

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

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, Dec. 08, 2019 9:00 am Mass Mary Blackwell Griffith
 requested by Cindy Hampton
 Mon. Dec. 09, 8:00 a.m.
Tues. Dec. 10, 8:00 am & 5:30 p.m.
Louella Thomas Wiltz
 requested by Freda Guillory
 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 6:00 p.m. prayer through Patron St. Therese
 Wed. Dec. 11, 8:00 am
Clarence Thomas
 requested by Freda Guillory
 Thurs. Dec. 12, 8:00 am
Della Thomas
 requested by Freda Guillory
 Fri. Dec. 13, 8 am
Albert Thomas
 requested by Freda Guillory
 Saturday, Dec. 14,
Richard Guillory
 Requested by Freda Guillory
 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 or living person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
Sun. Dec. 08 - Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9
 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Mt 3:1-12
Mon. Dec. 09 - GN 3:9-15, 20
 PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 EPH 1:3-6, 11-12
 SEE LK 1:28 LK 1:26-38
Tues. Dec. 10 - Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-3, 10-13
 Mt 18:12-14
Wed. Dec. 11 - Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10
 Mt 11:28-30
Thurs. Dec. 12 - ZEC 2:14-17 or RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB JUDITH 13:18BCDE, 19 LK 1:26-38 or LK 1:39-47
Fri. Dec. 13 - Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-4, 6
 Mt 11:16-19
Sat. Dec. 14 - Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac,3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

COORDINATORS OF MINISTRIES
 Meeting for ALL COORDINATORS will be held every 4th Thursday of each month
Activities - Brushelle Scott
BINGO - Evangeline Platt
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 - Horace Broussard
Lectors - Peggy Green
Life Center - Adam Jacobs
Plumbing - Joe Fontenot
Mission & Retreat - Cecilia Davis
Music Director - George Alexander
 choir rehearsals are held every Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Pastoral Council - Richard Scott
 meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of each month.
Religious Education - Sonja Popillion
Socials - Brushelle Scott
Youth - Felicia Richard
Stewardship - Gary Mims

Attendance last Weekend
Saturday: 30 Sunday: 47
Last Weekend Collection
 Mail In \$ 110.00
 Loose \$ 55.00
 Saturday \$ 175.00
 Sunday \$ 720.00
Total Deposit \$ 1,060.00
Expenses:

December Birthday List
 Happy Birthday to::
 Draven Platt 1
 Eva Platt 3
 Sonja Popillion 4
 Betty Odum 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 28
 Brushelle Scott 28
 Russell Bottley 29

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

MINISTERS SERVING NEXT WEEKEND
HOSPITALITY
 Sat: Rose Davis & Richard Scott
 Sun: H. Broussard, E. Taylor, P. Green & C. Ambers

LECTORS:
 Sat: **1st Rdr.:** Richelle Roberts
2nd Rdr.: Veronica Warren
 Sun: **1st Rdr.:** Freda Guillory
2nd Rdr.: Tina Kindle

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

ALTAR SERVER:
 Saturday: **Needed**
 Sunday: **Needed**

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:
 Saturday: Freda Guillory & Dorothy Broussard
 Sunday: Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

St. Therese Catholic Church
 Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000

1409 6th Street 77630 Phone: (409) 883-3783 Fax: (409) 883-4918
 Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 Website: stthereseorangetx.org

Pastoral Team:
Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP
 Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com
 Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958
 Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743
 Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours
 Tuesday thru Friday
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.




The 2nd Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2019

“Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at Hand!”

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 Tuesday: 5:30 p.m.

Adoration & Benediction
 1st Tuesday each month 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Future

To some extent the future is now. Our present acts and attitudes create our future. But we know that we come up short here. Our grasp is not wide enough; our understanding is too paltry. We can fiddle with probabilities and make projections from past experience. We can consult the computer printouts or the Farmer's Almanac, but we can't see very far. We have to tend to our present and think rationally about the future, but a greater truth guides us and tempers our plans. Our faith shows us that our future is in God's hands. There are surprises and wonders in store for us. Often we say to ourselves and others, "Well, who would've thunk it?"

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10 RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-9 GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Comment

One would be hard-pressed to identify another Gospel character as intensely focused as John the Baptizer. He shines clear as a laser beam. There is no doubt about his life's work. He is to announce the coming Messiah and to prepare the waiting world to receive him. Though John is absolutely clear on this mission sometimes his followers are not as clear.

It appears that a considerable portion of the world around Israel is coming to hear what John has to say. He flashes forth suddenly and without introduction in the desert area of Judea announcing a hard, direct message of repentance. Soon a steady stream of people from all around Judea presses close to see and hear and marvel. They wonder if this is not Elijah come again, for he certainly has the attire and diet of that great prophet.

Those who believe in John's message come forward to receive a baptism of repentance. However, John's blunt judgment of the Pharisees and Sadducees who are in this mass of humanity brings us up a little short. We should note that Matthew's Gospel is characteristically hard on the religious leaders of Israel. This Gospel holds them responsible for failing to recognize Jesus as the Messiah and, what is worse, for failing to prepare a largely uneducated and trusting population for the coming of a messiah. And so it is that the writer of Matthew's Gospel assigns John the difficult task of upbraiding the Pharisees and Sadducees for their failure.

For good measure, John adds that they can take no pride in their heritage as sons of Abraham. Salvation is God's great and surprising work. It begins here in the Jordan River and it simply never ends. And that, of course, is the great wonder. God offers salvation to people simply because they need it, not because they are children of Abraham or because they are learned or deserving. This great and good news will be brought by someone else mightier than John. This one is coming, and John knows he is not worthy to carry his sandals.

We see Jesus as the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, which constitutes the first reading this Sunday. We identify Jesus as the one upon whom the Spirit rests, offering those gifts with which we are all familiar: wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength, knowledge and fear of the Lord. This reading has long been a source of inspiration in the Church's Advent prayer and song. The images of a peaceable kingdom have also found their way into the art that graces our Christmas cards yearly.

Reflection

The unity of opposites given in Isaiah seems more or less impossible. The lion and the ox; the wolf and the lamb; the child and the adder. These images are piled up with great exuberance. The author is eager to help us understand the wonders of God's salvation. The paradoxical images help disclose the great reality that with God the impossible is possible, that what we could never have hoped for has already happened. We know they are not to be taken literally, but the images invite us to reconsider what we once thought impossible. We can add a few of our own. The Berlin Wall will never fall; the Republic of South Africa will never be led by a native son or daughter; this or that fractured nation will never unite. This or that heart will never change. God will never visit the earth, not this earth, not now.

God's answer to all this nay-saying is a person. God's answer is Jesus Christ. Our hopes and fears are met in him.

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

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

Attention Everyone



Everyone is welcome to join us at St. Therese every Tuesday

5:30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6:00 pm Devotional prayers through our Parton Saint Therese.

6:20 pm Benediction

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jalen Adam Chambers
George Davis
Mable Durio
Margaret Green
Andrew Hayes
Ronald Hebert
Junior Henderson
Gail Jefferson
Stacy Johnson
Lucy Nell Mitchell
Ruby Milton
John T. Nelson
Clayona Pillette
John Richard, Sr.
Claudine Riggs
Janice Semien
Mary Ware
Joe Ware

Holiday Masses

Holiday schedule will go as follows, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2019, Christmas caroling will begin at 7 pm, Mass will begin at 8 pm, followed by the Parish Dinner. Christmas Day, December 25, 2019, Mass will begin at 9 am. New Years Eve, December 31, 2019 Christmas Caroling will begin at 7 pm, Mass will begin at 8 pm. New Year's Day, January 1, 2020, Mass will begin at 8 am.

Attention Counters

All Offertory Counters is asked to turn in your background questionnaire forms as required by the diocese. If you are having problems with your form or you have misplaced it, please inform the office so to resolve this matter. All background check is to begin before the coming year.

Bishop Faith Appeal

Goal : \$20,097 Paid: \$8,570.

As we deepen our commitment to the Gospel message, we come to understand that stewardship is a way of life when we act with love and justice. In Micah 6:8 we read: You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice and to love with goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.. Thank you for your contribution to BFA and your commitment to serving God' people, as we look forward to the continued growth of our parish. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Shirley Ray or Fr. Donatus.

Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of **Luke** in the Bible each day. There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate Christmas!

1st day; chapter 1, Announcement of the Birth of John
2nd day; chapter 2, The Birth of Jesus
3rd day; chapter 3, The Preaching of John the Baptist
4th day; chapter 4; The Temptation of Jesus
5th day; chapter 5, The Call of Simon the Fisherman
6th day; chapter 6, Debates About the Sabbath
7th day; chapter 7, The Healing of a Centurion's Slave
8th day; chapter 8, Galilean Women follow Jesus
9th day; chapter 9, The Mission of the Twelve
10th day; chapter 10, The Mission of the Seventy-two
11th day; chapter 11, The Lord's Prayer
12th day; chapter 12, The Leaven of the Pharisees
13th day; chapter 13, A Call to Repentance
14th day; chapter 14, Healing of the Man with Dropsy on the Sabbath
15th day; chapter 15, The Parable of the Lost Sheep
16th day; chapter 16, The Parable of the Dishonest Steward
17th day; chapter 17, Temptations to Sin
18th day; chapter 18, The Parable of the Persistent Widow
19th day; chapter 19, Zacchaeus the Tax Collector
20th day; chapter 20, The Authority of Jesus Questioned
21st day; chapter 21, The Poor Widow's Contribution
22nd day; chapter 22, The Conspiracy Against Jesus
23rd day; chapter 23, Jesus Before Pilate
24th day; chapter 24, The Resurrection of Jesus

BINGO Fundraiser

St. Therese is having our next Bingo Fundraiser Sunday, December 15, 2019, the doors open at 2pm and the games will begin at 3 pm. Everyone 18 years and older can participate and please invite your friends and relatives, come out and join the fun. There will be assorted snacks and drinks for a small fee. All proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to further our parish goals. We are asking all available persons who is willing to help with BINGO please talk to Mrs. Eve Platt.