

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun. Dec. 24 - 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk
1:26-38

Christmas Day - Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5, 16-17,
27, 29 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25 or
1:18-25

Tues. Dec. 26 - Acts 6:8-10 7:54-59 Ps
31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17 Mt 10:17-22

Wed. Dec. 27 - 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-
12 Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thurs. Dec. 28 - 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-3, 4-
5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18

Fri. Dec. 29 - 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3,
5b-6 Lk 2:22-35 or 2 Tim 2:8-13 3:10-12 Ps
34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Mt 16:24-27

Sat. Dec. 30 - 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9,
10 Lk 2:36-40

December Birthday List

Happy Birthday to::

Draven Platt	1
Eva Platt	3
Sonja Popillion	4
Betty Odum	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: Shirley Allison, Rose Davis
Richard Scott, Walter Davis
Sunday: Fred Green, Rose Bottley,
Veronica Rhodes, Coretta Ambers

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: A: Mona Richard
L: Gary Mims & Phyllis Thibodeaux
Sunday: A: Gary Mims
L: Freda Guillory & Phyllis Thibodeaux

ALTAR SERVER:

Saturday: Reagan Pitre Willam Pitre
Sunday: D'Ana Williams

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Gail Jefferson &
Freda Guillory
Sunday: Gloria Richard &
Dorothy Broussard

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, eve-
ryone is invited to come.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec. 24 9:00 a.m. Mass
Blanche Lynn Denney
Requested by the Kenney Family

Christmas Day Mon., Dec. 25th 9:00 am
Aaron & Gracie Kenney
Requested by the Kenney Family

Tuesday, Dec. 26th 6:00 p.m.
Communion Service, Caitlyn Wickersham
Requested by the Kenney Family

Wednesday, Dec. 27th No Mass

Thursday, Dec. 28th 6:00 p.m.
Communion Service, Caitlyn Wickersham
Requested by the Kenney Family
Friday, Dec. 29th 6:00 p.m.
Communion Service

Saturday, Dec. 30th
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.



4th Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

**“Do not be afraid, Mary, for
you have found favor with
God.”**



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

Attendance

Saturday 48 Sunday 53

Weekend Collection

Mail In	\$ 167.00
Bld Rental	\$ 250.00
Loose	\$ 80.50
Mass Stipends	\$ 50.00
Saturday	\$ 1,050.00
Sunday	\$ 902.00

Total Deposit \$ 2,499.50

Expenses: security <\$ 97.40>
phone <\$ 101.95> center point <\$ 177.24>

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

For Christmas Day Mass we need lec-
tors, ushers, ministers of holy commun-
ion and altar servers. Thank you to
those who have responded.

*****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.
Paid: \$ 18,987.

*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*

Today's Readings

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

The Lord promises David that he will raise from his descendants a kingdom that will endure forever.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89:2-5,27,29

A prayer of praise to the Lord for his faithfulness to his covenant.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Paul praises God for making his revelation known.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her fiat, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God.

The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able respond with obedience.

Family Connection

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the Magnificat.

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

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

On behalf of the Community Center and Augusta's Angels, we extend our thanks, to everyone in your Parish. St. Therese, you have open your door and responded to us with kindness and friendship. Thank you, one and all and Merry Christmas from us to you.

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.**

Living as Missionary Disciples

Called formed and Sent Day

This once a year event will help you to become a better evangelizer and more informed about your faith. We will hear from Aida Hidalgo, Bryan Reising, Jesus Abrego, Linda Duhon-LaCour, Julio Beltran, Melanie Ehrlich, Adrián Herrera, and Paul Thomas.

They will share their hope and vision with us. It is open to all 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. Come join us on the 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 provide

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 other Friday for the homebound.