



“This is the one about whom it is written:  
‘Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you.’”

Matthew 11:10

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1125 Blankenship Drive  
Deridder, Louisiana 70634  
337-463-6878

### HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Communion Service at 12:10pm

Tuesday-Friday Mass at 12:10pm

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am

Holy Day Mass Schedule will be announced

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday—4:00-4:45pm

Sunday—8:00-8:45am & 10:45-11:15am

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Fr V. Wayne LeBleu

**Deacon:** Al Weinnig

**Director of Religious Education:** Julie Roussel

**Asst. Director of Religious Ed:** Tobi Ebarb

**Parish Secretary:** Julie Roussel

**Parish Bookkeeper:** Aimee Brasseaux

**Music Minister:** Sheila Manning

**Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA):** Angela Lannen

**Youth Ministers:** Danny Hernandez, Julie Roussel

**Maintenance Head:** Larry LaLande

### PARISH PHONE NUMBERS

Pastoral Center 337-463-6878

Music Ministry 337-348-9367

Education Building 337-463-6878

St Joseph Hall 337-463-6878

Youth Ministry 337-396-5578

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The couple preparing for marriage must contact the parish priest at least six months in advance of the desired time. Confirmation of date of wedding must be made by the priest officiating the wedding.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Pastoral Center to schedule an interview and register for Baptism. 337-463-6878

### ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is every Wednesday after the 12:10pm Mass from 12:40 to 4:00pm, ending with Benediction at 4:00pm.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The parish priest is to be contacted before the family makes any arrangements with the funeral director. Family members are also asked to meet with the priest to prepare for the funeral liturgy.

**OFFICE HOURS** Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Office closed 12:00 noon - 1:00pm

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## The Third Sunday of Advent

is known as "Gaudete Sunday." *Gaudete* means "rejoice!"

Saint Paul seems to be throwing out a handful of sayings that may sound overly optimistic, but are actually very practical. "Rejoice always"? If we pray constantly and thank God for all that happens to us, we have reason to rejoice. Even the things we don't like can be turned to good by God. God allows sin because it leads to forgiveness, an experience of God's love for us. And God allows even death, because God can bring us to eternal life.

When Paul tells us not to quench the Spirit he means we should be open to what the Holy Spirit moves us to do. "Prophetic utterances" refer to things that other people were inspired to proclaim. If we pray constantly (1 Thessalonians 5:17), the distractions of this world will not keep us from hearing the Spirit within us. We won't be so critical of others that we miss what the Spirit is telling us through them.

How do we know if something really is from the Spirit? Saint Paul says, test everything. Retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Use the scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and your conscience to decide whether the Spirit is moving you, or if advice you hear is worthwhile. Trust God to make us holy if we only allow it. Then we will be ready for the coming of the Lord, whether through the sacraments, the celebration of Christmas, or God's final coming in glory. I'd say that's a reason to rejoice.

Tom Schmidt

San Pablo parece estar lanzando unos cuantos dichos que pueden parecer demasiado optimistas, pero en realidad son muy prácticos. "¿Vivir siempre alegres?" Si rezamos constantemente y damos gracias a Dios por todo lo que nos sucede, tenemos motivo para alegrarnos. Incluso las cosas malas, las cosas que no nos gustan, pueden ser permitidas por Dios, para que Dios pueda sacar algo bueno de ellas. Dios permite el pecado porque nos conduce al perdón, una experiencia del amor de Dios por nosotros. Y Dios permite incluso la muerte, porque Dios puede llevarnos a la vida eterna. Cuando Pablo nos dice que no impidamos la acción del Espíritu quiere decir que debemos estar abiertos a lo que el Espíritu Santo nos mueve a hacer. "El don de profecía" se refiere a cosas que otras personas fueron inspiradas a proclamar. Si oramos sin cesar (1 Tesalonicenses 5,17) no estaremos tan distraídos por las cosas de este mundo que no podamos escuchar los impulsos del Espíritu Santo dentro de nosotros. No seremos tan críticos de los demás como para perdernos lo que el Espíritu nos quiere decir a través de ellos.

¿Cómo sabemos si algo realmente es del Espíritu? San Pablo dice, sométanlo todo a prueba y quédense con lo bueno (1 Tesalonicenses 5,21). Utiliza las Escrituras, las enseñanzas de la Iglesia y tu conciencia para decidir si el Espíritu te está moviendo o si el consejo que escuchas vale la pena. Confía en que Dios nos hará santos si sólo lo permitimos. Entonces estaremos listos para la venida del Señor, ya sea a través de los sacramentos, la celebración de la Navidad o la venida final de Dios en su gloria. Yo diría que eso es un buen motivo para alegrarse.

Tom Schmidt

## Scripture Readings For the Week of December 17, 2023

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>Monday</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Tuesday</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
<b>Wednesday</b>	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Thursday</b>	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
<b>Friday</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
<b>Saturday</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon	18	12:10 pm	The Sick & The Dying
Tues	19	12:10 pm	Bart Fazio & Rose Hayes
Wed	20	12:10 pm	Jane Donelly
Wed	20	12:40-4:00 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
Thurs	21	12:10 pm	Jane Donelly
Fri	22	12:10 pm	Jane Donelly

## Dec 23rd & Dec 24th

**Vigil Saturday, 5:00pm:** for all Parishioners & Visitors

**Sunday, 10:30am:** Beauregard Parish Doctors, Deacon Sumner Kohlhund, Dirk Robinson, Family of Jayne Robinson, Walter Gagliano, Special Intention, Clay Harbison, Frank Conklin, Jane Donelly

**Sunday, 4pm (Vigil):** Trishia Skinner, Pat Trunick, Ray Trunick, David & Kathy Pendley, Therese & Bill Pendley, Bart Fazio, Pete Rossi, Ruth Manning, Dr. John Gregorio, Agnes Gregorio, Sam Gregorio, Mary & Joseph Barkett

## Offertory for Dec 9th & Dec 10th

Offertory	\$ 8,492.00
Bishop's Services Appeal	20.00
Insurance	0

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

*The 2nd collections for the Month*  
**1st weekend of the month is-Bishop's Services Appeal**

**3rd weekend of the month is-Insurance**

**Cereal for God's Food Box** is collected on the 2nd weekend of the month

## Liturgical Ministers Schedule

**Dec 23rd & 24th**

### Extraordinary Ministers

<u>5:00pm</u>	Richard Skinner, Dawn Skinner
<u>10:30am</u>	Lesila Lee, Matthew Lee
<u>4:00pm</u>	Deacon Al, Brian Lestage
<u>10:00pm</u>	Suzanne Lestage, Nancy Simmons
	Deacon Al, Frank Rossi
	Gertie Rossi, Kathleen Nichols
	Deacon Al, Jacque Vidrine
	Janie Marin, Charlie Lannen

### Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u>	Jill Simon
<u>10:30am</u>	Terrance Carter
<u>4:00pm</u>	Tim Kyle
<u>10:00pm</u>	Julie Roussel

### Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u>	Jude Lowe
<u>10:30am</u>	Grayson Gardner, Sley Gardner
<u>4:00pm</u>	Bret Kyle
<u>10:00pm</u>	Tanner Roussel, Wesley Soileau

**Catholic Daughters (Statewide fundraiser) money Calendar. Please see a CDA member for more Information..**



*Children's Christmas Program, Dec. 24th after the 4pm Mass in Kern Hall. There will be cookies and cocoa with Santa after the program. All are invited!*

**Altar Society will have their meeting Feb 19th, 2024 @ 6pm in the Education Bld.**

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Please see bulletin boards at each entrance for Christmas Mass times as they have changed, as well as our website @ [www.stjosephderidder.org](http://www.stjosephderidder.org)***

### Christmas Mass Schedule:

**Sat. Dec. 23rd @ 5pm, Sun. 24th @ 10:30am (Sunday Obligation)**

**Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve Mass @ 4pm & 10pm, Dec. 25th, Christmas Day @ 10:30am (Fulfills the Christmas Obligation)**

**Father Wayne, (celebrating his 30th Anniversary of Priesthood) is planning a 10 Day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.**  
Pilgrimage dates: 05/26/2025—06/04/2025.

Brochures are available in the Foyer and the Pastoral Center.



## **THE YOUNG CHURCH NEWS**

**Sunday and Wednesday P.R.E.P Christmas Break  
Dec.17th –Return Sunday, Jan. 7th, 2024**

***Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!***

**P.R.E.P.—Parish Religious Education Program Grades 6th thru 11th go on Wednesdays 6pm to 8pm (Food is served at 6pm in Kern Hall) Class is from 6:30-8pm**  
**Grades Pre-School thru 5th go on Sundays 10-11:15am**

**1st Communicants Penance is today after the 9:00 am Mass.**

**P.R.E.P. is looking for volunteers to provide meals for the Wed night youth.** The meal needs to feed about 50 and needs to be at Kern Hall between 5:30 and 5:45. Please contact Nicole Kyle at 337-348-1500 to be added to the calendar or use the QR code or go to <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/lklykw>. Monetary donations are gladly accepted for meals and can be placed in the offertory, mailed or brought to the Pastoral Center.



**Thank you to all who signed up to be a Prayer Mentor**

## **RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

We continue to pray for Catechumen, Breeana Sexton who is preparing for her initiation in the Christian Faith by Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at Easter and Roxanne Carriere, Erin Russell and Sean Ledesma who will enter into the fullness of the faith through completing their sacraments.

- **The Vocation Cross** is suspended until the 1st weekend of the New Year. Please pray for our Parish Priest during these weeks of the Holy Season.



Men of St Joseph, come and join many of your Brothers in Christ at the **Annual Men's Silent Retreat at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House in Grand Chateau, January 18-21, 2024**

Call Darryl Fontenot for info at 462-2323.

**See the main bulletin board for all other Announcements**