complexion, with heavy beard, was called Baltasar; the **myrrh** he held in his hands prefigured the death of the Son of Man." Together, the Magi's gifts honor Jesus as our king, our first priest, and our Savior.

The Catholic Dictionary reminds us that, "in some countries, The Epiphany is known as **Twelfth Night (after Christmas)** and is the occasion for special customs and celebrations which have no direct connections to religious feasts." (Example: In South Louisiana, January 6, the annual, actual date of The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, marks the beginning of what we recognize as "Mardi Gras Season," a period of time when we celebrate and enjoy plenty of fun before the penitential season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the

United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint." ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

THE LIGHT OF THE MOON

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart, Mary, while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears His glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES FOR REL EDUC & SAC PREP

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)

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

(Although this Q/A was provided by LPi, the second paragraph of the answer was tweaked a bit by Fr. Metrejean and our office staff.)

Q: What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

A: This is a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: *How should the clergy respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled?* If this happens, the priest should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. The area should be wiped with a damp, linen purificator cloth. That cloth is then immersed in water so that any small, remaining fragments will dissolve in the water. After a period of time, the water is poured into the sacrarium (similar to a kitchen sink, however, the drain feeds directly into the earth, not the sewer system).



NOTE:

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

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Tune in to

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 January 2:

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4: 14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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!
- ✦ **Religious Ed. & Sacramental 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
- ✦ **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:

- ✦ **Sunday Fun Day:** **January date will be rescheduled ASAP**, typically the Sunday after 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
- ✦ **First Saturday Rosary & Mass:** February 5; Children of Mary recite a Rosary at 9:00 a.m. while Confessions are heard; Mass begins at 9:30 a.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 3 January 2022

The Holy Name of Jesus

No Mass

Tuesday, 4 January 2022

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

M/M Phil Murphy (living), M/M John Schnur (living)

Wednesday, 5 January 2022

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

Irene (Bd. 1/6) & Curney Dronet, Lloyd "Tiger" LeBlanc

Thursday, 6 January 2022

Saint Andre' Bessette, Religious

Ernest (Bd. 1/10), Jeanette D., & Dawn E. Pillette

Friday, 7 January 2022

Saint Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

Fanges "Frank" Gary, M/M Doris Decoux Family, M/M Octave Gary, Sr. Family

Saturday, 8 January 2022

Alvin Desormeaux (35th Ann.), Al Desormeaux (23rd Ann.), Larry Lee

Sunday, 9 January 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

7:30 a.m.: Gloria Benoit (1st Ann. 1/10), M/M Gilbert Duplantis

9:00 a.m.: Pro Populo

11:00 a.m.: Parishioners

Nota Bene: If a name is not printed due to human error, be assured that God has accepted the intention in Heaven.



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WEEKLY REQUESTS

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

Those suffering in any way during the Holidays

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, January 4: Dennis Broussard (Bd. 1/5)

Wednesday, January 5: Irene Dronet (Bd. 1/6)

Thursday, January 6: Al Desormeaux (23rd Ann.)

Saturday, January 8: In Thanksgiving

Sunday, January 9: Junior Frederick (Ann.)

VOCATIONS CROSS

Weekly 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 11, 2022 is available!

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 is available!

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 church 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 Deacons)	Dcn. Tim Marcantel
First Communion (for Grades 2-12)	Mrs. Frances T. Toups
Holy Orders (Priesthood)	Fr. Andre Metrejean
Matrimony questions/concerns	Mrs. Beth Lemoine

Ministries, Faith Formation, and Other Organizations

Adult Choir	Ms. Clevie Thibodeaux
Altar Servers	Mrs. 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
<i>Come, Lord Jesus!</i>	Mrs. Phyllis LeBlanc
EDGE Religious Education (Grades 6-7)	Mrs. Annette Oliva
EMBER (adult evangelization program)	Mrs. Elizabeth Romero
Homebound Communion	Mrs. Connie Hayes
<i>IGNITE!</i> Religious Education (Grades 9-10)	Mrs. Lindsay Lege
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mrs. Frances T. Toups
Knights of Columbus, Council 3872	Mr. Clarence Fusilier
Ladies' K.C. Auxiliary	Mrs. Tina Bares-Vice
Lectors	Mrs. Frances T. Toups
Legion of Mary	Dcn. Tim Marcantel
R. C. I. A. for Adults	Fr. 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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Leon David Ortemond, Sr.
 May 23, 1946 - April 14, 2012



David Ortemond, Jr.
 December 29, 1972 - April 14, 2012

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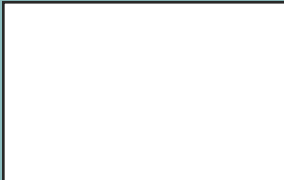
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