

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXXI, No. 49

December 6, 2020

SECOND 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 7:

12:05 p.m. Clement Carroll

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass of the Immaculate Conception
People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

Tuesday, December 8: Immaculate Conception

12:05 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

5:30 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

Wednesday, December 9:

12:05 p.m. Sam & Myrtle Debona

Thursday, December 10:

9:00 a.m. only Jim Curley

Friday, December 11:

12:05 p.m. Martha Williams Lee

Saturday, December 12:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Angelo & Nina
Carter D'Angelo, George & Betty Battalora, Evelyn
Delacerda, Carl A. Jeansonne, Sr., Rachael Brouillette,
W.E. Jones (living), Vanessa Adkinson (living), Charles
"Judge" Wallace

Sunday, December 13: Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living &
deceased), Gordon S. Ducote, Jasmine Anderson, Paula
DePriest, Deceased Members of the SFX Cathedral
Choir, Steven Fonville, Marie Elise Pearce, Jim Curley

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

5:30 p.m. Ryder & Wilbert Families

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Rev. José Robles-Sanchez, please remember him in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$6,053.45
Over or (Short)	\$(2,446.55)

Thank you for your generosity!

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.

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 three Masses offered at the Cathedral:

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

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.

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

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

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.

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 - DECEMBER 6 - DECEMBER 12

Shelley Alston, Ainsley Gauthier, Elizabeth Henderson, Andrea LeBlanc, Tracey Passman, John Swart, Patrick Tassin, Mary Tower, Mark Townsend,

Tanya Townsend, Brittany Trahan, Charlotte White, Samuel White

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION - RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS - DECEMBER 8

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.

NECROLOGY - DECEMBER 6 - DECEMBER 12

Rev. Regis Dumas +Dec. 6, 1905

Rev. Mark Horacek +Dec. 7, 2001

Rev. John F. Walsh +Dec. 8, 1937

D Rev. Martin Ludger Plauche +Dec. 9, 1973

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

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