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:
7:00 am (Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)
9:00 am (Wednesday)

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:
Fr. Matthew P. Higginbotham

SACRAMENTAL MINISTER:
Fr. Ed Degeyter

SECRETARY:
Kimberly Richard

BOOKKEEPER:
Polly Camacho

RECEPTIONIST:
Sheryl S. Bourque

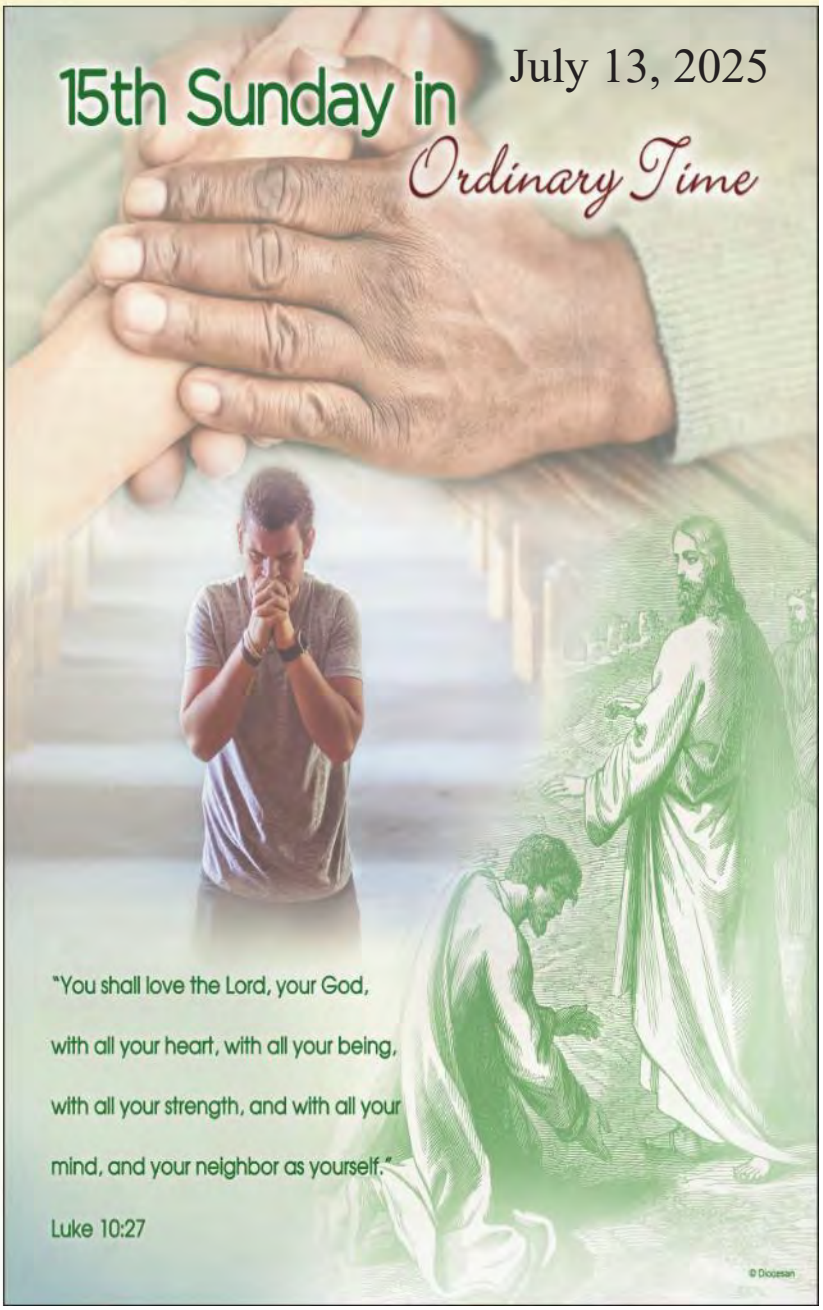
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:
Janet Viator – 337-365-3759

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:
Amber Salsman

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: *Andreé Schlicher*

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



TODAY'S READINGS

Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings:
Deuteronomy 30:10–14
Psalm 69:14, 17, 30–31, 33–34, 36–37
Colossians 1:15–20
Luke 10:25–37

We are to love God and our neighbor with all the strength of our being, as the scholar of the Law answers Jesus in this week's Gospel.

This command is nothing remote or mysterious—it's already written in our hearts, in the book of Sacred Scripture. "You have only to carry it out," Moses says in this week's First Reading.

Jesus tells His interrogator the same thing: "Do this and you will live."

The scholar, however, wants to know where he can draw the line. That's the motive behind his question, "Who is my neighbor?"

In his compassion, the Samaritan in Jesus' parable reveals the boundless mercy of God, Who came down to us when we were fallen in sin, close to dead, unable to pick ourselves up.

Jesus is "the image of the invisible God," this week's Epistle tells us. In Him, the love of God has come very near to us. By the "blood of His Cross"—by bearing His neighbors' sufferings in His own body, being Himself stripped and beaten and left for dead—He saved us from the bonds of sin and reconciled us to God and to one another.

Like the Samaritan, He pays the price for us, heals the wounds of sin, pours out on us the oil and wine of the sacraments, and entrusts us to the care of His Church until He comes back for us.

Because His love has known no limits, ours cannot either. We are to love as we have been loved, to do for others what He has done for us, joining all things together in His Body, the Church.

We are to love like the singer of this week's Psalm—like those whose prayers have been answered, like those whose lives has been saved, who have known the time of His favor, have seen God in His great mercy turn toward us.

This is the love that leads to eternal life, the love Jesus commands today of the scholar and of each of us: "Go and do likewise."

Scott Hahn

Fifteen Random Stewardship Ideas for the Month of July

1. Think of a charity which is amply blessed at Christmas. Remember them with a gift mid-year.
2. Invite a single friend over for a meal.
3. Attend an extra Mass on a weekday this month.
4. Abstain from something you like – meat, a latte, a cold drink – on Fridays and save the money for a charity.
5. Take your rosary with you for an early morning walk.
6. Recycle more.
7. Each day, say a prayer for one of the world's trouble spots.
8. Turn off the TV, phone, and computer, and spend an hour devoted to someone you love.
9. Surprise an old friend with a phone call.
10. Buy or pick a flower for someone without a "reason."
11. Take your family to a farmers' market if in season.
12. Stop for a moment during your busy day and enjoy an ice cream cone or other favorite treat.
13. If you hear a great homily, tell the homilist.
14. Splurge on some produce and buy enough to share with someone in need.
15. On occasion, try turning your prayer before meals into a spontaneous prayer of thanks, using your own words. @catholicstewardship.com

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Lord and Creator, You are the source of wisdom and grace, the author of human freedom and creativity. We thank you for these gifts, and ask that you teach us to be good stewards of our creative spirits. Show us how to quiet ourselves, and to learn the art of re-creation, reflection and relaxation so that we might recharge and refill ourselves for the work you have planned for us. Help us never to be too busy to pause and realize your gracious presence all around us: in nature, in other people, in ourselves. Slow us down, Lord, and teach us to be stewards of our time of re-creation. Amen. @catholicstewardship.com

STEWARDSHIP SAINT for July
Saint Benedict

Saint Benedict, the father of Western monasticism, is considered a model of Christian stewardship. He authored the famous Rule of St. Benedict, a handbook of daily Christian living that emphasizes exercising stewardship over prayer, work, and community.

Born in central Italy in the town of Nursia around 480, Benedict studied in Rome as a young man. He was so distressed by the chaos and incivility he found there that he left the city and traveled to Subiaco, Italy to become a hermit. He soon attracted followers who wanted to join him in his simple way of living; imitating his style of prayer and work while respecting the rhythms of the day. Benedict stayed there for 25 years before taking a small group of his monks to Monte Cassino, near Naples, where he wrote the final version of his Rule.

The Rule of St. Benedict started a simple, spiritual tradition that exists to this day. It was meant to "… establish a school for the Lord's service." It is a set of Christian principles around which the members of the community were to organize their daily lives, focusing on the most important Christian values that would direct their daily actions and help them cultivate habits that would ensure good stewardship of their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

A hallmark of Christian stewardship is hospitality, making room for others. St. Benedict found this aspect of the Christian life especially important for his communities. In his Rule, St. Benedict writes:

"Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ, for he is going to say: 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Mt. 25:35).' 'And to all let due honor be shown, especially to those who share our faith' (Gal. 6:10) and to pilgrims…In welcoming the poor and pilgrims the greatest care and solicitude should be shown, because it is especially in them that Christ is received"
(Rule of St. Benedict 53:1-2, 15).

The Rule of St. Benedict was meant to stand on the shoulders of the Gospels and many spiritual writers throughout the ages attest to its transforming power to change lives. It teaches the principles of stewardship, shows one how to live in a way that is uniquely countercultural and invites its adherents to enter into a deeper and more joyful relationship with the Lord.

St. Benedict died in approximately 550. He is the patron saint of monks and farm workers. In 1964 Pope Paul VI declared him to be the patron saint of Europe. His feast day is July 11. @catholicstewardship.com

REFLECTIONS **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -** Once again we hear the parable of the Good Samaritan. Those who passed by the injured man were good people who were well respected in their communities. They had important responsibilities and schedules to keep. Others were relying on them and they did not feel they could take the time and risk to stop and help this man. Your day is filled with responsibilities, appointments to keep, and people count on you to do things and be places. It is very easy to rationalize why you must pass by those who need your help. In fact, you may be so caught up in what you are about that you do not even notice them. Try spending a day alert to the needs of others and do what you can to help them.

Holy Spirit, help me to order my priorities rightly, let not my work blind me from seeing the needs of others in my life.

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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.

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, 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, 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, Norrie B. Kenner, Josephine Delcambre, Mary Saltzman, Zachary Richard, Sarah Richard, Duppy Duplantis, Joylynn Trosclair, Earline Romero, Jarrod Lege, Jay Jacquemoud, Jody Ellen Hudson, Jim & Brenda Prejean, Toni Boudreaux, Rick Boudreaux, Steve Chambers, Mike Degeyter, Gloria Trahan, Dickie Broussard, Jessica Gary Dubois, Joni Gullotta, Fisher Whitaker, The Babin Fly, Deacon John Sarkies, James & Doreen Norman, Melvin "Boo" & Brenda DeRouen, Myrna & Millard Poche, Gloria K. Bonin, Daphne C. Lopez, Calvin Segura, Beverly B. Walet, Jerome Guilotte, Leoni Derouen, Cade T.

Please also pray for those individuals who, although in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

GOING ON VACATION?

For nationwide Mass times and locations, phone 1-800-627-7846 or visit www.masstimes.org or download the Mass Times App on your smartphone.

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? Retrouvaille (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 Retrouvaille of Acadiana programs visit the website at: ***www.helpourmarriage.com***

PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

Karl & Rose Guilbeau

(July 13th - July 19th)

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.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	June 29, 2025
Loose	$ 1,083.00
Envelopes	$ 4,403.76
Total (collected)	$ 5,486.76
Online Giving offertory	$ 518.00
Mailed in offertory	$ 410.00
Total offertory (week)	$ 6,414.76
Peter's Pence	$ 770.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

NEW WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

July 1, 2025 Weekday Mass times changed to **7:00am** on **Tuesdays**, **Thursdays** and **Fridays.** There is no longer a 5:30pm Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and no longer a 6:30am Mass on Fridays. **Wednesday 9:00am Masses remain the same**.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Memory of:

Malcolm J. Guilbeau

Tuesday, July 15, 2025
7:00am Caulette Geddes
Wednesday, July 16, 2025
9:00am Patrick J. Richard
Kevin Elmer, Carrol Romero, Sr.
Thursday, July 17, 2025
7:00am Larry Eugene Romero
Friday, July 18, 2025
7:00am Larry Eugene Romero
Saturday, July 19, 2025
4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Lynward Ransonet
Rachel R. Romero, Juliette C. Dubois
Jules & Leona Broussard
Louis & Hazel Broussard
Ralph & Lorraine Breaux
Emmet & Margurite Conery
Sunday, July 20, 2025
8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin
10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt
Bobby Norris, Tony Cansemi
JoAnn Cansemi, Donna M. Lanza

CATHOLIC QUOTES

"I always begin my prayer in silence, for it is in the silence of the heart that God speaks. God and silence are great friends. We need to listen to God, because it's not what we say, but what He says to us and through us that matters."
-- Mother Teresa

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, July 15, 2025
Mass at 7:00am
Wednesday, July 16, 2025
Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am
Mass at 9:00am
K.C. & Ladies Auxiliary Meeting & Supper
Parish & Barsen Halls
Thursday, July 17, 2025
Mass at 7:00am
Friday, July 18, 2025
Mass at 7:00am
Saturday, July 19, 2025
Mass at 4:00pm
Sunday, July 20, 2025
Masses at: 8am & 10am
2nd Collection - Bishop's Services Appeal

Nativity of Our Lady is hosting a **BIRTHDAY RECEPTION** FOR **FR. ED** following the **9am Mass** on **Wednesday, August 13th**. Please bring your favorite finger foods. Please call Margo LeBlanc if you have any questions, 337-380-3319.

		MASS SERVERS July 15 - July 20, 2025			
DAY DATE	**TIME**	**CELEBRANT**	**READERS**	**LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUION**	**ALTAR SERVERS**
Tuesday 7/15/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Pete Aucoin	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Sacristan
Wednesday 7/16/25	***9:00am***	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Sacristan
Thursday 7/17/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Pete Aucoin	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Sacristan
Friday 7/18/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Keith Comeaux	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Sacristan
Saturday 7/19/25	***4:00pm***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Brenda Prejean	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Sophia Comeaux Allie Comeaux
Sunday 7/20/25	***8:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Michelle Moss	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Serena Bedia Amari Romero
	10:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	June Jones	***See Signup Sheet Inside Church***	Madalynn Salsman Morgan Salsman

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Nativity of Our Lady's Sunday Bulletin

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