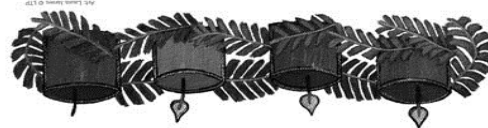
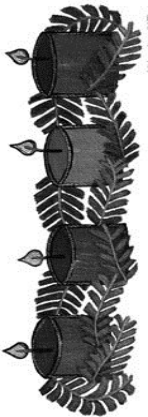
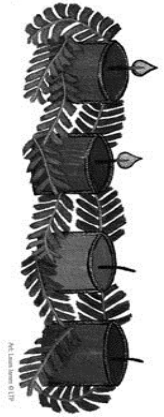
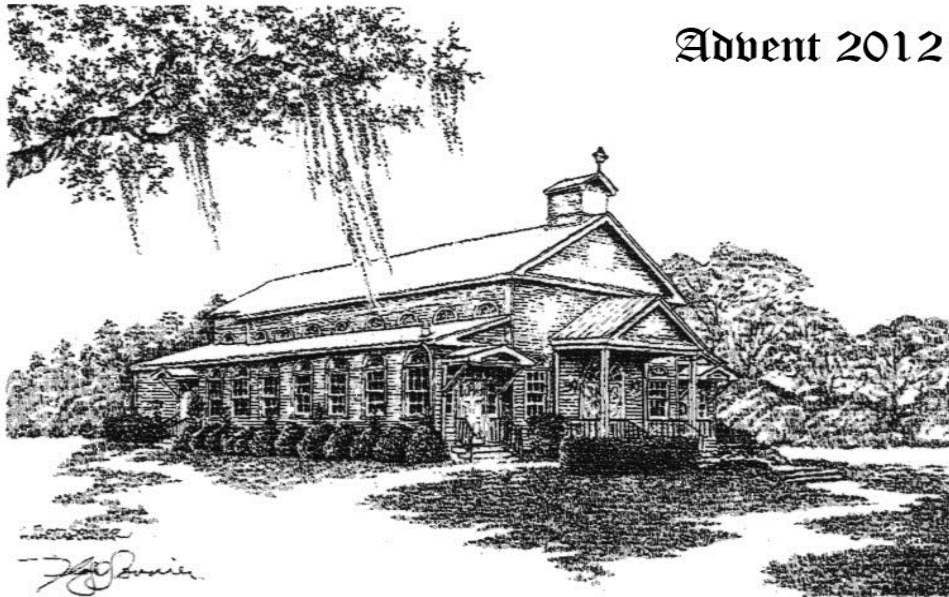


St. Patrick Catholic Church

December 16, 2012 - Third 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



YEAR OF FAITH 2012-2013

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



YEAR OF FAITH 2012-2013

Welcome to St. Patrick Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2012

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 15-- Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM: Edna & Melba Parker;
Mary Eve Alexander; John Van Fossen;
Julius Ducote; August & Mildred Lanclos;

Sunday, December 16-- Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM: Sick List
10:00 AM: Parishioners of St. Patrick's

Monday, December 17-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Paulette Thibodeaux

Tuesday, December 18-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Joyce Hadley; Beverly Borcharding;
Clifford Weilbaeher, Jr.

The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
— *Zephaniah 3:15b*

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—Friday, December 21: Donna
Guilbeau; Patsy Robicheaux; Gerrie McGovern;
Charlotte Privat

Wednesday, December 19-- Late Advent Weekday (Msgr. Charles Mallet)

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

Thursday, December 20-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Paulette Thibodeaux

Friday, December 21-- Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Dr. Charles Stewart

+++++



The Lord is near

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Youth Outreach

St. Patrick's is happy to be offering a youth program for the **four Sundays of Advent**. Beginning December 2nd "Pizza at St. Pat's" will be held from 4 to 5:30 on Sunday afternoons in the Parish Hall. All young people of our parish, ages 11 through 16, are invited to share in food, fun, and the Word of God! Also, we are still looking for adults 17 and older to become a part of our Youth Ministry team. If you love the Lord and want to help our young people to get to know Him, please call the office at 237-0988. We ask for the prayers of our entire parish.

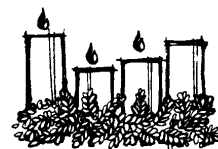


Next First Friday:

Jan. 4th, 2013

Topic:

Our Participation in the Liturgy



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Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Monday, Dec. 24: 4 & 6 p.m.
(NO 7:30 a.m. Mass on this Day)

Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25: 8:30 & 10 a.m.

New Year's Eve, Monday, Dec. 31: 4:00 p.m.
(NO 7:30 a.m. Mass on this Day)

New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1: 7:30 a.m.

Christmas Project Heifer International Llamas Last a Lifetime

Gift of a Llama: \$150 — Share of a Llama: \$20

Llamas are a unique gift that everyone is sure to love, because they will provide a struggling family with lifetime of opportunities. Heifer International provides llamas and their close cousins, alpacas, to families living at high altitudes in the Andes Mountains of South America where no other animals can withstand the harsh conditions. Their wool is prized around the world for being denser, warmer and softer than sheep wool—making it possible for the partner families to earn a steady living by either selling the wool or making clothes and blankets. So if you're still shopping for a gift that will be remembered for many years to come, we suggest a llama and training in its care. 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/>

2012 Parish Advent Mission—Central Region

St. Peter Catholic Church, 102 N. Church St., Carencro, LA 70520, "The Person of Christ", **December 17, 18, 19**, 6:30 p.m. in Church. Presenter: Rev. Michael Champagne, Community of Jesus Crucified. For more information, please call St. Peter Church Office, 337-896-9408.

Teurlings Catholic High School Dance, Raffle and Silent Auction

Saturday, February 2, 2013, 8:00 p.m.— 1:00 a.m., at Cajun Palms, Henderson, La. Tickets are \$100/couple and can be purchased from any T.A.S.C. representative or by contacting the TCH Athletic Office 337-235-5711 Ext. 110. To donate an item for the Silent Auction, contact: Ibeslin@tchs.net or anorwood@tchs.net

Annual Christmas Social

Remember our yearly Christmas Social, **this Sunday, December 16th., at 11 a.m.** at the Parish Hall. Bring your favorite dish; the meat and drinks will be provided.

The Light is On For You

In addition to our normal Saturday and weekday confession times, our parish and all the Catholic parishes of the Diocese will be open on **Advent Wednesdays** (Dec. 5, 12 & 19) **from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** for confessions. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Advent confession. The green brochure on the table near the church entrance has guidance on how to prepare for and go to confession.

Annual Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball Game will be played Tuesday, December 18th at the Opelousas Catholic Gym, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please come out for this fun-filled evening and cheer on the Runnin' Revs and Slammin' Sems.

Year of Faith Prayer Card

There is a second prayer card for the Year of Faith available on the back table. This card has The Angelus. The Angelus is a devotion that enables its users to commemorate the incarnation three times a day – at dawn, at noon, and at sunset. Originally it was prayed only in the evening, with the tolling of the "Ave Maria" bell. In the 13th century the dawn and noon bells were added. Our church bells ring the Angelus each day at 6, noon and at 6.

Rev. Joseph Brennan's Latest Book

In September 1995, local retired priest and author Rev. Joseph Brennan, gave a three-day retreat to Bl. Mother Teresa and her Sisters, in Calcutta. He has condensed those notes into his latest book, [A Retreat Into Prayer-Examining the Prayer of Nothingness with Mother Teresa and her Sisters](#), now available at Crossroads Catholic Bookstore, 4416 Johnston St., Lafayette.

Fire Fund

Our Lady Queen of Peace Fire Fund Art Auction is on line from **December 6-16th.**, with over 100 items available prices range from \$10 up: <http://bit.ly/QITyFA>

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PAST WEEK

Our Response to God's Generosity to Us

Offertory.....\$ 4,488.75

Imm. Conception (Needy)..\$ 353.00

Heifer International.....\$ 2,280.00 (total)

Thank You!

Liturgical Roles for December 2012

Date	Saturday, December 22 4:00 p.m.	Sunday, December 23 8:30 a.m.	Sunday, December 23 10:00 a.m.
Lectors	Angie Kovacs	Larry Lewis	Michael Doumit
Eucharistic Ministers	Candis Thompson Janelle Venable Peggy Spruill	Patsy Robicheaux Susan Cain Kay Hampton	Tami Petre Kenneth Broussard Madeline Simon
Server	George Eaton	Glenn LaGrange	Debra Carroll
Ushers	Oren Spruill	Anne Pitre	Lionel Jeanmard

Readings for the Week

Monday Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

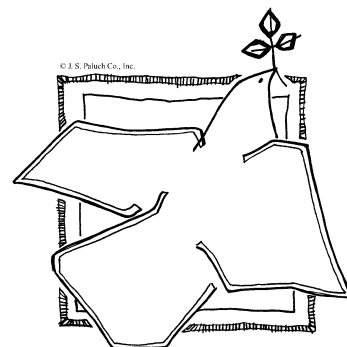
Wednesday Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25a; PS 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Friday Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Saturday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Sunday Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45



Rejoice in the Lord always

From the Pastor's Desk

This week I found myself surprised by an article written by David Gibson for the Religious News Service, where he points out something I hadn't even noticed was missing. Gibson is a respected religion writer, having recently penned a biography of the Pope. He writes:

“Indeed, that maternal bond between the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus has resonated so deeply across the centuries that depicting the blessed intimacy of the first Noel has become an integral part of the Christmas industry. Yet all the familiar scenes associated with the holy family today – creches and church pageants, postage stamps and holiday cards – are also missing an obvious element of the mother-child connection that modern Christians are apparently happy to do without: a breast-feeding infant.”

Gibson points out that images of Mary as a nursing mother were very common until after the 1500's, and that the oldest known image of Mary is a 3rd century fresco in a Roman catacomb showing the Blessed Virgin Mary nursing the child Jesus. I'm sure there will be those who are glad these images have disappeared, and others may question why I would even mention it here. But I do so for two reasons.

First, that there might be objections to the image of Mary holding the child Jesus to her breast is a clear sign to me of the warped understanding our culture has of sexuality in general. Exposed bosoms are perfectly acceptable in advertising and entertainment, but breast-feeding mothers are criticized for nursing their infants in public. There's something wrong with that picture.

Second, on a more theological note, the uniqueness of the Christmas event cannot be denied, since it is the Word of God that was made Flesh, and came to dwell among us. Mary's role in that signal event is unique and "special" does not begin to capture her place in salvation history. At the same time, there is also much about the Virgin Birth that is comfortingly "earthly". The stable floor was almost certainly made of dirt, one could get splinters from a manger, there were no disinfecting sanitary wipes anywhere in Bethlehem, and Jesus was certainly not a bottle baby.

The event we call the Incarnation, celebrated at Christmas, is an incredible encounter of the human and the divine. God has truly visited his people. To grasp the truth of that event, we must be attentive to both elements, the divine and the human. The shepherds went to see the King of the Universe, the Savior of the world, and they found Him -- nursing at his mother's breast.

Fr. Keith