

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun. Dec. 17 - Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 (Ps)
Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Mon. Dec. 18 - Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2,
12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25

Tues. Dec. 19 - Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps
71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25

Wed. Dec. 20 - Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2,
3-4ab, 5-6 Lk 1:26-38

Thurs. Dec. 21 - Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3,
11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45 or 2 Tm 4:1-5
Ps 40:2 & 4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11
Mt 5:13-19

Fri. Dec. 22 - 1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1
Sm 2:, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd Lk 1:46-56

Sat. Dec. 23 - Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps
25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14 Lk 1:57-66 or
Jas 2:14-17 Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9
Lk 6:27-38

Attendance

Saturday 40 Sunday 50

Weekend Collection

Mail In	\$ 227.00
Missals reimb	\$ 35.00
Loose	\$ 140.25
Retire Religious	\$ 154.00
Saturday	\$ 571.00
Sunday	\$ 1,841.00

Total Deposit \$ 2,968.25

Expenses: spectrum <\$ 112.00>
Liturgy <\$ 191.40> office equipment
contract <\$ 38.02> Catholic campaign for
Human Development, <\$ 166.00>

*****Important*****

The purpose of Social Ministry on 2nd Sunday, is so that we **ALL** participate in serving, fellowship, and encouraging each other. A time to relax before getting started with weekly tasks. For those who want to provide goods or service check with coordinators to see where help or food donations are needed. However this ministry will be funded through the parish. Come join us.

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to **His** purpose.

Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser

Goal: \$25,000.

Pledged: \$ 16,375. Paid: \$ 11,700.

We have begun the work on our BFA goal, We ask that everyone make their pledges and payments as soon as possible. For any information please contact Robert Gobert at (504) 232-5640 or Shirley Ray at (409) 779-9922. We are look forward to the continued growth of our parish

December Birthday List

Happy Birthday to::

Draven Platt	1
Eva Platt	3
Sonja Popillion	4
Betty Odom	5
Courtney Chavis	6
Debra Henderson	11
Lawrence DeLarue	12
Jordan Richard	13
Shirley Cezar	14
Ashton Spearman	17
Zederick Cezar	19
Mary Crossley	21
Lucy Jones	22
Rosie Scott	23
Mary Rigsby	27
Brushelle Scott	28
Russell Bottley	29

Happy Anniversary

Andre & Lanier Robertson	8th
Richard & Brushelle Scott	8th
Herman & Mona Richard	10th

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND

HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Rose Davis, Walter Davis,
Willie Oliver & Shirley Allison
Sunday: Rose Bottley, Gloria Richard,
Fred Green & Joseph Fontenot

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: **A:** Freda Guillory
L: Eva Platt & Josie Curtis
Sunday: **A:** YOUTH **L:** YOUTH

ALTAR SERVER:

Saturday: William Pitre & Reagan Pitre
Sunday: D'Ana Williams

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Cecilia Davis &
Russell Bottley
Sunday: Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

COORNATORS OF MINISTRIES

Bishop Faith Appeal - Robert Gobert
Bereavement Committee- Rose Bottley

Donut Sunday's - Freda Guillory*
Donuts and coffee in the Education Building 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday of each month.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion -
Shirley Ray

Finance - Andre' Robertson * finance meetings are held **every 2nd** Wednesday of **each** month.

Fund Rising - Walter Davis
Hospitality/Ushers - Rose Davis
Lectors - Gary Mims

Life Center - Adam Jacobs
Maint. & Plumbing - Joe Fontenot
Mission & Retreat - Cecilia Davis

Music Director - George Alexander *
choir rehearsal's are every Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Pastoral Council meetings held **every 3rd** Wednesday of **each** month.

Socials - Knights of Peter Clever & Ladies Auxiliary * Parish Luncheon, the second Sunday of each month.

Youth - Felicia Richard

Stewardship-Wayne Sparrow

1st Friday of each month Fr.
Donatus has 11 am Mass at Orange Villa located on 3rd Street. There will be NO evening Mass that day, adoration only, everyone is invited to come.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec 17th 9:00 a.m. Mass
+Delia Brahney Kenney
Requested by the Kenney Family

Monday, Dec 18, NO MASS

Tuesday, Dec. 19th 6:00 p.m.
+Marvin & +Armedia Jeanes
Requested by the Kenney Family

Wednesday, Dec. 20th 6:00 p.m.
+Walter & +Leona Kenney
Requested by the Kenney Family

Thursday, Dec. 21st 6:00 p.m.
+H. H. Kenney requested by the Kenny Family

Friday, Dec. 22nd 5:00 p.m.
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, Dec. 23rd 4:00 p.m. Mass
3:20 - 3:55 Reconciliation
+Jerry Jeans requested by the Kenney family

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/ your love ones, or any deceased person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).



St. Therese Catholic Church

Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000

1409 6th Street 77630
Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783
Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Fax: (409) 883-4918
Website: stthereseorangetx.org

Pastoral Team:

Rev. Donatus Mgbajuo, MSP

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com
Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958
Rectory: (409) 920-4007
Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743
Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



The 3rd week of Advent

December 17, 2017

"I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize"



Eucharistic Celebration

Weekends:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. & Sunday: 9:00 a.m

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

Infant Baptism:

Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

Weekdays:

Tuesday-Friday 6:00 p.m.

Adoration & Benediction

1st Friday each month 5p.m.-6:30p.m.

Marriage:

Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date

SECRETARY

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

PARISH COUNCIL

Richard Scott, Chairman	779-7587
Rose Davis, Vice Chairman	883-0762
Steven Allison, Secretary	313-0586
Cecilia Davis	920-1136
Rose Bottley	886-1525
Charlis D. Rogers	988-8719
Adam Jacobs	883-9688
Albert Hebert III	746-2627

MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS

Joe Ware 886-5331

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

FINANCE COUNCIL

Andre Robertson	882-0012
Robert Gobert	(504) 232-5640
Sheila Arnold	313-2062
Janice Semien	883-7126
Tina Kindle	238-4447

Today's Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

The Lord's salvation will be made known to the poor and the oppressed.

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1:46-50,53-54

Mary sings praise to God.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to rejoice and pray always.

Gospel Reading

John 1:6-8,19-28

John gives testimony that he is preaching and baptizing in order to prepare for the coming of another.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Family Connection

In family life, we learn to trust other people for protection and care. This experience of trust within the family enables children to believe us when we testify about our faith in Jesus. John the Baptist was believed by those who heard him because he helped them to recognize Jesus in their midst. In our family life, we hope and pray that we lead one another to recognize Jesus' presence in our world.

As you gather as a family, recall that during the Advent season we are invited to pay particular attention to the signs of Jesus' presence in our world. Consider some of the signs of Jesus' presence that you have experienced. During Advent, we remember how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Read together today's Gospel, John 1:6-8,19-28. Discuss the signs of Jesus' presence in our world that you named and explain what these signs tell us about God and God's love for us. Pray together that your family will be led to recognize that Jesus is present among us. Read and pray together the psalm for today's Mass, the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

John Abram
Mary Brown
Mary Crossley
David Jayce Carey
Courtney Chavis
Therese Ferguson
Hollis Fain
Joe B. Forward
Theresa Garrett
Ella Mae Garrett
Anna Garrick
Beatrice Guillory
Mark Mitchell Jr.
James Mims
Westley Popillion
John Richard, Sr.
Alma G Thibodeaux
Alma C Thibodeaux



PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux
Mable Durio
Alberta Fontenot
Frances Freeman
Debra Glaude
Margaret Green
Peggy Green
Myrtle Guillory
Marvin Hampton
Rena Mae Jenkins
Celestine Johnson
Calvin Johnson
Stacy Johnson
Rose Lee Johnson
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones
Leothus Jones
John Milton
Ruby Milton
Bettye Odom
Clayona Pilette
Doris Robertson
Brushelle Scott
Robert Simmons
Joe Ware

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing VI
Diocese of Beaumont Annual
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Birthday Commemoration

Celebration of the Eucharist
Mass of Anticipation for the
Feast of the Epiphany
Saturday, January 6, 2018 @ 4:00 pm

St. James Catholic Church
3617 Gulfway Drive, Port Arthur, TX 77642
Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory, S.V.D., D.D.
Bishop of Beaumont – Celebrant and Homilist

Concelebrating Priests of the
Diocese of Beaumont

In the spirit of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King,
Jr. we invite you to celebrate the many cultures of
the Diocese of Beaumont

Reception immediately following in Kirwin Hall

Graciously underwritten by a grant from the Black
and Indian Mission Office
and the generosity of the people of
Southeast Texas through the
Bishops Faith Appeal

*Called by our Baptism
Formed in our faith and
Sent to the world*

The Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis
is offering a day of reflection on this mission.

Living as Missionary Disciples

For those working in Evangelization and Catechesis,
especially catechists, parish catechetical leaders, par-
ents, youth ministers and their teams, RCIA teams,
adult faith formation teams and anyone looking to
grow in their faith. Come join us on this mission...

Saturday – January 20
9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Our Mother of Mercy, Beaumont

There is no fee for this event and lunch is provided

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you
promised to spend your time in heaven doing
good upon the earth. WE come before you in
our need. We believe that you listen to us and
approach God for and with us. You are love in
the heart of the God. Please accept these
petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list
below (pause).
Please present them to our loving Father so that
God may do what is best for us, for our loved
ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom.
Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We
ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence
and loving care. We make this prayerful petition
in the name of Jesus and through the power of
his Spirit. *AMEN.*

Jackson Community Center partnered with Augusta's Angels of Beaumont Partnering with St Therese for Santa's Treat Bags

On December 21, 2017 from 12 noon to 3:00
pm, Santa's Treat Bags will be given to ALL the
Youth of Orange Community in the parking lot
of St. Therese Life Center . In the interest of
safety and time, we ask that you enter from Bur-
ton Street and exit by way of Hart Street and you
will receive a Treat Bag from your vehicle.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLIDAY'S

DATE:	TIME:
Saturday, December 23rd	4:00 pm
Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24 th	9:00 am
Christmas Day - Monday, December 25th	9:00 am
Saturday, December 30th	4:00 pm
New Year's Eve - Sunday, Dec 31st	9:00 am
New Year's Day - Monday, January 1, 2018	9:00 am

Deacon Hazen Kenney will be available for
communion service in Fr. Donatus's absence.
Service will be Tuesday's, Thursday's, and
Friday's starting at 6 pm

Prayers

We are praying for Fr. Donatus, that the Lord guides & protects
him while he travels abroad, that he may reach his destination
and return safely to St. Therese. We pray that while Fr. Donatus
will be gone from December 25 after Mass to the second week
of February, he has a well-rested and enjoyable vacation.
God Bless!

To all our sick and homebound **THANK YOU** so much for
your unwavering commitment and contributions to our
parish. To better serve everyone Fr. Donatus is available
to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. However,
Fr. Donatus has reserved every 2nd and 4th Friday for
those that are homebound.