

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*)

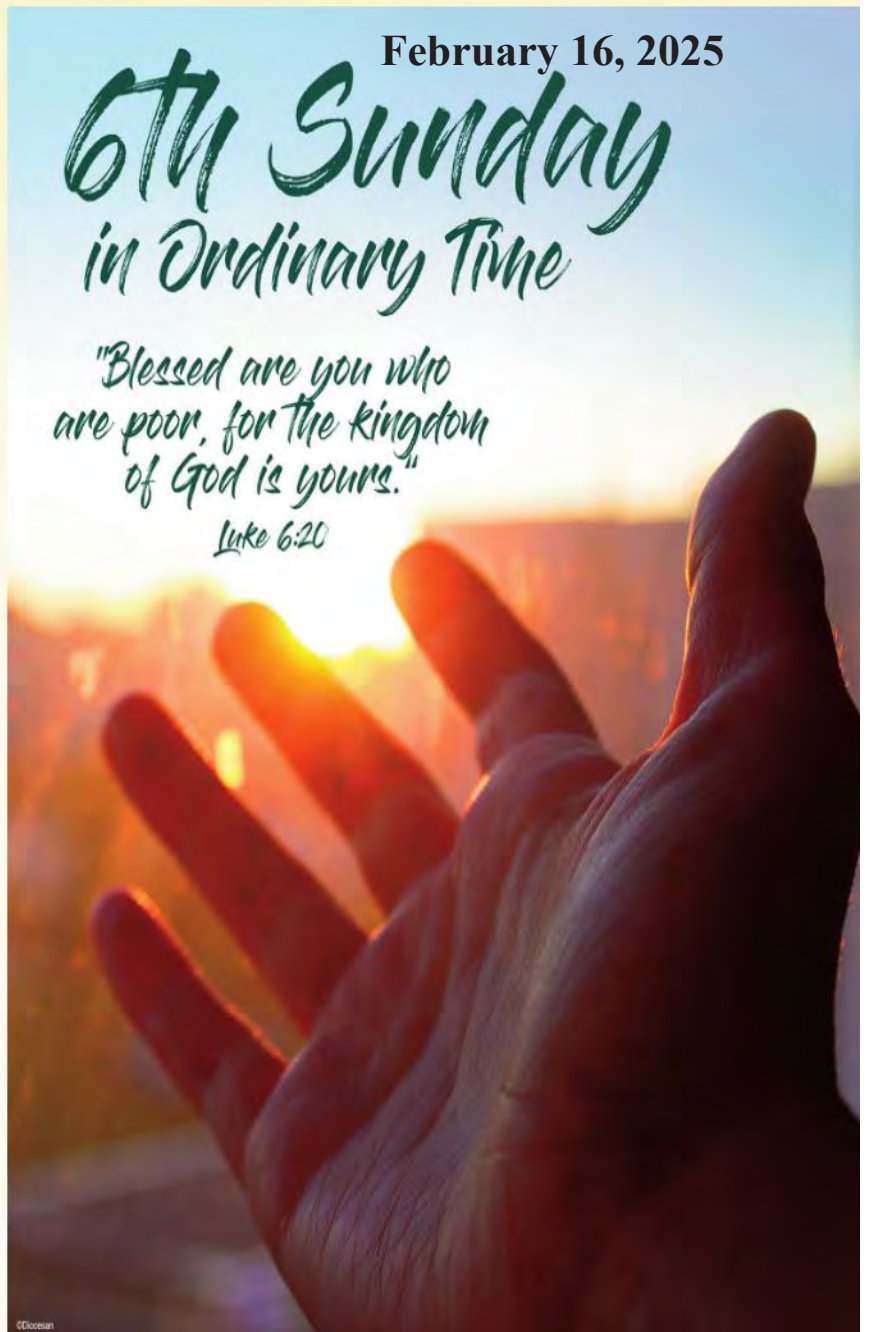
First Saturday: 8:20 am

February 16, 2025

*6th Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

*"Blessed are you who
are poor, for the kingdom
of God is yours."*

Luke 6:20



 **Mass Intentions for the Week**

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

5:30pm Mark Landry, II (liv bd), Landon Burton (liv)

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

9:00am Ernest “Topper” Breaux
Rudy Delcambre, John R. Delcambre
Liv & Dec Fly of Carrol & Brenda Romero
M/M V.A. Bernard, M/M Alphan Fontenot
M/M Tom Bellow, Carmen Merryman

Thursday, February 20, 2025

5:30pm David D. Viator (28th ann of death)

Friday, February 21, 2025

6:30am Larry (liv bd) & Kathleen (liv) Viator
Maudrey B. Durand (liv bd)
United States of America

6:30pm Confirmation Students

Saturday, February 22, 2025

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Lynward Ransonet
Madison Claire Olivier (1st ann of death)
Rachel R. Romero, Russel James Ramirez
Karen Moresi, Judy Ramirez
June C. Guyote, Stuart Guyote
Hope Ramirez

Sunday, February 23, 2025

8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin
Quang Nguyen
10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza
Linda V. Trahan (liv bd), Mike Simon (liv bd)
Peter Saltzman (liv bd)

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD February 2, 2025

Loose	\$ 1,706.00
Envelopes	\$ 2,225.00
Total (collected)	\$ 3,931.00
Online Giving offertory	\$ 863.00
Mailed in offertory	\$ 305.00
Total offertory (week).....	\$ 5,099.00
Bishop’s Services Appeal	\$ 223.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

**PRACTICING CATHOLIC
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
In the End, Does it Matter?

When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: “In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground.”

What he meant was, it doesn’t matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We’re all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the *stuff*, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so *important*: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with *what* I was going to become that I wasn’t spending a lot of time thinking about *who* I was going to become. But the *who* is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it’s all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on “the five-year plan” when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can’t take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the “stuff” in life wasn’t all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success — wealth, popularity, pleasure — did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it’s radical today.

Are we ready to be radical, too? @LPi

Congratulations
Deacon John Sarkies
Celebrated his 25th Year of Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate on **Wednesday, February 12, 2025**

RECEPTION FOR FR. ED IN HONOR OF HIS 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION
on **Wednesday, February 19, 2025, following 9am Mass.** Please bring your favorite continental breakfast items or finger foods. Please call Margo LeBlanc if you have any questions, 337-380-3319. Thank you.

STEPPING THROUGH THE HOLY DOORS



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DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

Stations of the Cross

February 16, 2025

Mini Explanation — Since the earliest days of the church, Christians have meditated upon Christ’s passion and death. Over the centuries, the Stations of the Cross was popularized as a devotional means to experience the places and moments central to the story of Holy Week.

Stations of the Cross, *Explained*

In the earliest years of Christianity, the locations central to the story of Holy Week — the Garden of Gethsemane, Calvary, the Holy Sepulcher, and more — were destinations for pilgrims who wanted to experience Christ’s sacrificial love for us in a physical way. In the years after the Crusades, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became impossible for most Christians, and the Stations of the Cross was popularized as a devotional means to pray through the passion and death of Christ.

Throughout history the number of stations has varied, with different traditions focusing on different events. In the 18th century, the number was officially fixed at 14 by Pope Clement XII. These stations are taken from the Gospel accounts of Christ’s passion and death, though there are several which are derived from tradition and apocryphal sources, such as the meeting of Mother and Son and St. Veronica wiping the face of Christ. @LPi

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

“It is so good to be poor, to have nothing, to await all from God!” These sentiments of the humble French religious sister St. Jeanne Jugan sum up the spirit of Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel. Jesus praises poverty, hunger, sadness, and rejection, but certainly not as ends in themselves; God does not take pleasure in our suffering! He does *use* our suffering, however, to awaken us to our need for him. Poverty can spur us to pursue *heavenly* goods, and thus Jesus assures the poor, “the kingdom of God is yours.” Hunger can cause us to seek God who alone can truly satiate our desires, and thus Jesus says to the hungry, “you will be satisfied.” Those who weep will laugh, Jesus says – so long as their sadness inspires them to seek happiness in the service of God and the joys of eternal life. For all of us, no matter our means or our circumstances, today’s Gospel is a reminder to allow everything – including our difficulties, disappointments, and unfulfilled desires – to turn our hearts to God and rely on his loving care.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It can be difficult to practice the spirit of the Beatitudes (as the “blessings” in today’s Gospel are called) in the moment. Suffering, distress, and confusion easily divert our attention from God as we attempt to “make the problem go away.” Sometimes we are even tempted to give up, to turn aside from God, and to seek consolation in other things. This is exactly the opposite of what he wants for us, and for good reason! God knows that it is best for us to always rely on him. This is why, as today’s first reading explains, the man who trusts in the Lord is secure – “like a tree planted beside the waters ... it fears not the heat when it comes” – and fruitful – “its leaves stay green.” For those who trust in the Lord, help comes from the all-powerful, infinitely loving Creator of the universe. When we entrust ourselves to him, we have nothing to fear.

ACCOMPANY: Is there someone in your life who is struggling with fear, loneliness, anxiety, or sadness? Take time to pray with that person and, together, try to discover God’s invitation to a deeper reliance on him in the midst of the distress. These moments of suffering are never occasions for us to get “preachy.” Instead, accompany your friend and be a reminder of the hope we have in God.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

Provided By:

Our Lady’s Altar Society



Because our church bulletin is printed out of state, all Mass intentions and announcements should be submitted to the office at least two weeks prior to the requested bulletin date, earlier if it is a holiday season because we have earlier deadlines. Thank you.



PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

Karl & Sarah Boudreaux

(February 16th - 22nd)

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.



**St. Katharine Drexel
ACTS Coalition**

**Men’s ACTS Retreat
March 20-23, 2025**

Register online:

<https://tinyurl.com/MenRetreat2025>



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:

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, Sirena Rogers, Monica Harrington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Edward Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, Betty B. Leblanc, 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, 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, Zachary Richard, Sarah Richard, Duppy Duplantis.

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

Too many of us make the mistake of expecting prosperity here on Earth as a reward for following Christ. But Jesus is very clear: sorrow and hardship are a part of life. But when we offer these sufferings to Christ, they become transformed. They become blessed. And so do we.

@LPi

Save the Date

Youth Group **Mardi Gras** Dinner

Join us on **Saturday, March 1, 2025** as the Nativity of Our Lady Youth Group host its **Annual Fund-raiser**. Tickets are \$40 each, and are being sold after all masses. Doors open at 6:30pm with **Dinner** being served at **7:00pm**. Come and enjoy a night out! Babysitting service will be available.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

February 16, 2025

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 6:17, 20-26

I craved four things as a teenager: success in sports, food, fun and the attention of popular people. However, I noticed that as I acquired them, I was more unsatisfied than before. So, I'd strive even more energetically, achieve more, and the sense of emptiness was greater still. These four things started to feel like burdens or even curses. Soon after, I encountered Christ in my high school youth group. Experiencing his love was totally different than anything those four things previously produced. It produced a lasting happiness.

Jesus utters a kind of four-fold curse in this week's Gospel of Saint Luke's "woes": **"Woe to you who are rich...who are filled now...who laugh now...who are well-spoken of"** (cf. Luke 6:24-26). How marvelous that these correspond perfectly to the four things that obsessed my teenage soul: riches, food, laughter and good reputation. The "woes" the Lord speaks are warnings: when those things are the *purpose* of your life, you'll be miserable. He is saying, "You'll be happy, or blessed, in the measure that these things do not determine the shape of our lives, and the kingdom of God does."

To some degree, we're all spiritual teenagers, addicted to one or more of those four "woes." How splendid that the Lord wants his to bless us — that is, to satisfy us, make us laugh with joy, and in the kingdom of God, offer us what will truly satisfy us. But first let's admit what is causing our "woes."

Father John Muir

@LPi

REFLECTIONS Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Jesus repeatedly said the poor, the hungry, and the outcasts were blest. No one wants to be poor, but the more we have, the less time we have for God. When we feel self-sufficient, where is there a need for God? Hunger gnaws at us until we are fed. Our bodies require food to function. Our souls also need to be fed - not just now and then, but daily. Through prayer and the Eucharist we can nourish our hungry souls. Following God's will and doing what is right is not always popular and it may even make us outcasts at times. Is it really more important to agree with others or to follow your own conscience? Reflect on the concerns that fill your days. Where is God in your life?

"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is in the Lord." - Jeremiah 17:7

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TODAY'S READINGS

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2025

Reading I: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Jeremiah believes it is wise to trust in the Lord.
When have you had to place your trust in God?

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Paul challenged those in the Corinthian community who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. How do you support family or friends who are non-believers?

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

We hear today how Jesus brought comfort to those struggling in life and challenged those who lived a life of ease. Is there someone you know who could benefit from your words of comfort this week?

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CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm
Confirmation Practice - 6pm - 7pm - Church

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am - Mass - 9am
55th Anniversary of Ordination Reception for Fr. Ed
Parish Hall after 9am Mass

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm
O.C.I.A. Meeting - 6pm - Barsen Hall

Friday, February 21, 2025

Mass at 6:30am
Confirmation Mass - 6:30pm

Saturday, February 22, 2025

Mass at 4pm

Sunday, February 23, 2025

Masses at: **8am & 10am**
2nd Collection - New Iberia Poor & Needy

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Mardi Gras

Question: Carnivale and Mardi Gras celebrations are linked to Ash Wednesday, Lent, fast and abstinence. Can you tell us more about the connections between these events?

Answer: Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. Every year, Christians highlight this penitential season as a time of self-examination, reformation of one's life, and continued development of a deeper spiritual life. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated. Forty days is a symbolic biblical period of time, during which personal transformation occurs and out of which people surface as more spiritual, ready to carry out God's mission. Relying on God's providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies. Such things were not even allowed in the house. In order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning "goodbye to meat," or Mardi Gras, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday." The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday. Today we focus more on moderation in all things, as well as a strong concern for the poor. What are you doing for the poor this Lent?

@LPi

MASS SERVERS February 18 - 23, 2025					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 2/18/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Kimberly Clay	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 2/19/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 2/20/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Janis Dugas	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 2/21/25	6:30am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Chad Courtois	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Confirmation	6:30pm	Bishop Deshotel Msgr. Romero	Confirmation Students	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 2/22/25	4:00pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Karl Boudreaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Morgan Salsman Charlie Salsman
Sunday 2/23/25	8:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Nena Suit	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Serena Bedia Amari Romero
	10:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	Lloyd Verret	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Autum, Ephraim & Benjamin Trahan

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

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