

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun. Dec. 10 - Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

Mon. Dec. 11 - Is 35:1-10 Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14 Lk 5:17-16 or Acts 20:17-18a, 38-32, 36 Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 Jn 15:9-17

Tues. Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab (Ps) Judith 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:39-47

Wed. Dec 13 - Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10 Mt 11:28-30 or 2 Cor 10:17-11:2 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17 Mt 25:1-13

Thurs. Dec. 14 - Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab Mt 11:11-15 or 1 Cor 2:1-10a Ps 37:3-4, 5-3, 30-31 Lk 14:25-33

Fri. Dec. 15 - Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 Mt 11:16-19

Sat. Dec. 16 - Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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 Rigby	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, Shirley Allison & Richard Scott
Sunday: Staci Powers, Sonja Popillion, Veronica Bradford & Horace Broussard

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: **A:** Josie Curtis
L: Leo Jackson & Phyllis Thibodeaux
Sunday: **A:** Freda Guillory
L: Phyllis Thibodeaux & Eva Platt

ALTAR SERVER:

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

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Gail Jefferson & Russell Bottley
Sunday: Dorothy Broussard & Robert Gobert

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. 10th 9:00 a.m. Mass
Mr. Leo Jackson
Requested by Mary Crossley

Monday, Dec. 11th NO MASS

Tuesday, Dec. 12th 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 13th 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 14th 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 15th 5:00 p.m.
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, Dec. 16th
3:20 - 3:55 Reconciliation
4:00 p.m. Mass

(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 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

“Prepare the way of the Lord”



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

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday: 5 p.m.

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

Attendance
Saturday 26 Sunday 50

Weekend Collection

Mail In	\$ 162.00	
Loose	\$ 94.00	
Missals		\$ 45.00
Mass Stipends	\$ 5.00	
Saturday	\$ 330.00	
Sunday	\$1,138.00	

Total Deposit \$ 1,774.00

Expenses: Liturgy supplies <\$ 298.14>

*****Important, please respond *****

For Christmas Day Mass we need lectors, ushers, ministers of holy communion and altar servers. If you are interested please contact Gary Mims or let one of the ushers know. Thanks in advance

*****Offering Envelopes *****

Offering Envelopes are at the rear of the Church with their name on their box and envelopes. The ushers will assist with distribution. With so many to hand out if your box is not there please contact the office. Thanks

Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser

Goal: \$25,000.

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

This is the time of year where we to begin the work on our BFA goal, We ask that everyone make their pledges and payments as soon as you can. Thanks in advance. 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

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

God speaks to us in many ways, including through the Sunday Scripture readings. The Sunday Connection provides useful background and activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings, helping you to connect the Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way.

Today's Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14

The Lord's salvation is near.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God's forgiveness. In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.

As you gather together as a family, talk about ways in which the example of others has called you to be a follower of Jesus. Name the people who have been examples to you of Christian discipleship and describe their characteristics that you have tried to emulate. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 1:1-8.

As John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, Baptism commissions us to prepare the way of the Lord. The gift of the Holy Spirit leads us to continually renew our lives so that we might lead others to Jesus. As a family, identify at least one action that you will take this week to try to be more faithful followers of Jesus. Conclude in prayer together that God will receive this action and use it to lead others to Jesus. Pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

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

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

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 have (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 Burton Street and exit by way of Hart Street and you will receive a Treat Bag from your vehicle.

Called Formed and Sent Day 2018, Saturday – January 20, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Our Mother of Mercy, Beaumont

For those working in Evangelization and Catechesis, especially catechists, parish catechetical leaders, parents, youth ministers and their teams, RCIA teams, adult faith formation teams and anyone looking to grow in their faith.

There is no fee for this event and lunch is provided

Sponsored by the Diocese of Beaumont – Office for Evangelization and Catechesis, OSV Curriculum Division, Twenty-Third Publications and Pflaum, Loyola Press, and other publishers

St. Helen Catholic Church

Advent Mission: Fr. Blaise Czaja, Sunday, Dec. 10 through Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017

The Mission will open on Sunday evening, December 10. Each evening service is a major sermon on one of the great themes of Scripture. There will be time for quiet prayer. The evening service is approximately one hour in length. The Mission Mass will be at 9:00am each day. Fr. Blaise will celebrate this Mass and preach an extended homily of about 20 minutes. Note well: the morning sermons are totally different than the evening sermons. Sunday, December 10, 7:00pm – Mission Opens (Church)

Monday, December 11 9:00am – Mission Mass (Chapel) 7:00pm – Mission Talk and Reconciliation Service (Church)	Tuesday, December 12 9:00am – Mission Mass (Chapel) 7:00pm – Mission Talk (Church)	Wednesday, December 13 9:00am – Mission Mass (Chapel) 7:00pm – Mission Talk (Church)
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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 an appointed time. However, Fr. Donatus has reserved the 2nd and 4th Friday's for the homebound.