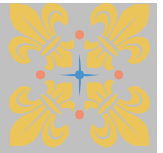




THE BAYOU  
**Messenger**



THE NEWS-BULLETIN FOR THE TRIPARISHES OF ST. JOSEPH, IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI

*Faith*

Rejoice in the  
 Lord always.  
 I shall say it  
 again: rejoice!

Phillipians 4:4



Third Sunday of Advent, December 15, 2019

**ST. JOSEPH**  
 76950 Gum Street  
 Grosse Tete, LA 70740  
**HOLY MASS:**  
 Sunday: 9:00am

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**  
 11140 Highway 77  
 Maringouin, LA 70757  
**HOLY MASS:**  
 Saturday: 4:00pm  
 Tuesday — Friday: 8:30am

**ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI**  
 3523 LA. Highway 78  
 Livonia, LA 70755-0128  
**HOLY MASS:**  
 Sunday: 11:00am  
**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA MISSION**  
 4324 Railroad Avenue  
 Fardoche, LA 70732

**THE TRIPARISH PASTORAL CENTER**  
 Located at Immaculate Heart of Mary  
 225.625.2438 : phone  
 225.625.3513 : fax  
 225.308.9726 : emergency  
 pastoralcenter@triparishes.org : email  
 www.triparishes.org : web  
**Office Hours are Monday—Thursday**  
**8:30am—3:30pm**

**THE MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2019**

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14  
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30  
 Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;  
 Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings  
 from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712  
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19  
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
 Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
 Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**DEVOTIONAL LIFE IN THE TRIPARISHES**

<b>MON</b>	Post-Mass	Prayer for the Gifts of The Holy Spirit	
<b>TUE</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help	
	9:00am	The Holy Rosary	Home of Ruby Hafford
	4:00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	St. Joseph Parish Hall
<b>WED</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to St. Joseph	
	6:00pm	The Holy Rosary	St. Catherine of Siena Mission
<b>THU</b>	Post-Mass	Litany of Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim / Vocations	
<b>FRI</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	

**Christmas 2019 Holy Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 24 – The Vigil of Christmas**

4:00pm – St. Joseph, Grosse Tête  
 6:00pm – Immaculate Heart of Mary, Maringouin

**Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

12:00am – St. Frances Cabrini, Livonia  
 9:00am – St. Joseph, Grosse Tête  
 11:00am – St. Frances Cabrini, Livonia

**New Year's Day Holy Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 31, 2019 – The Vigil of New Year**

6:00pm – Immaculate Heart of Mary, Maringouin

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020 – New Year's Day**

6:00pm – Immaculate Heart of Mary, Maringouin

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of December 15, 2019**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** in loving memory of Theresa Adell Poole  
**St. Joseph:** in loving memory Wallace "Gun" Perrault  
**St. Frances:** in loving memory of Mary Lee Miletello by St. Frances Ladies Altar Society  
**St. Catherine:** in loving memory of Dora Gueho

**In Memoriam**

**Mary Lee Miletello**, died November 22, 2019 and was interred in St. Frances Cemetery

**Theresa Adell Poole**, died November 26, 2019 and was interred in Immaculate Heart of Mary

*Eternal rest Grant unto them O Lord,  
 And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon them.*

**THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY**

**FR. CHRISTOPHER DECKER**

Advent Greetings!

Did you ever wonder why one of the candles in the Advent wreath isn't purple like the others? It all starts with this phrase from St. Paul in his letter to The Church at Philippi:

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-7)"

This exhortation to the citizens of that ancient gold-mining city became the Entrance Antiphon (or Introit) for the Mass all over the world in the 400s because it marked the mid-way point of a 40-day fast known as St. Martin's Lent which we now know as Advent.

While Advent began on November 12, the feast of St. Martin, it was shortened to four weeks at some point in the 800s. Today, the third Sunday of Advent is still called "Gaudete Sunday" and colored rose as a reminder of that Introit's exclamation:

"Gaudete! Rejoice!" This is because there is a marked acceleration as Christmas Day draws nearer. Originally, it was a reminder to lift the penances of St. Martin's Lent; flowers are permitted to adorn the sanctuary and even Cardinals swapped their red garments for rose ones.

For us today, it is certainly a reminder to make final spiritual preparations for the beginning of the Christmas season. Have you gone to Confession? Have you done some spiritual winter cleaning to make a fresh start in listening to God's Will in your life? Have you thought about how you can be a better parent, a better son or daughter, a better student or employee with God in the center of your life? What would it be like if you allowed yourself to rejoice in the Lord over the small blessings that God gives?

Allow your heart to leap this week and ready a place for Jesus and his Holy Family in your heart and family!

Pax,



**YOUR STEWARDSHIP TO OUR PARISHES FOR DECEMBER 8TH**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Offertory Collection \$1,535.00

**St. Joseph**

Offertory Collection \$1,244.00

**St. Frances**

Offertory Collection 1,856.00

**Made for Greatness!**  
**Youth and Young Adults in our TriParishes**

**Tri-Parish School of Religion Schedule**  
**St. Frances**

**Jr/Sr High** on Monday, **December 16th**, from 6:00pm—7:15pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Elementary** on Tuesday, **December 17th**, from 5:00pm—6:30pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Tri Parish Confirmation**

**Nursing Home**, December 21st, from 9:00am till 11:00am. This is mandatory for all Private, Public and Catholic School Confirmation Candidates.

**TriParish Christmas Youth Gatherings**

**Jr/Sr Youth Gathering** Friday, **December 20th**, from 6:00pm—9:00pm at St. Frances Parish Hall for Youth in grades 6th—12th.

**Service Project**

We will put the bags together for the **Nursing Home** on Wednesday, **December 18th**, starting at 5:30pm for anyone who wishes to help at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall.



PICK OF THE WEEK



**Prepare the Way of the King**  
 Dr. Scott Hahn

**LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG**

*The Greatest Gift We Can Ever Receive*

Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind — Jesus Christ.

POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

**CLERGY, STAFF & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**

**Rev. Christopher J. Decker**  
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**Rev. Amrit Raj, I.M.S.**  
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 Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry  
[pchampagne@triparishes.org](mailto:pchampagne@triparishes.org)

**Christmas Décor Memorial Donations**



Donations are now being accepted for Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Joseph & St. Frances Parishes. Please include names of those being remembered. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the TriParish Pastoral Office.

**KPC Ladies Auxiliary Court 119**



Boo on the Bayou



Priest Appreciation Reception

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** is celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary on Saturday from 3:00—3:45pm. If you'd like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation outside the scheduled time, please call the office to arrange a time with the priest.

**MARRIAGE** Couples are asked to contact the priest at least six months before the desired date.

**BAPTISM** Celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of each month. A Baptismal Seminar is required before a baptism can be properly scheduled. Please contact the parish office during early months of pregnancy.

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK** Please call the parish office to arrange for Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick.