

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 6:30 a.m.**

*Weekday*

*1 Sm 15:16-23 / Mk 2:18-22*

Calvin LeLeux

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 6:30 a.m.**

*St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr*

*1 Sm 16:1-13 / Mk 2:23-28*

Calvin LeLeux, Whalen & Pat Kiffe

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 6:30 a.m.**

*Weekday*

*1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 / Mk 3:1-6*

Calvin LeLeux

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 6:30 a.m.**

*Weekday*

*1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 / Mk 3:7-12*

Calvin LeLeux, AML

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 12:10 p.m.**

*St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

*1 Sm 24:3-21 / Mk 3:13-19*

Beulah & Oscar Borel, Calvin LeLeux

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Is 8:23—9:3 / Mt 4:12-23*

**4:00 p.m.** M/M Joseph P. Russo fly. (L&D), M/M Ivan Carline fly. (L&D), M/M George Fabre, Dana G. Robin, Lee Nini, Sr. fly. (L&D), Miles Liner fly. (L&D), Cody Cousins, Gary Melancon, Calvin LeLeux, Anise & Richard Goodroe, Michelle Denning

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

**7:00 a.m.** Calvin LeLeux

**10:00 a.m.** M/M E.J. Lemoine fly. (L&D), Willie Bradberry fly. (L&D), John Menard, Onesime Richard

**6:30 p.m.** Louis & Zelda Fromenthal

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Offertory \$4116.00

**Quelques paroles de Monsieur le Cure**

I was having lunch with an old friend recently. As we were looking through the menu, I made a casual remark about Lent not having begun yet as I made a selection. To my surprise, he said he begins Lent on January 1 and proceeded to describe his Lenten penance.

I immediately recalled that in the former Liturgical year, the three Sundays before Ash Wednesday formed a pre-Lenten liturgical season, described as a period of transition from the joy of the Christmas Season to the rigors of the penitential season of Lent.

Although the Lenten season had not begun, the color of the vestments at Mass was penitential purple and the “Glory to God” and the alleluia were omitted, just as in the Lenten season.

This made me wonder if my friend was on to something.

In the present Liturgical year, there is no preparation for Lent. The beginning, Ash Wednesday, is an abrupt beginning. This is especially true in our own situation as people transition from the decadence of Mardi Gras to the somberness of Ash Wednesday.

Do we need a transition period to prepare for the Lenten season?

Part of that transition period could be to reflect upon the customary description of Lent as a time of prayer, fasting, and alms giving.

As we prepare for a season marked with more fervent prayer, this is an opportune moment as well to examine our own practice of prayer.

Do you pray?

That would be a good first question.

Although prayer is basically a lifting of the mind and heart to God, there are different experiences in which the mind and heart are lifted to God.

The Church has her official prayer, the Liturgy. This is prayer expressed through the texts and passages from Scripture chosen by proper authority. This is primarily the celebration of the sacraments.

The Mass is the most frequent experience of the Liturgy for most Catholics. So, to the point, do we pray the Mass?

It would be prudent not to be too quick to answer in the affirmative. There is a substantial amount of evidence suggesting that all too many do not pray the Mass.

And what is that evidence?

To be continued ...

(Msgr.) Courville

**New Announcements**

**National Holiday:** Monday, January 20, is a national holiday, Martin Luther King Day. The parish office will be closed.

**Confirmation:** The Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman, Bishop of Biloxi, will administer the sacrament of confirmation here on Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. on January 25, 2020.

**First Communion:** The date for First Communion has been changed to May 3, 2020. This will be during the 10 a.m. Mass. The practice will be on Saturday, May 2, at 10 a.m.

**Special Collection:** There will be a special collection next weekend for the Church in Latin America.

**Word of God Sunday:** The Community of Jesus Crucified and St. Martin of Tours parish are sponsoring a public reading of the New Testament in observance of Word of God Sunday beginning on Saturday, January 25, at 6 p.m. and ending Sunday, January 26, at 4:30 p.m. For more information or to volunteer as a reader, telephone 337 394-6550 or go to fetedieuduteche@gmail.com

**Jubilee of the Word:** The Community of Jesus Crucified is sponsoring a public reading of the Bible at Holy Ghost Church, 747 N. Union Street, Opelousas, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 26, at 12:30 p. m. and ending on the First Sunday of Lent, March 1, at 4:30 p.m. For more information or to volunteer as a reader, telephone Holy Ghost rectory at 337 942-2732 or go to fetedieuduteche@gmail.com

**Repeat Announcements**

**Prayer Partners for Confirmation Candidates:** The last date that messages will be shared is the Confirmation Ceremony on January 25. Kindly remember, there are to be only messages of prayerful support, no gifts.

**Pray for the following priest each day:** Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

- January 20, Rev. Msgr. Ronald Broussard
- January 21, Rev. Theodore Broussard
- January 22, Rev. Keenan Brown
- January 23, Rev. Wilbur “Sonny” Brown
- January 24, Rev. Floyd Calais
- January 25, Rev. John J. Callahan, SJ
- January 26, Rev. Christopher Cambre

Please pray for the sick of our parish: Diane Bergeron, Reggie Sampedey, Floyd & Linda Robicheaux, Roxanne Colbert, Michael Keller, Wendell Chauvin, Paul Bower, Deborah Hernandez, Johnny Thomas, Braxton Burch, IJL, Brevon & Brinlee Colbert, John Czajka, MIL, Shawn McClelland, Jennifer Landry, Harold Adams, Jr., Karen Moore, David Berg, John Keenze, Sr., Thomas LeBlanc, Diane Bates, Travis Blanco, A. Doiron, Marcelle Campbell, Ana Rogers, BHL, Mable LaCoste, Gwen Tillman, Engelle Borden, Bridget Thibodeaux, David Gilmore, Jane Webster, Ian Davis, Boyd Landry, Wyanette Monceaux, CJL, Marlene Cole, Brenda Dooley, Lee Nini, Jr., Marilyn Simmons, Michelle Billiot Landry, Ginger Berryhill, Jeana Francis, Jake Billiot, Steve Thorguson, Teresa Allbriton, Shirley Gilfour, BGL, Archer Rogers, Laurie Hale, Susan Cantrell, Linda DeHart, Glenn Eues, Aedan Jones, Sawyer Allums, Dana Hart, Marie Dupre, Hunter Chaisson, Cohen Callas, Debbie Zorn, Eddie Hamlett, Richard Clark, Chad Arnaud, Mary Jack Geoffrey, Peter Scaramella, Janet Lee Slaughter, Jonathan Wainwright, Eddie Bradberry, Terence Donnelly, Nate Furlette, Ryan Bowman, Joel Norton, Brendan Kidder, Laura Magee Larive, Pearl Lyons, Erin & Simon, Oscar “Sonny” Landry, Jerry Barrilleaux, Lonnie Michel, Mary Etta Race, Dr. Geoffrey Fleming, Shelby Baldree, David Peveto, Wesley Burnham, Pete Marcell, Mac Percle, Lois Theriot, Leslie Hardaway

DATE / TIME	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	ROSARY
January 25, 4:00 p.m.	<i>Confirmation</i>		3:30 p.m. Mary Catherine Gray
January 26, 7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Sandra Watson Laura Dozar Chuck Boudreaux	Briant Dozar Michelle Boudreaux	