

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church

130 N. Richelieu Circle • New Iberia, LA 70560

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

Website: 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 Degeyer

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



Sunday
December 29, 2024



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 New Year's Vigil

4:00pm Patricia Picard, Catherine Carson
Harris J. "Mick" Champagne
Kelly Boudreaux, Sr.

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 New Year's Day

8:00am Carlson-Claudy Fly
Patty Babineaux Fontenot
United States of America

10:00am Parishioners

Thursday, January 2, 2025

5:30pm Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Robert Romero, Sr.

Friday, January 3, 2025 - First Friday

6:30am JoJo Carlson, Special Intention
United States of America

Saturday, January 4, 2025 - First Saturday

9:00am Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Landry
Brother & Claire LaBauve, U.S. Military

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, DeHart & Estilette Fly
Rachel R. Romero, Roy Flores

Sunday, January 5, 2025

8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin
Glenn & Gladys Carlson, Mona Martel
Diane Touchet, Shelly Zehnder

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza
Liv & Dec Fly of Hadley & Geri Babin

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Jesus' Grandparents

Question: July 26 is the feast of Joachim and Anne. Who are they and what do we know about them?

Answer: Joachim and Anne are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story?

Their names are found in an apocryphal (hidden) gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden gospels, consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. While we have no idea who Mary's parents really were, the fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anne indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life.

Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of non-inspired apocryphal legends, the fact of the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation — God becoming human!

©LPi

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Memory Of:
Trahan & Richard Fly



PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

*Kim, Sarah & Zachary Richard
(December 29th - January 4th)*

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. We appreciate the prayers.

LIVE THE LITURGY

For three days, Mary and Joseph search and worry before finding Jesus in the temple. "Didn't you know where I was?" he says to them, in so many words. We, too, look for Jesus. We, too, know where to find him. Let us never forget and never despair. ©LPi

PRACTICING CATHOLIC RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Where is Jesus?

Every mother who has ever lost sight of her child in a crowd, even for a few seconds, knows the panic.

I think of Mary living with that level of anxiety for three straight days. I doubt she slept, but I'm sure Joseph forced her to lie down at night, imploring her to think of her health, to rest while he kept on searching the streets of Jerusalem. I imagine her lying there, eyes open and staring at the ceiling. Mary, full of grace. Mary, spotless of sin. Weeping in the dark, whispering, "Where is He?"

It's an experience that we all have at one point or another. Running through the world, desperate and confused, just trying to find God and failing so miserably that we wonder if He's purposefully eluding us.

If Mary couldn't even find Him, do we stand a chance? Why didn't Mary think to look in the temple? She had wisdom beyond anyone else who ever lived, at least when it came to Jesus. But I think God purposefully dropped a veil over her reasoning for these three days, so that He could show us it's okay to lose our way.

He isn't eluding us. In fact, He's trying to make it easy. He's staying put, in one place, the very place we should know to look. But the streets of our life are so crowded and loud, so full of distraction.

The Christmas season is about God revealing to us who and what and where He is. He has told us. The question is, have we listened?

LPi

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church - January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Pray for Fr. Theodore Nnabugo Memorial Book	6 Pray for Fr. Albert Gayle Nunez	7 Pray for Fr. Godwin Nzeh K.C. Office Meeting 6pm - Parish Hall	8 Pray for Fr. Mark Alewo Odoguje Pro-Life Rosary K.C. & Ladies Aux. Dinner & Meeting	9 Pray for Fr. Anselm I. Ofodum Baptismal Class Church Office-6:30pm O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm Barsen Hall	10 Pray for Fr. Paul Nouegbe	11 Pray for Fr. Arochia Doss Palthasar Baptisms
12 Pray for Fr. John Paul Nativity Building Fund Confirmation class after 10am Mass Parent Meeting Barsen Hall	13 Pray for Fr. Rene Pellessier OLAS Meeting 5/6pm Barsen Hall	14 Pray for Fr. Stephen Pellessier Patriotic Rosary-6pm March for Life - 5pm Grotto New Iberia	15 Pray for Fr. Donald Pelous Pro-Life Rosary	16 Pray for Fr. Neil Pettit O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm Barsen Hall	17 Pray for Fr. Hai Ngoc Pham	18 Pray for Fr. Daniel Picard Confirmation Retreat
19 Pray for Fr. Ben Pitre Church in Latin America Confirmation Retreat	20 Pray for Fr. Connor Poirrier	21 Pray for Fr. Mikel A. Polson No Faith Formation Classes	22 Pray for Fr. Anand Raju Pro-Life Rosary Reception for Fr. Ed's 55th Anniversary of Ordination - 9:30am Parish Hall	23 Pray for Fr. Bala Prabhakar Rayapati O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm Barsen Hall	24 Pray for Fr. Louis Richard	25 Pray for Fr. Michael Richard
26 Pray for Msgr. J Robert Romero New Iberia Poor & Needy	27 Pray for Fr. Marion Romero Women's Ultraya 7pm-Parish Hall	28 Pray for Fr. David Rozas	29 Pray for Fr. Michael Russo Pro-Life Rosary	30 Pray for Fr. Francois Sainte-Marie O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm Barsen Hall	31 Pray for Fr. Garrett Savoie	
		December 31 Vigil Mass 4pm No 5:30pm Mass Nativity Church Office Closed No Faith Formation Classes	1 New Year's Day Pray for Pope Francis Masses 8am & 10am No 9am Mass / No Pro- Life / No Holy Hour Nativity Church Office Closed	2 Pray for Bishop Douglas Deshotel	3 Pray for Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell First Friday	4 Pray for Fr. James Bam Nguyen First Saturday



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: Marnel Fremin, Yvonne Willis, Misty Geoffroy, Shirley Trahan, 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, Dylan Ducote, Judy Meyers, Garland Reed, Carly Tajmir, Diane & Ronald Broussard, Lance Castille, Grace Armendariz, Louis Boudreaux, Jr., Gloria Comeaux, Larry Romero, Scotty Champagne, Edward Simon, Monica Harrington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Lena Lopez, Betty B. Leblanc, Christine Guidry & the Guidry Fly, Barbara Martin, Michael "Tee" Theriot, Phyllis S. Bourque, Doris Scheldon, Ovide Buteaux, David Spelly, Ellen Guidry, Dean Delahoussaye, Patsy & Percy Barrilleaux, Patsy Thibodeaux, Tom Stowe, Tim & Staci Stowe, John Babin, Rudy Delcambre, Reed Michael & Cody Lynn Romero, Fran Jackson, David & Robin Viator Fly, Sheryl S. Bourque, Ronnie Landry, Elise C. Verret, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Sirena Rogers, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, Norvelle Belaire, Caroline Dubois, Hardy Jenkins.

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.

Nativity of Our Lady needs volunteers to teach **Baptismal Classes**. If you feel called to this ministry, please speak with Msgr. Romero at the Church office at 337-364-8360. Thank you, in advance.

Nativity of Our Lady is looking for a **Sacristan**. If you are interested in applying for this position with our church, please call the church office and set up an appointment with Msgr. Romero. The position will be available as of January 1, 2025.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD December 15, 2024

Loose	\$ 1,502.42
Envelopes	\$ 2,687.00
Total (collected)	\$ 4,189.42
Online Giving offertory	\$ 893.00
Mailed in offertory	\$ 2,970.00
Total offertory (week)	\$ 8,052.42
Retirement Fund.....	\$ 1,683.27

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The Holy Family

As a first-time pastor in a parish, I received a phone call one afternoon from a young married couple, "Father, our 2-year-old son drowned in our pool this morning. We are at the hospital. Please help us." I sped over. The little boy was gone, his body cold, slightly blue, laid out on a bed. His parents were distraught and in shock. For the next few years, I walked with the couple along their difficult and painful road. They openly shared with me how they were often tempted to blame and accuse each other for the loss. And yet, by God's grace, their love for each grew stronger and deeper as the years went by.

The Holy Family was not without its pain and loss, either. Luke tells us, after losing their twelve-year-old son, Joseph and Mary "after three days found him in the temple area, sitting among the teachers..." (Luke 2:46). We don't know specifically what those three days were like for them except for what Mary says: "Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." The three days of his absence foreshadow his death and burial. His finding in the temple is a kind of resurrection for his family. They had to learn, again and again, that their family was becoming a place where death and resurrection was not only accepted but welcomed and celebrated. But surely they deeply felt the dangerous agony of their loss — just like every couple who has lost a child.

What losses in your experience of family still cause you anxiety? In what ways has God's presence seemingly vanished in your family? Will you keep searching for Jesus? Remember, he will rise and be found. Your family may be suffering, but when he is found, it will be stronger than ever before. Father John Muir @LPi

REFLECTIONS The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Once again we are reminded of the importance of forgiving one another. When we have been deeply hurt, it is hard to even think about forgiving the person who hurt us. Consider the times when you hurt someone you cared about and were forgiven. We always pray for God's forgiveness, but, do you believe God has forgiven you? Perhaps hardest of all, do you forgive yourself? Christ died on a cross for our sins - we have been forgiven. How does that affect your understanding of how you should forgive others? When you find it hard to forgive, ask the Lord to show you how.

"Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways." - Psalm 128:16
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TODAY'S READINGS

Feast of the Holy Family December 29, 2024

Reading I: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

In gratitude to the Lord, Hannah returned the gift of her son, Samuel. Is there a gift from the Lord for which you are particularly grateful?

Reading II: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

As children of God, John teaches us that believers should love one another and believe in the name of Jesus. In addition to faith and love, what else do you think unites us as children of God?

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Luke presents an anxious experience that Mary and Joseph had as parents raising the young boy, Jesus. Do you recall a time when your parents were worried or anxious about you?

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Prayer for Family

Dear God,
Help my family to be holy, too!
Amen.

LPi

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

New Year's Eve Vigil

Mass at: 4:00pm

No 5:30pm Mass!!!

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

New Year's Day

Masses at: 8am & 10am

No 9am Mass!!! - No Pro-Life Rosary!!!

Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2, 2025

5:30pm Mass

Friday, January 3, 2025 - First Friday

OLAS, K.C. Ladies Auxiliary & K.C. Members to attend 6:30am Mass

Saturday, January 4, 2025 - First Saturday

OLAS, K.C. Ladies Auxiliary & K.C. Members to attend 9:00am Mass

Mass at 4pm

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Masses at: **8am & 10am**

New Mass Times 2025

The first weekend in January 2025, the new mass times will begin.

Saturday Mass: - 4pm

Sunday Masses: - 8am & 10am

MASS SERVERS December 31 - January 5, 2025					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 12/31/24	4:00pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Kimberly Clay	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 1/1/25	8:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
	10:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Jenny Gonsoulin	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 1/2/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 1/3/25	6:30am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 1/4/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	See Altar Server Schedule
	4:00pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	See Altar Server Schedule
Sunday 1/5/25	8:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	See Altar Server Schedule
	10:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	See Reader Schedule	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	See Altar Server Schedule

Diocesan is proud to now be printing *Nativity of Our Lady's Sunday Bulletin*

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