

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXXI, No. 50

December 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 14:

12:05 p.m. R.J. Ducote

Tuesday, December 15:

12:05 p.m. Sam & Myrtle Debona

Wednesday, December 16:

12:05 p.m. Martha Williams Lee

Thursday, December 17:

12:05 p.m. Abraham Mickel

Friday, December 18:

12:05 p.m. Jim Curley

Saturday, December 19:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Sam & Velma Galardo, Rose M. Warshaw, Angelo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, George & Betty Battalora, Leonard Michiels, Carl A. Jeanson, Sr., W.E. Jones (living), Vanessa Adkinson (living), Rachael Brouillette, Charles "Judge" Wallace, Leila Kramer

Sunday, December 20: Fourth 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 Knights of Columbus Council #3200, Steven Fonville, Marie Elise Pearce, Jim Curley, Leila Kramer

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

5:30 p.m. Flavin & Collins Families

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Ernie & Fern Wilbert, please remember them in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$9,636.02
Over or (Short)	\$1,136.02
Restoration Fund	\$2,553.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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.

THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON MENTAL HEALTH - DECEMBER 14

Please join Dr. Lee Kneipp, a clinical psychologist, as he examines the mental health implications of the pandemic, such as depression, anxiety, loneliness and increased levels of stress and how they are impacting our day to day life, **Monday, December 14, from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.**

Dr. Kneipp will discuss various strategies that may assist us in how to cope and adapt more effectively with the negative effects of the pandemic on our quality of life. Following the presentation, there will be time for questions. Dr. Kneipp's talk is open to all. Please share this invitation with family and friends.

We will conclude with Exposition, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Chaplet is prayed on a five-decade rosary. Handouts will be available. Fr. Ferguson.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE – DECEMBER 17



The Advent Penance Service will be held on **Thursday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m.** Several priests will be available for Confession.

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL

Blessing of hope this Advent season. As we approach Christmas I want to provide the following information:

Due to the COVID-19 guidelines and social distancing, the Cathedral will not be able to accommodate the large crowds that are typically here on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Thus, we are limiting crowds to 150 people. However, we will offer six (6) Christmas Masses.

Please note that we cannot ignore the social distancing and mask-wearing guidelines that are in effect.

It would be an understatement to say this has been a challenging year for all of us. The coronavirus has affected our families and parish in so many ways. In the midst of these difficult times, I would like to thank all our parishioners for the support, love, and generosity you've shown our Cathedral parish

I wish you and your loved ones continued Advent blessings of good health, renewed hope and great peace.
– Father Ferguson

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES:

Leila Kramer

SCHEDULE OF THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

(Note that we have added a 6:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass this year due to COVID guidelines and social distancing)

Christmas Vigil Masses

Thursday, December 24, 2020

(No 12:05 PM Daily Mass)

4:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

6:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

12:00 Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses

Friday, December 25, 2020

9:00 AM Christmas Mass

11:00 AM Christmas Mass

5:30 PM Christmas Mass

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 24 - 25

The Church Office will be closed **Thursday, December 24 through Friday, December 25**. The clergy and Cathedral staff wish you a safe and blessed Christmas. Fr. Ferguson

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD – JANUARY 1, 2021 -- FIRST FRIDAY



The 1ST of January, 2021 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. There will be three Masses offered at the Cathedral:

• **Thursday, December 31 –**

4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass

• **Friday, January 1 – First Friday**

11:00 a.m. Exposition and First Friday devotions

11:15 a.m. Confessions

12:05 p.m. Holy Mass

5:30 p.m. Holy Mass

• **Saturday - January 2 – First Saturday**

8:00 a.m. Exposition, First Saturday devotions

8:30 a.m. Rosary for Life and Confessions

9:00 a.m. Holy Mass

BIRTHDAYS - DECEMBER 13 - DECEMBER 19

Terry Aubin, Dr. Nicola Corbet, Carrie David, Kimberly Jeansonne, Corinne Jenkins, Corey Jenkins, Michael Jenkins, Donald Metoyer, Jennifer Pringle, Cody Riche, Mary Roy, Alexander Strange, Ruth Voorhies, Derik Watts

NECROLOGY - DECEMBER 13 - DECEMBER 19

Rev. Robert Mary Maure +Dec. 14, 1968

Msgr. Roland Bordelon +Dec. 18, 2013

Rev. Alfred Chelebowski +Dec. 19, 1992

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACON ASPIRANTS

Jason Lavergne, and Alex Mangini

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

If you are interested in receiving information via Flocknotes, 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 - RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS - DECEMBER 13

Make a difference: Retired Religious. "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

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: 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, Chere Carnahan, Linda Cazes, Jo Ann Cumella, Kathy Cumella, Ruth Gilchrist, Carolyn Harger, Audrey Luczak, Linda McCain, Ann McQuagge, Kelly Miller, Lou Ann Rigby, Andrew & Kemal Sanli, Wade Swart, J. B. Theriot

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