

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 Degeyer

BOOKKEEPER:

Polly Camacho

SECRETARY:

Kimberly Richard

RECEPTIONIST:

Sheryl S. Bourque

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:

Janet Viator – 337-365-3759

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:

Amber Salsman

PASTORAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: *Andrée Schlicher*

RECONCILIATION:

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

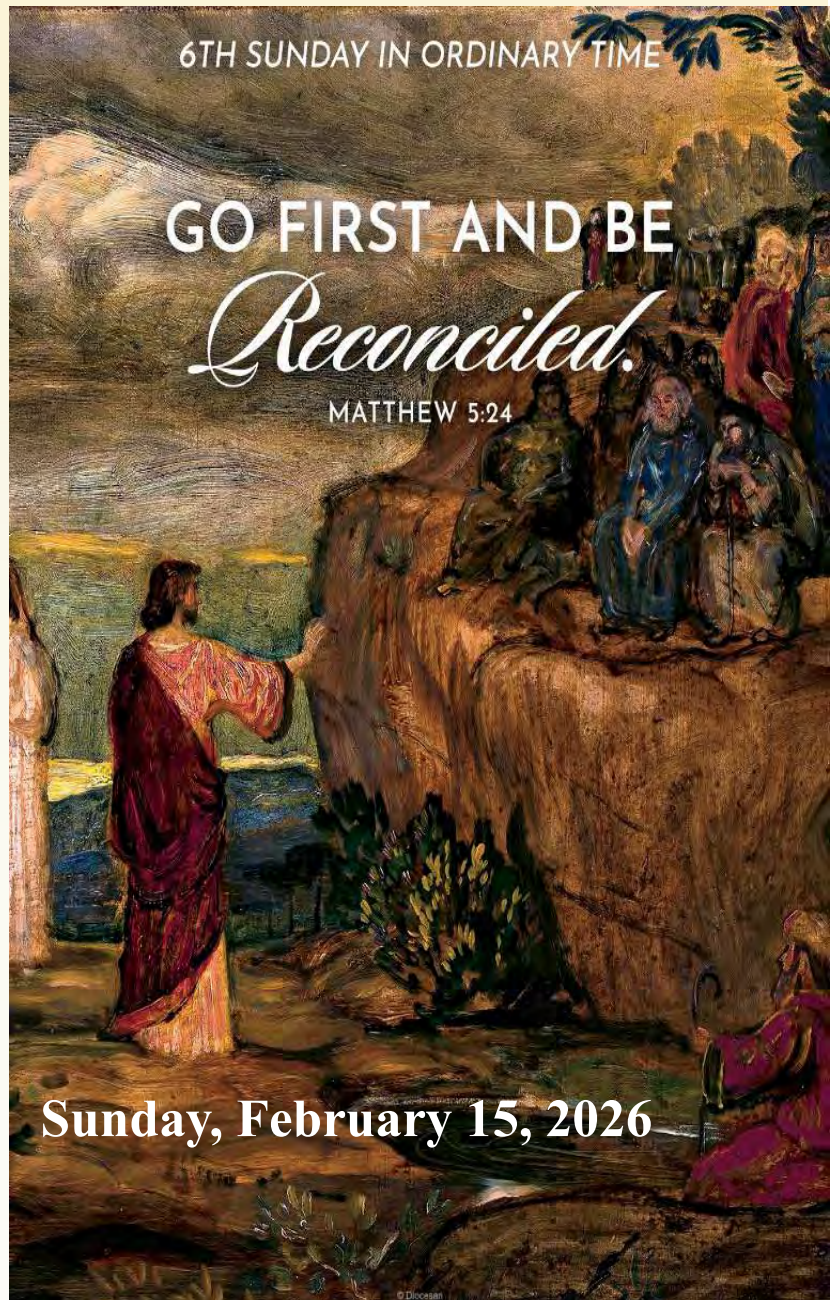
ROSARY:

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

First Friday: 6:30 am

First Saturday: 8:20 am

Third Tuesday: 7:30 am (*Patriotic*)



TODAY'S READINGS



Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37 or 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37



The Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week that He has come not to abolish but to “fulfill” the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. His Gospel reveals the deeper meaning and purpose of the Ten Commandments and the moral Law of the Old Testament. But His Gospel also transcends the Law. He demands a morality far greater than that accomplished by the most pious of Jews, the scribes and Pharisees. Outward observance of the Law is not enough. It is not enough that we do not murder, commit adultery, divorce, or lie. The law of the new covenant is a law that God writes on the heart (see Jer. 31:31–34). The heart is the seat of our motivations, the place from which our words and actions proceed (see Matthew 6:21; 15:18–20). Jesus this week calls us to train our hearts, to master our passions and emotions. And Jesus demands the full obedience of our hearts (see Romans 6:17). He calls us to love God with all our hearts, and to do His will from the heart (see Matthew 22:37; Ephesians 6:6). God never asks more of us than we are capable. That is the message of this week’s First Reading. It is up to us to choose life over death, to choose the waters of eternal life over the fires of ungodliness and sin. By His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus has shown us that it is possible to keep His commandments. In baptism, He has given us His Spirit that His Law might be fulfilled in us (Romans 8:4). The wisdom of the Gospel surpasses all the wisdom of this age that is passing away, St. Paul tells us in the Epistle. The revelation of this wisdom fulfills God’s plan from before all ages. Let us trust in this wisdom, and live by His kingdom law. As we do in this week’s Psalm, let us pray that we grow in being better able to live His Gospel, and to seek the Father with all our heart.

Scott Hahn

REFLECTIONS - THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

How do you view laws and rules whether they are from the Church or State? As Americans, we tend to take regulations very literally, while in other countries they are viewed as more flexible and open to interpretation. Which is more important: to follow the “letter of the law” or the spirit? Jesus pointed out that the commandment not to murder applies to those who are angry with others. In our civil law, we make distinctions between murder, manslaughter, and self - defense. Church law says to go to Mass on Sunday. Does that mean you have to be present for the whole Mass or can you come late or leave early and still have it “count?” What is behind the laws and rules? What is the value they are upholding? Is it possible to fulfill the letter of the law and violate the spirit of it? Consider these things.


Open my eyes, that I may consider the wonders of your law. - Psalm 119:18
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Inspirational Catholic Quotes

At the end of our lives we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made or how many great things we have done. We will be judged by: I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.
Saint Teresa of Calcutta

PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

 **Willie & Cynthia Elmer**
(February 15th - February 21st)

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.



YOUNG ADULT PRAISE & WORSHIP RETREAT



Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church
130 N. Richelieu Circle
New Iberia, LA
337-364-8360

18 to 28 Year Olds Welcome
Saturday, February 28, 2026

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Guest Speakers & Musicians:
Lance Strother & Shawn Carter
Cost to attend: \$25.00(Cash or Checks)
Lunch Provided

You may pay in advance or at event
(bring exact amount of cash or check)

Deadline to Register: Monday, February 23, 2026

Go to website: www.nativityni.org

then click on news & events to register
or you may return paper registration form at
nativity@ni.brcoxmail.com
or in person at Nativity Church Office
or use QR Code.



Come Experience the Presence of Our Lord!

O.L.A.S. Easter/Spring Floral Arrangements

Each Wednesday in March following the 9:00am
Masses we will gather in Barsen Hall to create spring
florals. These will be sold prior to Easter weekend. All are
invited to join in preparing these silk arrangements.
Refer questions to Margo LeBlanc, O.L.A.S. President
at 337-380-3319.



St. Katharine Drexel Acts Coalition Men's Acts Retreat

March 19-22, 2026

Register online:

<https://tinyurl.com/2026Menretreatant>

Beware of Scammers

Please be aware that **scammers** have been
sending out emails and text messages **pretending**
to be Fr. Matthew Higginbotham. It is **NOT**
Fr. Matthew sending these messages. If you should
get anything please **DON'T** respond or engage
with the scammer. It is always a safe practice to
call the Church Office to speak directly with Fr.
Matthew or the Office Staff. Again, do not engage
or respond to the scammers request!

Please keep
Fr. Matthew P. Higginbotham
Fr. Ed Degeyter
and **all priests** in your prayers



Come Lord Jesus



A Bible Study and much more!
An in depth, twelve step study of Sacred Scripture.

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Interested?

Contact:

Ricky Segura at 337-967-3650

Or

Larry Viator at 337-256-1307

Seminary Burse Donations

In Honor of Fr. Ed Degeyter
Fr. Ed's Burse #3/B487

Burse donations by check or money order should
be made out to The Catholic Legacy Foundation, and
mailed to:

The Catholic Legacy Foundation,
P.O. Box 90008
Lafayette, LA 70509

Please remember to indicate the name (Fr. Ed
Degeyter) and burse number (#3/B487) to which your
donation is intended. Credit card donations may also be
made online at: catholiclegacyfoundation.org.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Memory of:
Madison Claire Olivier
2nd Ann of Death



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.

Sirena Rogers, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Edward Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, The Delahoussaye Fly, Patsy & Percy Barrilleaux, Fran Jackson, David & Robin Viator Fly, Sheryl S. Bourque, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, The Greig & Belaire Fly, Josephine Delcambre, Jody Ellen Hudson, Jim & Brenda Prejean, Jessica Gary Dubois, Joni Gullotta, Fisher Whitaker, The Babin, Trahan & Richard Fly, Deacon John Sarkies, James & Doreen Norman, Brenda DeRouen, Myrna & Millard Poche, Gloria K. Bonin, Daphne C. Lopez, Beverly B. Walet, Jerome Guillotte, Leoni Derouen, Cade T., Betty DeRouen, Geraldine Babin, Robert McDaniel, Ron Cutrera, Lori Aguilar, Bailey & Gage Tucker, The Sinitiere Fly, The Fitch Fly, Raywood & Virginia Buteaux, Barbara Keegan, Mike & Doris Degeyter Fly, Rory Suire, Crystal Elizabeth Olivier, Patrick Valls, Nickas Bonin, Gene Gonsoulin, Coty Bourque, Erskine Katz, Randy & Jessica Broussard, Jane Arceneaux, Rebecca Segura, Terry Trahan, John Babin, Phil Duplantis, Ray Landry, Shane DeRouen, Cody Theriot, Sandra Upton, Kay Charpentier Green, Hardy Jenkins, Bridgette Louviere, Amye Hammond Bellot, Hadley Babin, Roland & Faye Boudreaux, Delina Lafont, Emma Judice, Kathleen & Larry Viator, Duppy Duplantis, Caroline Dubois, Bailey Prudhomme, Jane Patin, Juanita & Hargis Lewis, Nettie Voorhies, Johnathon Angers. Please also pray for those individuals who, although in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

7:00am Patrick J. Richard

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

9:00am Carrol Romero, Sr., Andre LaBauve

Jude Broussard, Robert & Mary Hicks Fly

5:30pm Ernie & Sylvia Broussard, Special Intention

Thursday, February 19, 2026

7:00am Fr. Ed Degeyter, Fr. Matthew Higginbotham

Friday, February 20, 2026

5:30pm Doralisse Hebert (ann of death)

Maudrey B. Durand (liv bd)

Raymond & Pearlle Romero

Saturday, February 21, 2026

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Rachel R. Romero

William Kell Lewis, Bill Olivier

Bayne Olivier, Lynward Ransonet

Juliette C. DuBois, M/M Clifford Broussard

Madison Claire Olivier (2nd ann of death)

Sunday, February 22, 2026

8:00am Parishioners, Henry & Dorothy McDonald

United States of America

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans

Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza

Paul Dominique Fly, Rudy Delcambre Fly

James E. & David P. Comeaux

David D. Viator (29th ann of death)

WAY OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent at 6:00pm following the 5:30pm Mass in church. There will be no 7:00am Mass on Fridays in Lent.

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE FOR LENT

Every Saturday from 3:00 - 3:45 pm
Weekdays - 30 minutes before Mass



ST. KATHARINE DREXEL FEASTDAY HOLY HOUR, SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

St. Katarine was born in 1858 and died on March 3, 1955. She was an heiress who devoted her life and fortune to serving the Eucharistic Christ through the black and Native American people. She founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament who served throughout the country, but especially in Acadiana. At the time of her death, her sisters were serving in 48 elementary schools (including St. Edward in New Iberia), 12 high schools and one college - Xavier University in New Orleans. She taught us how to live united in the Eucharistic Christ.

In honor of St. Katharine's Feast Day, which is Monday, March 3, 2025, the Associates of the Sisters of the blessed Sacrament will host a Holy Hour on **Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 3:00 PM at St. Edward Church, 175 Ambassador LeMelle St., New Iberia.** Before the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a relic of St. Katharine will be venerated. Please join us in worshipping Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and remembering St. Katharine who walked these holy grounds in New Iberia.

2026 BISHOP'S SERVICES APPEAL

Supporting the Works of Christ

FOLLOW UP WEEKEND, February 14th & 15th

This BSA Follow-Up Weekend, we invite those who haven't yet participated to join us by making a pledge to the 2026 Bishop's Services Appeal. Every gift, no matter the size, provides the essential funding needed for "Holding the Faith" through our diocesan ministries that serve the vulnerable and form the future of our Church here in Acadiana. You can still place your BSA gift in the offertory or you can give a secure gift online by scanning the QR code on the BSA envelopes in the pews.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	February 1, 2026
Loose.....	\$ 2,295.00
Envelopes	\$ 2,471.00
Total (collected).....	\$ 4,766.00
Online Giving offertory	\$ 1,746.00
Mailed in offertory.....	\$ 191.00
Total offertory (week).....	\$ 6,703.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!



CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Mardi Gras - Church Office Closed

Mass at 7:00 am

No Faith Formation

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20 am

Masses at 9:00 am & 5:30 pm

Offertory Collection - Catholic Charities of Acadiana

Thursday, February 19, 2026

Mass at 7:00 am

Women's Praise & Worship - 6:00 pm

Friday, February 20, 2026

Mass at 5:30 pm

Way of the Cross - 6:00 pm

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Mass at 4:00 pm

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Masses at: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

2025 Contributions Statement

If you would like to have a copy of your 2025

Statement of Contributions mailed to you, please call the office at (337)364-8360 to request one.

Volunteer Sacristan Needed every Tuesday for 9:00am Mass at New Iberia Manor North Nursing Home. Please call Cindy Landry for more information at 337-256-2208, or the Church Office at 337-364-8360.

MASS SERVERS

February 17, 2026 - February 22, 2026

DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 2/17/26	7:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Ellen Claudy		Sacristan
Wednesday 2/18/26	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	Margo LeBlanc Ricky Segura Brenda Romero Percy Barrilleaux	Sacristan
	5:30pm	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Pete Aucoin	Andree Schlicher Doris Degeyter	Sacristan
Thursday 2/19/26	7:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Keith Comeaux		Sacristan
Friday 2/20/26	5:30pm	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	June Jones		Sacristan
Saturday 2/21/26	4:00pm	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Margo Leblanc	Andree Schlicher Holli Cambre	See Altar Server Schedule
Sunday 2/22/26	8:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Paul Broussard	Ricky Segura Brenda Comeaux	See Altar Server Schedule
	10:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Vincent Borne	Melissa Dworaczyk Megan Love	See Altar Server Schedule

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

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 For further information, please call the parish office.

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