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ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
CATHOLIC CHURCH
ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

DECEMBER 15, 2019
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE

MASS TIMES
Saturday.......................... (Vigil) 4:00pm
Sunday....................... 8:30am, 10:30am, 7:00pm
............................................. (Spanish) 3:00pm

DAILY MASS
Mo, Tu, Th, Fr.......................... 8:30am
Wednesday..............................6:00pm

CONFESSIONS
One half hour before each Mass daily
and Sundays.

PERPETUAL ADORATION
CHAPEL—Open 24 hours daily.

Mass
Schedule

December 15, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

Our Clergy

Very Rev. Walter Austin, V.F.
Pastor
aolpastor@gmail.com
985-630-2837

Rev. Mr. Thomas St. Pierre
Deacon
tjstpierre@yahoo.com

Rev. Mr. David Farinelli, LPC,
LMFT
Deacon
dpkc333@yahoo.com

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Susie Lanza: 504-650-0496
slanza@lancoconstruction.com

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 16
8:30 am Special Intention

Tuesday, December 17
8:30 am Zulma Williams

Wednesday, December 18
6:00 pm Lynn Hymel, Sr.

Thursday, December 19
8:30 am Jeffrey & Patrick Cupit

Friday, December 20
8:30 am Special Intention

Saturday, December 21 • St. Peter Canisius
4:00 pm Stuart Torres, Clarence & Myrtle Torres, Irving & Norma Vial, Paul & Mary Lato, Grace Lamonte, Grady Duff, Jr., Scott Duff, E.J. & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Steve & Nancy Valure, John A. Rauch, Jr., Greg Entremont, Dr. John Wayne Melancon, Sister Juanita Borbon, Nilton Larousse

Sunday, December 22 • Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 am James Trosclair, Sr., Gwen Booth, Marie Williams, Dolores Fajardo, Joseph Marks, Lois Perilloux, Barbara Mondello, Angelina & Frank Purpera, Sr., Cody Lucia, Special Intention
10:30 am Shanon Graver, Vera & Stephanie Haydel, Tammy Balliviero
3:00 pm (en espanol) Our Parishioners & Henry Harris, Jr.
7:00 pm Conrad & Brady Families

Vigil Light for December
In memory of Norman & Verna Millet, Deborah Acosta, Jessica Fournet, & Rosalind Millet Hutson

Chapel Candles Burn For:
In memory of E.J. & Zola Martin

We are glad you attended Mass with us!
Please feel free to pick up a Welcome Envelope and let us know how we may serve you.

Adoration • Community • Theology • Service

ACTS Women’s Retreat
February 13-16, 2020
Registration Now Open!

Retreat spots will be on a first come, first served basis with a $100 deposit required to hold your place. Make checks payable to St. Joan of Arc Church.

Pope Francis’ December Prayer Intention
The Future of the Very Young
That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.
We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the overwhelming support of our 2019 #iGiveCatholic campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a total of $39,154 for replacement of our sound system components.

In addition, we won prize money for the number of donations, and we won the awards for Most Creative Event and Peer-to-Peer Fundraising Champion! The Church Parish receives a total of $4,000 for these category wins!

THANK YOU FOR GIVING CATHOLIC!

Announcing our 4 Prize Deal Winners

Dinner with Fr. Walter & the #iGiveCatholic Team

Adrienne Comiskey

$40 Gift Card to Don’s Seafood

Lou Lanza

4 Perpetual Candles

Dee Bower

Vic Gagliano

Rosalie Vitrano

Cheryl Waguespack

4 Music CDs

Linda Biven

Mary Claire Fisher

Debbie Navarre

Jona Rojo

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau is responsible for conducting the nationwide census. While the next census will be taken in 2020, the Census Bureau is already recruiting to fill important temporary positions. Apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs.
**Parish Calendar**

**Monday, December 16**  
6:00-7:30pm  PSR

**Tuesday, December 17**

**Wednesday, December 18**  
7:00pm  KC General Meeting - KCH  
7:00pm  RCIA - Parish Office

**Thursday, December 19**  
8:30am  School Mass  
12:30pm  Hearty Meal  
7:00pm  Spanish Bible Study - PPH

**Friday, December 20**  
12:00pm  School Early Dismissal  
12:30pm  Setup Christmas Baskets & Gifts - DBH

**Saturday, December 21 • Team 3**  
8:30am  Girl Scouts Daisy Troop Meeting - PPH  
9:00am  Distribute Giving Tree Gifts

**Sunday, December 22 • Team 3**  
9:00am  Distribute Giving Tree Gifts

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**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

We need your help assembling and delivering our Christmas Giving Tree presents and baskets.

- **Friday December 20th** at 12:30pm after school dismissal: bring all Giving Tree Presents/Food Baskets to School Building #1 Hallway
- **Saturday December 21st** at 9am: Delivery of Gifts
- **Sunday December 22nd** at 9am: Delivery of Gifts

Help is needed all 3 days!

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**Christmas Altar Flowers**

Please return all Christmas Flowers envelopes in the collection baskets or to the Parish Office by December 16th.

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**Sacraments**

**BAPTISMS:** Baptismal seminars are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Parish Office at 7:00pm. Please call the Parish Office to pre-register.

**WEDDINGS:** Couples must contact the priest at least six months prior to the preferred date of the wedding.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please call the Parish Office or 985-630-2837 (evenings).

**HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:** To be added to the list, please call the Parish Office.

**FUNERALS:** Family must make arrangements with the priest prior to making final arrangements with the funeral home.
The true story of Christmas centers on a gift given to everyone that we both want and need. God sent His Son Jesus into the world to tell us of God's love for us. Listen to the words of Isaiah in the first reading as he prophesied about the coming of the Messiah: “Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, . . . he comes with vindication. Say to those whose hearts are hardened: Look straight ahead, all you who are turned aside, . . . Here is your God, the Holy One of Israel.”

In the gospel Jesus reaffirms this message when He replies to the disciples of John the Baptist who ask if He is the Messiah, the one that people have longed for since the beginning of time: “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the Good News proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me.”

Soon we will celebrate Christmas Day, the day when God gave us the greatest present we could ever wish for or need. This season of Advent gives us time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ Birth. At the same time we recall that just as God sent His Son among us 2000 years ago, so Jesus promises He will come again at the end of time.

Many people, especially the very young, cannot wait for Christmas Day. They anticipate that day with great joy and hope. Likewise, we as Christians wait for the Lord’s coming in glory. We understand the words of St. James today, “Be patient... make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

In the meantime, we continue with the reality of this time of the year as we pursue the art of the ideal gift for that special someone, an art that consumes our time and energy. As we search to please that person, remember God gave us a gift that does not lose its color, shape or size. His gift does not tarnish or go out of date. His gift of His Son reminds us that despite the difficulties of our lives there is a God who loves and proved it in giving us a gift we both needed and wanted: His Son.

Fr. Walter Austin

Leading the Way

There are many examples of false prophets in history. Some of these gifted charlatans have led people away from family and friends. They have led people to do evil things, like stealing, torture, or even murder. It is amazing how those gifted with charisma can lead others down such a destructive path. In today’s modern world filled with so much technology and sophisticated communication platforms, one must be careful not to buy into a lie or scam so easily.

John the Baptist didn’t have any modern technology in his toolbox as he was preparing the way for the Messiah, Jesus. He moved people with a profound message and by the way he lived his life. People questioned whether he was the One who was to come, but he assured them that he was not the One. Instead, all he did was to prepare people for Jesus’ coming.

You and I can either lead people to Jesus by our words and actions, or we can lead them away from him. Our stewardship can be a powerful witness to how Jesus has changed our lives. Unfortunately, if we are not changed and instead act in ways that are contrary to a mature disciple, we can lead people down the wrong path. During the Advent season, there is much to be done in our homes and with our families to get ready for the celebration of Christmas. However, this is not about a day; it is about Jesus. May our actions and words bear witness to the transformative power of Jesus Christ in our lives, not just during this season, but all year long.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Building a Future Full of Hope

Readings for the Week

| Sunday: | Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 |
| Monday: | Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27 |
| Tuesday: | Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17 |
| Wednesday: | Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25 |
| Thursday: | Js 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25 |
| Friday: | Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38 |
| Saturday: | Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a: 3a]/Lk 1:39-45 |
| Next Sunday: | Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24 |

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