

December 6, 2020

FOCUS:

During this holy season, may we grow in devotion so as to prepare the way of the Lord in our homes and our hearts.

John the Baptist is the last prophet before the coming of the Christ, and he is the first to recognize Jesus once he came. John fulfills Isaiah's prophecy as that voice crying out in the desert – *prepare the way of the Lord*. His clothing of camel's hair was traditional garb for prophets, and his diet of *locusts and wild honey* perhaps reflected either Jewish purity laws or a particular communal asceticism. As it was, it stood in stark contrast to the finery of the Jewish religious leaders and elders of that time, namely the Sadducees and Pharisees.

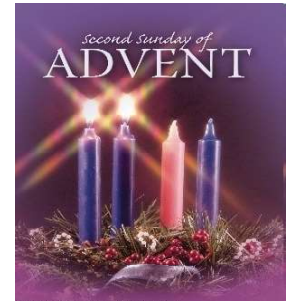
Yet John was drawing large crowds to the Jordan riverbank. Some likely came out of desire, believing he would lead them to the Messiah. Others perhaps came out of curiosity. John spoke like no one else, and called them to conversion, speaking with conviction. With such a following, it would have been easy for John to proclaim himself the Christ, and even easier for the people to believe him. Yet his humility and holiness meant that John could not lie or mislead them. He made it clear that his message and baptism were both inferior to the one, as he said, *who is mightier than I*.

John's preparation of the way for Christ is a model for us, especially in this Advent season. He challenges us to consider whether we lead others to Jesus, or whether our actions are motivated by a need for attention and affirmation. Is our lived faith attractive to those who have none? This last question is especially important, for while we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, we also prepare for his Second Coming. And, as Saint Peter says in our second reading, *The day of the Lord will come like a thief*.

Peter helps us regain the sense of urgency regarding our preparations for the return of our king, when he says, *the Lord does not delay . . . he is patient with you . . . not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance*. Jesus is giving the whole world time for conversion; that we might play a part in sharing the Good News of Christ with the world, for the salvation of the world, is a great and weighty gift. And now is the time.

As we await the new heavens and a new earth, Saint Peter tells us we get to choose what *sort of persons [we] ought to be*. We are given these days to grow in holiness and devotion so that we will be *eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace*, when he comes. During this busy time of year, a time when we are doing so much to prepare for the coming of Christmas, let us make sure to heed the voice crying out in the wilderness – to prepare for the coming of the Christ, not just as a babe in Bethlehem, but his imminent return in glory as our King.

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MASS ATTENDANCE – It is vital that we stay within the guidelines of the state regarding places of worship. **You must wear a mask. **Remain 6 feet apart (social distancing). **No physical contact outside your household. ** The 10:30am Mass will be live-streamed on our website and FB page.

MAINTENANCE COLLECTION – This weekend, December 5th & 6th, we will have our monthly collection for our Building Maintenance Collection. Please place your check (note memo), cash or envelope in the basket marked Second Collection. Thank you for your generosity.

DIOCESAN PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND – The annual Priest Retirement Fund collection will be next weekend, December 12th & 13th. Please consider the needs of our retired pastors and priests; those who have served so well for so long. Donations can be placed in the marked envelopes next week.

WEEKLY GOAL TO MEET ANNUAL NEEDS: \$6,500.00

STEWARDSHIP REPORT – NOVEMBER 21 & 22, 2020
 Collection –\$2,840.00 Human Development - \$441.00
 Maintenance - \$25.00
 Hurricane Relief - \$20.00 Bayou Catholic - \$15.00

STEWARDSHIP REPORT – NOVEMBER 28 & 129, 2020
 Collection –\$2,095.00 Human Development - \$10.00
 Maintenance - \$130.00

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Tuesday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses will be celebrated at 6:30am and 6:00pm on Tuesday.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sun, 12/6 – 8:00am – Mary & Marcella Bourgeois
- Sun, 12/6 – 10:30am – Lori Vedros Phipps, Richard J. Vedros, Herbert & Bernie Louviere, William & Leontine Louviere
- Mon, 12/7 – 6:30am – Liturgy of the Word
- Tue, 12/8 – 6:30am – **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
– Dante' Anthony Vegas (DA)
- Tue, 12/8 – 6:00pm – **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
– Rachel & Lula Chiasson
- Wed, 12/9 – 6:30am – Dale Lirette
- Thu, 12/10 – 6:30am – Fernando, Sr., Lilia & Grandparents
- Fri, 12/11 – 6:30am – Ray & Betty Waguespack
- Sat, 12/12 – 4:00pm – Harold Cade
- Sun, 12/13 – 8:00am – Myra Blanchard, Harvey Perque
- Sun, 12/13 – 10:30am – Donald Burnett, Lori Vedros Phipps, Richard J. Vedros, Herbert & Bernie Louviere, William & Leontine Louviere



WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sat, 12/5 – Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sun, 12/6 – Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8
- Mon, 12/7 – Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
- Tue, 12/8 – Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
- Wed, 12/9 – Isaiah 40:25-31, Matthew 11:28-30
- Thu, 12/10 – Isaiah 41:13-20, Matthew 11:11-15
- Fri, 12/11 – Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
- Sat, 12/12 – Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47
- Sun, 12/13 – Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28



RCIA CLASSES will meet at 9:00am in the Parish Hall on Sunday, December 6th and 20th.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – Please return your request for Christmas Flower Memorials as soon as possible so that we will have time to have them listed in the bulletin. Deadline for returning requests will be Friday, Dec 18th at Noon.

FORMS FOR 2021 MASS INTENTIONS AND SANCTUARY CANDLES FOR 2021 – are available on the table in the back of Church. Please **PRINT YOUR INFORMATION** and be sure to **INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER** in case we need to contact you. Please get them turned in as soon as possible.



CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE – The KC Annual Food Drive is now ongoing. Non-perishable items can be placed in the boxes in the Church; financial contributions can be made out to the KCs and left in the Offertory baskets or given to a KC member. Baskets will be distributed a few days before Christmas. If you know of a family that can use a basket this year, please call the office at 985-872-0922; we will gladly relay the information to the KC Council.

JESSE GIVING TREE – The tree is now up! Please consider taking a pill bottle from the tree to make a contribution to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Tri-Parish Pharmacy in providing medication to those needing assistance in our diocese. With the financial hardships experienced by so many this year, the access to critically needed medicine is ongoing! Checks can be made out to St. Vincent; cash and coins are also appreciated. You can even make a “refill” during the month of December! Baskets for this purpose are located behind the Jesse Tree.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec 16th
 – 6:00pm – **THE LIGHT IS ON** –
 Reconciliation Service – Confessions will be heard

Thursday, Dec 24th
 – 4:00pm – Vigil Mass
 – 6:00pm – Vigil Mass

Friday, Dec 25th
 – 7:30am – Mass
 – 9:00am – Mass



Due to Covid Restrictions, we will offer a 4th Christmas Mass.

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24th & 25th

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



Sat, 12/5 8:00am – First Saturday Mass
 4:00pm – Vigil Mass

Sun, 12/6 8:00am – Mass
 9:00am – RCIA in the Parish Hall
 10:30am – Mass

Mon, 12/7 6:30am – Liturgy of the Word

Tue, 12/8 6:30am – Mass – Immaculate Conception of BVM
 6:00pm – Mass – Immaculate Conception of BVM
NO BIBLE STUDY

Wed, 12/9 6:30am – Mass

Thr, 12/10 6:30am – Mass
 6:30pm – K. C. General Meeting

Fri, 12/11 6:30am – Mass

Sat, 12/13 4:00pm – Vigil Mass

Sun, 12/14 8:00am – Mass
 10:30am – Mass



Faith Formation

All Catholic/Private School students in Second grade need to register during the month of December. This will give us the information needed so that we can set them up for classes beginning in January, so that they can make their First Communion.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec 6th – 6:30pm – 8:00pm – 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th graders (In Person)

Mon, Dec 7th – 5:30pm – K – 3rd graders (Home)

Mon, Dec 7th – 6:30pm – 4th – 7th grades (In Person)

Sunday, Dec 13th – 6:30pm – 8:00pm – 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th graders (In Person)

Mon, Dec 14th – 5:30pm – K – 3rd graders (In Person)

Mon, Dec 14th – 6:30pm – 4th – 7th grades (Home)

Youth Faith Formation Classes will NOT be held from December 20, 2020 – January 10, 2021

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

SUPERIOR TIRE SERVICE, INC.
 Jimmy Cox ~ Owner
GOODYEAR
 625 Hwy. 182 Houma, LA 868-1965

SANCTUARY CANDLE burn this week IN LOVING MEMORY of

♥ **BeBe Breaux, Stanley, Sr., Eva, S.P., Jr., Betty Hebert & Sons, Breaux, Trahan, Giroir, Blanchard & Hebert Families** by Virdie and Bubba Breaux ♥ **Begue & Hebert Families, Ellen Monterio, Cody Antill & Dale Bergeron** by Ann & Gary Hebert ♥ **Bonnie, Rene & Marguerite Guidry, Ernest, Ertell & Emil Joller** by Ulysse & Miriam Guidry ♥ **Davis, Jr. & Michael Arceneaux, Iris Gaston Talbot, Vicki & Christopher Steib & Rena Hebert** by Shelia Arceneaux ♥ **Ed & Dolly Richard, Lucy Porche, Louis & Lois Authement, June Fischer, Sylvia & Reed Folse, Dot & Junel Marcel** by Ed & Elaine Richard ♥ **Edgar Breaux, Jr., M/M Anthony Blanchard, M/M Alcide Hebert, Adams, Hebert, Blanchard Families** by Tina & Evance Adams, III ♥ **Gable & Rita Duplantis, Daspit, Duplantis, Hebert & Rodrigue families** by Betty & Clarence Hebert ♥ **John, Della, Warren, Eula, Will, Ronald and Emmett Rodrigue, Arthur and Marie Hebert** by Rodrigue Family ♥ **Logan Naquin, Trey Marmande, Gerald & Judith Duplantis** by the Chafin Family ♥ **M/M Joseph Dufour, M/M George Darsey, M/M Harold Favret, Sr., Harold Favret, Jr., Charles Favret & Marie Hyland** by Linda D. Favret ♥ **Neal, Linda, Theresa & Reynold Hebert; Giroir, Faucheaux & Hebert Family** by Janis Hebert & Hebert Family ♥ **Pierre LeBlanc, Ann Gill, Terri Lambert, Nell Kay & Curtis Marcello, Sr., Tenny Moore, Bubba McNeal, Aull & LeBlanc Families** by Kaye LeBlanc ♥ **Ryan & Marc Pitre, Viella & Nolan Rogers** by Carol Antill ♥ **Ted & Violet DeYeide Borowski, John Ford Sr., Betty Lockwood, Carin Lapeyrouse Schreiber, Borowski, DeYeide, Dison and Ford family** by James & Stefanie Ford ♥ **Victor & Beau Tedesco & Tedesco and Boudreaux Families** by Madelyn Tedesco ♥ **Lee Carrol Bergeron, Bergeron, Guidry, Talbot, Sevin and Giroir Families** by Tom & Stacy Talbot ♥