

St. Joseph's News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Jan 1 – **Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
Mass 10 a.m.
- Jan 5 – **First Sunday Social** following Mass
Our Daily Bread – prepare/serve meal
- Jan 7 – **Ultreya** – 7 p.m. – St. Mary
- Jan 9 – **RCIA** – 6 p.m. – chapter 17
- Jan 12 – **CCD** – 9 a.m.
- Jan 14 – **Knights of Columbus** meeting – 6 p.m.
- Jan 16 – **RCIA** – 6 p.m. – chapter 19
- Jan 19 – **CCD** – 9 a.m.
- Jan 20 – **Bingo** – Singing River Rehab – 2 p.m.
- Jan 23 – **RCIA** – 6 p.m. – chapter 20
- Jan 26 – **Ladies Auxiliary** meeting following Mass
- Jan 30 – **RCIA** – 6 p.m. – chapter 21

PARISH CENSUS – If you have not filled out a census form for you and your family, please do so this weekend. It is important to have current contact information on all parishioners,

OUR DAILY BREAD – St. Joseph will be responsible for preparing and serving the meal on Sunday, **January 5**. We are in need of servers and volunteers to prepare the food. The menu will include baked beans, potato salad, and dessert (cookies, brownies, cakes). If you would like help in any way, please contact **Linda Clark** at the parish office.

SACRAMENTAL PREP class begins next Sunday, **January 5** at 9 a.m. in the parish hall. This class is for all second graders (and above) planning to make **First Holy Communion** here at St. Joseph in May 2020. Students will also prepare for **First Reconciliation** during these weekly classes. Please contact the parish office to register your child (children) for these weekly classes.

Your **2020 calendars** and **church envelopes** are available in the back of the Church. Please pick up your family's material on the way out of Mass today.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THRIFT STORE – next sales – **January 4 and 18** (8 a.m. – noon)

PRAYER AND OUR CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP – CSA
It is not too late to make a donation to the Catholic Sharing Appeal for 2019. You may pick up an envelope in the church and place it in the regular collection. Your generous gifts support the many ministries of the Diocese of Biloxi.

HEAVENLY HOUSEKEEPING – Keeping the house of the Lord clean is an important job. These teams volunteer each week to sweep, vacuum, dust, take out the trash, and clean the bathrooms. It usually takes less than an hour. Additional volunteers are needed for the new year. Please call the parish office if you can help.

BACKPACK BUDDIES Our parish donations of mac and cheese are needed weekly to assist this local ministry.

HEAVENLY HOUSEKEEPERS for **Jan 3** – **Team # 3** – Elena May, Sharon Martin, Linda Huy and Judie Sellars

St. Ann's News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sundays – **No CCD & RCIA**
- Dec 31 – **Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** (Holy Day of obligation)– 7 p.m. Tuesday
- Jan 12 – **Youth Mass** 6th – 8th 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.

MASS INTENTIONS for 2020 are now being reserved. If you would like a Mass said for your loved one on a certain date, you may call or email the office.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

“Octave” comes from the Latin word for “eight,” and since eight is one step beyond seven, the number of days in a week, it has long been seen as a symbol of perfection, completion, and new beginnings. Early Christians called Sunday the “eighth day,” since it was the day after the Sabbath and a day of resurrected life, the Lord’s Day. By the seventh century, people regarded the eight days after Easter Sunday as one great day, an octave, one glorious feast when people were forbidden to fast or kneel. In the seventh century, Pentecost acquired an Octave, too. Christmas didn’t claim the honor of a continuous feast, but it did get an Octave Day. January 1 is the oldest Marian feast, the Octave of Christmas. It was originally a feast of the motherhood of Mary, although for centuries until 1969 it was called the Feast of the Circumcision. Our reformed calendar follows the earlier tradition of celebrating Mary as Mother of God.



Mass Schedule
Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
(a Holy Day of Obligation)

Tuesday, December 31,
St. Ann Church - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 1,
St. Joseph Church -10 a.m.

THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God’s loving kindness, the shining glory of God’s face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God’s own peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God’s face is shown to us and God’s presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

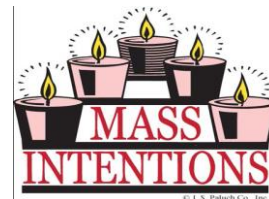
TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of. —Benjamin Franklin

PASSIONS

We should employ our passions in the service of life, not spend life in the service of our passions.

—Richard Steele



- Sat 4 pm – Grace and Leo French (RIP)
- Sun 8 am – People of the Parish
- Sun 10 am – Dixie May McCormack (RIP)
- Tues 8 am – In thanksgiving for favors received
- Wed 10 am – Naomi Broussard (RIP)
- Thurs 8 am – Maria Ngat (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.



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.



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**COLLECTIONS – December 21 – 22
and Christmas collection**

ST. JOSEPH

- Regular Collection – \$ 2,828.00
- Building Fund – \$ 287.00
- Christmas Flower Donations – \$ 120.00
- Children’s Collection – \$ 1.00

ST. ANN

- Regular Collection – \$ 1,814.00
- Building Fund – \$ 234.00
- Children’s Offertory – \$ 4.75
- Christmas Flower Donations – \$ 135.00

Upcoming Special Collections 2020

January 4 – 5 – Aged & Infirm Priests

***January 25 – 26 – Church in Latin America
and Saltillo Mission***

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, the family of Sandra Lyons, the unborn, all the faithful departed, and all military personnel stationed in harm’s way.

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 include “Choose Life Billboards” on the memo line. If you have question, you may contact Penny Sullivan at 228-864-9061. **Choose Life: Pray, Pray, Pray**

