

**MASS INTENTIONS  
FOR THE MONTH**

- 1st wk. \* Choir & Ushers
- 2nd wk. \* Knights of Peter Claver & Ladies of Auxiliary
- 3rd wk. \* Extra-Ordinary Ministry of Communion & Lectors
- 4th wk. \* Youth
- 5th wk. \* ALL Parishioners

**WEEKLY MASS**

**Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018 9:00 am Mass**  
**Christmas Eve, Mon. Dec. 24, 10:30 pm**  
**Merry Christmas Tues. Dec. 25, 9:00 am**

Wed. Dec. 26, 8:00 am  
**Mr. James Feathers**  
*requested by Brushelle Scott*

Thurs. Dec. 27, 8:00 am  
**Mrs. Elfa Feathers**  
*requested by Brushelle Scott*

Fri. Dec. 28, 8:00 am  
**Mr. Coley Wells**  
*requested by Brushelle Scott*

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018  
**Ms. Amelia Feathers**  
*requested by Brushelle Scott*

3:20 - 3:55 Reconciliation  
 4:00 p.m. Mass

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/your love ones, or any deceased person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).

**COORDINATORS OF  
MINISTRIES**

Meeting for ALL COORDINATORS will be held every 4th Thursday of each month

**Activities - Brushelle Scott**

**Bishop Faith Appeal - Shirley Ray**

**Bereavement Committee - Rose Bottley**

**Donut Sunday's - Freda Guillory\***  
 Donuts and coffee in the Education Building 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday of each month.

**Environmental - Ina Chavis**

**Extraordinary Minister of Communion - Dorothy Broussard**

**Finance - Janice Semien \***  
 finance meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of each month.

**Fund Raiser - Walter Davis**

**Hospitality/Ushers - Rose Davis**

**Lectors - Peggy Green**

**Life Center - Adam Jacobs**

**Plumbing - Joe Fontenot**

**Mission & Retreat - Cecilia Davis**

**Music Director - George Alexander \***  
 choir rehearsal are every Tuesday at 6:30 pm

**Pastoral Council - Richard Scott**  
 meetings held every 3rd Wednesday of each month.

**Religious Education - Sonja Popillion**

**Socials - Knights of Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary \* Parish Luncheon,**  
 the second Sunday of each month.

**Youth - Felicia Richard**

**Stewardship- Gary Mims**

**Attendance**

**Saturday: 39 Sunday: 51**

**Weekend Collection**

Mail In	\$ 20.00
Fr. / Mileage	\$ 790.25
Missals	\$ 30.00
Reme. Serv	\$ 200.00
Loose	\$ 89.98
Saturday	\$ 1,360.00
Sunday	\$ 1,051.00

**Total Deposit \$ 3,541.23**

**MINISTERS FOR THE  
WEEKEND HOSPITALITY**

Sat: Shirley Allison, Rose Davis  
 Phyllis Thibodeaux & Peggy Green

Sun: Rose Bottley, Peggy Green  
 Phyllis Thibodeaux, Fred Green

**ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:**

Saturday: **1st Rdr.:** Eva Platt  
**2nd Rdr.:** Brushelle Scott

Sunday: **1st Rdr.:** Tina Kindle  
**2nd Rdr.:** Gary Mims

**1st reader = responsorial & prayer of faithful**  
**2nd reader = greetings & announcements**

**ALTAR SERVER:**

Saturday: **Needed**  
 Sunday: **Needed**

**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**

Saturday Richard Scott &  
 Russell Bottley  
 Sunday: Cecilia Davis &  
 Dorothy Broussard

**December Birthday List**

Happy Birthday to:	
Draven Platt	1
Eva Platt	3
Sonja Popillion	4
Betty Odom	5
Courtney Chavis	6
Debra Henderson	11
Lawrence DeLarue	12
Jordan Richard	13
Shirley Cezar	14
Ashton Spearman	17
Zederick Cezar	19
Mary Crossley	21
Lucy Jones	22
Rosie Scott	23
Mary Rigsby	27
Brushelle Scott	28
Russell Bottley	29

**Happy Anniversary**

Andre & Lanier Robertson	8th
Richard & Brushelle Scott	8th
Herman & Mona Richard	10th

**Expenses for this Week:**

**Admin. Supplies <\$ 44.78>**  
**Security service <\$ 52.80**  
**Catholic Campaign for Human Development <\$ 138.05>**

**St. Therese Catholic Church**

*Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000*

1409 6th Street 77630  
 Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783  
 Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Fax: (409) 883-4918  
 Website: stthereseorangetx.org



**Pastoral Team:**

**Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
 Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958  
 Rectory: (409) 238-5213  
 Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743  
 Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

**Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday**  
 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



**The 4th Sunday of Advent**

**December 23, 2018**

**“Blessed are you among women, and  
blessed is the fruit of your womb”**

**Eucharistic Celebration**

**Weekends:**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. & Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

**Weekdays:**

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

**Exposition & Adoration of  
the Blessed Sacrament**

Every Friday: 6 p.m.

**Adoration & Benediction**

1st Friday each month 5p.m.-6p.m.

**Infant Baptism:**

Please contact the pastor two  
 (2) months in advance

**Marriage:**

Please call Rectory six (6) months  
 prior to proposed date

**SECRETARY**

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Richard Scott, Chairman	779-7587
Rose Davis, Vice Chairman	883-0762
Steven Allison, Secretary	313-0586
Cecilia Davis	920-1136
Rose Bottley	886-1525
Charlis D. Rogers	988-8719
Adam Jacobs	883-9688
Albert Hebert III	746-2627

**MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS**

Joe Ware 886-5331

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Janice Semien	883-7126
Robert Gobert	(504) 232-5640
Sheila Arnold	313-2062
Andre' Robertson	882-0012
Tina Kindle	238-4447

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sun. Dec. 23 - Mi 5:1-4a Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:38 Lk 1:39-45**

**Mon. Dec. 24 - 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Lk 1:67-79**

**Tues. Dec. 25 - Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6. Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18**

**Wed. Dec. 26 - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Ps 118:26a, 27a Mt 10:17-22**

**Thurs. Dec. 27 - 1 Jn 1:1-4 pS 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a and 2-8**

**Fri. Dec. 28 - 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 pS 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18**

**Sat. Dec. 29 - 1 Jn 2:3-11 pS 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:32 Lk 2:22-35**

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## God's Crooked Lines

An old saying reminds us that God writes straight with crooked lines. We are caught off-guard and surprised when the most unexpected places and people are the locus of God's presence. The anxious planners and manipulators are disconcerted when they find that what they thought were the straightest lines were not the best lines. The high and mighty are threatened. Those who see are amazed and grateful.

**FIRST READING: Micah 5:1-4a    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10    GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45**

## Comment

Micah was a rustic, peasant prophet. His undistinguished background and his passion for social justice made him a soul mate of his contemporary, Amos. We are grateful to Micah for lyric, memorable words that tell us that the Lord asks us "only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

Today's first reading sets before us Micah's surprising prophecy of the coming Messiah. In the name of a tender God, Micah addresses insignificant and marginal Bethlehem. This backwater five miles south of mighty Jerusalem is the town beloved from of old. Bethlehem, the "house of bread," is the ancient city of the great king, David. Here is where the ruler will appear, the one who will shepherd his people by the strength of the Lord.

Furthermore, the people themselves will remain strong and unmoved. Now, this is saying a lot at a time when vulnerable people in a little town lived under the constant threat of war. But Micah says this nonetheless. And what is more, he adds, the greatness of this ruler will stretch to the very ends of this earth. This ruler will *be* peace; he won't just bring peace, though that, too. This, says Micah, is God's will for us.

And, as if *that* were not enough, we are treated to the Gospel that chronicles the truth of Micah's vision. One day, a young woman expecting a child travels into the hill country to offer her services to an older expectant woman, her cousin Elizabeth. And Elizabeth addresses Mary in the words we use to this day to honor her: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Luke 1:42).

## Reflection

Elizabeth asks how she can possibly be so blessed as to be part of such a great grace and privilege. If we read on in the Gospel of Luke, we see that Mary doesn't answer this question, because it is unanswerable. Rather, Mary joins in the song of praise. To her is attributed the prayer of praise we have come to know as the *Magnificat*. If we refer back to the first reading, we can imagine Bethlehem, that little town, also asking itself, "Who are we to receive the Son of Man?" Who indeed? Bethlehem, Elizabeth, Mary—all are the focus of God's attention and love. All are the tracings of God's lines.

And this is just the beginning. The very earth is the focus of God's attention. All people are invited to follow the will of God. "Will" is a hard word for us sometimes, for we frequently equate it with a kind of power that scares us. We tend to resist what we take to be the strong will of another. But the will of God is another matter entirely. This "will" of God is not God's pushiness or need to control the world and everyone in it. Rather God's will is God's desire, God's best wish for us. We see in the second reading that Jesus came to bring to fullness God's desire or "will." And this will, as we see in the first reading, is our peace and our joy.

It is no surprise that the responsorial psalm asks that our faces be turned to God and that we receive the salvation prophesied by Micah, anticipated by Elizabeth and Mary, and finally in the fullness of time, brought by Jesus, whose face most surely was turned toward his Father.

### \*\*\*ATTENTION EVERYONE\*\*\*

Feast of the Epiphany and Commemoration of the Birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at the 4:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, 4445 Avenue A, Beaumont, TX 77705. Msgr. Michael A. Jamail, Vicar General for the Diocese of Beaumont will be the Main Celebrant. Rev. Kevin Fausz, C.M. will be the Homilist.

### PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Mary Brown  
David Jayce Carey  
Courtney Chavis  
Florence Craig  
Therese Ferguson  
Hollis Fain  
Joe B. Forward  
Ella Mae Garrett  
Anna Garrick  
Mary Gray  
Beatrice Guillory  
Mark Mitchell Jr.  
James Mims  
Westley Popillion  
John Richard, Sr.  
Mormon Richard  
Alma C Thibodeaux



### PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux  
George Davis  
Mable Durio  
Alberta Fontenot  
Frances Freeman  
Debra Glaude  
Margaret Green  
Peggy Green  
Myrtle Guillory  
Calvin Johnson  
Stacy Johnson  
Rose Lee Johnson  
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones  
Leothus Jones  
John King  
Ruby Milton  
Bettye Odom  
Clayona Pillette  
Herman Richard  
Claudine Riggs  
Doris Robertson  
Robert Simmons  
Mark Thibodeaux  
Mary Ware  
Joe Ware

### \*\*\*Special Collection\*\*\*

On the weekend of January 12-13, 2019 there will be a second collection. The Special Collection monies are to provide relief for the victims of the severe wind and flood damage inflicted by the recent Hurricane Michael in the State of Florida.

Please be generous, remembering the goodness of others to us in our hurricanes and floods these past 10 years. Thanks in advance

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day & New Years Eve and New Years Day Mass Schedule

**Dec. 24th** - Christmas Eve, Choir 10:30 pm, Mass at 11:00 pm.

**Dec. 25th** - Christmas Day, Mass at 9 am.

**Dec. 31st** - New Year's Eve, Choir 10:30 pm, Mass at 11:00 pm.

**Jan. 1, 2019** - New Year's Day, Mass at 9 am.

### Attention:

Every Thursday we clean the Church and we encourage those who will be available to please come. Everyone is encouraged to help keep our Church clean. please come and join in wiping clean the "Face of the Lord."

### \*\*\*Attention Everyone\*\*\*

Please pick up your offertory envelopes at the rear of the church. If you find an error with your envelopes, please inform the ushers or call the parish office

### \*\*\*Attention members and visitors\*\*\*

For those who have forgotten their offertory envelopes, or visiting the parish and want to leave a contribution, Please use the Welcome envelopes located inside the pews for your convenience.

To all our sick and homebound THANK YOU so much for your unwavering commitment and contributions to our parish. To better serve everyone Fr. Donatus is available to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. However, Fr. Donatus has reserved the Forth Friday of the month for the homebound.

### \*\*\*Attention Everyone\*\*\*



**Everyone is welcome to join us at St. Therese every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. for devotional prayers through our Parton Saint Therese.**

### NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list below (pause).

Please present them to our loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence and loving care. We make this prayerful petition in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**

### Bishop Faith Appeal Paid in full

As we deepen our commitment to the Gospel message, we come to understand that stewardship is a way of life which empowers us to share what we have. Thank you for your commitment as we look forward to the continued growth of our parish. If you have any questions or concerns about BFA please contact Shirley Ray or Fr. Donatus.