

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1125 Blankenship Drive
Deridder, Louisiana 70634
<https://www.stjosephderidder.org>



OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm
Office closed 12:00 noon - 1:00pm

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Communion Service at 12:10pm
Tuesday-Friday Mass at 12:10pm
Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am
Mass in Spanish every 4th Sunday
of the month at 5:00 pm
Holy Day Mass Schedule will be
announced

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm
Sunday: 8:00-8:45am & 10:45-11:15am

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.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr V. Wayne LeBleu
Deacon: Al Winnig
Parish Secretary: Gracia Acosta
Parish Bookkeeper: Aimee Brasseaux
Maintenance Head: Trevor Smith
Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL):
Julie Roussel
Assistant PCL: William Frost
Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA):
Angela Lannen
Music Minister: Darlene Watson

PARISH PHONE NUMBERS

Pastoral Center 337-463-6878

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

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

Emmanuel

On this last Sunday before Christmas, we see that Jesus' birth is the fulfillment of the promise of Emmanuel, meaning "God is with us." (Mt 1:23) The gospel refers to the first reading from Isaiah. There we see the king of Judah, Ahaz, is under attack by the kings of Aram and Israel. He wants to ask the Assyrians for help, instead of relying on God. He is afraid to admit his lack of faith. So the weakness of Ahaz gives us the wonderful prophecy of the birth of Jesus.

In the gospel, Joseph also does not understand how Mary was pregnant. But unlike Ahaz, Joseph did have faith in God and the message of the angel. He took Mary as his wife and helped her through her pregnancy and afterwards in raising Jesus.

So now we have to choose who we rely on: Do I act like Ahaz, relying on the worldly powers, or like Joseph who trusted the Lord? If I look at my actions and priorities, I might be more like Ahaz than I want to admit.

How much time do I spend watching television (especially now that it's in HD) compared to time in prayer? How much time to I spend reading the scriptures compared to the newspaper or magazines? If I really believe that "God is with us," which is what Christmas is all about, how much of God can people see in my actions? Maybe if we kept in mind that promise that God IS with us, in the Baptism we received and the sacraments of the Church, and the love of our spouse or parents—we could see how close God really is and let others see in our actions, that Jesus is Emmanuel.

Tom Schmidt

Emmanuel

En este último domingo antes de Navidad, vemos que el nacimiento de Jesús es el cumplimiento de la promesa de Emmanuel, que significa "Dios está con nosotros" (Mt 1,23). El evangelio se refiere a la primera lectura de Isaías. Allí vemos que Ajaz, el rey de Judá, está siendo atacado por los reyes de Siria e Israel. Quiere pedir ayuda a los asirios, en lugar de confiar en Dios. Teme admitir su falta de fe. Así que, la debilidad de Ajaz nos da la maravillosa profecía del nacimiento de Jesús.

En el evangelio, José tampoco entiende cómo María quedó embarazada. Pero a diferencia de Ajaz, José sí tuvo fe en Dios y en el mensaje del ángel. Tomó a María por esposa y la ayudó durante su embarazo y después en la crianza de Jesús.

Así que ahora debemos elegir en quién confiamos: ¿Actúo como Ajaz, confiando en los poderes mundanos, o como José, que confió en el Señor? Si analizo mis acciones y prioridades, podría parecerme más a Ajaz de lo que quiero admitir.

¿Cuánto tiempo dedico a ver la televisión (sobre todo ahora que es en HD) en comparación con el tiempo que dedico a la oración? ¿Cuánto tiempo dedico a leer las Escrituras en comparación con el periódico o las revistas? Si de verdad creo que "Dios está con nosotros", que es precisamente lo que representa la Navidad, ¿la gente puede ver a Dios en mis acciones? Tal vez si tuviéramos presente esa promesa de que Dios ESTÁ con nosotros en nuestro esposo o nuestros padres, podríamos ver cuán cerca está Dios realmente y dejar que los demás vean en nuestras acciones que Jesús es Emmanuel.

Tom Schmidt

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES

Monday 12/22	Communion Service
Tuesday 12/23	Edward Cryer
Wednesday 12/24	Rolanne Fisher, Evelyn Scalfi, Bob Scalfi, Jr., LaNell Howell, For all in the Christmas list.
Thursday 12/25	Dr. John Gregorio, Agnes Gregorio, Sam Gregorio, Gwendolyn Myles, Leonard & Albertha Chavis, Velma Brown, Charles Chavis
Friday 12/26	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 12/27	Parishioners and Visitors
Sunday 12/28 9:00 am	Connie Frost, Charles Hebert, Jesse and Eva Blakeman, Dr. Ted J. Hoerner, Family of Jayne Robinson, Deacon Sumner Kohlund, Beauregard Parish Doctors
Sunday 12/29 11:30 am	Andrew Cronic, Marie Luman, Joseph and Vivian Governale, Kay and Gary Cooper

Why do we have Mass Intentions?

In the Catholic Church, Mass intentions are specific requests for which a Mass is offered. These intentions are a way for individuals to connect their prayers with the sacrifice of the Mass, seeking God's grace for particular needs or in memory of loved ones. While every Mass benefits the entire Church, intentions allow for a focused application of the Mass's graces towards a specific person or situation.

Suggested minimum donation per intention is \$5

Church Registration

Do you worship with us regularly? Please consider registering with us online at our website:

<https://www.stjosephderidder.org/>

Scroll to the bottom of the welcome page and click on register.

Offertory for December 13th and 14th, 2025

Offertory	\$ TBA
Bishop's Services Appeal	\$ TBA
Insurance	\$ TBA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

2nd Collections for the Month of December

December 6-7	Bishop's Services Appeal
December 20-21	Insurance
December 24-25	Catholic Charities SWLA Collection

Cereal for God's Food Box is collected on the 2nd weekend of the month, please drop in the foyer.

Catholic Charities accepts non-perishable items through the year, they can be dropped in the box in the foyer.

WEEKLY CALENDAR/CALENDARIO SEMANAL

Monday Lunes December/ Diciembre 22	OFFICE CLOSED/OFICINA CERRADA • 9 am Church decorating day • 12:10 pm Communion Service / Servicio de Comunión
Tuesday Martes December/ Diciembre 23	OFFICE CLOSED/OFICINA CERRADA • 9:30 am CLJ (English) • 12:10 pm Mass/Misa
Wednesday Miércoles December/ Diciembre 24	OFFICE CLOSED/OFICINA CERRADA • 4:00 pm Vigil Mass / Misa Vigilia • 10:00 pm Midnight Mass/ Misa Medianoche
Thursday Jueves December/ Diciembre 25	CHRISTMAS /NAVIDAD!! OFFICE CLOSED/OFICINA CERRADA • 10:00 am Mass / Misa
Friday Viernes December/ Diciembre 26	OFFICE CLOSED/OFICINA CERRADA • 12:10 am Mass / Misa
Saturday Sábado December/ Diciembre 27	• 4:00 pm Mass / Misa • 5:00 pm Ven Señor Jesús (español)
Sunday Domingo December/ Diciembre 28	• HOLY FAMILY / SAGRADA FAMILIA • 9:00 am Mass / Misa • 11:30 am Mass / Misa • 5:00 pm Misa en español/ Mass in Spanish

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

December 27th/28th, 2025	Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm	Sunday 9:00 am	Sunday 11:30 am
LECTORS	Kay Bourne	Melinda Granger	Heather Vidrine
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Nancy Simmons Jeff Fogleman Charlie Lannen Angela Lannen	Deacon Al Janelle Frost Bill Frost Glenn Granger	Deacon Al Claire Vidrine Sonia Maskas Jacque Vidrine
ALTAR SERVERS	Jude Lowe	Celeste Gardner Adalya Sandoval Leo Burke	Macie McBride Kaston McBride

Money Counters: Team 4

Saint Joseph Catholic Church



Vocation Prayer Book and Cross

We recognize the importance of praying for vocations for the Priesthood and Religious Life. Each week a family or member will pick up the Cross and Prayer Book to pray for increase vocations. The sign-up sheet is in the foyer of the Church. Please sign up!

Bill and Janelle Frost will take the Vocation Cross next weekend at the 9 am Mass. (Return the Cross and book by the next Friday by 4:30pm)

"The Priest brings God to the people and the people to God"
~ Fr. Michael Caraway

Pray for our sick

(Please contact the Pastoral Center)



Eartha Simon, Thelma Ringer, Kinsley Johnson, David Dimas, Danny Hernandez, Ronnie Watson, Helen Chaisson, Roberta Gray, Susan Hill, Jenna Picou Trim, Kalyn Picou, Ryann Landry, Steven Boudreaux, Alice Kidder

Names will be removed after 1-3 months depending on circumstances and information given

"Father God, you alone heal hearts and bodies, minds, and spirits. Today, we ask you to lay your healing hand on our loved ones. We ask for the healing of illness, physical weakness, and of broken hearts and spirits. " Tamela Turbeville

Candles \$5



Candles are available to burn in the Church or to take home. When lit they represent an expression of faith and devotion, often used to accompany prayers for specific intentions, such as intercession for the deceased, the sick, for loved ones, in thanksgiving. The light of the candle signifies the light of Christ and the prayers rising to God.

Our Organizations and Ministries
You can get involved and assist in our Church- Contact the Pastoral Center

Altar Society
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
(CDA)

Junior Catholic Daughters
Knights of Columbus
Come Lord Jesus

Altar Servers / Lectors /
Extraordinary Ministers

Avisos de la Parroquia



*Feliz
Navidad
a sus familias!*

Misas de Navidad y Año Nuevo

24 de Diciembre—4 pm Misa de Vigilia
24 de Diciembre—10 pm Misa de Medianoche
25 de Diciembre—10 am Misa de Navidad
31 de Diciembre—4 pm Misa de Vigilia
1 de Enero—10 am Misa María, Madre de Dios

La próxima Misa en español es el 28 de Diciembre a las 5pm.



Esta semana celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús, comenzando con la Misa de Gallo. A esta Misa se le añade la tradición popular que ha comenzado en el hogar con pesebres, comidas y regalos. Se nos haría difícil imaginar terminar el año sin la Navidad. Pero el calendario cristiano sólo la ha festejado algunos 1800 años. Los primeros cristianos únicamente celebraban la Pascua de Resurrección, siguiendo lo que todos los evangelios nos relatan de los eventos de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Jesús. Sólo Mateo y Lucas mencionan su nacimiento.

Alrededor del año 200 d.C., los egipcios empezaron a conmemorar el nacimiento de Jesús el 20 de marzo que era el noveno mes de su calendario. Con el tiempo, la idea de festejar el nacimiento del Mesías se extendió a otras comunidades cristianas, pero con diversas fechas como el 19 de abril, el 6 de enero, el 28 de marzo y otras. Fue hasta el siglo cuarto que se fijó la fecha para el 25 de diciembre, gracias a Juan Crisóstomo y al Papa Julio I. Otras fuentes señalan que en el año 366 los cristianos comenzaron a celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo, sol de justicia, precisamente el 25 de diciembre.

En realidad no sabemos cuándo nació Jesús, pero sí sabemos que hay que celebrar el hecho que Dios se hizo uno de nosotros. — Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM



Ven Señor Jesús Estudio Bíblico

¿Estás listo para que la Misa cobre vida al abrir y leer las Escrituras? ¿Estás listo para que tu vida de oración se transforme? Únete a una de nuestras pequeñas comunidades de fe para estudiar la palabra de Dios. **Sábado** a las 5 p.m. Edificio de educación

Si quieres una intención durante una misa, favor comunicarte a la oficina. La donación por intención es de \$5 mínimo.

Misas en Español 2025-2026
(4to Domingo del mes)

28 de Diciembre
25 de Enero
22 de Febrero
22 de Marzo

Tenemos una imagen de la Virgen de Guadalupe Peregrina —por favor contactar a la oficina para que la recibas en casa! El Padre te la dará durante una



VELAS (\$5)

Puedes encender velas en la Iglesia para acompañar oraciones e intenciones específicas. La luz de la vela simboliza la luz de Cristo y las oraciones que se elevan a Dios.

Parish Announcements



The Office will close Friday, December 19th at noon, through Thursday, January 1st.

Schedule for Masses

December 24th	4 pm	Vigil Mass
December 24th	10 pm	Midnight Mass
December 25th	10 am	Christmas Mass
December 31st	4 pm	Vigil Mass
January 1st	10 am	Mary, Mother of God



The next Mass in Spanish is December 28th, at 5 pm.

Pastoral Council Election Results: We are first of all grateful for Mrs. Sandy Kyle and Mrs. Suzanne Lestage and their service of the three years to the Parish. I am also grateful to announce that the results for the three elected members to the council are Matt Lee, Bea Fontenot, and Kathleen Nichols. I am also grateful that Angela Turner offered to be nominated for this election. The role and goal of the Pastoral Council is to develop and assist with the pastor in areas of growth spiritually and to assist us to the needs and areas of concern for our parish and diocese. We ask that all parishioners who are registered and active consider to serve the parish in shaping and fortifying the community of faith. They meet monthly at least 4 times a year being a conduit to the parishioners and organizations and ministries for the parish and pastor. Other members of the council are elected members at large Mr. Frank Rossi, Mr. Danny Hernandez and appointed to the council to represent youth is Joel Weaver. Our two Trustees Mr. John Burch and Mrs. Rane Sills serve as non-voting members and with the Pastor as the Chair of the Council. For those who have served or wish to serve on the council they may contact the trustees of the Parish to inquire for the next at large election.

A Blessing for Expectant Families will be done at all Masses on December 27th and 28th.

This Christmas, the second collection will benefit Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana. From monthly food distributions and rent and utilities assistance, to homeless outreach and other vital programs, Catholic Charities helps our communities.



Meal Train Account! Please consider donating a meal to feed our students on Wednesdays! **We have a priority for meals in 2026!** Sign Up using the QR Code or by using this link:



Meal Train®

<https://mealtrain.com/ggqn71>

The purpose of this Meal Train Ministry is to provide a hot meal on Wednesday night for our PREP students. This gives them time for fellowship together prior to instruction beginning.



No PREP December 21 to January 4, for Christmas break.



Scripture Readings for the Week of December 21, 2025

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24
Monday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79
Thursday	The Nativity of the Lord <i>Vigil Mass:</i> Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25 <i>Mass during the Night:</i> Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 <i>Mass during the Day:</i> Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Friday	Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22
Saturday	Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist 1 Jn 1:14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8
Sunday	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Come, Lord Jesus! Bible Study



Are you ready for Mass to come alive for you as the Scriptures are open and read? Are you ready for your prayer life to be transformed? Join one of our small faith communities in studying God's word.

Tuesday at 9:30am in the Education Bldg

Wednesday at 6:00pm in the Pastoral Ctr

Thursday at 5:30pm in the Education Bldg

DON'T MISS THE TAX BREAK



Your gift makes an impact while reducing your taxable income.

**QUALIFIED CHARITABLE
DISTRIBUTION
FROM YOUR IRA**

Age 70 ½ or older Distribution must be made by Dec 31, 2025
Contribution must be sent directly from your IRA to your church parish



Other year-end gifts
- by check, online
donation, or
appreciated stock –
are also welcome.

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you are 73 or older, while reducing your taxable income.

CONTACT THE CHURCH
OFFICE FOR MORE
INFORMATION

December Prayer Intention / Intención de Oración en Diciembre Pope Leo XIV - Papa León XIV

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Por los cristianos en zonas de conflicto

Oremos para que los cristianos que viven en zonas de guerra o conflicto, especialmente en Oriente Medio, sean semillas de paz, reconciliación y esperanza.

Bishop Glen John Provost / Obispo Glen John Provost

Let us pray for a renewal of faith in the Incarnation and the hope it brings to live in peace and with joy.

Oremos por una renovación de la fe en la Encarnación y la esperanza que ella trae para vivir en paz y con alegría.