

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: 8:00 am, 10:00 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*

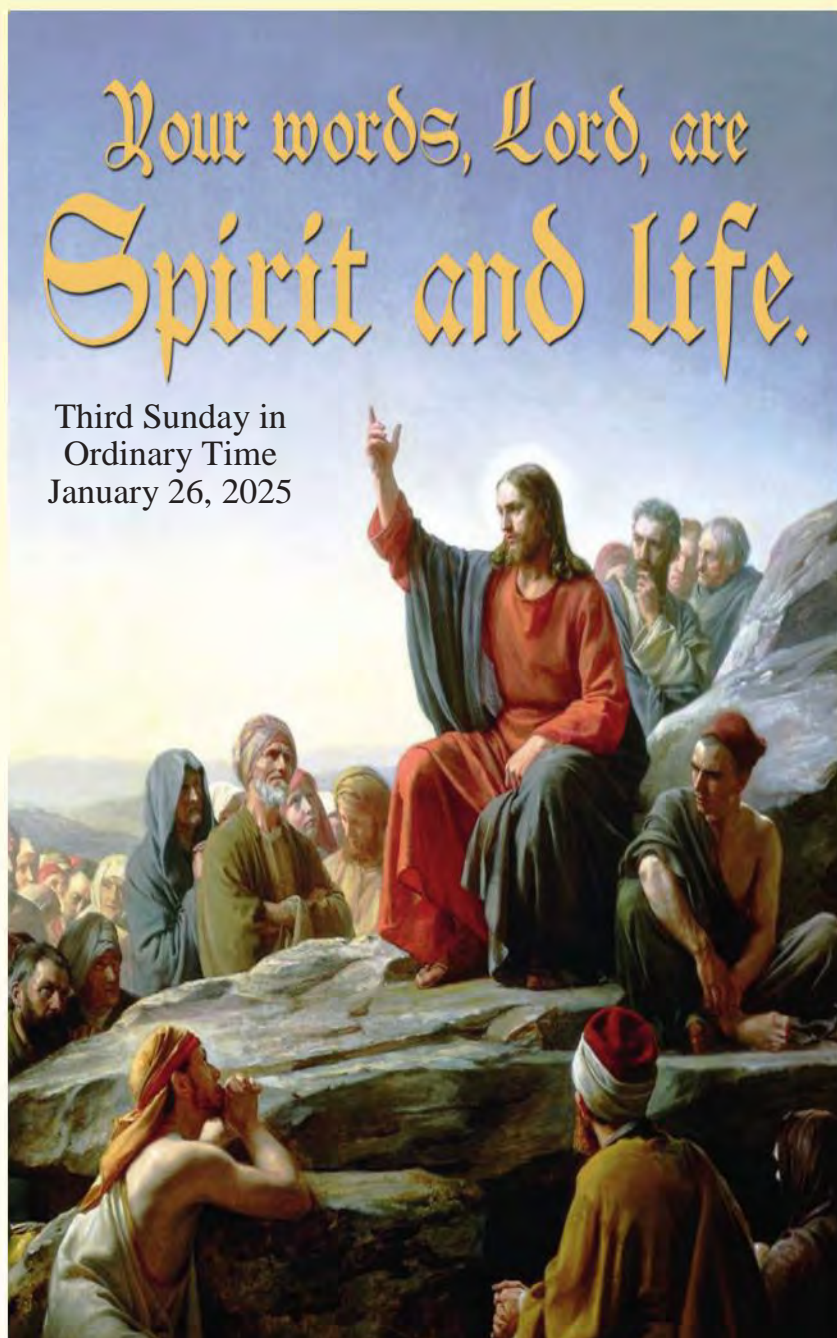
RECONCILIATION:

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



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

5:30pm Delta Guidry
Landon Burton (liv)

Wednesday, January 29 2025

9:00am Ernest "Topper" Breaux, Violet Lancon
Liv & Dec Fly of Carrol & Brenda Romero

Thursday, January 30, 2025

5:30pm Clark Romero (1st ann of death)

Friday, January 31, 2025

6:30am David D. & Linda L. (liv) Viator

Saturday, February 1, 2025 - First Saturday

9:00am Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Landry, Special Intention
Brother & Claire Labauve, U.S. of America

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Lynward Ransonet
Rachel R. Romero, Peggy T. Lancon
Dressel & Ransonet Fly, DeHart & Estilette Fly

Sunday, February 2, 2025

8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

Provided By:

Our Ladies Altar Society



WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Love as a Theological Virtue

Question: I've heard that love is a theological virtue. What does that mean?

Answer: Charles Shultz, the creator of the Peanuts comics wrote, "I love mankind ... it's people I can't stand!" This good humored comment gets at an important truth. St. John wrote a very strong statement in one of his letters: "If anyone says 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen" (1 John 4:20). How often do we say "I love the homeless," but ignore the parish food drive? Or insist on the importance of respecting others, but don't bother to say hello to our cashier? If we can't love an individual person, we might not love people like we think, and we certainly need to work on our love for God.

Love is "the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God" (CCC 1822). God knows acts of love of Him and others isn't always easy. So He invites us to pray for the grace to do it. The virtue of love gives us the grace and strength we need to offer our lives to God and love people in our lives, especially those who are difficult to respect, tolerate, and care for. Real love, of course, is risky. Real love wills the good of the other when we just want good for ourselves. Real love gets up on the cross when we'd prefer to take a nap in Gethsemane. Real love changes things. ©LPi

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	January 12, 2025
Loose	\$ 1,014.00
Envelopes	\$ 2,202.00
Total (collected)	\$ 3,216.00
Online Giving offertory	\$ 838.00
Mailed in offertory	\$ 777.00
Total offertory (week)	\$ 4,831.00
Nativity Building Fund	\$ 989.75

Thank you for your generosity!!!!



PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

*Linda L. Viator
(January 26th - February 1st)*

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. Thank you.

PRACTICING CATHOLIC RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

These Evil Days

"Alas, that these evil days should be mine." If you've ever seen "The Lord of the Rings," you might recognize this quote from "The Two Towers." The words are spoken by King Theoden at the grave of his only son and heir, as Theoden contemplates the coming war for Middle Earth, a war which has already claimed the life of his son, a war he wants no part of, a war that seems utterly hopeless and unwinnable.

You don't have to be a fantasy enthusiast or even a Tolkien fan to identify with Theoden here. We have all experienced this same feeling of despair, perhaps increasingly in this age of technology and social media, when the ills of the whole world — violence, injustice, moral disorder and chaos — are in our faces, on our phones, looming over our days.

But when we despair like this, we forget an important truth: this is the time of fulfillment, and we are lucky enough to be living through it.

Yes, the world is broken. It was broken two thousand years ago, too, when Jesus stood up in the synagogue on the Sabbath and read the words of the prophet Isaiah: "He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives...and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days. @LPi

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Pray for Bishop Douglas Deshotel Memorial Book Bishop's Services Appeal Commitment	3 Pray for Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell	4 Pray for Fr. William Schambough Safe Environment 5th - 10th grade Students & Parents	5 Pray for Fr. Gary Schexnayder Pro-Life Rosary Holy Hour 9:30am	6 Pray for Fr. Andrew Schumacher O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm - Barsen Hall	7 Pray for Fr. Clinton Sensat First Friday	8 Pray for Fr. Bryce Sibley
9 Pray for Fr. Gregory Simien Nativity Building Fund Confirmation Class After 10am Mass	10 Pray for Fr. Brent Smith	11 Pray for Fr. William Snyders 1st Reconciliation Retreat Barsen Hall 5:45 - 7:30pm Patriotic Rosary	12 Pray for Fr. Cedric Sonnier Pro-Life Rosary K.C. & Ladies Aux. Dinner & Meeting	13 Pray for Fr. Raymond Ssebina Baptismal Class 6:30pm - Church Office O.C.I.A. Meeting	14 Pray for Fr. Michael Sucharski	15 Pray for Fr. Jared Suire Baptisms
16 Pray for Fr. Brian Taylor	17 Pray for Fr. Arockiadass V.Thanaraj	18 Pray for Fr. Jude Thierry Safe Environment 1st - 4th grade Students & Parents 6pm Confirmation Practice	19 Pray for Fr. Clint Trahan Pro-Life Rosary	20 Pray for Fr. Harold Trahan O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm - Barsen Hall	21 Pray for Fr. Joseph Sai Tran Confirmation - 6:30pm Students to be at Parish Hall at 4:45pm	23 Pray for Fr. Chrysanthus Ugorji
23 Pray for Fr. Stephen C. Ugwu N.I. Poor & Needy	24 Pray for Fr. Jason Vidrine Women's Ultraya 7pm - Parish Hall	25 Pray for Fr. Michael Coleman Vidrine 1st Reconciliation 5:30 - 7:00pm	26 Pray for Fr. Richard Vidrine Pro-Life Rosary	27 Pray for Fr. Thomas Voorhies O.C.I.A. Meeting 6pm - Barsen Hall	28 Pray for Fr. Thomas Hein Vu	

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: Misty Geoffroy, Shirley Trahan, Brayson Willson, Lori Agiular, Elijah Hebert, Baby Guillory, Frank Onebane, Lena Lopez, 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, Hardy Jenkins, Louis Boudreaux, Jr., Gloria Comeaux, Larry Romero, Scotty Champagne, Edward Simon, Sirena Rogers, Monica Harrington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, Betty B. Leblanc, Christine Guidry & the Guidry Fly, Barbara Martin, Michael "Tee" Theriot, Elise C. Verret, Phyllis S. Bourque, Doris Scheldon, Ovide Buteaux, David Spelly, Ellen Guidry, Dean Delahoussaye, Patsy & Percy Barrilleaux, Patsy Thibodeaux, Tom Stowe, Tim & Staci Stowe, John & NeCole Babin, Fran Jackson, Reed Michael & Cody Lynn Romero, David & Robin Viator Fly, Sheryl S. Bourque, Mark Bourque, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, Norvelle Belaire, Caroline Dubois, Jarrod Lege, Josephine Delcambre, Peter Saltzman, Mary Saltzman, Sarah Richard. 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.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus is the fulfillment of the Scripture passage he reads in the synagogue, a missive of promise and hope from an ancient prophet. But he invites us to be part of his work, here and now, in our own lives, our own communities. Be part of the fulfillment.

@LPi

2024 Contributions Statement

If you would like to have a copy of your 2024 Statement of Contributions mailed to you, please call the office at (337)364-8360 to request one.

To give the "Body and Blood of Jesus Christ" to our brothers and sisters in Christ is an awesome privilege. Are you worthy? No, none of us is worthy, but we are striving to grow in holiness. If you are being called to this ministry, call Msgr. Romero at the church office (364-8360).

GO EVANGELIZE

GO: Just as Ezra "opened the scroll so that all the people might see it" in today's first reading, Jesus also "unrolled the scroll" and then rolled it back up so that all might see him. Ezra held the law in his hands, Jesus is the fulfillment of the law in himself. Jesus' words in today's Gospel, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing," were an infusion of new life breathed into a new creation by God who is outside of time. All things, all mistakes, all failures brought about in our human pride and disobedience were being re-fashioned into new brick and mortar to build God's kingdom in and through Christ. Jesus, with his commandment to love one another as he loves us, gives us structure and a true freedom to discover who God created us to be, while helping us not wander far from this playground the Lord has given us. Knowing what holds us together, and relying on it to guide us, enables us to help build the kingdom even more for the glory of God and the good of others.

@LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION

January 26, 2025

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby *sister!*" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the *way* he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "**fulfilled in your hearing**" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize *this man* is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad? — *Father John Muir*

@LPi

REFLECTIONS Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Have you ever felt that you had nothing to offer others, that your life was without meaning? Consider that God chose to create you in this time, in this place. God has given you certain abilities that you are expected to develop and use. Paul used the image of a body to remind people that each of us has an important role in the life of the community - even if it is a "hidden" one. If you are not using your abilities, then the whole body - the community - is not functioning as well as it could. Pray to understand what your abilities are and how to use them.

"You, then, are the body of Christ.

Every one of you is a member of it." - 1 Corinthians 12:27

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TODAY'S READINGS

3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time - January 26, 2025

Reading I: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Ezra and Nehemiah, the religious and political leadership of the day, grounded their work in Scripture. How does Sacred Scripture guide your life?

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27

Paul uses the human body as an analogy for the many and varied parts of the Christian community. What role would you like to have in your parish?

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

We hear how Jesus began to reveal his true identity as Israel's long-awaited Messiah in his hometown of Nazareth. Have you ever received news that you thought was unbelievable? What was it? @LPi

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am - Mass - 9am

Thursday, January 30, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm

O.C.I.A. Meeting - 6pm

Friday, January 31, 2025

Mass at 6:30am

Saturday, February 1, 2025 - First Saturday

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

Mass at 4pm

Sunday, February 2, 2025

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

2nd Collection - Bishop's Services Appeal

Prayer of Mission

Spirit of the Living God,
Anoint me to bring your love, light, and freedom to the places you call. From the heights to the depths: you are there, you are actively moving, and when you call, you will also provide. Amen. @LPi

DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!*

Examination of Conscience - January 26, 2025

In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the apostle writes that it is imperative for a Christian to reflect on his conscience before he partakes of Holy Eucharist: "Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup" (1 Corinthians 11:28). The practice of examining one's conscience before seeking the Sacrament of Reconciliation thus dates to the very beginning of the Christian faith and was encouraged as a regular practice by many saints and founders of religious orders as a means of growing in virtue.

An examination of conscience, when it relates to the sacrament, simply means reflecting on one's actions (and particularly the intentions behind those actions) since the penitent's last absolution, making note of lapses in judgment that should be confessed. A good basis for this reflection can be the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the seven deadly sins. ©LPi

MASS SERVERS January 28 - February 2, 2025					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 1/28/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Kimberly Clay	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 1/29/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 1/30/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Pete Aucoin	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 1/31/25	6:30am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Chad Courtois	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 2/1/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
	4:00pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	<i>See Altar Server Schedule</i>
Sunday 2/2/25	8:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	<i>See Altar Server Schedule</i>
	10:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	<i>See Altar Server Schedule</i>

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