

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 December 20, 2020  
 The child to be born will be called holy,  
 the Son of God.  
 —Luke 1:35

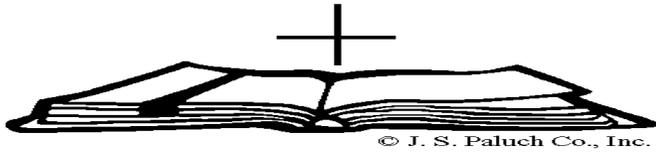
**THE ETERNAL GOD**

King David wished that the ark of God might have a more permanent home. David may have envisioned something like the cedar palace where he resided. God had in mind something more: a throne where David's descendants would rule for ever, a kingdom where Jews and Gentiles alike would be welcome.

Mary's prayerful nature led to an even more disturbing message. She would conceive and bear a Son though she was not yet married. "How can this come about?" Mary wondered. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you," she was told (Luke 1:35).

Mary's acceptance of this difficult challenge ushered in this, the final age of God's reign. What was once a secret known only by chosen people like King David and his descendants must now be made clear to all so that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, we can be brought to the "obedience of faith" "according to the command of the eternal God" (Romans 16:26).

**Mass Intentions**



- Sat. Dec. 19, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Nick Sita, Louis Perschall Sr., Fr. Michael Dobbins, Ana Isabel Moncaba, Ida Perschall, Cecilia Abdulai and for the living: Special Intention, Karge Family, Phil Blanchard, Patty Rubbicco, and R.J. Bourgeois
- Sun. Dec. 20, 7:30 a.m. Parishioners
- Sun., Dec. 20, 9:15 a.m. Carol Pieri
- Sun., Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m. Doris M. Letsch, Joseph Legnon, Ruthi Olson, Pete Morjal, Richard W. Letsch and for the living; Andrew Danenhower and David Sigur
- Mon., Dec. 21, 8:00 a.m. Angela Hebert
- Tues., Dec. 22, 8:00 a.m. NO MASS
- Wed., Dec. 23, 8:00 a.m. Lullabelle Doucet
- Thurs., Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. Athea Dussor, Annie Dussor, Carol Pieri, Nick Sita, Charles Porter, Giuseppe Pieri, Luigia and Ugo Pieri, Yvonne Morel, James "Mac" McLachlan IV, Connor Metz, Charles Porter and for the living; Fr. Vincent Phan
- Thurs., Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. Mary Jane and Bill Mehaffey
- Thurs., Dec. 24, 8:30 p.m. Josefina Martinez (L)
- Fri., Dec. 25, 10:00 a.m. Frank Minyard

**PRAYER LIST**

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Rosalind Baham    | RJ Bourgeois      |
| Fred Kopfler      | Louise Cashmere   |
| Kenneth Vicari    | Yolanda Bourgeois |
| Roy M. Piazza     | LeLe Kopfler      |
| Pam Strander      | Roxanne Troxclair |
| Debra Vandendorre | Walter Boroughs   |
| Jason Stein       | Matthew Carlin    |



Envelopes	\$ 1,814.00
Loose	\$ 2,368.00
Bldg. and Pres. Fund	\$ 373.00
E-giving	\$ 360.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Coll., Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 1,094.00

**Thank you to all for the continued contributions.** If you wish to give online, please go to:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>.

**THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:**

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Sanctuary:      | Ruthi Olson    |
| Blessed Mother: | Susan Beatmann |
| St. Joseph:     | Thomas Pitre   |
| St. Ann:        | Margo Smith    |

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7-day candle please call 796-3806.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS ARE IN HONOR OF**

***Homebound Parishioners***

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Nativity of the Lord – 10:00 a.m.

**All Christmas Masses are in Jonathan Hall**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD**

**Holy Day OF Obligation**

Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 a.m.  
 Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

**In Church**

## **POPE FRANCIS'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION**

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

## **PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS LET US PRAY,**

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power, and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help us. Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us.  
**AMEN**

## **CHRISTMAS MASS SIGN UPS**

Due to limited seating, this year, everyone will need to sign up for Christmas Masses. The remaining mass times available are 8:30 p.m. and Christmas Day, 10:00 a.m. All Masses will be in Jonathan Hall. We ask that you call the office to sign up.

## **A KC INVITATION**

Looking for ways to serve your neighbor – while enjoying the fraternity of the men of your parish, and experiencing opportunities for spiritual growth? If you are a Catholic man 18 years or older, consider joining the Knights of Columbus (Council 10176) here at St. John's. It's easy; start with online membership at [kofc.org/JoinUs](http://kofc.org/JoinUs). If you use the promo-code, MCGIVNEY2020, before the end of this year, you'll enjoy 12 months of free online membership! Questions? Please call our Membership Director, Bill Zimmermann, 985-796-1310.

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

The Altar Society is asking for donations to help with the cost of the Christmas poinsettias. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and may be placed in the box in the back of Church or in the collection containers on both of Jonathan Halls entrance tables.

## **CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE**

If you would like your loved ones remembered at all Masses during Christmas Season, please write their names in the book in the back of Church or the book on each one of Jonathan Halls entrance tables.

The office will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will reopen on Monday, December 28th.

The office will be closed on Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of the Solemnity of Mother of God. We will reopen the following Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST**

Beginning on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, January 10, 2021, the local Catholic Church has entered the Year of the Eucharist, a time of renewal, healing, and communion. This year is dedicated to helping all of us, clergy, religious, and laity, grow in our relationship with Christ.

We begin this important year on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord because baptism marks the beginning of our initiation into Jesus Christ, a lifelong journey toward union with Christ and one another. The Eucharist is communion with God. Christ nourishes us with his very Body and Blood so that we can be joined more closely to him and to all humanity.

Throughout this year, we will join with Catholics around the world to call upon the prayers and patronage of St. Joseph to help us more fully understand the meaning of the parts of the Mass, the theology of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and the obligation we have as Catholics to participate in Mass on Sunday.

As the universal church observes a special Year of St. Joseph as proclaimed by the Holy Father, we in the Archdiocese of New Orleans call upon St. Joseph's powerful intercession to bring us closer to Jesus in the Eucharist.

## **CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY DECEMBER 26TH AND 27TH**

Members of Knights of Columbus Council 10176 once again invite all parishioners, particularly our families with young children, to participate in the Consecration to the Holy Family which will take place on December 26th and the morning masses on Sunday, December 27th. At the end of each mass Father Vincent will lead the community prayer which seeks the intercession of the holy family on behalf of all families to follow their example of faith and devotion to the Father. We have literature available to all parishioners that will further explain the meaning of the ceremony including suggestions for other activities that may benefit you in your efforts to seek God's grace, as did Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, on behalf of our Families who have been under so much strain in 2020. You can pick up the flyers and prayer cards in the back of Jonathan Hall.

## **REMINDERS**

PSR Classes, Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30 a.m., Jonathan Hall and Office Classrooms

First Saturday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Weekly Wednesday Adoration, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

First Friday Adoration Benediction, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Men's Study Group in Odilo Hall, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus meeting, Thurs, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.

On Monday, December 21st at 9:00 a.m. in Odilo Hall, our Church history class will begin the study of our next time period on Weak Leaders and Schism. We will study the Avignon papacy and the Great Western Schism in which there were three claimants to the papacy. But in times of struggle, God raises up great saints like St. Catherine of Siena.

*Merry Christmas*