

St. Joseph's News

St. Ann's News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Dec 16 – **Bingo** at Singing River Rehab – 2 p.m.
- Dec 24 – **Christmas Vigil** – Mass – 4 p.m.
- Dec 25 – **Christmas Day** – Mass – 10 a.m.
- Jan 1 – **Feast of Mary, Mother of God** – Mass 10 a.m.

**BACKPACK BUDDIES** Our parish donations of mac and cheese are needed weekly to assist this local ministry. Monetary donations may also be made. Place your donation in the regular collection and designate “**Backpack Buddies**”.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THRIFT STORE** – next sale – **December 21 (8 a.m.- noon)**

**HEAVENLY HOUSEKEEPERS** for **Dec 20– Team # 1** – Cynthia Grierson, Melissa Miller, and Patty Waters

MAKING ADVENT MORE MEANINGFUL

- Add a daily Mass 8 a. m. to your weekly schedule.
- Follow along in *Our Journey Toward Joy*, an Advent booklet of daily reflections and daily practices.
- Light the third rose/pink candle on the Advent wreath.
- Pray the Advent Prayer daily.
- Pray the Joyful mysteries of the Rosary

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sundays – No CCD & RCIA
- Dec 15 – *The Advent Gathering* with Parish Lunch – 9:30 a.m.
- Dec 24 – **Vigil Mass for Nativity of the Lord** – 6 p.m.
- Dec 31 – **Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** – 7 p.m. Tuesday
- Jan 12 – **Youth Mass** 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade

**Parish Census 2019** – If you have not filled out a **Registration Form** for your family please pick up a form in the front of the Church. You may drop them off in the Church office.

**BACKPACK BUDDIES of East Central** – Items needed throughout the school year are oatmeal, grits, or cereal in single-serving packs. Box located at the church entrance.

The **Choose Life Billboard Initiative** seeks to place billboards along Interstate 10 and other prominent roadways to promote respect for all human life and to bring awareness to alternatives to abortion. If you would like to support this initiative, you may send donations to St. James Catholic Church, 366 Cowan Road, Gulfport, MS 39507. Please write “Choose Life Billboards” on the memo line. If you have questions you may contact Penny Sullivan at 228-864-9061. **Choose Life: Pray, Pray, Pray**

*Gaudete Sunday*

*“Rejoice in the Lord always.”*



God of mercy, we seek Your light. Free us from our sins and make us whole. Establish Your house in our hearts and give us the joy of Your love to prepare the way for Christ, our Lord. Help us to serve You and one another and rejoice in Your ways forever and ever. Amen.

**THE LOOK OF LOVE**

What does love look like?

It has feet to go to the poor and needy.

It has eyes to see misery and want.

It has ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of others.

—St. Augustine

*Nativity of the Lord*  
*Christmas*  
**Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 24**

**St. Joseph Church – 4 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 24**

**St. Ann Church – 6 p.m.**

**Wednesday, December 25**

**St. Joseph Church – 10 a.m.**

**A SEASON OF HOPE**

Today we can bask in the imagery that the Mass readings offer us. In particular, Isaiah's vision of a parched land that blooms with abundant flowers holds a message for each of us. Too often we are just like that parched land. We can allow ourselves to become absorbed in the waves of consumerism that grip so many. We look for fulfillment in the things that money can buy. Unfortunately, this leaves us like parched land, thirsting for something that money can't buy. This holy season has much to offer to quench our thirsts. In a word, this season offers hope. We are told that those who are ransomed by God will know joy and gladness. For them, sorrow and mourning will be no more. Let us place our hope in these promises.

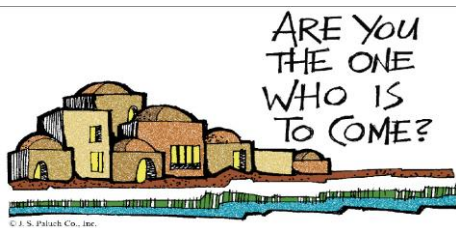


**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Sat. 4 pm – June Anglin (RIP)
- Sun. 8 am – Kermit Loupe, Sr.
- Sun. 10 am – People of the Parish
- Tues. 8 am – All broken families
- Wed. 8 am – The living and deceased members of the Cox and Blackledge families
- Thurs. 8 am – Varghese (RIP)
- Fri. 8 am – Peter Vinh (RIP)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Sat. – 3:10 p.m.

**MASS REQUESTS** – If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for the intention of a loved one, a special occasion, or a deceased friend or family member, envelopes are available in the vestibule or you may call or mail your request to the parish office. A ten dollar donation is suggested for each intention.



**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

The Parish would like to express our sympathy to the Duncan May family on the loss of their daughter and sister, Dixie Lynn May McCormack, and to the Frank Martin family on the loss of Sharon's mother, Frances Kaiser.

Our hearts are saddened by your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*



Prayer Requests

*Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing, bless our family and friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. If you would like to add someone to this list, please call the parish office.*

Arthur Trochesset, Barbara N. Thomas, Audria Viers, the Holt family, Janet Wells, Nicole Mary Green, Effie Williams, Gary Brown, Kelly Chamberlain, George Hinkel, Eva Hinkel, Wanda St. Andrie, Laurie Laffery, Steve Martinez, Glenda Jackson, Charles Pinkney, Tom Browning, Judy Smith, Susan George, Jane Norton, Nikki Hans, Gloria Long, Linda Huy, Conner Driscoll, Amsley Goodings, Tenny Henderson, Ellen Scheeler, Lara Lander, Mary Jo Garrett, Inge Bellone, Nathan Rowe, Anita Matthews, Denny Denmark, Tim and Annette Spiriti, Ron Hudson, Joanie and Kermit Loupe, Norman Jardine, Gail Seely, Deborah Green, Kenneth Hoskins, Greg Davidson, Krista Toehay, Jaina Snyder, Pat McAdams, Barbara Easley, Bruce Merrill, Elma Carter, Kay McBroom, Deacon Emery Elder, Karen Zettler, Kris Allen, Christi Seely, Betty Bodden, Tony Garriga, Sandra Lyons, the family of Dixie McCormack, the family of Frances Kaiser, the unborn, all the faithful departed, and all military personnel stationed in harm's way.

**COLLECTIONS – December 7 - 8**

**ST. JOSEPH**

- Regular Collection – \$ 2,826.00
- Building Fund – \$ 185.00
- Retired Religious – \$ 596.00
- St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy – \$ 28.00
- Christmas Flower Donations – \$ 538.00
- Memorial Donation – Wainwright - \$ 100.00
- St. Vincent de Paul – \$ 20.00
- Children's Collection – \$ 1.00

**ST. ANN**

- Regular Collection – \$ 1,704.50
- Retired Religious – \$ 316.00
- Children's Offertory – \$ 31.00
- Christmas Flower Donations – \$ 130.00

**Envelopes for Christmas Flower donations are available in the church.** You may donate "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone. Envelopes may be placed in the regular collection by **December 22.**