



First Sunday of  
**Advent**

December 2, 2018

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength  
 to escape the tribulations that are imminent  
 and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

**THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE**

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind.

Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them.

Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**Mass Schedule**

*\*Confessions are heard 30 minutes before each mass.\**

	<u>Lyons Point</u>
Tuesday:	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday:	6:30 a.m.
Thursday:	5:30 p.m.
Friday:	6:30 a.m.
Saturday:	4:00 p.m.
Sunday:	8:30 a.m.
(Midland)	10:30 a.m.

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
 8021 Lyons Point Hwy  
 Crowley, LA 70526

Website: [www.icc-sjtb.org](http://www.icc-sjtb.org)  
 Follow us on Facebook

Emergency: 337-572-4144

**Pastoral Staff**

<b>Rev. Neil Pettit</b>	<b>Pastor</b>
Dcn. Tom Sommers	Deacon
Tricia Vice	Office Manager

**Immaculate Conception Church**  
 St. Aloysius Chapel  
 P.O. Box 297  
 Morse, LA 70559  
 Office: 337-783-2968  
 Fax: 337-783-2965  
 Office Hours: Tuesday—Thursday  
 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

***Mass Intentions***  
*Mass Schedule for*  
**December 3rd thru December 9th**

**Tuesday, December 4th, Lyons Point: 5:30 p.m.:** Toni & Neal Romero (Anniversary), Butch & Diane Istre (Anniversary)

**Wednesday, December 5th, Lyons Point: 6:30 a.m.:**

**Thursday, December 6th, Lyons Point: 5:30 p.m.:** Tina Terro, Ali Rabalais

**Friday, December 7th, Lyons Point: 6:00 p.m. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day Vigil):** Living & deceased members the Ladies Altar Society

**Saturday, December 8th, Midland: 8:00 a.m. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day):**

**Saturday, December 8th, Lyons Point: 4:00 p.m.:** Lily Carlson, Donner Duhon, Wanda Miller, Lola LeBoeuf, Alvin Breaux

**Sunday, December 9th, Lyons Point: 8:30 a.m.:** Evita & Alida LaVergne, Walter, Grace & Mary Sonnier, Paul & Mae Thibodeaux, Ivy & Pauline Thibodeaux, Nelis & Domatile Richard, Darryl "Beasy" Doucet, Tanina B. Johnson (BD)

**Sunday, December 9th, Midland: 10:30 a.m.:** John Woods, Alex Broussard, Dominique & Betty Woods, Rhonda Woods, Edith Thibodeaux

**Sanctuary Candle:**

Midland:  
L.P.:

**The Woods Family & All Holy Souls in Purgatory**

The Sanctuary Candle is \$12.00 and burns for 2 weeks. Please contact the office (783-2968) for more information.

**FIRST TUESDAY YOUTH NIGHT**

**Tuesday, December 4, 2018**

The 1st Tuesday of every month we will celebrate 5:30 pm Mass together at St. John the Baptist. Following Mass we will meet in the Lyons Point Church Hall to share a meal. Spaghetti, pizza, gumbo, and crawfish etouffe' are just a few examples of our menus. Bring a friend—all high school aged youth (9th –12th grade) are invited. For more information or to see how you can get involved, please call Mrs. Rechelle Broussard at 458-1551.

To assist in the smooth operation of our parishes, we ask that all requested items being submitted for verbal announcements and the bulletin, as well as all mass intentions, are turned in **2 weeks in advance** to the office. This is necessary due to bulletin deadlines and it will assist us in planning for the future of our parishes. Mass Intention envelopes are available at the entrance of the churches.

**Collection Totals**

	<u>Morse</u>	<u>Lyons Point</u>
11/18	\$821.00	\$1841.00
Bldg. Fund	\$	\$

**Our Lady of Fatima Statue**

**To be picked up at Mass on December 8th & 9th**  
 M/M Guy Ste. Marie 10:30 am (Midland)  
 Marcey & Skip Broussard 5:30 pm (Lyons Point)

**\*Please pick up and drop off the statue at the entrance of church and not in the sacristy\***

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new-fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation.

Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

**Psalms** — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

**Second Reading** — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

**Gospel** — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

### Lyons Point Faith Renewal

Friday, January 25th thru Sunday, January 27th Lyons Point will be hosting their Annual Faith Renewal Retreat. Please pray about attending this amazing weekend. Also, please pray for the success of the weekend. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. on the Friday night and supper will be served. The retreat will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end Sunday afternoon. If you decide to attend come with your bags packed. You will be staying at the home of someone in the area. You will leave this retreat spiritually renewed and refreshed. It is such a nice weekend away from the busy lives we live. If you should have any questions please feel free to contact Susan Mayes - Director (387-9587) or Susan Trahan - Co-Director (523-1714).

December 8, 2018 (The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass Schedule is as follows:

12/07/18 6:00 p.m St. John the Baptist, Lyons Point

12/08/18 8:00 a.m. St. Aloysius Chapel, Midland

### HEARTFELT

Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others.

—St. Peter Julian Eymard

### Centennial News

- **Centennial Mass – All are invited** – the closing Mass for the Centennial Year of our Diocese will be December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Cajundome Convention Center at 6pm. Our Diocese and the wonderful people of our diocese and how God has poured forth His Love and guidance upon us in these last 100 Years will be the focus – A Century of Love. Along with the Mass, there will be a Historical Display and a slide presentation before and after the Mass as well as a presentation of the many people and cultures of our Diocese. The doors will open at 4:30 because there will be much to be a part of and see. All Catholics throughout our whole Diocese are invited and encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars.
- **Centennial Yard Signs – All Week** - lets us all put out our Centennial Yard Signs in solidarity of faith, knowing that God continues to make us His Church with His grace.
- **Centennial Items for Sale** - a limited amount of items were created for this Centennial Year and are true collectors' items which will only be available during the remainder of this year – Centennial History of the Diocese of Lafayette (book), Centennial Paperweight (color design), Centennial Christmas Ornament and the new Silver Commemorative Coin and designer box. These items will be available for purchase at the Convention Center.

### THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

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Immaculate Conception  
337-783-2968

Contact: Tricia Abshire Vice  
tabshire@diolaf.org

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MESSAGES: