

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXXVI, No. 1

January 5, 2025

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Jason Lavergne • www.sfxcathedral.org

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 6:

12:05 p.m. Merle Vahlkamp

Tuesday, January 7:

12:05 p.m. Ben Van Mol

Wednesday, January 8:

12:05 p.m. Helen Mock Tesla

Thursday, January 9:

12:05 p.m. Joe V. LaCombe

Friday, January 10:

12:05 p.m. Linda Cazes

Saturday, January 11:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Leila Kramer, Robert Eberly, Dixie Durastanti, Mable Titmus, Leonard Dale Spurlock, Paul Am Mai, George & Betty Battalora, Lucille M. Ducote, Fr. Joseph Hassiber, Ann Gravel Vanderslice, Edgar Campo, Rachael Brouillette, Sam Johnson, Fred Brouillette, Eric Ducote

Sunday, January 5: The Baptism of the Lord

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), Todd Mizell, Mary Roy, Joe Betty Sterkx, Deceased Members of the Cathedral Choir, Elaina Renee Leslie, Jeanne Destefano

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

5:30 p.m. Ada Bergeron

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of Hazel Neal, please remember her in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Last Weekend's & Christmas	\$ 6,655.00
Over or (Short)	\$ (2,845.00)

Thank you for your generosity!

ALTAR SOCIETY FACEBOOK PAGE

The Altar Society has started a Facebook Group "St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Altar Society". Check it out to see what we do. Wonderful group of ladies.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Have you noticed the huge cross inside the Cathedral? Pope Francis has declared 2025 the Jubilee Year of Hope, a sacred time to renew our faith and embrace God's promises. Bishop Marshall opened the Jubilee Year with a special blessing of the Year of Hope Cross on Sunday, December 29th at the 11:00 AM Mass. I want to thank those who donated the cross and those who placed it inside the Cathedral. The Jubilee Cross will remain in the Cathedral through the year 2025 and until the Feast of the Epiphany 2026. For more information on the Jubilee Year, the Year of Hope Cross, pilgrimages, indulgences, and more, visit the website of the Diocese of Alexandria. – Msgr. Ferguson.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – JANUARY 8

The Altar Society will have their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, January 8, at 10:00 a.m.** in Xavier Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a member is invited to come to the meeting.

DISCALCED CARMELITES MEETING - JANUARY 11

The Order of the Discalced Carmelites holds its monthly meeting at 9:00 a.m. every second Saturday, at Maryhill Renewal Center. Anyone is invited to attend morning prayer followed by Mass and then the meeting. If you are interested in Carmelite spiritual studies, please contact Mary Jo McCoy at 318-346-6860 or 318-481-9638. **If you plan to attend. Please call Mary Jo McCoy at the numbers listed above OR Deacon Bill Travis at 318 640-2827 or 318 664-7069 and someone will meet you at the Maryhill gate.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT – JANUARY 25

The Diocese of Alexandria will hold a Confirmation Retreat for any young person that is being confirmed in 2025. This is an opportunity for parishes who do not host an in-parish retreat to attend a retreat focused on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Cost is \$10 per person, which covers lunch and speaker. The deadline to register is Jan. 13. The retreat will take place at Maryhill Renewal Center, Pineville, on Saturday, January 25, 2025. To register or if you have any questions, please contact Deacon Jason Lavergne at dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org.

HOLY SAVIOR MEARARD PREVIEW DAY – JAN. 30

Come and see what HSM has to offer your family! Walk the halls, visit classrooms and meet our community. For prospective 7-12 grade students and families. From 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the library. For more information contact Lynn Roy at lroy@holysaviormenard.com.

CENLA LIFE MARCH – FEBRUARY 1

Join us and March for Life to protect unborn babies and their mothers at the Cenla Life March in Pineville-Alexandria on Saturday, Feb. 1. We will meet at Louisiana Christian University by 10:00 a.m. Keynote Speaker, Sean Corcoran, a father whose son was lost from abortion, will share his powerful story of hardship and healing from abortion. You won't want to miss hearing his testimony! Visit us online at www.LaLifeMarch.com for more information. Questions? Call Louisiana Right to Life at +1 (866) 463-5433. Please join us and spread the word as we march! The Life Marches are open to all!

PRE-CANA MARRIAGE PREP WORKSHOP – FEB. 8

These one-day workshops will be at the St. Joseph Catholic Center located at 4400 Coliseum Blvd, Alexandria, LA. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., the day will include presentations on various topics that are vital to a couple's lifelong marriage. The workshop will end at approximately 3:00 p.m. and lunch will be included. Space will be limited, so please register for a workshop as soon as possible.

Registration for the February 8 workshop is now open. There is a fee of \$60 per couple. You may pay online after submitting the registration form.

You can also pay the day of the workshop via check, money order or cash. Or you can prepay by mailing your check or money order (payable to Diocese of Alexandria) and mail to: Office of Religious Education and Faith Formation, P.O. Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306-0417. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Jason Lavergne in the Office of Religious Education and Faith Formation at (318) 445-6424 ext. 207.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – THE CHURCH TODAY – JAN. 5

This week, we will be taking up a special collection for the Church Today. Every month, this 20-page newspaper is mailed FREE to every Catholic household in the diocese. All donations to this special collection go directly to the Church Today to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. Your donation also defrays the cost of our digital outreach via the diocesan website www.diocesealex.org. If you or someone you know would like to receive the Church Today FREE each month, call 318- 445-6424, ext. 209 to request it or you may sign up at <https://www.diocesealex.org/the-office-of-communications>.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – RESTORATION FUND JANUARY 4 & 5

The monthly collection for the Restoration Fund will be taken up **Saturday, January 4 & Sunday, January 5**. Your continued support and generosity is deeply appreciated.

BIRTHDAYS: January 5 – January 11

Raelyn Bordelon, Wanda Campo, Trent Carmouche, Sonny Craig, Darrell Dunlap, Jody Gauthier, Catherine Grant, Deidre Hughston, Joseph Kutch, Patricia LaCaze, Chris Peart, Joel Pogue, Stephanie Tassin, Jon Treadway, Paul Wallace

NECROLOGY: January 5 – January 11

Msgr. Henry Francis Beckers +Jan. 5, 2000
Msgr. John Villeneuve Plauche +Jan. 9, 1956

FLOCKNOTES AND LIVE-STREAMING

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 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.

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: Gerard A. Abair, Jr., Brent Marcus Barbour, Byron P. Barbour, Quincy Bordelon, Ashton Brouillette, Kevin Burnett, Delaney Byard, James Domzalski, II, Christopher Fraser, Brick Hazel, Andrew Hill, Kenneth Jeansonne, Daniel Koury, Jeffrey Kelso, Chance Ryland Lavergne, Chad McCann, Co. G-2-238, William Purdion, Jr., Kaneon Rachal, Daniel Raines, Kevin Raines, Matthew Raines

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Ansley Bellino, Janet Bordelon, Patrick Braquet, Carol & Bob Brossett, Janice Brossett, John Broussard, Ann Marie Bruner, Daisy Bynog, John Cain, Cheyenne Carmack, Willis Coco, Barbara Cole, Alfred Cook III, Alfred Cook, Jr., April Cook, Sara Dacdac, Jeramie Davidson, Jim Domzalski, Sr., Elray Dubois, Brenda Ducote, Cecile Ducote, Harold Ducote, Norris Ducote, Chester Durr, Clyde Ray Eli, Caleah Fontenot, Carolyn Fontenot, Cathy Grant, Rosemary Gremillion, Celia Halbert, Richard Hall, Carolyn Harger, Scott Hallinan, Linc Harris, Melisa Henry, Anna Hooper, Tish Hull, Jesse Johnson, Tiffany Johnson, Patrick Jones, Cody & Scott Lachney, James Lachney, Steve Lawrence, Tracey Lawrence, Jimmy Lachney, Carla Lee, Lloyd Lee, Mark Leviner, Pam Lloyd, Audrey Luczak, Melissa McGlothlin, Peggy McNeely, Bernice Medica, Sam Medica, Tiffany Metrejeun, Fran Monk, Matt Owen, Clyde Peterson, Diane Rabalais, Thomas E. Richards, Ann Marie Ryder, Jimmie Sanchez, Antonio Sandoval, Kemal Sanli, Ursula Schramek, Trudy Schuurmans, Karen Smith, Marianne Julie Sober, Stephanie Simmons, Sam Terracina, Gary Wagers, Sharon Walker, Stephen V. Waters, Katina Watson, Brendan Weidner Morgan White, Marilyn Wilbert, Dee & Bailey Wilson, Kitty Wilson, Lee Arthur Wilson, Leonard Wilson, Tony Wilson, William Joel Wood

Before someone's name is placed in prayer, be sure to have permission from that person to publicize his or her name in the bulletin.

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