

# *Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church*

130 N. Richelieu Circle • New Iberia, LA 70560

Phone: (337) 364-8360 • Email: [nativity@ni.brcoxmail.com](mailto:nativity@ni.brcoxmail.com)

Website: [www.nativityni.org](http://www.nativityni.org)

## **MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Weekdays:

5:30 pm (Tuesday and Thursday)

9:00 am (Wednesday) 6:30 am (Friday)

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am — 5:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am — 12:00 pm

(Closed daily from 12:00 pm — 1:00 pm for Lunch)

## **PASTOR:**

*Rev. Msgr. J. Robert Romero*

## **SACRAMENTAL MINISTER:**

*Fr. Ed Degeyter*

## **SECRETARY:**

*Kimberly Richard*

## **BOOKKEEPER:**

*Polly Camacho*

## **RECEPTIONIST:**

*Sheryl S. Bourque*

## **DIRECTOR OF FAITH**

## **FORMATION:**

*Janet Viator — 337-365-3759*

## **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT**

## **COORDINATOR:**

*Amber Salsman*

## **PASTORAL COUNCIL**

## **PRESIDENT: Barbara Breaux**

## **RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday: 3:00 pm — 3:45 pm and  
30 minutes before weekday Masses

## **ROSARY:**

Wednesday: 8:20 am (*Pro-Life*)

First Saturday: 8:20 am

*“Therefore  
what God has  
joined together,  
no human being  
must separate.”*



**Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**October 6, 2024**

## Mass Intentions for the Week

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024**

**5:30pm** Lloyd J. Landry (bd)

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

**9:00am** Bobby Norris, Joseph Viator  
Patti Gagnard, Madison Claire Olivier  
Lupe Camacho, Carrol Romero, Sr.

**Thursday, October 10, 2024**

**5:30pm** Special Intention

**Friday, October 11, 2024**

**6:30am** Fr. Jeon Jeon

**Saturday, October 12, 2024**

**4:00pm** Fr. Tom Finley, Rachel R. Romero  
Lynward Ransonet, James Abadie  
Leona & Jules Broussard

**Sunday, October 13, 2024**

**7:00am** Parishioners, Donna M. Snoddy  
Carroll Aucoin, Lupe Camacho (bd)  
Laura & Olan Broussard, Laura Currey  
Fritz & Frances Wencker

**9:00am** Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Loretta Trahan  
L.E. & Barbara Dugas, Agapito A. Castro  
L.J. & Edna Mae Begnaud, Quang V. Nguyen  
Gerald "Bick" Girouard, Le Trung Mien  
Romero & Walker Fly, Clark Romero

**11:00am** Fr. A.J. Boumans, Donna M. Lanza  
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt

### Blessing of Nativity Mausoleum

Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>  
Following the 11:00am Mass



**We are a sacrificial giving Parish,  
giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure:**

### OUR GIFTS TO GOD September 22, 2024

Loose .....	\$ 1,339.00
Envelopes .....	\$ 2,240.00
Total (collected).....	\$ 3,579.00
Online Giving offertory.....	\$ 538.00
Mailed in offertory.....	\$ 347.00
Total offertory (week)	\$ 4,464.00

**Thank you for your generosity!!!!**

May and October, Nativity parish is asked to take a Mass attendance count for the Diocese of Lafayette. Our count will continue for every weekend Mass during the month of October.

### SANCTUARY LIGHT:

**In Memory of :  
Gil Simon**



### Prayer for Marriage

God, pour Your blessings upon those You have called to marriage. Strengthen the bonds of their unions. May Your love be revealed in the ways they cherish and support each other, in good times and bad, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health. Amen.

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### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As a young pastor years ago, I met with a middle-aged couple who had been divorced and civilly remarried. They were frustrated that an annulment had to precede a Church marriage. Sympathizing with their plight, I promised to walk with them along their journey. Once as we sat in my office, the man said to me, "Why is the Church so difficult on marriage?" I replied, "Actually, Jesus' teaching is what's difficult." He furrowed his brow and asked what I meant.

We opened the Bible and together read today's gospel passage from Mark 10:12 in which Jesus says, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery with her..." My two friends sat in silent astonishment. Surely Jesus understands the complexities of human life and sexual love. The words hung thick and heavy in the air. How could the merciful Lord be so seemingly unrealistic in his expectations, especially with so much divorce and remarriage in our world?

I didn't know what to say. So, we kept reading. Next, Jesus says, "Let the children come to me." The innocence of children allows them to receive and give love, to trust unconditionally, to believe in love that endures. Most children aren't yet jaded by statistics, broken hearts, or dysfunctional relationships. Children remind us of the world to come. The couple and I began to talk about child-like trust in Jesus and his teaching, and we continued to move forward. When it comes to the Church's demanding teaching on marriage, it's best to approach it as trusting children, whatever situations in which we find ourselves.— Father John Muir

LPi

**REFLECTIONS Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time** - What qualities do you admire in children? Perhaps you admire their ability to be awed by the world around them, or their curiosity, or their ability to trust. Now consider how Jesus might see these qualities as a requirement for entering the kingdom? Focus on one quality and consider how well it is or is not reflected in your life. What could you do to nurture this quality in yourself?

*"Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a little child shall not enter it." - Mark 10:15*

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## WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### Annulments

**Question:** I read in the catechism that marriage is indissoluble. Why then does the Church issue annulments?

**Answer:** Sacramental marriage is indeed indissoluble. You can find this in several places in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Indissolubility is foundational to the union of marriage (CCC 1646) and required by spousal love (CCC 1644). This quality of marriage draws its meaning from the fidelity of Jesus to his Bride, the Church (CCC 1647). Spouses give themselves forever to each other. Through the vows and their consummation, the spouses form a covenantal bond that binds them as one. Indissolubility presumes and depends on this sacramental bond between the spouses.

Sometimes, however, there are impediments to marriage that are overlooked, poorly understood, or unknown. It is possible that at the time of the vows, something was either present or absent that made the consent invalid. The ceremony itself does not bring about the sacrament. The priest is the official witness of the Church, but he is not the minister of the sacrament. The husband and wife are the ministers of the sacrament to each other. Without the full, free, and able consent of the man and the woman, no sacrament takes place. An annulment does not destroy the marriage bond. It is an acknowledgement that the sacramental bond did not form in the first place.

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### **2025 Mass Intentions:**

The Mass Intention Book for the 2025 year is now open for parishioners to schedule Masses. Please allow at least 14 business days if possible, before the requested Mass. Come by or call the church office to schedule Masses and to ask any questions, 364-8360.

**Nativity of Our Lady Youth Group** will be hosting the 19th annual “**Holyween**”: “**Trunk-Or-Treat**” with the **K.C. Fall Fest.** in the **Parish Hall** at **12:15pm** on **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**. There will be games, face painting, cupcake decorating, crafts, costume judging and lots of food, candy and fun!! Come in your best “Holyween” costume! Remember, no scary costumes. We are in need of volunteers, for our “Holyween” to be a true success. This year we will need volunteers to decorate their car trunks and pass out candy. Also, we are in need of volunteers to bake cupcakes for our cupcake decorating table. If you are interested or you know someone who would love to help out in our church community contact **Amber Salsman** at: **nativityofourladyyouthgroup@gmail.com**.

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### RECOGNIZE GOD

#### IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### The Hardness of Your Hearts

As far as I know, no one has ever woken up in the morning, looked out the window, and thought, “This is a beautiful sunrise. I’ll have to be very careful not to let it make me happy.” But I’m certain that every day, lots of people — including, on not-infrequent occasions, myself — have woken up and remembered something that happened the day before. Something that made us feel upset or frustrated or insulted. And we thought to ourselves, “That makes me so, so angry.” And we’ve pictured the face of the person who made us feel that way, and we have scoffed with disgust.

And we hold onto that anger because anger feels so much better than sadness. And deep within ourselves, in the place where we feel all the love and pain and confusion that is inherent in human existence, we harden.

Nobody ever intends to be hard-hearted. That’s just the stuff of Bond villains and horror flicks. No, in real life a hardened heart isn’t a conscious choice. It’s a reflex. It’s just us trying to protect ourselves, to be strong — or, at least, to embody the version of strength offered by a fallen world.

A heart of stone is not so easily scratched, you see. But it’s also not so easily warmed or touched or moved.

A heart hardened by resentment and pain and anger is not just protected from injury. It is protected from the impact of the whole spectrum of tender feelings. It is not open to forgiveness, so it cannot feel the rush of life-giving mercy. It is closed off to new ideas, so it can never feel the awe of discovery.

There is a reason we are called to guard ourselves against hard-heartedness. God gave us hearts of flesh and blood. They are hearts that can be broken, yes — but also, they are hearts that can be made new.

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#### Thinking about Separation or Divorce?

Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? **Retrouaille** (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about or to register for the **Retrouaille of Acadiana** programs call **337-207-5368** or visit the web site at **www.helpourmarriage.com**

## PRAYER & SICK LIST

**The names on our prayer list will stay on for 90 days. If you want to add or delete a name,**

**please call the office @ 337-364-8360:** Tommy Ronsonet, Laura George, Elmae Picard, Pat Villermin, Tracy Renard, Brenda Hebert, Daniel Bienvenu, Michelle Frith, Lawrence Romero, Jimmy Simoneaux, Laura LaBiche, Curtis Hulin, Morgan McMusson, Candice Clark, Todd D'Albor, Barrett Gardner, Delina Lafont, Sonny Broussard, Michelle Parrie, Scott Romero, Denise Hebert, Millard & Myrna Poché, Taylor Price, Betty Rogers, Ellen Barrilleaux Thomas, Clint Boudreaux, Laurie Delahoussaye, Kelly Boudreaux, Sr., Kathie Segura, Mary Taylor Broussard, Mazel Dwyer, Fran Jackson, David & Robin Viator family, Sheryl S. Bourque, Ronnie Landry, Elise C. Verret, Michael & Claire Landry Family, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego family, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Josephine Delcambre, Ruth Bernard, Sirena Rogers, Jay McDonald, Shawntell Romero, Bea & Jimmy Romero, Jeanette Gonsoulin, Jacquie Gondran, Joylynn Trosclair, Alice Robicheaux, Sheri Arce-ment Darby, Caroline Dubois, Patrick Robicheaux, Walker Robicheaux, Catherine Bourdier, Jeanne Dupre, Peggy Fitch, Hardy Jenkins, Corliss Ramirez, Jean-Paul Marceaux, Rhonda Darden, Marnel Fremin, Yvonne Willis, Misty Geoffroy, Shirley Trahan, Mark Cormier, Brayson Willson, Lori Agiular, Elijah Hebert, Baby Guillory, Frank Onebane, Debbie Johnson & Fly, Cameron Alba, Mel & Stacey Boutte, Betty C. Champagne, Donna Francis, Farina Guidry, Betty Robichaux, Earline Estave, Chad Babineaux, Tammy Dore, Dillon Ducote, Judy Meyers, Garland Reed, Carly Tajmir, Diane & Ronald Broussard, Lance Castille, Grace Armen-dariz, Louis Boudreaux, Jr., Gloria Comeaux, Larry Romero, Scotty Champagne, Edward Simon, Monica Har- rington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Lena Lopez, Betty B. Leblanc, Christine Guidry & the Guidry Fly, Barbara Martin, Ernest "Topper" Breaux, Michael "Tee" Theriot, Phyllis S. Bourque, Doris Scheldon. Please also pray for those individuals who, although they are in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

### Year of Prayer

#### Stations of the Cross 2024

Written by Pope Francis

#### **Ninth Station: Jesus is stripped of His garments**

*"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ... And he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me' (Mt 25:37-40)*

Jesus, you spoke these words before your passion. Now I know why you insisted on identifying yourself with those in need. You too were imprisoned; you too were a stranger, led outside the city to be crucified. You too were naked, stripped of your clothes. You too were sick and wounded; on the cross, you too were thirsty and hungered for love. Teach me to see you in those who suffer, for you are there, and in those stripped of their dignity, demeaned by the arrogance, injustice and power of those who exploit the poor amid general indifference. I look at you, Jesus, stripped of your garments, and I realize that you are asking me to strip myself of so many unnecessary things. For you do not look at appearances, but at the heart, and you ask for a prayer that is not empty but rich in love. Divested of everything, divest me in the same way. Words are cheap. Do I really love you in the poor, your wounded flesh? Do I pray for those stripped of their dignity? Or do I pray only for my own needs and garb myself in my own certainties? Jesus, your truth lays me bare and forces me to focus on what really matters: on you, the crucified Lord, and our crucified brothers and sisters. Grant that I may understand this now, lest I be found naked, bereft of love, when I stand before you on the last day.

#### **Let us pray together and say:**

Strip me, Lord Jesus  
Of my attachment to appearances,  
Strip me, Lord Jesus  
Of my armour of indifference,  
Strip me, Lord Jesus  
Of my idea that helping others is not my job,  
Strip me, Lord Jesus  
Of empty words and routine prayer,  
Strip me, Lord Jesus  
Of the notion that life is good if it is good for me,  
Strip me, Lord Jesus

Amen



## TODAY'S READINGS

### Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 6, 2024

#### Reading I: Genesis 2:18-24

Today's reading from Genesis provides the foundation for our Christian understanding of marriage. Who in your life has a happy and successful marriage?

#### Reading II: Hebrews 2:9-11

The author of Hebrews teaches us we are united with Jesus as one family in our suffering and death. Are there any family members who need your support and comfort this week?

#### Gospel: Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

The Pharisees learned that Jesus holds a higher standard on marriage than even Moses. Does Jesus's position on marriage surprise you?


### PARISH VOCATION CROSS

*The Vocation Cross is taken by:*

*Ellen Claudy (Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>)*

*Warren Gaspard (Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>)*

Each week, a family or an individual from our parish receives the vocation cross. If you or your family would like to receive the vocation cross, please sign-up on the sign-up sheet near the tabernacle in church.



## CURRENT EVENTS

### Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Mass at 5:30pm  
Bible Study - 9am - Barsen Hall

### Wednesday, October 9, 2024

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am  
Mass at 9am  
K.C. & Ladies Aux. Dinner & Meeting

### Thursday, October 10, 2024

Mass at 5:30pm  
Baptismal Class - 6:00pm - Church Office  
Bible Study - 6:10pm - Barsen Hall

### Friday, October 11, 2024

Mass at 6:30am

### Saturday, October 12, 2024

Baptisms - 11am  
Mass at 4pm

### Sunday, October 13, 2024

Masses at: 7am, 9am & 11am  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - Bishop's Services Appeal  
Confirmation Class - after 11am Mass-Parish Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> 2024-25 School Year Youth Group Meeting at 5:00pm in the Parish Hall

**The Bethlehem Nativity Group** will be selling religious articles from the Holy Land, here at Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church after all Masses, on **Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>** and **Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup>**. Christians, in the Holy Land, need your support, now more than ever, so if you can find it in your heart to make a purchase they would be extremely grateful. They also request your prayers for peace in the Holy Land and thank you in advance.



MASS SERVERS October 8 - October 13, 2024					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 10/08/24	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Kimberly Clay	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 10/09/24	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 10/10/24	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Gaston Broussard	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 10/11/24	6:30am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Keith Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 10/12/24	4:00pm	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Karl Boudreaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sophia Comeaux Allie Comeaux
Sunday 10/13/24	7:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Carmen Nicholson	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Serena Bedia Khoi Nguyen
	9:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Nena Suit	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Autum, Benjamin & Ephraim Trahan
	11:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Vincent Borne	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Amari Romero Madalynn Salsman

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