



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 17 & 18, 2016

Mass Intentions

Saturday

5:00 PM † Michael Barnett / Ashley Riis

Sunday

8:00 AM Inge Petite Family / Inge Petite

10:30 AM † Deacon John Cretaro / Jo Anne Cretaro

Monday

8:00 AM † Joe Grady / Ashley Riis

Tuesday

8:00 AM † George Schruender / Deacon Richard & Hope Sullivan

Wednesday

8:00 AM † Clair & Paul Sullivan / R. & H. Sullivan

Thursday

8:00 AM † Christopher McDonough / B. & S. Krueger

Friday

8:00 AM Prayer Register Requests

Saturday ~ Christmas Vigil

6:30 PM Mr. & Mrs. Consolacion Agabin
/ Nori Corpuz Family

9:00 PM ~ **Christmas During the Night**
Universal Church

Sunday ~ The Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Jason Scott (birthday) / Family

Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Kindly pray for our parish family and all those who are journeying in a special way with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Martha Broz, Pat Chubb, Pat Clemens, **Diane Dickerson**, Ed Dubin, Barbara & Elizabeth Edwards, Nicole Fehn, **Harry Fletcher**, Jo Flynn, **June Henderson**, Margaret Henson, **Judy Jordan**, Mary Link, **Curtis Malone**, Monk Manning, Richard Muller, Bob & Margaret Nail, Richard Peterson, Annie Rutledge, **Anita Sanford**, Mary Stenzel, George & Margaret Schaff, **Rick** & Pat Van Norden, Cece Vaness, Sr. Thérèse West

~ Prayer Requests ~

Terry Danson – 251-961-2165 or tsdanson@gmail.com

If you know of someone or if you are homebound, ill, due to have surgery, or in the hospital and would like a visit from the pastor or receive the sacraments, please call the rectory or the office.

First Friday Memorial Mass Association

Our Loved Ones – Bob & Margaret Nail
Living & Deceased Kaiser, Klein & Murphy Families
Living & Deceased Scott & Weiss Families
Living & Deceased Bush, Alvarez & McAleer Families
Living & Deceased Mullek & McCandless Families
Living & Deceased Patton & Norton Families
Living & Deceased Shields & Self Families
Living & Deceased Cretaro Family

† James E. Link
† Deacon John Cretaro
† Anita Warriner
† Joseph LaManna
† Doris Mullek
Frank Mullek, Jr.
† Mignon Kilday

Living & Deceased Kilday Family
Living & Deceased Chubb & Burns Families
Living & Deceased Lacoy & Clancy Families
Living & Deceased Kearns & Patterson Families
Living & Deceased Lang & Pope Families
Living & Deceased Altar Society Members
The Baptized Who Do Not Practice Their Faith
Holy Souls in Purgatory

This Week's Schedule

Monday	8:30 AM	Rosary Cenacle – IM Hall
Monday	5:00 PM	Advent Penance Service
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Children's Christmas Practice
Wednesday	9:00 AM	Adult Faith Formation
		Bible Study – IM Hall
		All are welcome!
Wednesday	10:30 AM	Christmas Choir Practice
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Chair Aerobics – IM Hall
Wednesday	4:30 PM	Catechism Class – IM Hall
Thursday	9:30 AM	General Church Cleaning
Friday	9:00 AM	Church Cleaning and Decorating

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND

5 PM = 62 8 AM = 61 10:30 AM = 96 Total = 219

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Gift for December 10 = \$2,848.00
Maintenance = \$721.00
Retired Religious = \$871.45

Christmas & New Year Schedule

Dec. 24 – Christmas Vigil Mass: 6:30 PM
Prelude: 6:00 PM – Children's Program
Christmas Night Mass: 9:00 PM *Rejoice in the Lord Always*
Prelude: 8:30 PM – Adult Choir
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 AM
Prelude: 8:45 AM – Carols
Dec. 31, 2016 – New Year's Eve Mass: 5:00 PM
Jan. 1, 2017 – New Year's Day Mass: 9:00 AM

Pray for the Dead

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our Cece LaManna. Our sympathy to her family. May her soul rest in peace. Arrangements for the Memorial Mass will be announced later.

Christmas Flowers ~ Please fill out an envelope located in the pews and place it in the offertory collection. Thank you for all you do to help beautify our church.



SINGERS ARE NEEDED to sing at the **Christmas Night Prelude and Mass at 8:30 PM**. All children are invited to sing at the **6 PM Prelude and Mass**.

"O ANTIPHONES"

The **O Antiphons** refer to the seven verses that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, December 17-23. These antiphons form the basis of the Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," put to music in 15th century France.

December 17—O Wisdom, O Holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation.

December 18—O Sacred Lord of Ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain—come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.

December 19—O Flower of Jesse's Stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.

December 20—O Key of David, royal power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven—come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and lead your captive people into freedom.

December 21—O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice—come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

December 22—O King of All the Nations, the only joy of every human heart, O keystone of the mighty arch of humanity—come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.

December 23—O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people—come and set us free, Lord our God.

HELP IS NEEDED to clean and decorate the church for Christmas on the following days and time:

Cleaning – December 22 at 9:30 AM

Decorating/Cleaning – December 22 & 23 at 9:00 AM
"Many hands make light work."

Church Cleaning – December 2016

Restrooms, etc. – Charlene & Jason Crump

Floors/Pews – Marlene Fuller, Karen Service

A schedule is posted on the bulletin board. If you are not able to keep your commitment, call Harriet Shields.

Instructions are posted on cabinet door in sink closet.

ATTENTION: Mary Stenzel is very sick and will not be returning this winter. Please sign up to help Marlene for one of the months from January through April.

Dec. 24 & 25

Sat.: 6:30 PM

9:00 PM

Sun: 9:00 AM

Lectors

Children

S. Williams

B. Patton

Ext. Ministers

J. & N. Alemany

M. Donovan / P. Marceau

W. & W. Zielinski

Gift Bearers

Children

M. & S. Donovan

J. Williams / L. Willis

Ushers

F. Mullek / Sal Pinzone

R. Geiger / S. Hillestad

J. Crump / B. Jarveis



ST. JOSEPH PARISH COOKBOOK SPECIAL

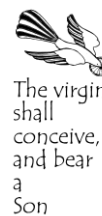
Our cookbooks are on sale for **\$9.00** during the month of December—just in time for Christmas gift giving! They are available in the office, or call Harriet Shields at 1-205-405-7499.

"CIRCLE OF CARE" ~ If anyone is in need of a ride to the doctor, store, church, etc., please call Sr. Thérèse or the office. See Circle of Care cards in the vestibule.

Catholic Social Service Food Pantry

December is our month to provide nonperishable food for the CSS food pantry in Robertsedale. Please place items in the container provided in the vestibule or bring them to IM Hall during office hours. Monetary donations are also accepted – make checks payable to CSS. For more information, call Sally McKinney. Please check bulletin board notice for urgent needs.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES of Mobile is pleased to announce that seminarians from St. John Vianney Seminary will be here in late January 2017. Our Archdiocese has been blessed to have seminarians come and serve in our community who are interested in serving homeowners with minor home repairs. Services will be provided in conjunction with Catholic Social Services. Contact Joseph Bayer: email jbayer@mobarch.org or call 251-434-1550.



The virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son

CHRISTMAS ~ A young mother, her eyes shining with fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby, straightening the stable to make himself useful in some way; shepherds who bring

cheese and perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look at their shepherds while bleating; a donkey who is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior, Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the most fantastic birth in the history of humanity, the one which changed the face of the world! This is how far God humbled and compromised himself with us! This is Emmanuel!

The Old Country Philosopher Sez - Bob Nail

Stand up for the innocent, rise up for the weak.

Walk a mile in someone's shoes,

Help the helpless and the meek.

Share your love and faith in God to all you shall meet,
And you'll find you have the strength to kneel at God's feet.