

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

VOL. XLVIII NO. 48

DECEMBER 2, 2018

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

My Dear Parishioners:

Advent is upon us. It is the season of joy, of rejoicing, of deeper committed prayer. While Advent looks like Lent with the use of the color purple, Advent is not penitential as much as it is preparation. I recently read a very thought provoking reflection on Advent that comes from Creighton University Online Ministries, entitled "Am I Too Defended for Advent?" Because of space, I will divide the reflection into 4 parts -part one this weekend and the other parts the next three weekends.

A friend recently said, "I don't get into Advent. I'm way too defended for Advent." It was an incredibly honest moment of self-awareness. Being defended personally is often a primary reason why we don't let religious experience inside of us. It's simple: our defenses are there for a reason- to protect us from being hurt - and while shielding us from being "open" and "vulnerable" in a negative way, they also close the door to a freeing, healing and transforming experience, like Advent. There are many ways in which we defend or protect ourselves. There are many reasons why we do it. Most commonly we insulate ourselves from being hurt, after we've been hurt. We simply don't want to be hurt again. Sometimes it is as simple as "keeping my guard up." Sometimes I develop an impenetrable barrier to having my feelings stirred up. Often, while I'm holding onto grief or some deep sadness, resentment or sorrow, it is just too difficult to let my feelings be opened up. Unfortunately, at times, the hurt is so deep, and has been unhealed so long, I've given in to cynicism or jaded negativity or a slowly burning anger inside and become hyper judgmental at the failings of others. At some very bad state of defensiveness, I'll push away even those who are trying to love me. All of these traumas and states of inner disturbances and defenses can make entering into Advent very, very difficult.

To be continued next week.....

With reliance upon Our Lady Queen of Angels, I remain In the Lord Jesus,

[Handwritten signature]

Rev. Msgr. Keith J. DeRouen Pastor

OC CORNER School Mass will be held on Wednesday at 9:10 am in St. Landry Catholic Church. In looking ahead, mark your calendars for a Blood Drive on the OC campus Dec. 11 and the annual Elementary Christmas Play on Dec. 12. Family and friends of Catholic education are reminded about the 2018-2019 Angel Appeal Drive in progress. You can make your gift online through the school website www.OCSvikings.com. Besides helping the Foundation Trust Fund, your support will be used to transform the library into a modern Media Center for the entire school! May God bless you for your generosity!

WEEKLY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS EACH DAY Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You in Jesus' name we pray. Amen. Sunday: Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; Monday: Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel; Tuesday: Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell; Wednesday: Rev. Ryszard Kalinowski, SVD; Thursday: Rev. Darrell Kelly, SVD; Friday: Rev. Steven Kimmons, SJ; Saturday: Rev. Andrew Kirschman, SJ.

HOLY FATHER'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP FOOD DRIVE On Saturday, December 8th, our Junior High Youth Group in conjunction with the KCs will conduct its annual Food Drive from 8:00 am - 12:00 noon. The Youth Group members will provide curb service to receive the groceries. All of this will be held at the Parish Hall.

MASS INTENTIONS From now on, we will not accept Mass Intentions over the phone. The likelihood of error is too great and we don't want the intentions printed incorrectly. Mass Intentions remain at \$5.00 a Mass.

EVENTS ADVENT MISSION ON "THE GREAT EXPECTATION" BEGINS Our Advent Mission begins this weekend with Fr. Lou McCabe. Please see the posters located outside the entrances of the Church for the schedule. DOLL AND TOY FUND The Catholic Daughters, Court St. Landry, is sponsoring the local Doll and Toy Fund drive. Boxes have been placed at the entrances of the church to receive new and unwrapped toys for this worthy cause. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Checks should be made payable to Doll and Toy Fund and mailed to: 176 Rue Savanna, Opelousas, LA, c/o Janis Courvelle. For more information, please call 337-789-0971.

CENTENNIAL NEWS Centennial Mass - All are invited - the closing Mass for the Centennial Year of our Diocese will be December 12th 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. Tolton - From Slave to Priest - performed live by Jim Coleman, December 6th at 7pm and December 7th at 7pm at St. Pius X Elementary School Auditorium in Lafayette (205 E. Bayou Pkwy). Admission is \$25 (ages 10 & up). For ticket information contact Stephanie Bernard - 337-261-5694 or visit: www.diola.org Centennial Yard Signs - from now until Dec 12th, let us all put out our Centennial Yard Signs in solidarity of faith, knowing that God continues to make us His Church with His grace. If you need a yard sign, they can be purchased at the following 4 locations - Acadian Religious, Crossroads Bookstore, Cathedral Gift Shop and the Diocese Chancery Office (14708 Carmel Drive). 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. If you would like to have a Centennial remembrance, you can purchase them at Acadian Religious, Crossroads Bookstore, Cathedral Gift Shop and the Diocese Chancery Office (1408 Carmel Dr). These items can also be viewed on the Diocesan Centennial Webpage.

OUR STEWARDSHIP TO GOD Offertory Collection \$ 13,355.79 Thanksgiving Collection for the Needy \$1,536.00 Catholic Campaign for Human Development \$125.00 BSA \$101.00 Total Monthly Collection for Opelousas Catholic \$1,190,312 Please know the Pastor is most grateful for your stewardship! "Everything we have and give comes from God." (Corinthians 29:11-17)

READERS Sat., Dec. 8 4:00 p.m. J.P. Griffin Sun., Dec. 9 8:30 a.m. James Doherty 10:30 a.m. Russell Jesclard 5:15 p.m. Lee Deranger

ALTAR SOCIETY Dec. 8 - Dec. 14 Vickie Reed and Team Linens (Dec. 8) Valerie Chachere

ACTIVITIES Sat. & Sun., Dec. 1 & 2 Second Collection for Tuition Assistance for Opelousas Catholic Coffee and Donuts After Mass 2:15 p.m. High School Youth Group Meeting 6:00 p.m. Advent Mission Begins after 5:15 p.m. Mass Mon., Dec. 3 4:00-5:00 p.m. CCD Classes 1st-6th 6:00-7:00 p.m. CCD Classes 7th-11th 6:00 p.m. Advent Mission after 5:15 p.m. Mass Tues., Dec. 4 5:15 p.m. Mass 6:00 p.m. Advent Mission Wed., Dec. 5 2:00 p.m. "Come Lord Jesus" Call 942-7059 for more information 4:45 p.m. Pro-Life Rosary before Mass 6:30-8:00 p.m. Confessions Heard "The Light Is On" Fri., Dec. 7 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception Sat., Dec. 8 8:30 a.m. Holy Day of Obligation Mass 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group Food Drive Sat. & Sun., Dec. 8 & 9 Retirement Fund for Religious Collection Wed., Dec. 12 6:00 p.m. Centennial Closing Mass at Cajundome Convention Center

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BAPTISM Parents of this Parish who wish to have their children baptized will meet for instructions at Our Lady Queen of Angels in the Parish Conference Room on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm. Anyone wishing to attend the class MUST contact the Office to make an appointment with Deacon Bill Pollingue at 942-5628.

THE PERFECT GIFT When you want to give someone a special gift, consider giving an hour of prayer in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Body, blood, soul and divinity. Beautiful prayer intention cards are available in the Church Office. Cost \$1.00.

LAST PEWS IN CHURCH Please kindly remember the last pews in the Church on all sides are for the handicapped. Please be polite and allow those who are handicapped to sit first. Many thanks.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK C. Scott Boagni, M.D., APMC Gastroenterology 331 S. Main St. Opelousas, LA 70570 (337) 942-7155 FAX: (337) 942-2801

MASSES Sat., Dec. 1 4:00 p.m. Dan Wanko, Dalton and Evelyn Comeaux, Allen Ardoin, Jacqueline James, Levoys "Lee" Smith, Viola L. Mello, Sharp Family, Howard Pitre Family, Albert Speyrer, Amos Ledoux, Earl Heintz (Birthday), Joseph and Thelma Richard, Alexis and Elodie Richard, Lynwood Hidalgo, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Hidalgo, Jr. and Family, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Guillory and Family, Ernest and Janel Duplechin, Charles and Mercedes Going Family, William and Dorothy Hatch Family, Father Joseph Deluca, Ronald J. Cuny, Golden and Juanita Cuny, Harry and Irene Badeaux Richard, Peyton Jeffrey Cornette, J.C. Diesi, Bernice Diesi, Cyril Diesi, Philip Boudreaux, Isaure Boudreaux, Arthur Hollier, Celima Hollier, Cynthia H. Stelly, Harold and Elvina Venable, Nazel Fontenot Sun., Dec. 2 8:30 a.m. Marian Tully Gurnick, Wayne Guillory, Sarah Jarrell, Girlie and Willis Fontenot, Joyce and Huey Bourque, Rodney Bellard, Dudley, Glenn and Lisa Macip, Norma Cortez, Dennis and Pearl Fontenot, Burnley, Edward and Aline Bordelon, Alvarez Hertzock, Dr. John Ferrazzano, Ronald O. Fusilier, Jane Bellard Family, Calvin and Henrietta Bellard, Janette Bellard, Leopold A. Castille, Patricia C. Castille, Tony Chachere, Sr., Patricia K. Chachere, Tony Chachere, Jr., Myrtle and Lloyd Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Castille, Gary G. Castille, Jeffery Spring, Marie Amy, Entire L.A. Castille Family, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Thibodeaux and Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt Families, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers Lavergne and Mr. and Mrs. Luke Thibodeaux Families, Joshua Peck, Jesse and Annie Leger, Jesse, Jr., Irvin Deranger, Mary Magdalene Joseph, Mark Robertson, Harvey Darbonne, Joseph Ewell Meche, Joseph John Lewis III, Clifton Journet, Sr. 10:30 a.m. Harold Venable, James Soileau, Jamie Gibson, Morgan Adams, Jackie Mills, Calvin Matthew Kennedy, Donald and Sylvia Chachere, Donald and Sylvia Chachere Family, Alex and Deanna Chachere, Jim, "Tat", Jeff, Greg and Rick Durio, Ben and Pat Crosby, Moise and Amy Courvelle, Gerrit Paul Ryder and the Ryder and Quebedeaux Families, Girlie and Willis Fontenot, Calvin Matthew Kennedy, Bobbie Mouton 5:15 p.m. Benjamin and Frances Richard, Benny Richard, Claudette Richard, Ervin Kirkpatrick, Tracie K. Carriere, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Lee and Bernice Guidry Mon., Dec. 3 5:15 p.m. Marie Chachere Butler Tues., Dec. 4 5:15 p.m. Louise H. Leger, Sylven Soileau, Parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Angels Wed., Dec. 5 5:15 p.m. Robert Lee Mills, Marcus Paul Fontenot, Eve Thibodeaux Leger (Anniversary of Death) Thurs., Dec. 6 7:00 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Going Sr. and Families, Dusty Ardoin Fri., Dec. 7 5:15 p.m. Emily Boudreaux, Dennis and Daniel Reed Sat., Dec. 8 4:00 p.m. Goldie Smith DeChicchis, Dalton and Evelyn Comeaux, Jacqueline James, Levoys "Lee" Smith, Viola L. Mello, Harold Stout, Albert Speyrer, Amos Ledoux, Ernest and Janel Duplechin, Charles and Mercedes Going Family, William and Dorothy Hatch Family, Father Joseph Deluca, Lloyd, Marie and Janet Andrus, Rick and Amanda Briggs, John and Sydney Cuccia, Ronald J. Cuny, Golden and Juanita Cuny, Harry and Irene Badeaux Richard, Jeanette Tully, Harold and Elvina Venable, Drucie Harper Sun., Dec. 9 8:30 a.m. Rodney Bellard, Dudley, Glenn and Lisa Macip, Sarah Jarrell, Alvarez Hertzock, Joyce and Huey Bourque, Norma Cortez, Jane Bellard Family, Calvin and Henrietta Bellard, Janette Bellard, Wilbur and Alice Reed, Leopold A. Castille, Patricia C. Castille, Tony Chachere, Sr., Patricia K. Chachere, Tony Chachere, Jr., Myrtle and Lloyd Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Castille, Gary G. Castille, Jeffery Spring, Marie Amy, Entire L.A. Castille Family, Ronald O. Fusilier, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Thibodeaux and Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt Families, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers Lavergne and Mr. and Mrs. Luke Thibodeaux Families, Irvin Deranger, Joshua Peck, Jesse and Annie Leger, Jesse, Jr., Leo Lavergne 10:30 a.m. Harold Venable, Morgan Adams, Jackie Mills, Calvin Matthew Kennedy, Donald and Sylvia Chachere, Donald and Sylvia Chachere Family, Alex and Deanna Chachere, Jim, "Tat", Jeff, Greg and Rick Durio, Girlie and Willis Fontenot, Arceneaux-Hunt Families and Leday-Arceneaux Families, Gerrit Paul Ryder and the Ryder and Quebedeaux Families 5:15 p.m. Dr. Glen Hunt, Wm. Tracy Barstow (Birthday)

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR LOCAL SEMINARIANS Cade LeBlanc & Matthew Pitre-Eunice Michael Vidrine-Melville Sean Fontenot & Luke Johnson-Ville Platte Extra prayer cards can be found in the back of the Church

VOCATION CHALICE FAMILIES FOR DECEMBER 2018 Dec. 2-8, 2018 - Chuck & Beth Hebert Dec. 9-15, 2018- Georgia Stoute Dec. 16-22, 2018- Jan Terhune Dec. 23-29, 2018-Ronald & Paula Carriere Dec. 30-Jan. 5, 2019- Betty Wolfe Thank you for your commitment!

