

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4th Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451 • www.sfxcathedral.org

Volume XXXI, No. 48

November 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father James Ferguson, JCL, Rector • Father William Gearheard, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Luke White

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, November 30:

12:05 p.m. John F. Cumella

Tuesday, December 1:

12:05 p.m. Charles "Judge" Wallace

Wednesday, December 2:

12:05 p.m. Joseph Voorhies

Thursday, December 3:

9:00 a.m. only Jim Curley

Friday, December 4: First Friday

12:05 p.m. Lee Ray Coleman

Saturday, December 5: First Saturday

9:00 a.m. Lee Ray Coleman

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Angelo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, Weston Charles Johnson, Jr., Galardo & LaCroix Families, George & Betty Battalora, Albert & Marie McNamara, Leonard & Michiels, Carl A. Jeansonne, Sr., Rachael Brouillette, W.E. Jones (living), Vanessa Adkinson (living), Charles "Judge" Wallace, Joseph Voorhies, Re. José Robles-Sanchez, Dr. Clement Carroll

Sunday, December 6: Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), Gordon S. Ducote, Jasmine Anderson, R.J. Ducote, Paula DePriest, Deceased Members of the Cathedral Altar Society, Steven Fonville, Charles "Judge" Wallace, Joseph Voorhies, Rev. José Robles-Sanchez, Dr. Clement Carroll

11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish

5:30 p.m. All USA Service Men & Women (living and deceased)

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for the People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, please remember them in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$6,906.55
Over or (Short)	\$(1,593.45)

Thank you for your generosity!

BEGINNING OF ADVENT - NOVEMBER 29

This Sunday, November 29, the Church celebrates the first Sunday of the season of Advent, which will continue for four Sundays until Christmas Day. The word "advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming," and during this season, the church enters a time of preparation and expectation for the coming of Christ "in power and Glory" (Mark 13:26). The Spirit of the Church during this time is symbolized by the purple vestments - a sign of penance - worn at her services on each of these Sundays in preparation for the Solemnity of the Lord's Nativity.

It is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. On the First Sunday of Advent we begin a new liturgical year. Our Sunday readings are from Cycle B and will highlight the Gospels of Mark and John (the Bread of Life discourse during the summer).

As with anything new it is appropriate to set goals...in this case our spiritual lives. Some suggestions include: a few extra minutes in prayer each day, praying the Rosary, setting aside some quiet time to be alone with God on a regular basis, or even helping someone journey through their Christian faith.

The four candles on the Advent wreath represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each week. Three of the candles are purple, signifying a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice. The rose-colored candle is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin word meaning "rejoice," the first word of the traditional entrance antiphon for Mass; it sets the tone of joyful anticipation of Jesus' birth and Second Coming.

May this Advent season bring the joy and peace of the Lord to your family and all your loved ones.

WELCOME FATHER JON JENKINS

Fr. Jon Jenkins is a priest of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter who is visiting family in the area this week. He will be saying the 9 AM Sunday Mass on November 29.

FOOD DRIVE FOR THE FOOD BANK



Boxes have been placed at the main entrance of the Cathedral for donations of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank to help provide food for the needy. **You may drop off your canned goods in the main entrance of the church by the weekend of November 28-29.**

PRIESTS CONVOCATION

The priests of the Diocese of Alexandria will be attending a Priests Convocation at Maryhill on **Monday, November 30. Mass will be offered at 12:05 p.m. in the Cathedral.**

FIRST FRIDAY - DECEMBER 4

11:00 a.m. Holy Hour
11:00 a.m. First Friday Devotions
11:15 a.m. Confessions
12:05 p.m. Holy Mass

FIRST SATURDAY - DECEMBER 5

8:00 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
First Saturday Devotions
8:30 a.m. Rosary for Life
Confessions
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8



The 8th of December is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church teaches: "The

Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a special grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of the human race, was preserved from all stain of original sin." There will be two Masses offered at the Cathedral:

- Monday, December 7th at 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 8th 12:05 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

OTHER LITURGIES AND GATHERINGS

Everyone attending **baptisms, weddings and funerals** should take extra precautions at this time, including wearing a mask and social distancing of at least six feet, except for members of the same household. The clergy will provide specific guidance to assist families and couples in planning these liturgies and other gatherings.

FLOCKNOTES AND LIVE-STREAMING

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral subscribed to Flocknotes several weeks ago. Flocknotes is an email and text message application that allows you to receive news and information from the Cathedral. It is free. You can sign up to receive the weekly bulletin and the Sunday Mass Liturgy Guide, plus receive other notifications from the church.

If you are interested in receiving information via this platform, please go to flocknote.com and search either by City (Alexandria) or the Zip Code (71301) and sign up there. You can unsubscribe anytime. If you have any questions or need assistance with getting set up, please send an email to Deacon Richard Mitchell at dcnmitchell@diocesealex.org. Try it out! Stay connected!

Also, we are now live-streaming the 9AM Sunday Masses via Facebook, Youtube and at sfxcathedral.org.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – RESTORATION FUND DECEMBER 5 - 6

The monthly collection for the Restoration Fund will be taken up, **Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6.** Your continued support and generosity is deeply appreciated.

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE THROUGH A MEMORIAL GIFT OF CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Provide the name of the person to be remembered and place it with \$13.00 in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers." You can drop the envelope in the Mass collection basket or bring it to the parish.

BIRTHDAYS - NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5

Jacqueline Byrd, Anna Cannella, Mark Gallagher, Nikki Hierl, Stella Jordan, Morgan Passman, Mark Rodgers, Sharon Saybe, Olivia Thibodeaux, Jessie White, Dcn. Richard Mitchell, Dec. 5

NECROLOGY - NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5

No Necrology

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACON ASPIRANTS

Jason Lavergne, and Alex Mangini

FOR OUR MILITARY

If members of your family have been called to active military duty, or are already on active duty, please let us know, and we will place their names for prayer in the church bulletin. Please call the church secretary at telephone 445-1451, ext. 14, or you may email her at aryder@parish.diocesealex.org.

Known military are: Known military are Brent Marcus Barbour, Byron P. Barbour, Quincy Bordelon, Kevin Burnett, James Domzalski, II, Andrew Hill, Caleb Holloway, Jeffrey Kelso, Chad McCann, Co. G-2-238, Evan Nugent, Simon Pelto, Matthew Raines, Kevin Raines, Natalie T. Wall

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Glenn Andrew, Carol Brossett, Shree Brye, Linda Cazes, Jo Ann Cumella, Kathy Cumella, Ruth Gilchrist, Carolyn Harger, Linda McCain, Ann McQuagge, Kelly Miller, Lou Ann Rigby, Andrew & Kemal Sanli, Wade Swart, J. B. Theriot, Michelle Vincent

ADVERTISER FOR THE WEEK



We appreciate our advertisers and encourage your patronage.