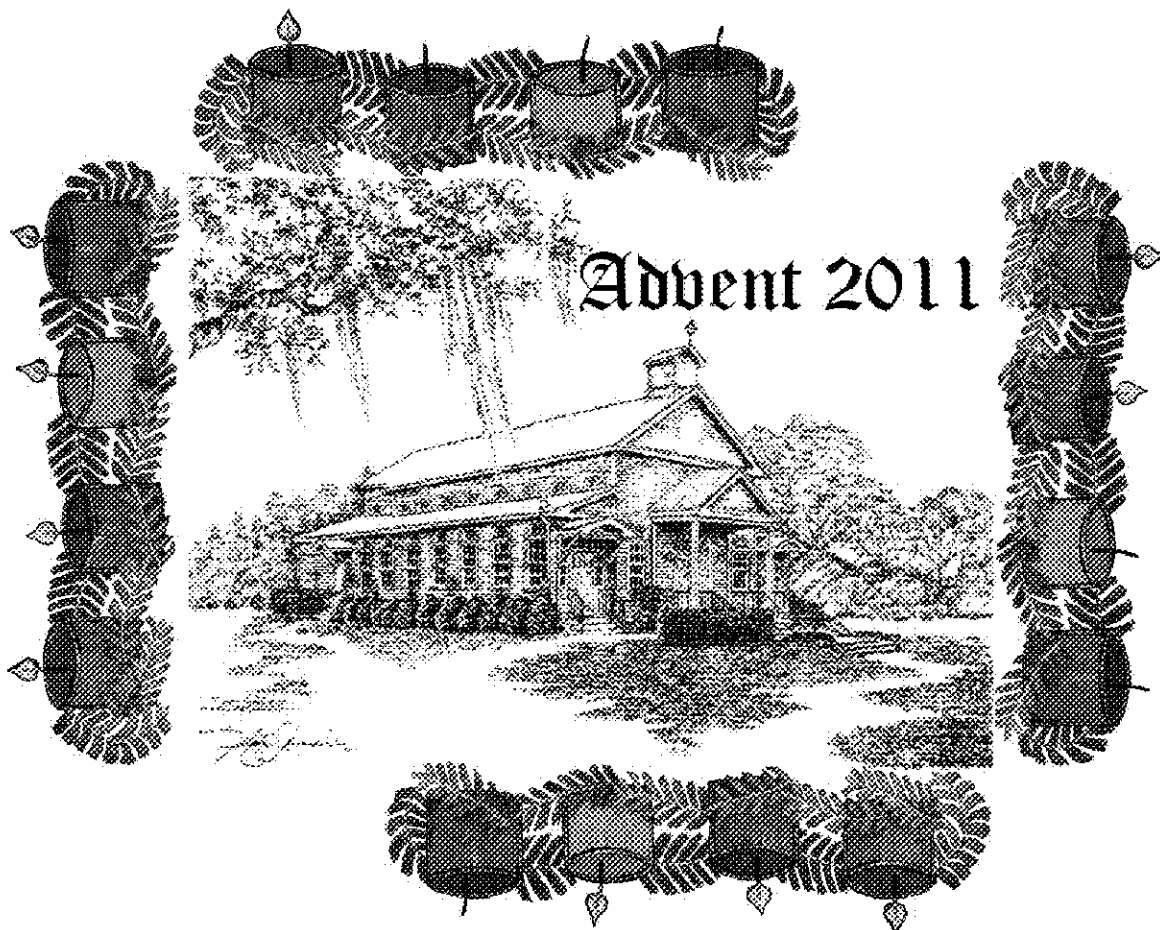


St. Patrick Catholic Church

December 18, 2011 - Fourth Sunday of Advent



Office Hours

Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm; Friday 8:30 am – 12 noon

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday: 4:00 pm – Sunday: 8:30 & 10:00 am

Monday through Friday: 7:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 – 3:30 pm and Weekdays: 7:15 am

Baptisms

Parents are encouraged to call the Church during pregnancy to avoid delays of the sacrament

Weddings

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance to allow time for preparation

406 East Pinhook Road
Lafayette, LA 70501-8727
Phone: (337) 237-0988 Fax: (337) 233-8868
www.stpat.org
Rev. M. Keith LaBove, Pastor

Welcome to St. Patrick Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2011

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 17-- Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM: Edna Parker; August Lancelos;
Maude Alma "Boots" Domingue Mouton

Sunday, December 18-- Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM: Sidney Begnaud Family & Bourdier Family; Elza Lavergne Family;
Rev. Msgr. Charles Mallet (living)

10:00 AM: Parishioners of St. Patrick's

Monday, December 19-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Bella Hernandez; Agnes Duplechain; Gussie Hernandez

Tuesday, December 20-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Eddy Knight

Wednesday, December 21--Late Advent Weekday

(Msgr. Charles Mallet)

7:30 AM: Dr. Tommy Comeaux & Dorinne; Col. Clark Comeaux & Catherine (living); Col. Kimberly Fedele (living)

Thursday, December 22-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Bernice & Mona Broussard;
Rachel Wickman (living)

Friday, December 23-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Steve Bernard; Sue Langlains;
Alice Ducote (living)

Non-Liturgical Devotions

Daily Rosary: Monday - Friday 6:55 a.m.

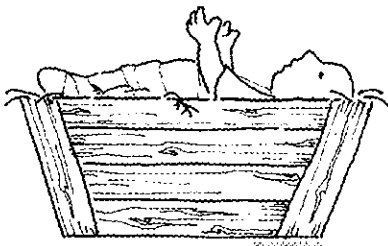
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Tuesday
7:15 a.m.

Rosary for Priests: Wednesday 7:00 a.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Thursday 7:15 a.m.

Pro-Life Rosary: First Friday of the month 7:00
a.m.

Shamrocks—Wednesday, December 21: Gloria Boudreaux; Maggie Sonnier; Stephannie Bacque; Josette Delahoussaye



*The child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God.*

Luke 1:35

Christmas Project Heifer International Gift of a Sheep: \$120— Share of a Sheep: \$10

Sheep provide families with high-quality wool they can weave into clothes or sell for income. And the impact of your giving will be multiplied with each newborn lamb as families Pass on the Gift to other families in need. Plus, their milk is wonderfully rich and nutritious. Just three reasons why your gift of a sheep from Heifer International will make such a meaningful addition to your holiday gift giving this year.

As part of a special project with young people in Brazil, Jose Roberto da Silva received two sheep along with chickens from Heifer International supporters. Both sheep have already had lambs! This sheep project has taught Jose that with hard work he can improve his life. From raising sheep and chickens, Jose saved enough money to buy his own horse. That means he can also earn income by helping his neighbors herd their cattle.

Make checks payable to St. Patrick Church. All donations will be sent to Heifer International at the beginning of the year. Heifer International meets the BBB Wise Giving Alliance's Standards for Charity Accountability. For additional information please visit their website: <http://www.heifer.org/>



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24: 4 & 6 p.m.
Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25: 8:30 a.m. and
10:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve, Saturday, Dec. 31: 4:00 p.m.
New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1: 8:30 and
10:00 a.m.

2011 Parish Advent Missions-Central Region
St. Edmond Catholic Church, 4131 West Congress Street, Lafayette. Advent Bible Study on the Sunday Readings followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Four **Tuesdays: November 29, December 6, 13 & 20**; 6:00—8:00 p.m., in Church. Presenter: Deacon Frank Cormier, Deacon, St. Edmond Catholic Church, Lafayette. For more information, please call the Parish Office 337-981-0874

Is God Calling Me?

Young men and women, college and high school age, are invited to attend a Day of Recollection on **December 21** from 9am to 3pm. The day will address questions about various forms of consecrated life in the Church as well as give helps in discernment. There is no fee for the day and no registration necessary. Participants are asked to bring a brown bag lunch. The day will be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Retreat Center, 420 N. Main St., St. Martinville. For more information call Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC at (337) 394-6550 or e-mail him at frchampagne@yahoo.com

Young Adult Gathering

All young adults (ages 18-40, married or single) are invited to attend the Well! The Well is held every fourth Tuesday of the month at Sts. Peter & Paul in Scott, LA, and includes Praise and Worship, Adoration, and a Guest Speaker (7-8:30p.m.). For more information contact the well.lafayette@gmail.com

In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" — "I am the handmade of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." — that the promise finds fulfillment.

Thank You

Our Christmas Social, last Sunday, was a success thanks to the cooperation of many parishioners. A special thank you to all who came in Saturday morning to set up and decorate the Parish Hall and transformed it into a beautiful Christmas Dining area. The food was delicious as always and all in attendance had a good time visiting. We are grateful for your presence at this joyful yearly event.

Lessons and Carols

St. Leo Catholic Church (300 W. Alexander St., Lafayette) will once more present their annual Lessons and Carols on Sunday evening, **December 18**, at 6:00 p.m.

Annual Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball Game will be **Wednesday, December 28**, at the gym on the campus of Opelousas Catholic. The game starts at 6:30. Come support vocations to the priesthood and enjoy this entertaining evening as the seminarians seek to defend their title against our local priests.

Circle of Friends

Single adults in Acadiana, ages 30 and up, can find a venue of fellowship and speakers every Tuesday, except the third Tuesday of the month, at 7 p.m. Supper Club provides a monthly social at a local restaurant on the 3rd. Tuesday of every month. For more information or about the meetings or to be added to added to the email list, please call the Office of Marriage and Family Life at 261-5653 or www.catholiclifefellowshipnetwork.webs.com

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PAST WEEK

Our Response to God's Generosity to Us

Offertory.....\$4,817.72
Immac. Conception\$ 346.00 (needy)
Heifer International.....\$1,670.00 (total)

Thank You!



Liturgical Roles for December 2011

Date	Saturday, December 24 4 p.m. — 6 p.m.	Sunday, December 25 8:30 a.m.	Sunday, December 25 10:00 a.m.
Lectors	Janell Venable—Jessica Hamsher	Gerrie McGovern	Brenda Demette
Eucharistic Ministers	Susan Cain — Jerry Boudreaux M. Simon — Dee Boudreaux Ken Broussard — Peggy Spruill	Suzanne Lavergne Maggie Sonnier Patsy Robicheaux	Andre Arceneaux Jean Arceneaux Candis Thompson
Server	Harold Guilbeau — George Eaton Joy Borel	Glenn LaGrange	Harry Demette
Ushers	Joyce Stelly — Oren Spruill George Eaton	Rachelle Trahan Keith Toups	Jenny Feehan Lionel Jeanmard

Readings for the Week

- Monday Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
- Tuesday Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:4-18a; Lk 1:39-45
- Thursday 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
- Friday Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
- Saturday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
- Sunday Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]



From the Pastor's Desk

One of the changes that we have been experiencing in the newly translated Nicene Creed at Mass is the following: “and by the power of the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man”. In the previous version, we spoke of how “by the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man”. While both versions allow us to express our faith in the coming of Christ into the world, they do speak of two separate events.

When the angel visited Mary, he told her at the Annunciation "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son". First it was necessary that the power of the Holy Spirit overshadow her, in order that the Virgin might conceive. After the appropriate time, in Bethlehem as it turned out, she would give birth to that Son, conceived miraculously.

Of course both events are necessary for our salvation, and both are necessarily linked one to the other. At Christmas, it is the birth that we celebrate. It is the manger and the stable and the swaddling clothes, and the newborn held to the breast that are the images of Christmas. Christ becoming incarnate had happened in secret, deep within the woman chosen to be the mother of our savior.

So if in the Incarnation, the Word had already become flesh, what are we celebrating at Christmas? When we celebrate the birth of the savior, we rejoice that we can now see what God had already begun from the moment of Jesus' conception. The purpose of the Incarnation was not that the Christ remain hidden. Quite to the contrary, he took on our human form precisely so that he might be made manifest to the world. When the shepherds visit the stable, and the angels rejoice at the birth, and the wise men come with gifts to worship, they are responding to the incarnate Word of God being made known to the world.

Another way of putting this is that the light of the star shined down upon the Light of the World, illuminating the place from which God's saving love was shining ever so brightly.

Of course, this revelation was far from complete in the events at Bethlehem. Eventually, this child now grown would stand at the Jordan where John would identify him as the Lamb of God. Eventually, many would come to see him as the Christ. And on the cross and through the empty tomb, he would be revealed as the King of the universe and the conqueror of sin and death. And it all began when he was “incarnate of the Virgin Mary.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Fr. Keith