

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXIII, No. 53

December 24, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father James Ferguson, JCL, Rector • Father William Gearheard, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Cliff Pelto

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day Mass

9:00 a.m. Priests Intentions
11:00 a.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
5:30 p.m. Priests Intentions

Tuesday, December 26:

12:05 p.m. Gerome A. & Josephine DeKeyser

Wednesday, December 27:

12:05 p.m. Mr. Ellis Lahood

Thursday, December 28:

12:05 p.m. David Scalfano

Friday, December 29:

12:05 p.m. Mrs. Helena Ledet

Saturday, December 30:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Weston Charles Johnson, Jr., Dr. George C. Battalora, Jr., John Cox Moreau, Rita Hope Robichaux Clark, Joseph B. Wolf, Jr., Mrs. & Mrs. J. D. Harris, Alice Martindale, John L. Dunn & Gauthier Families, Mona Marie Linn

Sunday, Dec. 31:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families, R. J. Ducote, Gordon S. Ducote, Carl T. Ducote
11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish
5:30 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Wilbert

Monday, January 1:

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

12:05 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
(NOTE: This is not a holy day of obligation)

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Norene Garrett, please remember her in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$9,205.75
Over or (Short)	\$705.75

A WORD OF THANKS

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the Altar Society for their help in hosting our annual Open House and making it such a success. There was plenty of good food and conversation for all, and was a perfect opportunity to visit with the members of our parish family. -- Father Ferguson

SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES, AND CHRISTMAS DAY

• Christmas Vigil Masses

Sunday, December 24, 2017

4:00 p.m. - Christmas Vigil Mass
5:30 p.m. - Christmas Vigil Mass
12:00 a.m. - Christmas Midnight Mass

• Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25, 2017

9:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass
11:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass
5:30 p.m. - Christmas Day Mass

Please note: We are obligated to go to Mass twice this weekend, to fulfill both the Sunday and Christmas Masses.

WISHES FOR A SAFE & BLESSED CHRISTMAS

Bishop Talley, Fr. Ferguson, Fr. Gearheard and the staff at the rectory would like to wish all of you who are our parish family a safe and blessed Christmas. -- Fr. Ferguson

SPECIAL COLLECTION - CHURCH VOCATIONS DECEMBER 24 - 25

Traditionally at all Christmas Masses, a special collection is taken throughout our diocese for the education and formation of our priests. Through the **Church Vocations collections**, your generosity and prayers allow the church to continue to provide priests, sisters and brothers to serve our spiritual and physical needs. Please be generous. -- Bishop David Talley

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 25 - 26

The Church Office will be closed **Monday, December 25 through Tuesday, December 26** for Christmas.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD – NEW YEARS DAY SCHEDULE

• Monday, January 1 – New Year's Day 12:05 p.m. Mass

The bishops of the United States made a decision to abrogate (suspend) the obligation to attend Mass for January 1, if it fell on a Saturday or Monday. January 1, 2018, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on a Monday. **Therefore, the obligation to attend Mass on January, 1 is lifted.** However, Catholics are urged to attend Mass on that day and offer appropriate devotions.

(Please note the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

SPECIAL COLLECTION – RESTORATION FUND JANUARY 6 - 7

The monthly collection for the Restoration Fund will be taken up, **Saturday, January 6 and Sunday, January 7.** Your continued support and generosity is deeply appreciated.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Maxine Grass, Cathy Littleton, Loretta Paul, Savannah Pogue, Mary Ann Rabalais, Cheryl Randall, Michelle Travis, Rev. Stephen Brandow, Dec. 25

NECROLOGY

Rev. Joseph Jacquet +Dec. 25, 1925
Rev. J. A. Demere +Dec. 25, 1957
Rev. Charles Degnan +Dec. 29, 1923

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACON ASPIRANT

Luke White

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, Christopher Fraser, Bryce Gadway, Garrett Gilchrist, Andrew Hill, Jeffrey Kelso, Evan Nugent, Natalie T. Wall.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Betty Battalora, Helen Bellino, Richard Brazil Irene Broussard, Georgia Brown, Ann Marie Bruner, Kimberly Ann Bryant, Patricia Briggs, Marie Burns, Rosa Cannella, Brent Caplan, Wayne & Barbara Cole, Daren Coutee, Joann Cumella, Kathy Cumella, Kevin Jude Cumella, Angelo R. "Brother" D'Angelo, Bob Descant, Kathyleen Dixon, Richard "Dick" Ducote, Rose Marie Francis, Bernard Fontenot, Velma Galardo, John Gallent, Barbara Goff, Gloria Goff, Bobby Grant, Gill Murrell, Nugent, Cleta Perry, Bea Phillips, Tammy Rachal, Patsy Rayner, Mark & Alma Reitzell, Barbara Ponthier, Lou Ann Rigby, Kemal Sanli, Kenneth Smentek, Jackie Storer, J. B. Theriot, Ruby J. Williams, Jacob Williamson.

We encourage our parishioners to call with the name of family members who are ill and wish to be remembered in prayer in the weekly church bulletin. Their names will remain on the list for approximately one month. Please notify the church secretary by the 1st Wednesday of the Month at 318-445-1451 x 14 so they can be included for the upcoming weekly church bulletin. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that your family member may be taken off the list.

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.

ADVERTISER FOR THE WEEK



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