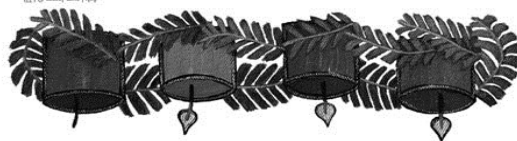
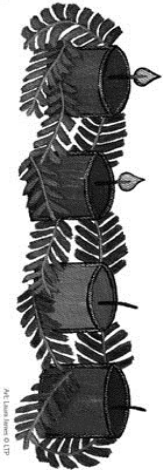
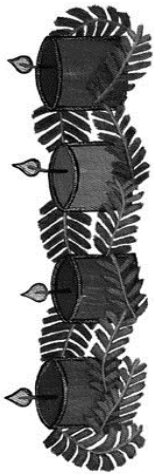
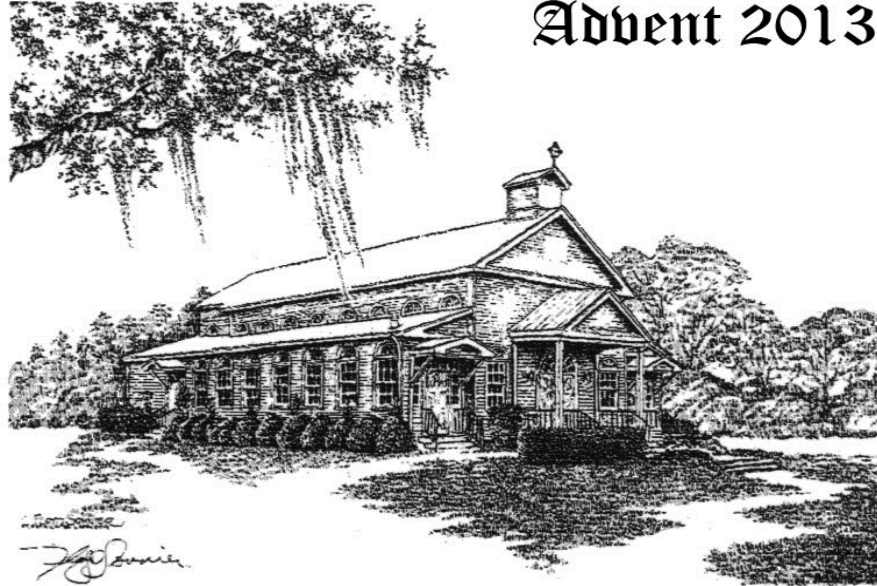


St. Patrick Catholic Church

December 1, 2013 - First Sunday of Advent



Advent 2013



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
Rev. M. Keith LaBove, Pastor
Parish Website: www.stpat.org

Welcome to St. Patrick Church

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2013

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 30--Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM: Janell Thomas; Mike Guilbeau; Hebert & Benoit Families

Sunday, December 1-- First Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM: Doris Becker Petre; John R. Boyle; Junius & Cecelia Ledet; Alexander & Cecelia Benjamin Family

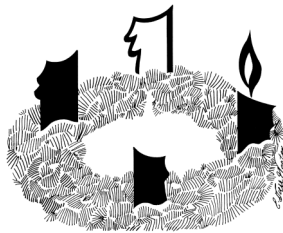
10:00 AM: Parishioners of St. Patrick's

Monday, December 2-- Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Janell Thomas

Tuesday, December 3-- St. Francis Xavier, Priest

7:30 AM: Sick of the Parish



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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 a.m.

Shamrocks—Friday, December 6: No cleaning.

Save the Date

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our parish Christmas Party on **Sunday, December 15th**, after the 10 a.m. Mass.

Wednesday, December 4--St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Msgr. Charles Mallet)

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

Thursday, December 5-- Advent Weekday

7:30 AM: Leanna Babineaux

Friday, December 6-- St. Nicholas, Bishop

7:30 AM: Dr. Charles Stewart

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Advent Wreath

Today is the first day of Advent. Over the years, a popular practice has developed of naming each candle on the wreath. The first candle (which is lit today) is called the *prophets candle* and symbolizes hope. "Prophet" refers to Isaiah who foresaw the coming of the Messiah.

Pizza at St. Pat's

Our Youth Team will hold its next Pizza at St. Pat's this **Sunday, December 1st**, from 4:00—5:30 p.m. at the Parish Hall. Young people 10 to 16 are invited to attend an afternoon of fun, food and faith-building.

Holy Hour for Vocations

Please join us for our monthly "Holy Hour for Vocations and the Spiritual Renewal of All Priests" on **Monday, December 2**, from 6:00—7:00 p.m., at St. Patrick Church. Recitation of the Rosary begins at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend and pray for vocations and perseverance of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, sponsored by the Serra Club of Lafayette.

The Light is on for You

On all the Wednesdays of Advent from **6:30-8:00 p.m.**, St. Patrick and all the parishes of the Diocese of Lafayette will be open for individual confession. Please make plans to come on **Advent Wednesdays (Dec. 4, 11, & 18)** and spread the word of this special outreach of mercy to those you know.

Immaculate Conception

This year December 8th falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, so the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9th. Because the solemnity is transferred from Dec. 8 to Dec. 9, it is NOT a holy day of obligation. We will celebrate the liturgy of the Immaculate Conception at our regular 7:30 a.m. Mass on Monday, December 9th.

2013 Parish Advent Missions—Central Region

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 818 12th. St., Lafayette, LA 70501. “Faith That Conquers ANYTHING!, **December 2, 3 & 4** — 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Church (Musical Prelude at 6:45 p.m.). Presenter: Rev. Maurice J. Nutt, C..Ss. R., D.Min. For more information, please call the Church Office (235-4618) or visit ihmchurchlafayette.com

St. Genevieve Catholic Church, 417 East Simcoe St., Lafayette, LA 70501. “Evenings with St. Louis de Montfort” (“Love of Eternal Wisdom”; “Secret of Mary”; “Friends of the Cross”; “True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin”), **December 2, 3, 4 & 5** — 6:00 p.m. Rosary; 6:30 p.m. Mission Talks begin in Church. Presenter: Deacon Coy Miller, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Milton. For more information, please contact Janell Durio (234-5147 or jdurio@stgens.net)

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 145 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Lafayette, LA 70501. “The Biblical Basis of Our Catholic Faith”, **December 3 and December 10** — 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Church. Presenter: Rev. Mario Romero, Associate Pastor Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Scott. Please bring your Bibles and friends. For additional information, please call the Church office (233-1591).

St. Bernard Catholic Church, 204 N. Main Street, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517. “Parish Advent Mission”, **December 16-17** — 7:00—8:15 p.m. in Church. Presenter: Rev. Mark Thibodeaux, S. J. For more information, please call Nadine Cain (332-1237)

“You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

— *Matthew 24:44*



Make this a Meaningful Holiday—Heifer Project

Instead of material gifts, choose gifts that help struggling families lift themselves out of poverty. By giving families in need a hand-up, not just a hand-out, they can be empowered to turn a life of hunger and poverty into one of self-reliance and independence. With the gifts of livestock and training, families are helped to improve their nutrition and generate income in sustainable ways. In exchange for receiving their animal and training in its care, each family agrees to give one of its animal’s offspring to another family in need. It’s called Passing on the Gift and it means the gift you make this Christmas Season to Heifer International will actually multiply many times with every new generation. Our church will be participating in this special endeavor as a **Christmas Project**. Donation sheets are available under the stairwell. 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/>

Food for the Journey

The Central Region of the Diocese of Lafayette presents “Food for the Journey”, a monthly lunchtime speaker series designed to help Catholics live out our faith in our daily lives. Our speaker for November, is Rev. Anselm Ofodum, Chaplain, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center. “Food for the Journey” will be held on **Tuesday, December 3**, at Hotel Acadiana, 1801 W. Pinhook Road, beginning at 12:00 noon. An optional lunch buffet is available beginning at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$12.00 and includes meal, drink dessert and tip. All are welcome to come “eat and be fed”- please bring a friend! Pre-registration is not required. For more information, please call Mary Bergeron (654-8682).

Seniors on the Move

You are invited to a day trip to St. Joseph Abbey, St. Ben’s Seminary and Rosaryville on **Wednesday, January 29, 2014**. The trip includes: tours of the Abbey and the Seminary College in the Covington, LA area; the St. Joseph Woodworks area; Mass at the Abbey Church; and the Rosaryville Spirit Life Center and facilities. **Deadline for registration is December 20**. For more information, please call Barbara Thibodeaux at 337-235-3240, or JoAnn LeJeune at 981-3379 ext. 241

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PAST WEEK

Our Response to God’s Generosity to Us
Offertory.....\$ 3,396.21
Typhoon Haiyan..... \$ 4,478.82

Liturgical Roles for December

Date	Saturday, December 7 4:00 p.m.	Sunday, December 8 8:30 a.m.	Sunday, December 8 10:00 a.m.
Lectors	Dana Guidry	Larry Lewis	Brenda DeMette
Eucharistic Ministers	Joy Borel Janell Venable Rosalind Allen	Patsy Robicheaux Marla Davis Sarah Hamsher	Michael Doumit Janeth Harrington Robin Roy
Altar Servers	George Eaton	Jacob Hamsher	Harry DeMette
Ushers	Oren Spruill Joyce Stelly	William & Stephanie Bacque	Jenny Feehan Joyce Stelly

Readings for the Week

Monday	Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a; PS 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1
Sunday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



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From the Pastor's Desk

How strange. We begin the Church liturgical year by praying that everything in the world, as we know it, might come to an end. What kind of beginning is that?

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!” “Maranatha — Come, Lord Jesus.” “Come Divine Messiah.” These are the central prayers of Advent. As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, they certainly speak to our sharing in the anticipation of Mother Mary in the final months of her pregnancy, as she prepared to give birth. They also echo the longing of John the Baptist standing knee-deep in the Jordan, baptizing in preparation for the coming of a Messiah. But these prayers also cry out for that “Second Coming” that the Scriptures call ‘parousia’, when the Savior born at Bethlehem will return in glory and power, for judgment and redemption.

What will that second coming really look like, and when will it happen? Well, that we really don’t know — no one does. But we can be sure that the glory of God will be fully revealed in Christ Jesus. The King of the Universe whom we celebrated last weekend will reign in power and splendor. The love of God will triumph over all. And everything in the world, as we know it, will come to an end.

We speak all the time about how our lives on this earth are gift, and they are. We recall the goodness of all creation, as flawed and broken as it might be. Even in the face of evil, we learn that this world is truly a place of encounter with the Living God. Why would we long for an end to all that?

Well, if the ending is like most endings, it will be difficult. Most endings are some sort of destruction. The thing, whatever it may be, simply stops. It is swept away, or it is shattered into pieces. Memories might remain but that is all. In this world of ours, most things exist for a time, and then they are gone.

But Advent invites us to long for a different kind of ending, that we might call “redemption” rather than destruction. It is an ending that flows from the creative power of God. As a matter of fact, this redemption is the fulfillment of creation, as God brings to completion all that he has made.

Yes, the Second Coming of Christ will transform the world as we know it. But the emphasis is on ‘as we know it’. It will be transformed into what it was meant to be from the beginning. All shortcomings, all inadequacies, all imperfections will be swept up by God, and brought to full and final completion. All will be as it should be. This is true of the world, true of creation and true of us.

That return of Christ at the end of time will redeem us, fully and completely. We shall be purged, cleansed, and redeemed, in order to enter fully into the presence of the Living God. That is worth waiting for.

M. Keith