

**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. 29, 2019 9:00 am Mass**  
**E'Retrious Domonic Gus**  
*requested by Cindy Hampton*

Mon. Dec. 30, 8:00 a.m.

**Tues. Dec. 31, 8:00 am & 8:00 p.m.**  
*New Year's Eve*

**Wed. Jan. 01, 2020 8:00 am**  
*New Year's Day*

Thurs. Jan. 02, 2020 8:00 am

Fri. Jan. 03, 2020 8 am

Saturday, Jan. 04, 2020

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).

**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

**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
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: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Davis  
 Sun: Dorothy Jacobs, Fred Green, Sonja Popillion & Earnette Mitchell

**LECTORS:**

Saturday: **1st Rdr.:** Gary Mims  
**2nd Rdr.:** Mona Richard  
 Sunday: **1st Rdr.:** Horace Broussard  
**2nd Rdr.:** Evangeline Platt

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

**ALTAR SERVER:**

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

**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**

Saturday Russell Bottley & Richard Scott  
 Sunday: Paul Thibodeaux & Dorothy Broussard

**Attendance last Weekend**  
**Saturday: 31 Sunday: 70**

**Last Weekend Collection**

Mail In	\$ 93.00
Fr. Mileage	\$ 812.00
Mass Stipends	\$ 5.00
Loose	\$ 51.00
Saturday	\$ 514.00
Sunday	\$ 1,031.00

**Total Deposit \$ 2,506**

**Expenses:**

**READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sun. Dec. 29 - SIR 3:2-6, 12-14**  
 PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5. COL 3:12-21 or COL 3:12-17 COL 3:15A, 16A MT 2:13-15, 19-23

**Mon. Dec. 30 - 1 JN 2:12-17 PS 96:7-8A, 8B-9, 10 LK 2:36-40**

**Tues. New Year's Eve Dec. 31 - 1 JN 2:18-21 PS 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 JN 1:14A, 12A JN 1:1-18**

**Wed. New Year's Day Jan. 01 - NM 6:22-27 PS 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 GAL 4:4-7 HEB 1:1-2 LK 2:16-21**

**Thurs. Jan. 02 - 1 JN 2:22-28 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 HEB 1:1-2 JN 1:19-28**

**Fri. Jan. 03 - 1 JN 2:29-3:6 S 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6 JN 1:14A, 12A JN 1:29-34**

**Sat. Jan. 04 - 1 JN 3:7-10 PS 98:1, 7-8, 9 HEB 1:1-2 JN 1:35-42**



**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

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.



**SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS - YEAR A**

**December 29, 2019**

**"THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH"**

**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

# SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS— THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

## Family

The concept of family is so strong, it gets called into service for every kind of human gathering. We speak of religious communities as families. We speak of the family of nations; the Christian family; the parish family. Whenever the word is used, we imagine an ideal. We imagine warmth and love and generosity. We all want this to be the story of our family of origin. We all want the families we found to be these centers of mutual love and responsibility. We all know what we want, what we long for, what we hope and pray to build. This is a good start.

**FIRST READING: Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12–21 [12–17]    GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13–15, 19–23**

## Comment

The first reading is an admonishment to children regarding respect for their parents. As a father, I'm particularly fond of the lines about being nice to the old man. The reading comes from the book of Sirach, which was penned about two hundred years prior to the birth of Christ. It is something of a how-to book for young men being groomed for leadership in Israel. Its instructions are far more than an ancient version of "Miss Manners." Instead, Sirach seeks to teach behaviors that manifest concern, self-giving, sincerity, responsibility, and generosity. These are habits or virtues of being; they are qualities of soul, without which all manners become phony and manipulative. As with all habits of mind and soul, they require day-to-day vigilance and upkeep.

The second reading continues this delineation of family virtues. However, Paul does not directly address families until the end of this reading. Rather, he concerns himself with the social virtues needed for a decent—even wonderful—human life outside and inside the walls of the family home. All that can be said of the social virtues of public life, can also be applied to the family.

In this letter, Paul addresses the church at Colossae. We expect churches to reflect the virtues he names: mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness, and the love that binds these together. Paul also urges that the practice of these virtues be buoyed up by the difficult work of admonishment and instruction. The life within the "family of the church" should also be marked by gratitude. And lastly, there ought to be a lot of singing. And it ought to be the real heartfelt, joyous kind.

Not a bad description of a responsible family, nor of a family-like community.

## Reflection

The advice so available and freely given in the first two readings is absent from the Gospel. Little is written about the family life of Jesus. Joseph speaks no word, asks no question, gives no sage advice. In the New Testament, he was identified by others as a carpenter and the father of Jesus. We do know from Matthew's Gospel that he was attentive to God's will for him. We know from Luke's Gospel that Mary also sought and followed God's will for her.

We can be certain that the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph was founded on love and expressed in a faithfulness that grew strong throughout the stress of days and nights in a small village, in small quarters, so near poverty, in a land occupied by a foreign army. This is not exactly an ideal setting for family life. We do not have to think very hard to imagine the difficulties that had to be faced and managed.

In today's Gospel, we see a small family in extraordinary distress. In that time, the man was legally the head of the household and bore the primary responsibility for caring for family members. His was the task of securing his family's safety. His was the choice to follow the will of God, expressed by the angel. We are reminded that Joseph is a man open to God's will and dependent on God's providence and protection.

The words of the Second Vatican Council, cited in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* are applicable, surprisingly, to us as well as to the Holy Family: "... in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith" (#1656).

The simple house of Jesus and Mary and Joseph was certainly a household of living, radiant faith. Today's Gospel story and all the others about their family life attest to this: Mary and Joseph begin their marriage faithful to God's will; they travel far into Egypt at the angel's direction; they go to the temple with their baby according to the current interpretation of the law of Moses; they make the long pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover, where they lose and then find the young Jesus. They are a faith-filled family. It shows in their actions when Jesus is in their care. And it shows when Jesus is a young man, who cared for his mother throughout his public ministry and in his dying moments.

## 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\*\*\*

Fr. Donatus will be leaving for vacation on January 1, 2020 and will return mid-February 2020, we will be praying for his safe return. In his absence Fr. Donatus has arranged for replacement Priests. Weekday Communion Service & Adoration will be Tuesday through Friday at 8 am with Deacon Melvin Payne. If you have any questions please ask now or call the parish office, Fr. will not be available until his return.

## \*\*\*Thank You\*\*\*

Dear Rev. Mgbeajuo,

We received a check for \$420.00 that was the result of the generosity of the people from St. Therese Parish in Orange, Texas.

We are most grateful to you and your parishioners for being part of this generous gift. Please relay our message of gratitude. It was a pleasure for Sister Julie Driscoll, SCN to share Sister of Charity of Nazareth stories with your parish family. Because of our partnership with your Parish, we can better assist those in need.

Know that St. Therese Community will be remembered as our staff gathers daily at 1:00 p.m. to pray for those who share so generously with those where we minister. Gratefully,

Sister Anne Magruder, SCN  
MCP Coordinator

## \*\*\*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

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

To the members of this parish, St. Therese now has **24-hour surveillance monitoring cameras and recording**, for the protection of our members and its employees. If there are any questions, please contact Fr. Donatus.

## 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 God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I have (pause for your petitions).

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.**

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jalen Adam Chambers  
Mable Durio  
Margaret Green  
Ronald Hebert  
Junior Henderson  
Gail Jefferson  
Stacy Johnson  
Lucy Nell Mitchell  
Ruby Milton  
John T. Nelson  
Clayona Pillette  
John Richard, Sr.  
Claudine Riggs

## Bishop Faith Appeal

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.