

**MASS INTENTIONS**Sunday, December 20, 2009 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

10:00 a.m. Kevin Bassett (D) Bill Scherer (D)

8:30 p.m. Parishioners and Benefactors

Monday, December 21, 2009 –

12:15 p.m. Ann Clark (D)

Tuesday, December 22, 2009 -

12:15 p.m. Kathleen Waddell

Wednesday, December 23, 2009 -

12:15 p.m. The Willard Family

Thursday, December 24, 2009 -

**CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSED**

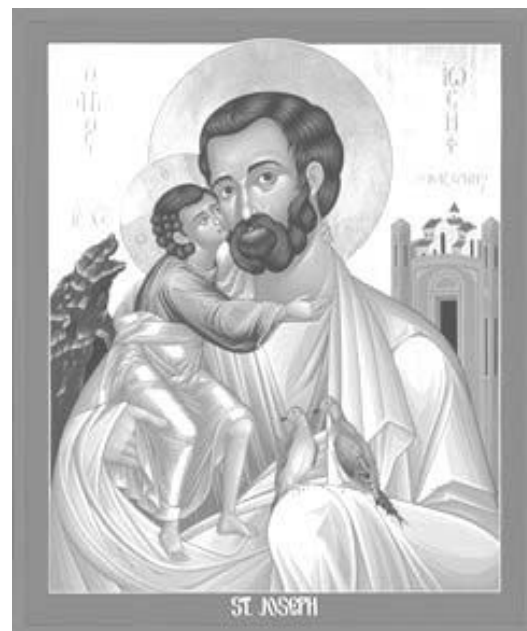
Midnight Mass Parishioners and Benefactors

Friday, December 25, 2009 – *Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day*

10:00 a.m. Bernell St. Cyr (D) Kevin Bassett (D)

William D. Dempsey (D) Samuel &amp; Myrtle Weaver (D)

Theresa &amp; Henry Benito (D) Floyd &amp; Margie Duet (D)

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS:**

Augusta Bayonne	Maria Lindsey	Mary Scamardo	Mildred Coulon	Bob Smothers
Escher Griffin	Mrs. Perry Henry, Sr.	Christina McNulty	Bernice Ferdinand	Karen Peterson
Marshall Vaughn	Thomas Christiana, Jr.	Emma Scherer	Frances Feigler	Keith Naccari
Wilma Hicks	Norby Dunn	Earlene Antoine	Joanne Slocum	Irelia C. Robinson-
Althea Deterville	Frans Labranche	Robert Boese	Dulce Aguda	Eva Morales
Sgt. David Sowel USMC	Buzz Waterston	Shelia Jones	Rose Christiana Matranga	Andrew Brown
Gladys Butler	Shirley Tonglet	Brandon Cole	Jeannie Sargent	Joan Hyde
Christina McNulty	Krissy Carapina	Brian McHughes	Brandon M. Cole	Charlie Slocum
Heather Dupuy	Charles Francis	Mamie Brown	Wilma Joseph	Alonzo Jones
Carolyn Arso	Jerry Daussin	Betty Dawson	Sylvia Bassett	Marc Barbe
Wendy Waterston	Jane Tonglet			

If you want to have a name placed on this list, please contact the church office (522-3186 x141) . Please also call the office if a name can be removed from the list. Thank you.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE AND MASS INTENTIONS**

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week in loving memory of Brenda Levy Morse. If you would like to reserve a date to burn the Candle for someone or for a special intention, please call the church office. The Sanctuary Candle offering is \$10 for 14 days. The offering for Mass intentions is \$5.00 per person per Mass.

**2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Boxes of offering envelopes for 2010 are available for pick-up in the church office or in the church lobby after Sunday Masses. Boxes have been prepared only for those who used envelopes during 2009 and are available to registered parishioners only. Should you wish to register as a parishioner, please complete the form found on the table in the back of the church.

**2010 CHURCH CALENDARS AVAILABLE**

Parishioners can pick up a church calendar after Mass today. The limit is one per household to ensure that we have enough to go around.

*"The Virgin is with child and shall bear a son, and she will call him Emmanuel."*

**ST. JOSEPH LOOKS AT THE WEEK AHEAD:**

Dec. 24 - Midnight Mass      Dec. 25 - 10:00am Mass  
 Dec. 31 - 12:15 Mass          Jan. 1 - 10:00am Mass

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

- ◆ Sunday, January 3, 2010 - St. Joseph parish Epiphany Celebration after the 10:00am Mass

**TREASURE STEWARDSHIP**

December 13, 2009                      \$ 1, 970.67  
 2nd Collection                              312.56  
 Retired Religious Fund

Thank you for your generous support!

**Merry Christmas !!!**

**REBUILD CENTER/LANTERN LIGHT**

Once again we have some Christmas fund-raiser winners to announce: Gina Ragland, Sr. Martha Otterstadt, Donna Leonard, Lorraine Specha, Jay Zainey, Mignon Wolfe, Mary Grace Heyrich, and Sr. Kay Rex. Congratulations to our winners and, once again, thanks to all of our supporters. We were fortunate to have help from Kathy and Dennis Hogan, Presentation Associates from Fargo, N.D. Lantern Light will be serving lunch on Christmas Day at 1:00pm. When our foundress Nano Nagle founded the congregation on Christmas Eve 1775, she celebrated Christmas Day by inviting 50 of her poorest neighbors to dinner. In keeping with that tradition we feed those in need on Christmas Day. We invite anyone who would like to partner with us to call Sr. Enid at 273-5573 x114. You can come to serve or you might like to prepare a dish. Prepared food can be dropped off at the Center on Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> before 2:30pm. The outpouring of generosity during the past week has been unbelievable. All sorts of items for the food pantry, gifts for the homeless and cooked turkeys came in all week this past week, from schools, companies, and individuals. The outpouring of generosity, in spite of these trying economic times, has been truly overwhelming. God bless them all. We wish all of our volunteers and supporters a Merry Christmas.

**POINSETTIA MEMORIALS**

Mrs. Marie Johnson, Mr. Eugene Johnson, Mrs. Manis Cook Jackson, Uncle Bee Bee, Aunt Louise, Mother Lillie B. Haywood, Brother Joseph Henderson, Father Harrison Henderson, Bennett Joseph, Sr., Mrs. Madeleine Joseph, Mrs. Nonie Burks, Terry Paul Reed, The Schanbein Family, The Tonglet Family, Maxine Simoneaux, Adolph Family, Bodungen Family, Church Family, McDonald Family, Mary Yolande Jones Family, Reginald Harris, Ralph Jones, Doris Coulon.

**MARIAN SODALITY NEWS**

The Marian Sodality wishes to thank the Best Buy store in Elmwood for donating the wide-screen flat panel TV for the raffles, and all who supported this effort, which raised \$1488.00 for the Lantern Light Ministries at the Rebuild Center. Congratulations to the winner, Maquitta Taylor of New Orleans.

**SCRIPTURE BULLETIN BITES**

“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb . . .” Luke 1:39-45



As we prepare to celebrate the Birthday of Jesus we are treated to the story of the encounter between the Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, and Mary, the mother of Jesus the Christ. Both were excited about their unborn child. Both were happy that the other would soon give birth. Life is a gift from God and, like Elizabeth and Mary, we should celebrate every new human life. We have an elaborate celebration of the birth of Jesus but we do not celebrate the birth of John, but we do celebrate his life and his role as “a voice in the wilderness making straight the way of the Lord.” That is really what John would have us do. So, how do we celebrate the birth of Jesus? Or, are we too excited about the prospect of the presents we will receive (or too worried about how we are going to pay for all the presents we bought) to truly celebrate the birth of Jesus? Even more important, do we have a present for Jesus? Did we give Jesus anything last year? What part of ourselves will we give to Jesus by giving to others this year? Its not too late. John wants us to remember that: ***Jesus is the Reason for the Season!!!!***

**CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Archdiocese of New Orleans continues to make the Hot Line available for anyone who has been hurt or sexually abused by anyone who works for the Church. The Hot Line continues to be available; the number is (504) 522-5019. In continuing our commitment to support and to heal, we invite and encourage individuals who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Archdiocese to call our Hot Line. The Hot Line is available 24 hours a day and your message will be received confidentially by a trained mental health professional. In addition, anyone can make a direct call during regular business hours to the Victims’ Assistance Coordinator at (504) 861-6253