



ST. PATRICK  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, December 13, 2020

The Third Week of Advent

Volume 47, Number 3

# The Shamrock



*Gaudete Sunday*

*Rejoice!*

## St. Patrick Catholic Church

12424 Brogdon Lane Baton Rouge, LA 70816  
Phone: (225) 753-5750 ▪ Fax: (225) 756-9636  
info@stppatrickbr.org ▪ www.stpatrickbr.org

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

## Mass Times and Devotions

### Weekends

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

### Weekdays

Tuesday: 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.

### Adoration

Wednesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Rosary

Saturday: 3:15 p.m. Prayed in Church before Mass.

## Parish Staff

Fr. Michael A. Miceli, *Pastor*  
Mr. Peter Walsh, *Deacon Assistant*  
Mr. Alec Campbell, *Deacon Assistant*  
Miss Pamela Folse, *Pastoral Associate*  
Mrs. Sandra Colomb, *Business Manager*  
Mrs. Melissa Harshbarger, *Director of Faith Formation*  
Mrs. Sabrina Peck, *Receptionist*  
Mrs. Jacqueline Brady, *Housekeeper/Cook*  
Mr. Christian Rodney, *Maintenance*  
Mrs. Vivian Lucek, *Music Coordinator*  
Ms. Mary Rogers, *RCIA Coordinator*

## St. Patrick Preschool

12424 Brogdon Lane Baton Rouge, LA 70816  
Phone: (225) 752-3898  
Mrs. Katie LaFont, *Director*

## Sacraments

### Baptism

Call to register parents and godparents for the required seminar and to schedule date and time. For more information, visit [www.stpatrickbr.org/Baptism](http://www.stpatrickbr.org/Baptism)

### Reconciliation

Saturday: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. and by appointment.

### Marriage

Couples should contact the parish office at least six months prior to their desired wedding date.

### Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office.

### Funeral Planning

Please call the parish office prior to scheduling with the funeral home.

*Call the parish office to place individuals on the prayer list in the bulletin or the prayer line. Names will remain listed in the bulletin for approximately 2-3 months unless otherwise notified.*

## Stewardship of Finance

*November 29, 2020*

Identified:	<b>\$9,321.50</b>
Unidentified:	<b>\$967.00</b>
Building Fund:	<b>\$357.00</b>
Other:	<b>\$293.00</b>
Thanksgiving:	<b>\$860.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$11,818.50</b>

*Thank you for your continued  
generous support!*

## The Mission of St. Patrick Church

Conscious of God's presence, the family of St. Patrick Parish  
strives to create a community of oneness in God's love.

Called, we follow Jesus,

Empowered by the Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to living Christ's Message:  
Love of God, shown forth in love of neighbor.

## *Finding and Maintaining Joy in Life*

*by Kristian Fruge*

This weekend the pink candle on the Advent wreath will be lit. This candle represents joy! I've always maintained that joy is truly in the eye of the beholder. What constitutes joy for me will likely not constitute joy for you, and vice versa. One's idea of joy will likely change as that person's life situation changes. We could almost refer to joy as being fluid throughout life. Joy for me ten years ago is definitely not joy for me today. This is a topic that we often discuss in our "TMIY (That Man is You)" small group. I highly recommend TMIY, by the way!

I believe that my wife would agree with me that our children are a huge source of joy for us. We tried many years to have our first child (Ellis, 4 years old), and once successful, our second (George, 2 years old) and third (Caila, 11 months old) children came along! We derive our joy from our children, and doing what we can to support their growth, intellect, and spirituality. Both of us are healthcare professionals and both work full-time jobs, so it's no easy task.

Obviously, we rely on alternative means for child care, but we have been blessed with a daycare that teaches our children prayers and patriotic topics while also offering them a quality educational routine. However, when we are home with the children, our time is fully dedicated to them. Roughly a year ago, we instituted a routine family prayer time. Prayer time occurs immediately after bath time and everyone is aware of that. Believe me...if my wife or I forget, we are quickly reminded! Nothing brings me more joy than watching and hearing my 4-year-old and 2-year-old recite their Hail Mary, Our Father, Glory Be, and Hail Holy Queen prayers nightly.

Another source of joy for my family is seeing many familiar faces at mass! I often say that St. Patrick has many parishioners on the payroll because after any mass we attend, we get such kind comments on how our children behaved in church (even if they really didn't behave well). I'm not sure if many parishioners realize this, but those comments are what keep us going to mass (and likely many other parents as well) given that our children are in a very demanding age range.

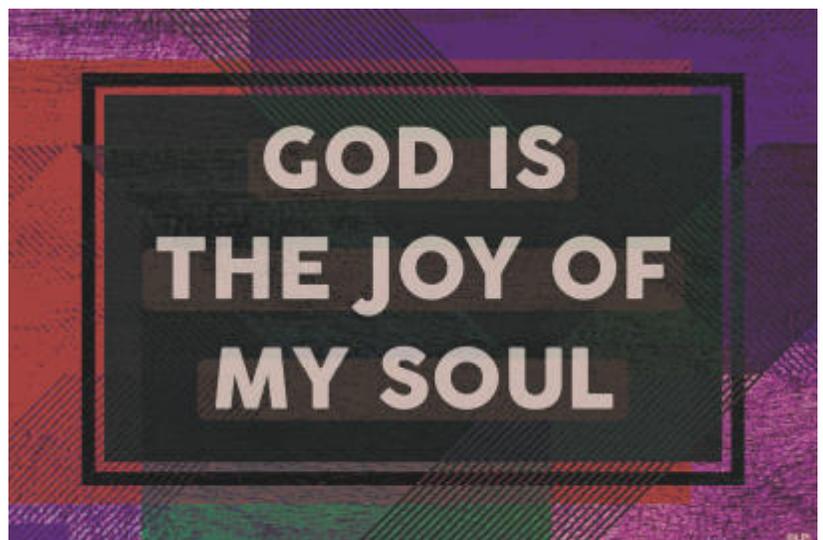
Hopefully, you didn't set out reading this hoping that I would give you the "secret sauce" of how to maintain joy in your life. Obviously, everyone has a different vocation in life, so we can't all derive joy from the same things. I do believe that all joy can be derived from prayer and God. I firmly believe that if you have prayer and God in your life, then you can find joy! My advice would be to pray, dig deep, trust God, and find what truly brings you, and those closest to you, happiness, and dive right in with no reservations!



### *Last Chance for Advent Giving Tree*

This is your last chance to support our Advent Giving Tree if you haven't already. Those who choose to participate can take one or more envelopes and place any amount of cash or gift cards in increments of \$25 maximum inside. The envelopes can be placed in the specially-marked basket, in the regular collection or dropped off to the parish office by Mon., Dec. 14.

We prefer Walmart, Target or Hi-Nabor gift cards of no greater value than \$25 each. (If you want to give more, simply buy more cards.) We will assist our own St. Vincent de Paul families first and then reach out to some of the other agencies we usually serve, depending on their ability to participate.



## May the Lord Give Us the Grace of Great Joy

by Pamela Folse

I likened the lighting of the Advent wreath candles to the joy and hope in our family as we await a new baby in early February. We're hoping to welcome this baby on February 4, so that my dad can welcome his newest great grandchild on what would have been his and my mom's 65th wedding anniversary. This will be the third child in the family which already has an almost 3-year-old boy and a 17-month old girl. Three babies age three and under as we light the third candle on the Advent wreath. O the joy!

In his homily "With Joy and Hope" delivered on May 6, 2016, Pope Francis said joy and hope go together. "Joy without hope is simply fun, a fleeting joy, and hope without joy is not hope, and goes no further than healthy optimism," he said. "With three brushstrokes, the Church speaks of what the Christian attitude should be: joy and hope together." In this way "joy strengthens hope, and hope flourishes with joy. With this attitude that the Church wants to give, both of these two Christian virtues indicate a way to go out of ourselves: the joyful are not closed in on themselves; hope takes us there, it is precisely the anchor on the beach of heaven and it takes us outside."

"The Lord tells us that there will be problems," the Pope continued, "and in life this joy and hope are no carnival: they are another thing, having to face difficulties." Pope Francis used the example of a woman whose time of giving birth has come. Indeed, he explained, "the woman in labor is in pain, because the time has come; but when her child is born, she no longer remembers the suffering."

On this Gaudete Sunday, a day the church encourages rejoicing, we come to understand that each one of us is waiting in joyful hope for the light of Christ to uncover us. Like the Advent wreath with the third candle lit, our light becomes ever brighter dispelling the darkness that otherwise surrounds us. We are challenged to spend some time contemplating those gifts that mean the most to us and to those we love: the Gift of Time spent with family and friends making memories, the Gift of Friendship with those who help and support us throughout our lives, the Gift of Family—the very first gift we are given—and the Gift of Spirituality and Faith to see us over the tribulations and joys of life.

It's been a long, hard year of immense suffering and pain, but in faith we know that after the suffering the Lord will come. When the hardship is over, joy will come. There is no way around certain things but to march right through, knowing that hope accompanies us with each step.

Pope Francis concluded his meditation with the hope "that the Lord may give us the grace of a great joy that is the expression of hope; and a strong hope that becomes joy in our lives." He prayed that "the Lord watch over this joy and hope, so that no one can take away this joy and hope."

I pray that the Lord wrap you in his mantle of gentle love as we wait with joy and hope for the coming of the Messiah.

## Financial Stewardship -- We Appreciate Your Generosity

Please know that we are so grateful to all of you who continue to support St. Patrick through your regular financial giving and support of our other community-building efforts. For those of you who read *The Shamrock* regularly, you've probably noticed the decline in our weekly collections. Whether you give using the monthly stewardship envelopes, automatic draft program or online giving, your donations are very important and necessary for our daily operation and maintenance of our facilities.



If you are not attending Mass at this time, the **automatic draft program** and **online giving** are easy options. Go to our website and click on *GIVING* or call the office and we will be glad to help. Of course you can continue to bring your contributions to Mass, mail or drop off at the parish office.

If you are sending in several weeks of envelopes at one time, you may write **one** check. You do not have to write a separate check for each week. You can simply indicate on the envelopes how much of the check you would like applied to each.

You may have had to cut back on the amount you give or you may be unable to give at all at this time. We certainly understand and we know that many of you are going through difficult times. We are praying for all of you and we ask that you remember St. Patrick Parish in your prayers as well.

## *Schedule for Live Streaming Holiday Masses From St. Patrick*

For those who are unable to join us in person for the various holiday Masses, you can join us live on Facebook or later on our parish website. Here are the dates and times of the live streaming.

### *Christmas, The Nativity of the Lord*

The 4 p.m. Mass on Thursday, December 24, 2020, Christmas Eve, will be live streamed.

### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

The 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, December 26, 2020, will be live streamed.

### *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

The 4 p.m. Mass on Thursday, December 31, 2020, New Year's Eve, will be live streamed.

### *Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord*

The 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, January 2, 2021 will be live streamed.

## *St. Patrick Holiday Schedule*

### *Christmas, The Nativity of the Lord*

Thursday, December 24, 2020: Christmas Eve Vigil Masses at 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 25, 2020; Christmas Day: Mass at 9:30 a.m.

### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

Saturday, December 26, 2020: Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 27, 2020: Masses at 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m.

### *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Thursday, December 31, 2020: Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, January 1, 2021: Mass at 9:30 a.m.

### *Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord*

Saturday, January 2, 2021: Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday, January 3, 2021: Masses at 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m.

*A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.*

*- Jn 1:6-8*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

S. Medica, A. Pichon, Jr., J. Root, K. Johnson, A. Roy,  
G. Mackey, L. Polite, L. Barbarin, B. Coghlan,  
J. Wray, M. Tichota, C. Prendergast, M.B. Langlois,  
O. Godeaux, S. Rikhoff, M. Varner, T. Joiner,  
T. Smith, Sr., C. Mokry, R. Geissler, G. Auzenne,  
S. Collins, V. Mayeux

*To submit prayer requests, call the parish office.*

## IN LOVING MEMORY

*The Sanctuary Light burns this week in loving memory of*

***Charles Tureau***

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

<b>SUN 12/13</b>	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>MON 12/14</b>	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
<b>TUE 12/15</b>	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
<b>WED 12/16</b>	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
<b>THR 12/17</b>	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
<b>FRI 12/18</b>	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
<b>SAT 12/19</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
<b>SUN 12/20</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



*Join us for the  
Mother of Perpetual  
Help Novena  
on Tuesday evenings  
immediately  
following the  
6 p.m. Mass.*

*Call the parish office  
if you need a copy,*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 12, 2020

**4:00 p.m.:** Pam Adams, Charles Tureau, Mary and Jimmy Carlino, Sr., Francis Crifasi, Karen Rocker, Wilma T. Cronan, James Michael Cronan, Larry Joseph Cronan, Stephanie Simoneaux, Donald Dean, Terry Edwards and Glenn Gaudet

### Sunday, December 13, 2020

**7:30 a.m.:** Teo Luong, Betty Lou Roundtree, Anna Chung, Peter Van, Johnny Giddings and Gerald Bahm

**9:30 a.m.:** Gloria Scott, Frank Polito, Omar and Marina Hernandez, Marta McCarron, Dallas Clarke, the Bodo and Gajda families and Freddie Doiron.

**11:30 a.m.:** For the people of St. Patrick

### Tuesday, December 15, 2020

**6:00 p.m.:** Margaret Ray, Simonette Grisaro, Margaret Whittington, Teddy Penno and Margaret Hirezi

### Wednesday, December 16, 2020

**8:00 a.m.:** Lee Dupuis, Simonette Grisaro and Joseph J. Rohal

### Thursday, December 17, 2020

**8:00 a.m. -** Chung Le, Judy Cancienne Fanguy and in Thanksgiving

### Friday, December 18, 2020

**8:00 a.m. -** Frank Bravata, Carol Dupre Crooks and in Thanksgiving

## HEARTFELT SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

We extend heartfelt sympathy and a promise of prayers to the family of

**Melissa Cherie Buller Behrnes**

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord...

## MEMORIAL GIFTS TO YOUR CHURCH

Please consider remembering St. Patrick Church with a planned gift in your last will and testament. You might also encourage your family to ask friends and family to make a donation to St. Patrick in lieu of flowers at the time of your death. A memorial gift to St. Patrick Church is a wonderful way to acknowledge the lives of those who considered this parish their beloved spiritual home. Call the parish office for more information.

# Help Those Who Helped Us



In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous in the second collection this weekend.

**The desire for God is written in the human heart.**

(CCC 27)

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