

CHURCH TODAY

Volume LII, No. 12

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

December 27, 2021

**“It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, Most High.” (Psalm 92:2)**

Sacred Heart School student wins contest with original art. See more on page 6.



INSIDE

#iGiveCatholic Campaign

Thank you to all who participated in the #iGiveCatholic fundraising campaign on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021! See page 5 for a list of church parishes, schools, and ministries that participated.

Our Lady of Guadalupe's Miraculous Tilma

St. Rita Church Spanish Community celebrated Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sunday, Dec. 12. See page 16 for more on Our Lady's Miraculous Tilma, and how she intercedes for us as we head into the new year.

Poco a poco

See page 20 on the spirituality of making the next best step, and make plans to join us March 5 - 6, 2022 for the Beyond the Limits Jr. High Conference! We can't wait to see you there!

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P. O. Box 7417
Alexandria, LA 71303
churchtoday@diocesealex.org
318-445-6424

Publisher:

Most. Rev. Robert Marshall
Publication Manager / Editor:
Cari Terracina, ext. 255,
cterracina@diocesealex.org

Multimedia Manager /

Advertising:

Joan Ferguson, ext. 264;
joanferguson@diocesealex.org
Circulation: Sandi Tarver, ext. 209;
starver@diocesealex.org

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Ascension announces 'Bible in a Year' podcast in Spanish starts Jan. 1

Catholic News Service

WEST CHESTER, Pa. (CNS) -- On Dec. 31, nearly half a million people will complete a yearlong journey of reading the entire Catholic Bible with "The Bible in a Year" podcast.

On Jan. 1 Dominican Father Sergio Serrano and Father Dempsey Acosta will duplicate this journey with "The Bible in a Year" podcast in Spanish.

"As Spanish speakers, we are continually drawn to the stories that our grandparents and family pass down to us orally," Father Serrano said in a news release from Ascension, a multimedia Catholic publisher based in West Chester, which announced announcing the new "La Biblia en un Año" podcast.

"We will be able to listen every day to the great story that God wants to tell us; the beautiful story that will captivate us. Many of us have waited a long time for it to be told in this way," said the priest, who is director of the Hispanic Apostolate for the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Ascension, a multimedia Catholic publisher based in West Chester, is the producer of the podcast in English and is working with the Juan Diego Network on the production of "La Biblia en un Año."

Father Serrano will host each daily episode of "La Biblia en un Año" and narrate all of the biblical readings. Father Acosta, associate professor of theology at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, will appear as a featured guest on 16 special episodes marking key points in



SPANISH LANGUAGE PODCAST OF 'THE BIBLE IN A YEAR.' Dominican Father Sergio Serrano, director of the Hispanic Apostolate for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, is the host of the podcast "La Biblia en un Año," which debuts Jan. 1, 2022, and is the Spanish-language companion to the popular "Bible in a Year" podcast with Father Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins.

the biblical journey.

"La Biblia en un Año" will use the same popular format and reading plan as its English-language counterpart, in which well-known YouTube priest Father Mike Schmitz read every verse of the entire Catholic Bible in 365 days, using a reading plan based on Scripture scholar Jeff Cavins' Great Adventure Bible Timeline.

The reading plan organizes the 14 narrative books of the Bible into 12 periods to help

readers understand how they relate to one another and to God's plan for salvation.

Father Schmitz, a priest of the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota, and a popular Catholic speaker and author, and Cavins created the original podcast with the backing of Ascension.

The show became the No. 1 podcast in all categories in the United States within 48 hours of its January 2021 launch, remained the No. 1 podcast in

religion and spirituality for most of the year, and expected 170 million downloads and 4 billion total listening minutes by the end of 2021.

Ascension said its website and social media pages are decorated with over 30,000 five-star reviews "and countless testimonials from listeners who have experienced deep conversions, renewed marriages and even healing from addictions through encountering God in his word via the podcast."

"The impact of 'The Bible in a Year' has been simply stunning," said Ascension's president and CEO, Jonathan Strate. "We were so humbled to see God do great things with the 'loaves and fish' we offered in this podcast. To see nearly half a million people read the Bible cover to cover, many of them for the first time, was such an honor."

"We have great hope as we bring this podcast that God has used to change lives and save souls to a new Spanish-speaking audience in 2022," Strate added.

"Many people have told me that reading the Bible 'cover to cover' is very difficult," said Father Acosta. "The great majority have explained that it's not necessarily the readings themselves, but that many times they can't find the context or the logic of the passages."

CONTINUED
(see PODCAST, pg. 3)

*Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus
prayer of invocation
to the Holy Spirit*

We stand before You, Holy Spirit as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our action.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the Communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Pew: Catholic numbers hold steady, 'nones' rise, Protestants decrease

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The percentage of Catholics in the U.S. population in 2021 held steady at 21% in the latest Pew Research Center survey, issued Dec. 14.

The percentage of Protestants, however, dropped, while the percentage of "nones" -- those who profess no particular denominational attachment -- continued to rise, said the report, "About Three-in-Ten U.S. Adults Are Now Religiously Unaffiliated."

The survey results also indicate the proportion of Christians in the U.S. population continues to slide. A decade ago, they constituted 75%, or three out of every four Americans. In the new survey, that percentage is down to 63%, or five out of every eight Americans.

"Christians now outnumber religious 'nones' by a ratio of a little more than 2-to-1," the report said. In 2007, when Pew began asking its current question about religious identity, the ratio was almost 5-to-1, or 78% vs. 16%.

Since 2007, Protestantism has dwindled from 52% of all Americans to 40%, not quite twice the percentage of Catholics today. Within Protestantism, the percentage of those adults who profess evangelical or "born again" Christianity has shrunk by 6%; the number of those who are not evangelical or "born again" also has shrunk by 6%.

The dip in the percentage of Catholics is less pronounced; it was 24% in 2007 and 14 years later is 21%. The Orthodox churches make up about 1% of Americans, and members of the



CATHOLIC POPULATION. Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory processes into Mass in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington Sept. 16, 2021. The percentage of Catholics in the U.S. population in 2021 held steady at 21% in the latest Pew Research Center survey, issued Dec. 14. (CNS photo / Tyler Orsburn)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints comprises 2%.

That the year-to-year percentage of Catholics held steady is likely a combination of "religious shrinking" -- people no longer identifying as Catholic -- offset by immigration, said Gregory A. Smith, Pew's associate director of research, in a Dec. 17 phone interview with Catholic News Service.

"Religious switching" also can come into play. "It is definitely more common earlier in life than later in life," Smith said, among "people who no longer identify with their childhood religion either as young adults or

even before entering adulthood."

Prayer also has taken a hit since 2007. The percentage of those who said they prayed every day then was 58%; today, it's 45%.

So too are those who consider themselves "very" religious. Fifty-eight percent of Americans had described themselves that way in 2007. Now, just 41% do. The number of those who feel "somewhat" religious has drifted downward from 28% in 2007 to 25% today. But those who say they're either "not too" or "not at all" religious has more than doubled over the past decade and a half, from 16% to 33%.

The trend lines maintained themselves on the religiosity question even after Pew switched from a random-digit-dial protocol to find survey respondents, which ended in 2019, to its National Public Opinion Reference Survey, which debuted in 2020.

Smith cautioned against concluding that trend lines are accelerating, but said their progression is unmistakable.

"If I were to just drop down from outer space and (be) given only those two data points, I'd say that the results from 2021 look very similar to the results from 2020," he said. "But that's the value of having these long-term

trends. We can look over these 14 years, 15 years, and we can see the trend lines moving very consistently in a single direction. We can say, 'Look, here are the long-term trends.'"

Thirty-five percent of Catholics say they go to Mass at least monthly, with Hispanics outpacing whites, 36% to 33%. But those numbers are dwarfed by the 46% of Protestants who say they attend services at least monthly.

Catholics straddle the halfway mark about how often they pray -- 51% say they pray daily -- while 48% say religion is very important in their lives. Of this 48%, 54% of Hispanic Catholics say this is true for them, vs. 41% of their white counterparts.

While a combined 29% of those surveyed profess no specific religious identity, the percentage of those who say they're "nothing in particular" (20%) is more than double the combined percentage of atheists and agnostics (9%).

The Pew survey interviewed 3,937 Americans who responded either on paper or online. Smith said it was part of a larger survey that asked about tech issues and political partisanship, but "these were the only religion questions on that survey." The margin of error for the entire respondent group is plus or minus 2.1%. Among the 860 Catholics surveyed, the margin of error is plus or minus 4.5%.

Editor's Note: The Pew report "About Three-in-Ten U.S. Adults Are Now Religiously Unaffiliated" can be found online at <https://pewrsr.ch/3F3Ix22>.

PODCAST

(continued from pg. 2)

"You have to know the history of ancient Israel and early Christianity to be able to put what you're reading in chronological order," he said.

"This is not an easy task for someone who works and has a busy life."

The podcast presents a "historical organization of the

Bible" and "a proclamation of the Divine Word throughout the history of humanity," the priest added. "In this proclamation, each listener will participate in the story in which God always speaks to human beings out of love."

José Manuel De Urquidi, founder of the Juan Diego Network, called the new podcast "a great opportunity for Hispanics around the world."

"From the hands of experts,

but in a very simple and personal format, listeners will be able to rediscover the living word of God that has acted not only in history, but continues to work in the hearts of people and in the world today," he added.

The Juan Diego Network was a winner of the 2020 Our Sunday Visitor Innovation Prize for groundbreaking work in bringing Catholic audio content to Latino audiences.

Because "La Biblia en un

Año" podcast will follow the same reading plan as "The Bible in a Year" podcast, parishes and schools with English- and Spanish-language groups will be able to read the Bible "in sync" together during 2022 and beyond, Ascension noted in its news release.

The free reading plan for "La Biblia en un Año" will be available at www.AscensionPress.com/LaBiblia, and the same resource for "The

Bible in a Year" is available at www.AscensionPress.com/BibleInAYear.

All podcast episodes are free and available on Ascension's website and all major podcast platforms.

Made new: Starting 2022 in prayer

I have recently been struggling to get into a groove with my prayer life. I have wondered when the Lord might make a way for me to commit to a rhythm of prayer, and truly be disciplined in it for longer than two weeks. In all reality, I'm the one who needs to make the time and commit to actually following through. You may know this struggle, too.

When I carve out prayer time in my calendar - commit to it in my heart, and take the first step of doing it - He pours out His grace for me to respond. Once I have taken each step of coming closer to His heart, it is there that I have found my home. I find a Father who longs for me, who loves me, who accepts me as I am, and at the same time, calls me to more.

Friend, did you know that there is an International Talk



Letter from the Editor

Mrs. Cari Terracina
Publications Manager for the Diocese of Alexandria

Like a Pirate Day? Not that this article of issue of the Church Today will help you talk like a pirate; alas, it won't. But the fact that there is a Talk Like a Pirate Day (September 19), and an Ice Cream for Breakfast Day (first Saturday of February), and a Clean out Your Refrigerator Day (November 15) tells me something.

When my social media feeds fill up with pictures of donuts on the First Friday of June (National Donut Day - please don't tell my son!), I can see that we are

hungry for community and shared experiences.

And, while I'm not here to tell you that you shouldn't observe Compliment Day coming up on January 24, I am here to tell you that, for Catholics, there is a whole world of days we could be celebrating together. Days that have been marked by fantastic community celebrations long before we even knew what a hashtag was. We did it before. And there's no reason we can't do it again.

The calendar of the Catholic Church has, for centuries, set a rhythm for the year for the faithful. Entire towns would fast together and feast together. Somewhere along the way, we have lost that cultural inheritance. Many of us have only the vaguest notion that the liturgical year even exists, let alone any idea of how to incorporate those days and that rhythm into our family life.

I invite you to journey with me, dear friend, to walk through the next fifty-two weeks as we

rediscover our value, our worth, and our identity in Our Lord's eyes and in the life of the Church. He is waiting for you and me, and He desires to be in relationship with us. All it takes is a simple response to His call: yes.

We thank you for walking with us this past year! We have included as many pictures as possible in this issue as many of us begin gathering back in community with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Please see the following pages for pictures of life in our diocese. We look forward to sharing more with you over the coming year!

Remaining in Him,
Cari

Follow Cari on Instagram
[@cariterracina](https://www.instagram.com/cariterracina)

Communion in hand or tongue? / Why baptize a baby?

Q. My sister claims that receiving holy Communion in the hand is disrespecting the Eucharist. I told her that it must be OK because the first sacrament of the Eucharist was received in the hand (at the Last Supper). So I was wondering when the practice of receiving on the tongue started. (City and state withheld)

A. It is safe to assume that at the Last Supper, when Jesus said, "Take and eat; this is my body," the apostles received that first Eucharist in their hands. And that practice continued during the early centuries of the church.

At the Council of Constantinople in 692, Christians were instructed that "if anyone wishes to be a participator of the immaculate body ... and to offer himself for the communion, let him draw near, arranging his hand in the form of a cross." That practice was the norm throughout the early Middle Ages.

But by the 13th century, St. Thomas Aquinas wrote in the "Summa Theologiae": "Out of reverence toward this sacrament,



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

nothing touches it but what is consecrated; hence the corporal and chalice are consecrated, and likewise the priest's hands, for touching this sacrament. Hence it is not lawful for anyone else to touch it except from necessity, for instance, if it were to fall upon the ground."

In 1969, the church document "Memoriale Domini" outlined Pope Paul VI's decision to maintain the practice of receiving the Eucharist on the tongue: "Communion (on the tongue) must be retained ... not merely because it has many centuries of tradition behind it, but especially because it expresses the faithful's reverence for the Eucharist."

But in 1977 permission for administering Communion in the

hand was granted by the Holy See to the United States, and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal now reads: "The communicant ... receives the sacrament either on the tongue or, where this is allowed and if the communicant so chooses, in the hand" (No. 161). The option belongs to the individual. Both can be done with reverence, and neither way is more noble.

Q. Our son and his wife-to-be are not practicing Catholics. They have a little girl, now 20 months old, who needs to be baptized. How do we as parents approach the subject -- without turning them against the faith completely or against us? (Regina, Saskatchewan)

A. Let me say first that I admire very much your love for Catholicism and your desire to pass on the benefits of the Catholic faith to your granddaughter. My goal is the same as yours: to bring her parents back to regular practice of the faith so they can offer strong religious support to their child.

The wording of your question, though, may be significant. You say that your granddaughter "needs to be baptized." Is it possible that you think that is her only chance for heaven? I raise the question because there are some people who believe that.

So let me clarify that first. In 2007, the Vatican's International Theological Commission, with the approval of Pope Benedict XVI, said that the concept of limbo reflected "an unduly restrictive view of salvation" and that the mercy of God offers good reason to hope that babies who die without being baptized can go to heaven.

Now, on to your question. Canon 868 of the church's Code

of Canon Law states that "for an infant to be baptized licitly ... there must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion."

Right now, as you describe the situation, that sounds doubtful. If you see an opportunity in a quiet way to speak to your son about the religious path he might be considering for their daughter, then do it.

But be careful not to force it. To strong-arm your son about his religious responsibility could have a negative effect, including jeopardizing your relationship with him for a long time.

Do you think it might be better for now simply to pray for them, that they will reach the choice of baptism on their own? And remember that God cares about the baby's salvation even more than you do.

Questions may be sent to
Father Kenneth Doyle at
askfatherdoyle@gmail.com
and 30 Columbia Circle Dr.,
Albany, New York 12203



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for updated COVID-19
information and resources
for our diocese.

#iGiveCatholic

Thank you to all who participated in the #iGiveCatholic fundraising campaign on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021.

The Diocese of Alexandria raised more than \$11,000 for church parishes and schools in our diocesan community, as well as seminarian education and other programs listed below.

In addition to the individual donations, Catholic Extension provided grant funding to award prize money to the top fundraising school and church parish. The winners of those grants are:

- Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, in the amount of \$750; and

- Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral, in the amount of \$250.

The church parishes, schools, and ministries that participated in this year's #iGiveCampaign are listed below.



We have already begun preparing for the 2022 #iGiveCatholic Campaign, so please mark your calendar for November 29, 2022.

Your support is what makes this program a success!

To learn more about

#iGiveCatholic, please visit their website at <https://www.igivecatholic.org/>

For more information about participating next year, contact Deacon Richard Mitchell at 318-445-6424, ext. 206.

Our #iGiveCatholic Leaderboard for the 2021 Campaign

Name	Amount Raised // # of Donors:
1. Our Lady of Prompt Succor School:	\$6,970.00 // 80
2. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral:	\$1,156.00 // 12
3. Manna House:	\$625.00 // 7
4. Seminarian Education:	\$620.00 // 3
5. Maryhill Renewal Center:	\$325.00 // 4
6. St. Anthony of Padua School:	\$300.00 // 1
7. Mary, Mother of Jesus Church:	\$300.00 // 2
8. St. Joseph Church, Marksville:	\$200.00 // 1
9. St. Mary's Assumption Church:	\$200.00 // 2
10. St. Frances Cabrini School:	\$200.00 // 3
11. Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception:	\$150.00 // 2
12. St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church:	\$125.00 // 2
13. St. Mary's Assumption School:	\$100.00 // 1
14. Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church:	\$50.00 // 1

Thank you for your support!

Come to the Table

After over a year of confusion, isolation, stress, and our lives being turned upside down by a virus we've known very little about, we are once again invited to Come to the Table!

The Mass is where we come together in communion as God's people. Christ brought us together as a Church because we need each other. This is why God gives us the Church, and this is what we share in most completely at Mass.

We are so grateful to see everyone coming back together in our church parish communities!

To find the Catholic Churches near you and learn of their Mass times, please visit www.masstimes.org.

To learn more about the Catholic Diocese of Alexandria, visit www.diocesealex.org.

As Pope Francis invites all Catholics to have their voices heard leading up to 2023 Synod of Bishops, the Diocese



of Alexandria is encouraging everyone to share their thoughts.

An eight-question survey will be available until Jan. 31.

The questions center under the theme "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participating, and Mission." The Diocese of

Alexandria will compile the responses into a report that will be submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The USCCB will then submit a report for the Synod of Bishops, which will adopt a final document.

All dioceses across the globe are participating in the Synod, although it's up to each diocese as to how to gather input. Pastors throughout the Diocese of Alexandria are also expected to share the survey with parishioners. The goal of the Synodal process of Pope Francis is to make sure that all voices are being brought to the table.

The Second Vatican Council emphasized 2 vital components of renewal in the Church. The first is the idea of the Universal Call to Holiness and Mission. This means that all the baptized, not only ordained clergy and religious, are called to fully participate in the life of the Church and its mission of evangelizing.

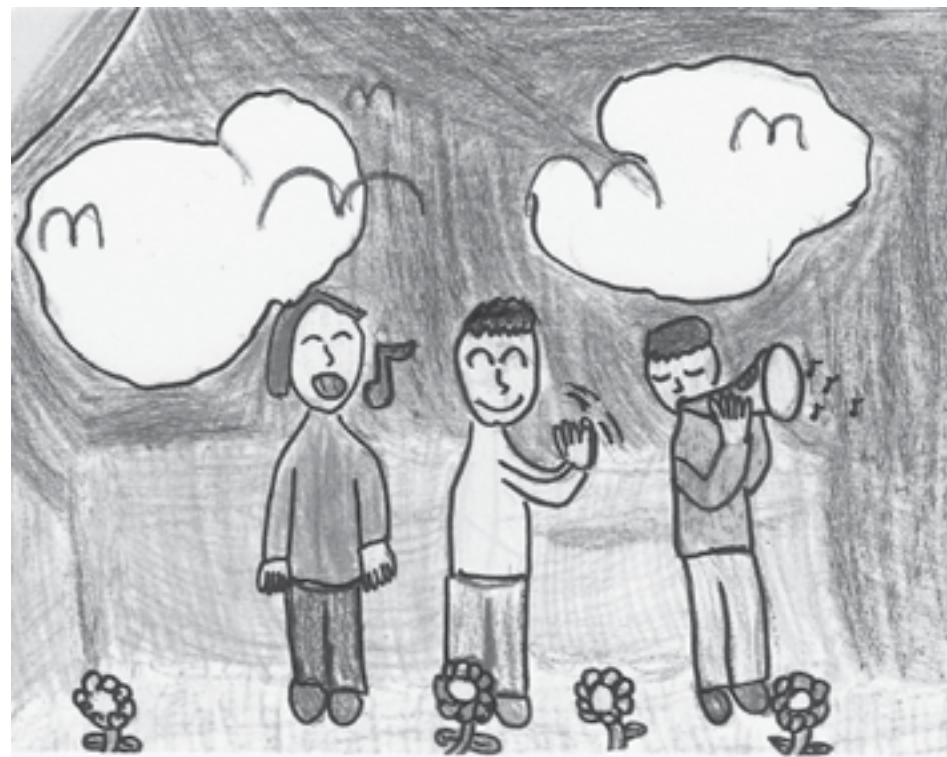
The second component is Synodality. The idea of conducting local, regional, and national Synods have been a core reality in the history of Catholicism. The great Baltimore Catechism, which taught the faith to generations of faithful Catholics, was a fruit of the Plenary Councils (Synods) of Baltimore from 1852 to 1885. The Second Vatican Council emphasized our needed return to having local Synods where clergy, religious, and laity could reflect upon current needs and how the Church can more effectively give witness to the light of Christ in the modern world.

Please visit www.diocesealex.org for more information on the Synodal process, as well as to find ways you can get involved in your local church parishes.

Keep coming to the table - we'd love to see you there!

You're invited to join us at the table.

To see available Mass times near you, visit www.masstimes.org.



GREETING CARD CONTEST [redacted], 3rd grade student at Sacred Heart School in Moreauville, won the greeting card art contest held in November. Students in grades 1 - 4 of the Diocese of Alexandria Catholic Schools were to create original art inspired by the verse: "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, Most High." (Psalm 92:2). The art was used for a thank you card sent to all who donated to this year's Annual Diocesan Appeal. A reception was held Monday, Dec. 13 where Bishop Robert Marshall presented [redacted] with the gift of his original art professionally framed. Those attending were his school principal, Sister Sandra Norsworthy, as well as pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Father Brian Seiler, and [redacted] family.

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Come Holy Ghost,
Creator blest,
and in our hearts
take up They rest;
Come with they grace
and heav'nly aid
to fill the hearts
which thou hast made,
to fill our hearts
which thou hast made.

|| Come, Holy Ghost

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Made new: making the (2022) liturgical year your own

One of the many things I love about the Catholic Church is how she manages to be both universal and particular at the same time. When I attend Mass in a different parish, or even a different country for that matter, the order and the parts of the Mass remain the same. Even though there may be unique traditions, practices, and languages particular to that part of the world, the Mass still feels familiar. I recently received a holy card which pointed out a tradition from 15th century Jesuit missionaries to dress Jesus as a native in their artwork and practices, to help in the evangelization of natives.



Liturgical living can be a lot like this. It can look different but *be* very much the same in different homes. Our time and budget constraints, abilities and preferences will all inform how we choose to bring the rhythm of the Church year into our family lives.

If you're looking for ways to incorporate the liturgical calendar into the life of your family, here are a few simple steps to help get you started. Feel free to stick with any step for however many days, weeks, months, or even years it takes for that practice to feel like a part of

your family routine. These steps are listed, not necessarily in order of importance, but what might be most practical for families.

1. Remember Fridays and Sundays.

Begin observing Fridays and Sundays in your home. Every Friday is a mini-Good Friday; consider abstaining from meat on Fridays or make an alternate Friday sacrifice. Every Sunday is a mini-Easter. Have a feast on Sundays! Use the good dishes, eat a good dessert, and spend time together as a family.

2. Start with the liturgical living you're already doing.

Choose just a practice or two to add to your family routine for the liturgical seasons that come before and after the two major feasts you're already observing: Christmas and Easter. Do those, and see if you like them. If you do, do them again next year. If not, try something else next year, and add additional practices as you get more comfortable.

3. Begin celebrating baptismal anniversaries.

Find out the baptismal date of each person in your family. Dig out your kids' (and spouse's) baptismal certificates or call your church parish office, and ask for copies. If, for some reason, you can't find the baptismal date for everyone, simply say a prayer, choose a date, write it down, and use it. On each person's baptismal date, have that person choose a special meal and dessert, and have the whole family renew their baptismal promises with holy water.

4. Begin celebrating name days.

Choose a patron saint for each person in your family. Usually this would be a saint whose name a person shares, but it could also be a confirmation saint or simply a saint that the person really enjoys.

Look up that saint and find out their feast day. (Did you know that the Catholic church recognizes more than ten thousand canonized saints, and that each one has a feast day?!) Add the feast days of your family's patrons to your calendar with reminders, and on that day, either let the person choose a special meal or have a special meal in honor of the saint.

5. Start observing days that have better-known traditions associated with them.

- St. Nicholas' Day: December 6;
- Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras): the day before Ash Wednesday;
- Ash Wednesday;
- St. Patrick's Day: March 17;
- Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday: the week before Easter;
- Michaelmas: September 29;
- All Souls' Day: November 2.

6. Begin observing solemnities in your home.

Solemnities mark the most important days of the liturgical year. On a Solemnity, Mass is celebrated as on a Sunday, with the readings proper to the feast. Some solemnities are holy days of obligation, though these vary.

There are twenty-three solemnities on the universal church calendar; many of these fall on Sundays or are days that you may already celebrate (such as Christmas). These are celebrations of the most important people, events, and mysteries of our long faith tradition.

- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8;

- The Nativity of Our Lord: December 25;

- Mary, Mother of God: January 1.

These are just to name a few. Add these dates to your family's calendar, and try to get to Mass if the solemnity is a holy day of obligation.

Liturgical living can look different but *be* very much the same across our homes and communities. As we usher in 2022, let us focus on incorporating our faith into our daily lives, and coming back to the table to learn and grow with our fellow parishioners.

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Upcoming VIRTUS Sessions

Thursday, January 20, 6:00 p.m.
 St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria

Thursday, January 27, 6:00 p.m.
 St. Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura

NOTE: Face masks MUST be worn during the entire session.
 The session typically lasts 2.5 to 3 hours.
 Seating will be one (1) person per table (spouses may sit together).
 A maximum of ONLY 15 adults will be allowed to attend each session.

Minors are not allowed to attend because of the adult content of the videos and discussions.
 To register, go to www.virtus.org. For more information, call 318-445-6424, ext. 213.

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 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WINNFIELD SEMINARIAN PROJECT. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Winnfield, LA, completed its Seminarians Christmas Project. This year's funds were collected to help the seminarians with their expenses, especially gas. Gift cards were purchased and enclosed in a beautiful card which expressed the appreciation and love of all the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Tracy Kelley made beautiful religious candles for each of the seminarians. The candles and gift cards were mailed to the seven seminarians from the Diocese of Alexandria studying in New Orleans. Linda Tinnerello and Tracy Kelly were the chairmen of the project.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE. SHS's 4-H Club participated in the 2021 Christmas Cheer Food Drive. 4-H members in 6-8 grades are pictured boxing up supplies for the Food Bank. Thanks to all of our SHS families and friends for their generous donations of non-perishable foods. Merry Christmas from SHS's 4-H club! ...



SERRA CLUB. Bishop Robert Marshall hosted the Serra Club at his residence on Sunday, Dec. 19, and writes: "This afternoon, it was a pleasure to welcome to the Bishop's Residence the members of the Serrac Blu and the seminarians of our diocese for their annual Advent-Christmas gathering. Thank you to the Serrans for their support of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Many thanks to Father Luke LaFleur, our Vocations Director. Please contact our Vocations Office if you are interested in discerning a call to a religious vocation or if you would like more information about the Serra Club."

A message from the Diocese of Alexandria's Safe Environment Program

If you have reason to believe that a child is being abused or neglected and that the abuse is by a parent or caretaker, please call: Louisiana Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437).

If suspected abuse is related to a diocesan/church/school program, or if abuse occurred by anyone acting in Church services, a report also should be made to the diocesan victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Lee Kneipp at 318-542-9805.

For updated information, news articles, and documents regarding ongoing activity and planning for securing and maintaining a Safe Environment for all, visit www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/healing (visit www.diocesealex.org and look for "A Safe Environment For All" under the "Our Faith" tab). Here, you can find more information, as well as updates from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Also found on this page is the letter from Pope Francis to all Bishops in the United States regarding a meeting in February 2019 at the Vatican entitled "The Protection of Minors in the Church."

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Psalm 72: 11
 Responsorial Psalm for January 2
 The Epiphany of the Lord



JUBILEE MASS. Friday, Dec. 3 we celebrated the Feast of St. Francis Xavier and the annual Jubilee Mass for priests of the Diocese of Alexandria at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. This Mass honors those priests celebrating significant anniversaries of their priestly ordination: Fr. Daniel Corkery, 66 years; Msgr. Ronald Hoppe, 63 years; Fr. Paul Kunnumpuram, 45 years; Fr. Pedro Sierra-Posada, 45 years; Fr. Jacob Thomas, 45 years; Fr. Vincent Manuel 40 years; Fr. Kenneth Michiels, 30 years; Fr. Craig Scott 25 years; Fr. Stephen Brandow, 25 years; Fr. John O'Brien, 25 years; Fr. Jose Pallipurath, 20 years; Fr. Jack Michalchuck, 20 years; Fr. Louis Sklar, 20 years; Fr. Peter Faulk, 15 years; and Fr. John Wiltse, 5 years.

Pictured are: Fr. Jacob Thomas, Msgr. Steve Testa, Bishop Robert Marshall, Fr. Rick Gremillion serving as Master of Ceremonies, Fr. John Cunningham, Fr. Scott Chemino, Fr. Craig Scott, Fr. Louis Sklar, Fr. Dwight De Jesus, Fr. Thomas Kennedy, Fr. Abraham Varghese, Fr. Paul Kunnumpuram, Fr. Christian Ogbonna, Fr. Joy Antony, Fr. Abraham Palikkattuchira, Fr. Bino Jacob, Fr. Rusty Rabalais, Fr. Vincent Manuel, Fr. Phil Michiels, Fr. Edwin Rodriguez, Fr. John Pardue, Fr. Dutch Voltz, Fr. Dale Meade, Fr. James Ferguson, Fr. Chad Partain, Fr. Bill Gearheard and Fr. Derek Ducote.

Seminarian Burses

November 2021 Donations

Knights of Columbus Council #9217	\$25.00
Father Adrian Molenschot Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Danny P. Clark	\$25.00
Father John Wiltse Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Silton Innerarity	\$25.00
Father John Wiltse Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Marion French	\$50.00
Father Gus Voltz Burse	
Mrs. Barbara Rigby	\$100.00
Leo P. Dobard Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. James Rambin	\$200.00
Father Blake Deshautelle Burse	
Mrs. Marjorie V. Johnson In memory of James L. Johnson & Lawrence and Eva Thielss	\$200.00
Leonard E. Johnson Burse	
Mr. Dwight E. Beridon	\$250.00
Monsignor John Timmermans Burse	
Mr. Dwight E. Beridon	\$250.00
Harold and Lillie Beridon Burse	
Ms. Elizabeth S. Arthur	\$1,000.00
Mrs. Sadie Stroud Burse	
Total	\$2,125.00

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.
Amen.

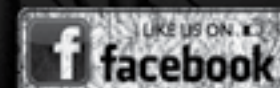
A Seminary Burse is an invested sum of money, the interest of which is used in perpetuity to help fund the education of men to the priesthood.

Contributions to any of the burses or to establish a new burse should be sent to the Chancery Office, Post Office Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306-0417.

-- Very Reverend
Stephen Scott Chemino,
Chairman



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Parish Spotlight: St. Mary Church, Jena Established 1949

St. Mary's began as a mission church in LaSalle Parish in 1948. Bishop Charles P. Greco invited the Fathers of the Society of the Precious Blood to administer the new parish.

Frs. Henry Barge and Arnold Miering took up residence in 1949. Mass was offered in the front room of the rectory.

In 1958, the Precious Blood Fathers had to retire and a diocesan priest, Fr. Thomas Connors, was assigned as pastor.

The present church, designed by a Jena engineer, Floyd Perrit, was completed on January 20, 1963 at a cost of \$17,686. Bishop Greco blessed the new church on May 24, 1963.

Over the years a parish hall was added to the complex. In recent years the rectory was renovated with help from the men of the parish and a new stained glass window was added to the church. This parish also serves the mission Church of St. Edward's in Fishville.



ST. MARY CHURCH, JENA



ST. EDWARD MISSION, FISHVILLE



On one cold and dark winter night,
An angel of the Lord led
Joseph and Mary on a flight.

The night was cold and no place to stay,
They ended up in a barn that was full of hay.

Mary was with child
whose name was Jesus,
He was born, and by His birth
He would save us.

In the barn there was a manger,
It was not fit even for a stranger.

Because of His humility shown
by His birth,
It opened the door to save
everyone on earth.

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CHRISTMAS STOCKING PROJECT. Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Bishop Desmond #1459 of St. Rita Church in Alexandria collected items and stuffed stockings for the patients of St. Christina's Nursing Home in Pineville. St. Christina's cares for the indigent and most of the residents have no family. St. Rita's CDA members gave out stockings to the joy of these residents back in 2019, but due to the pandemic, were unable to personally hand out the gifts last year. This year, they plan to deliver the stockings in person again, and they have spent many hours preparing, donating, collecting, and assembling the stockings.



ST. CYRIL CHAPEL, FLATWOODS. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the final Sunday of the liturgical year, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, with the community of St. Cyril mission in Flatwoods. Many thanks to Father Peter Faulk and the community of St. Cyril for their kind welcome.

Live-streamed Mass Schedule

Please continue to visit your church parish's Facebook page (you do not need a Facebook account, just click "not now" and view the content) or the diocesan website for updates. Please inquire directly to your church parish concerning their requirements and guidelines for attending Mass in-person.

Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart Church**, Moreauville KZLG-FM 95.5
- 8:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart Church**, Moreauville KLIL-FM 92.1
- 10:00 a.m. **Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in
Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
- 9:00 a.m. **Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church**, Alexandria
on Facebook or YouTube
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Facebook
St. Edward the Confessor, Tallulah on Facebook
- 10:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Pineville
on Facebook or YouTube
- 10:30 a.m. **St. Augustine Church**, Isle Breville on Facebook
Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
on Facebook or YouTube
- 11:30 a.m. **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Pineville
on Facebook or YouTube

Monday - Friday

- 8:00 a.m. **Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in
Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
- 9:00 a.m. **St. Edward the Confessor**, Tallulah
on Facebook (Wednesdays),
(9:30 a.m. talk - aka "The CU Catecast"; Wed.)
- 5:30 p.m. **St. Edward the Confessor**, Tallulah
on Facebook (Fridays)

Saturday

- 4:00 p.m. **St. Rita Church**, Alexandria on Facebook or YouTube
St. Anthony of Padua Church,
Natchitoches on Youtube www.youtube.com/channel/UCxW14jt3uy8d64HwDpmMB6Q
- Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in
Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
- 5:00 p.m. **St. Michael the Archangel**, Leesville on Facebook

Find additional resources at
www.diocesealex.org/come-to-the-table, including:

- How to find a church parish near you
- How to find Mass times at churches near you
- Divorce and annulments in the Catholic Church

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Psalm 29: 11 | Responsorial Psalm for January 9
The Baptism of the Lord

Made new: starting 2022 with joy + celebration!



BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS. At an all-school Mass on Nov. 24 at Christian Brothers High School, Memphis, celebrated by Bishop David Talley and concelebrated by Bishop Terry Steib, Bishop Robert Marshall was honored to be admitted as an affiliated member of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (the DeLaSalle Christian Brothers). This is the highest honor that the Institute of the Brothers can bestow and it was a moving celebration. Honored along with Bishop Marshall was Gary E. Stavrum, fellow alumnus of CBHS and Christian Brothers University. Many thanks to the Brothers for this recognition. Live Jesus in our hearts... forever.



ST. MARY'S RESIDENTIAL TRAINING SCHOOL. Monday, Dec. 6, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass for the Memorial of St. Nicholas with the community of St. Mary's Residential Training School. Bishop thanks the choir, the servers, the clients and the staff for their welcome. Special thanks to Administrator Christi Guillot, Director of Development Tamara McNulty, Father David Braquet, and Deacon Richard Mitchell for their help with the Mass and the photo session afterward.



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL CHOIR. Wednesday, Dec. 8, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Bishop remarked: "As always, the choir was wonderful. They joined me for this photo after Mass. I was then honored to join them for their delicious holiday dinner. Thanks to Father Jim Ferguson and Father Bill Gearheard who were among the fine cooks."



OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WINNFIELD. (ABOVE) On Dec. 8, the children of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church performed their Christmas programs. The catechism classes performed "The First Christmas." The youth group did a black light show to "Little Drummer Boy!" (RIGHT). The performances were outstanding! Following the shows, the congregation enjoyed a delicious meal. The church enjoyed an evening filled with the true Christmas spirit.





CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville held a Christmas Extravaganza on Saturday, Dec. 4 that included a gumbo cook-off; bingo; kids crafts and cookie decorating, pictures with Santa, Sacred Heart Beauty Pageant, vendors, and a country store. Pictured with Santa is pastor, Father Walter Ajaero.



MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS CHURCH, WOODWORTH. Parishioners of Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth donated items to this year's Giving Tree project. The gifts are earmarked for seminarians and for the Cenla Pregnancy Center.

View more photos on the photo galleries at www.diocesealex.org.



CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER, EVERGREEN. Parishioners from Church of the Little Flower in Evergreen participated in a procession with the Blessed Sacrament outside of the church on Nov. 21, the Feast of Christ the King.



FIRST CONFESSION. Thursday, Dec. 2, all of the 2nd grade students made their First Reconciliation. Despite many jitters and nerves, our 2nd grade teacheres, Mrs. Susan McNeal, Mrs. Courtney Wolf, and Mrs. Melissa Walker, did a great job preparing them. The priest said they knew the process and they did a great job.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH, WATERPROOF. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Saturday, Dec. 18, with the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Waterproof, LA. Bishop Marshall thanks Father Taylor Reynolds and all who gathered for the warm welcome.

*Proclaim his marvelous deeds
to all the nations.*

Psalm 96: 3
Responsorial Psalm for January 16
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS. Every year, the Plaquemine Knights of Columbus Council 2142 presents continuing education scholarships to high school graduating students of KC fathers or grandfathers. During a Mass, offered at Mater Dolorosa Church, Maggie [redacted], from Plaquemine, was awarded a scholarship to Louisiana State University at Alexandria, and Emily [redacted], from Dupont, was awarded a scholarship to Louisiana Tech University.

During the Mass, Council 2142 also made a donation to Mater Dolorosa Church in memory of Brian Dufour, for his service to the Knights of Columbus and the church. Father Martin Laird, Council Chaplain, accepted a remembrance plaque from the council on behalf of Brian's family.

Pictured Top Right: Grand Knight Chris Bordelon, Mrs. Betty Lemoine, Mrs. Donna David, Maggie [redacted], Stephen Couvillion, and Letha Johnson.

Pictured Bottom Right: Chaplain Father Martin Laird, Jerome Duet, Jason Lemoine, Keith Aymond, recipient Emily [redacted], Paul Bordelon, Grand Knight Chris Bordelon, and Kevin Dalgo.

Pictured above: Council 2142 also made a donation to Mater Dolorosa Church in memory of Brian Dufour, for his service to the Knights of Columbus and the church. Father Martin Laird, Council Chaplain, accepted a remembrance plaque from the council on behalf of Brian's family.



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, ST. JOSEPH, LA. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass in St. Joseph LA on Sunday, Dec. 5, and had this to say: "In this Year of St. Joseph, it was a pleasure to travel today to St. Joseph, LA to celebrated the Second Sunday of Advent at St. Joseph Church. Thank you to Father Taylor Reynolds and the wonderful parishioners of St. Joseph for their warm and enthusiastic welcome. It was a joy to see so many active children in the congregation. May many of them respond to the call to priesthood or consecrated life!"



HOLY ROSARY CHURCH. This Advent we are singing, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Dec. 11, I went to Emmanuel, LA to Holy Rosary Church to celebrate Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent. Thank you to Father Christian Ogbonna and the parishioners of Holy Rosary for their warm welcome.



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BISHOP AT COLUMBIA. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass with the parishioners of St. John Chapel, Columbia.



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B	E	T	L	T	D	I	S	S	U	E
A	D	S	E	Y	E	A	T	S	E	A



Upcoming Retreats

- Jan. 13 - 16, 2022
St. Patrick's Church, Ferriday
Men's ACTS
- Feb. 10 - 13, 2022
St. Patrick's Church, Ferriday
Women's ACTS

A list of ACTS Retreat dates can be found at www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/acts/.

Our Lady of Guadalupe's Miraculous Tilma

By Sister Mary Claire Strasser
Blessed is She

"Sister. That was a mic-drop class."

That's about as high of a compliment as it gets from middle schoolers. It was the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and we spent the class going over the story hidden in the tilma. Since the majority of my students were Hispanic, they were very familiar with the story of the apparition of Our Lady to Saint Juan Diego and faithfully participated in Las Mananitas. Many had an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in their homes and lockers, and it was that image we spent the class discussing.

Mary Tells a Story Then

There were more than twenty languages and more than fifty dialects spoken in Mexico; however, when Mary left her image on the tilma, she left it in a language she knew everyone at the time would understand: symbols and cultural imagery.

On the miraculous tilma, Mary is shown as a young native woman—not Spanish or European. Her dress—with jasmine, a fur-trimmed neck and cuffs, and a gold border on her cape—would have told the Aztec people that this woman was an Aztec princess or queen.



ST. RITA CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA. St. Rita Church Spanish Community celebrated Our Lady of Guadalupe with a procession before Mass on Sunday, Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Yet the greenish-blue color of the mantle would have spoken

to the people of divinity.

The angel holding the hem of her dress would have also told them she came from Heaven. So simply from her dress, they

would have gathered that this woman was a Queen from Heaven.

The Woman from Revelation

The stars surrounding Mary on the tilma would have alerted the people of a beginning of a new civilization, and the winter solstice of 1531 is displayed in the arrangement of stars. The winter solstice symbolized the day of the sun's birth to the Aztec people.

"A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon at her feet and on her head a crown of twelve stars." // Revelation 12:1

We know this refers to Mary, but for the Aztec people, they would come to that knowledge through the image. The woman stands in front of the sun, signifying she is greater than the sun god, who was the greatest among the native gods.

She stands on the moon, again showing she is greater than the god of night. The crescent moon was also a symbol of the Aztec serpent god, and Our Lady's stance upon it shows she will crush its head (see Genesis 3:15). This had even deeper meaning for the Aztec people, as the stone serpent demanded human sacrifice, and they would have recognized that this woman had power over human sacrifice.

So where she was standing told the people this queen from heaven was more powerful than all of their gods.

With Child

The black band around Mary's waist alerted the Aztec people that the woman was pregnant. Over her womb was a jasmine flower in the shape of an Indian cross, which proclaimed in rich symbolism that the baby in her womb is Divine and the center of the universe. Mary's hands are folded in prayer with her head inclined toward her womb, showing reverence to the one in her womb, not bringing glory to herself. She shows the people that she is not God, but belongs to and is worshiping God, the God who is in her womb and Who must then be Man.

Mary's fingers are three together, and one farther apart, hinting at the Trinity, three in one.

The Aztec people would have connected this God-Man to the brooch at her neck. It has a black cross, which they would have recognized as the Cross Cortez had on his ships which brought the Catholic Faith to Mexico.

So through the image on the tilma, the people would know that this queen from Heaven, mightier than all of their gods, worshipped the Man-God in her womb, and so must they.

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Mary Tells a Story Today

Not only did Mary speak to the Aztec people then, but through science, she is still speaking to us today.

The tilma is made of cactus fiber and would have lasted about 15 years. Yet, it is still here, almost 500 years later. It has faced smoke from fires and candles, water from downpours, candle wax, and oils from fingers touching it. The image shows no signs of decay, cracking, or deterioration. It even survived a bomb in 1921. The brass cross next to the tilma was bent completely and the altar rail was heavily damaged, but the tilma remained untouched!

Scientists studying the tilma using infrared photography found no sketching lines or outlines to suggest an artist painted it. Nor can they find any paintbrush strokes! The biophysicist who studied it said it appeared to have been produced in a single moment. Scientists who have studied the pigments have no explanation for them. There were no synthetic paints in the 1500s, and the pigments do not come from any natural source.

One of the most striking things that speak to us today but would not have been able to be seen due to the lack of technology during the time of the Aztecs are Our Lady's eyes. An engineer magnified her eyes over 2,500 times. In her eyes can be seen the reflection of the Bishop and several other onlookers. Probably even more amazing is that Mary's eyes follow the reflections and curves of what our eyes normally do when we gaze upon something.

Our Lady Draws Us Then and Now to Her Son

In 1541, ten years after the apparition, it is said nine million people had converted to Catholicism—practically the whole nation of Mexico. This massive religious and cultural conversion brought an end to the human sacrifice that was part of the Aztec culture. She is working today to bring about the conversion of our culture today, and this is why she is a patroness for the pro-life movement.

Every year when I taught this lesson on December 12th, I remained just as awed as my students. Our Lady's loves us enough to speak to us in a language we can understand.

Saint Louis de Montfort said:

"She is more mother than queen."

Our Lady of Guadalupe shows us she is mighty as both mother and queen and is willing to go to great lengths to speak to our hearts.

May Our Lady of Guadalupe work this miracle of deeper conversion in our hearts this Christmas season.

/// Sr. Mary Claire of the Holy Family is a member of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT), and currently serves in Corpus Christi, TX. She loves Jesus and Mary, and her students would say every Saint is her favorite. She graduated with a degree in elementary education, and is currently working on a Masters in Theology from her Alma Mater, Franciscan University. A Tennessee girl who could live off of Dr. Pepper and popcorn, she loves road trips, especially this one we are on to Heaven.

"Those who live according to the flesh are concerned with the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the spirit with the things of the spirit.

The concern of the flesh is death, but the concern of the spirit is life and peace."

Romans 8 : 5-6

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Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

John 6: 63
Responsorial Psalm for January 23
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE
PETER J. LEMOINE
Social Security Disability Law

Offices in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Cottonport

Adjunct Professor, Southern University Law Center
MEMBER: Louisiana State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Avoyelles Parish Bar Association, National Organization of Social Security Claimant Representatives, Legal Services for Purposes of Disability Committee (Louisiana State Bar Association).

PUBLISHED ARTICLES: "The Worn-Out Worker Rule Revisited," "Significant Work-Related Limitations of Function Under §12.05C," "Questionable Retirement and the Small Business Owner," "Crisis of Confidence: The Inadequacies of Vocational Evidence Presented at Social Security Disability Hearings," "An Unsolved Mess: Analyzing the Social Security Administration's Methodology for Identifying Occupations and Job Numbers."

318-717-1995



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: GRATITUDE. The Virtue of the Month for November was Gratitude. Students from St. Mary's Catholic School in Natchitoches

Congratulations to these students!



(LEFT) SACRED HEART SCHOOL, MOREAUVILLE. Last week was Poetry Week for Mrs. Amy Lemoine's fifth grade classes. Everyone made a poetry book with five different poems. They all turned out amazing!



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL HOMECOMING WEEK. St. Joseph School celebrated their Homecoming Week, Nov. 29 - Dec. 4. The week was filled with many events, including different out-of-uniform days, parade through the town of Plaquemine, pep rally, winning games against False River Gators, and the homecoming dance. The following students were on the Homecoming Court:

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Positions available around the diocese:

Data Entry Clerk - Part time/Temporary

The National Tekakwitha Conference Office is looking for a part time/temporary Data Entry Clerk. 15 Hours per week - \$12 per hour. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, including Microsoft Access. Experience negotiable. Must be an active Catholic in good standing. Please include 2-3 references. Contact: (318) 483-3908. Send resumes to info@tekconf.org.

OLPS Church and School seeks bookkeeper

This is a full-time position handling financial transactions for Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church and School. Candidate must have a background in payroll/bookkeeping/tax reporting, and have excellent computer skills, including Word and Excel. A degree in Accounting is preferred. Must be a practicing Catholic with excellent organizational skills. Send resumes to Julie Bayone at 401 21st St., Alexandria, La. 71301, or to julie.bayone@olpschurch.org . Questions – (318) 445-3693.

Maintenance Supervisor

St. Joseph Catholic Church seeks an enthusiastic, dedicated, and qualified full-time maintenance supervisor to oversee the upkeep of the parish campus in Marksville, LA.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum of 3 years' experience in Maintenance
- Demonstrated Leadership Skills
- Availability on or before February 1, 2022

Inquiries may be sent to:

St. Joseph Church, 141 S. Washington Street, Marksville, Louisiana 71351-3022

For Application Form, please contact: Rev. Dan O'Connor, Pastor, (318) 253-7561, ext. 5. St. Joseph Catholic Church does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, or national and ethnic origin.

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I will sing of your salvation.
Psalm 71: 15 | Responsorial Psalm for January 30 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

The **C**ross Word

January 2 and 9, 2022

answers on pg 15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
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Readings: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 & Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

ACROSS

1 Tan color	29 Call
6 Pouch	31 Throw
9 Admiral (abbr.)	32 Colorer
12 Capital of France	36 Unseal (2 wds.)
13 Bullfight cheer	39 Did with loaves & fish
14 Lanterloo card game	40 Left hand doesn't know what right does
15 Laughing wild canine	43 Push button pad
16 Angry	45 Nicene Creed
17 The other half of Jima	46 Father (verb)
18 ___ alms	47 Holds cremated remains
20 Vexed	48 Pressure unit
22 Japanese tree	50 Flippant
25 Takes prayer posture	54 Wager
26 Recede	55 Type of partnership
27 Magi came to pay	

DOWN

1 Speed rate
2 Straw
3 "Blessed ___ you"
4 The Three ___
5 A major prophet
6 Not all
7 Wing
8 Relinquishing
9 Resembling
10 Wooden peg
11 Emotional states
19 Flower: "Mary's Humility"
21 A bruised ___
22 Manger was Jesus'
23 Kimono sash
24 BB association
25 Popular Japanese drama
28 First day of week
30 He shines upon Jerusalem
33 Small dog's bark
34 Terminal abbr.
35 Church cardinals' hue
37 Belong to "the nations"
38 Where Magi came from
40 Breathing device
41 Sinned
42 Widow's mite
44 Leaven
46 Jesus' was pierced
49 Pigpen
51 Ship initials
52 Prompt
53 Congressional vote

Heart of Saint Kateri Circle

Do you have a devotion to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha?

Do you have a desire to learn and become more involved with this vital ministry to and with our indigenous brothers and sisters?

Are you looking for new opportunities to pray, serve and grow alongside believers right in your own community?

You are invited to **COME & SEE** what we're all about!

- Tribal affiliation, though welcome, is not a requirement •

The "Heart of Saint Kateri" Circle meets:
2nd Thursday of each month 5:30 p.m.
Tekakwitha Conference National Center
2225 North Bolton Avenue • Alexandria, LA 71303

For more information, call (318) 227-0545 or (318) 471-2044

Poco a poco: The spirituality of making the next best step

By Fr. Mark-Mary Ames, CFR
franciscanfriars.com/
poco-a-poco podcast

It's become a bit of our catch phrase. It's been the name of a CFR album, our Ascension Present's send off, and the name of our podcast. "Poco a Poco" has been thrown on stickers, bracelets, and tattooed on at least one fellow pilgrim's ankle. It's part of our patrimony and at the heart of our charism. And it's true...for all of us.

Poco a Poco, Little By Little

"Poco a Poco" was birthed on a dusty Honduran road between a convent of cloistered nuns and the friars' medical center. It's actually part of a larger phrase:

"Somos Peregrinos. Poco a poco, vamos a llegar."

"We are pilgrims. Little by little, we're going to make it."

It was generated from poverty for the poor.

For a little over ten years now, the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal have been running a medical center called the Saint Benedict Medical Center in Comayagua, Honduras. The medical center offers totally free care to the poorest of the poor in the name of Jesus and His Church. Our patients come from literally hours away to receive the medical attention they couldn't possibly afford, but desperately need.

The number of patients we're able to help each day is much larger than the number of people we can fit in our medical center at a given time, which means that there are frequently dozens of our suffering neighbors waiting outside the clinic each day.

And every day, one of our friars would go to accompany and encourage them, with one catch: he couldn't speak Spanish.

Constancy and Encouragement

Br. Anthony moved to Honduras as a forty-five year old with a great desire to be with the poor, but learning Spanish was practically futile. Every day he would go to visit the patients waiting to be served, many of them sick and suffering, and try to encourage them.

One day, an idea came to his mind, it was Spirit-inspired word of encouragement, and he asked one of the friars to help him:

"How do you say, we are pilgrims?"



ST. JAMES ALL SAINTS DAY AND BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

SParishioners at St. James Memorial Church celebrated All Saint's Day and Black History Month on Nov. 1. Pictured above: Trenton [redacted] - St. Peter Claver; Kamryn [redacted] - St. Augustine; Darian [redacted] - St. Katharine Drexel; Ayden [redacted] - St. Antonia Vierra; Kai [redacted] - St. Monica; Ava [redacted] - St. Josephine Bakhita; Cole [redacted] - St. Moses the Black; Bryce [redacted] - St. Benedict the Moor; Dominick [redacted] - St. Martin de Porres.

"Somos peregrinos."

And Br. Anthony wrote it down.

"Little by little, is 'Poco a Poco,' right?"

"That's right."

He writes.

"We're going to make it?"

"Vamos a llegar."

"Somos peregrinos. Poco a poco, vamos a llegar?"

"Yup, that's it."

Day after day, Br. Anthony would speak these words to the patients. The staff would hear them as well. Slowly it became a thing, "Poco a Poco."

Often times, he'd throw in one last question:

"Donde?" (Where?)

"Paraiso!" (Heaven!)

And, ain't it the truth? The more and more life goes on, the more and more we can often relate, at least interiorly, to these suffering souls waiting for help at our medical center. Beat up. Struggling. But fighting. Pushing forward. It's the pilgrim way.

We're All Pilgrims

In the official document declaring our Community a Pontifical Order (meaning we're all grown up), the Holy See described our charism in these words:

In imitation of St. Francis of Assisi, the friars seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, as a

prophetic witness that life is a pilgrimage to the Father...

It's at the heart of the Franciscan life and witness: We're pilgrims. Life with the Lord is journey and often times, it ain't pretty and success isn't immediate, but we just keep going. We keep trying to, as one of our founders would often say, "Make the next best step."

Sometimes the next best step is waiting on the Lord and His timing. Sometimes the next best step is a good Confession. Sometimes the next best step is stepping out of the boat at Jesus' invitation. But it's one step at a time. Life's a pilgrimage and we are all pilgrims. We're not "home" yet, but we're going to make it. Little by little.

The Spirituality of the Poor

Why has this become so influential in the lexicon and spirituality of a generation of friars? It's struggle bus spirituality. It's the spirituality of the poor. Hopefully our life as friars is "hardcore." But it doesn't mean we're any less beggars than our brothers and sisters waiting outside of the clinic.

Part of the genius of our life, when it's well lived, is it gets us in touch with our own poverty. We learn to pray, from the core of our souls, "Lord, I need Your help. I can't do it without You." We understand that we don't learn all things overnight and we probably not going to reach the peaks of holiness by our 24th birthday.

But each day we begin again, simply seeking to keep making the next best step. We never compromise journeying toward the heights of holiness, but we don't get scandalized if it takes time. As long as we keep on our spiritual pilgrimage, we're going to make it.

The Next Best Step

We're poor, but we also work with the poor. How often do we encounter the materially or spiritually poor who are discouraged by what they can't do. They know what they want to do, they know what they "should" do, but they can't do it. But can you make the next best step? Can you surrender a little more, love a little deeper, trust a little firmer,

Come see what OLPS has to offer!

Join us for an

Open House

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

8:00 am or 12:15 pm

For questions email Patricia Upton
at upton_p@promptsuccor.org

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www.promptsuccor.org

Jesus, when others see me, may they recognize you.

today? My friends, we can all make the next best step.

The consolation this offers was brought home to me in a conversation I was having with a young adult woman. She was sincerely seeking the Lord; a really beautiful soul. She was aware of the heights of the call, but she was also aware of the fact she wasn't there. Talking about trust, I asked her, "On a scale of 1-100, how much do you trust the Lord?"

"Maybe 80%," she replied. (Which is pretty darn good! But she, like most of us, was

discouraged by the 20% that was lacking.)

So, applying "poco a poco spirituality," I asked her, "Can we try and get to 81%?"

And in an instant a burden was lifted from her shoulders. It was written all over her face. It was a revelation. "Yeah, I can do that. I can definitely do that."

1% at a Time

Here's the thing, we're journeying toward 100%, but the Lord's patient and merciful as He showed with His Apostles. Let's try and get to 81% and then we'll start working on 82%. And then

we'll go to 83%...

Why? Life is a pilgrimage and we're all pilgrims on dusty roads.

And that's why we chose to name our podcast The Poco a Poco Podcast. It's a podcast dedicated to helping our fellow pilgrims make the next best step. We understand the messiness and the difficulty of life and the discouragement that comes from thinking we have to have it all figured out yesterday. We can handle messy. Because God can handle messy. But also, with grace, we can always make the next best step.

That is our prayer for you: that with God's help, you may never cease making the next best step.

Somos peregrinos.

Poco a poco, vamos a llegar.

Donde?

Paraiso.

We're blessed to be on the journey to you. If we don't meet along the roads of life, we look forward to meeting you in our Father's house.

Join us March 5 - 6 for the Beyond the Limits Jr. High Conference, as we dive into the spirituality of the next best step with speaker, Kris Frank, and host, Ragan Savedra.

Visit www.steubenvillesouth.com to register, or email info@steubenvillesouth.com for more information. We can't wait to see you there!



SACRED HEART SCHOOL, MOREAUVILLE. Sacred Heart School held its Annual Student of the Year Competition on Dec. 7. Winners were: 8th grader Olivia [redacted] and 5th grader Abby [redacted]. They will now compete at the Diocesan level. Congratulations to both winners. Pictured left to right: Nathan Laborde, vice principal, Olivia [redacted], Abby [redacted], Sr. Sandra Norsworthy, principal.

Catholic Campus Ministry is provided at LSU of Alexandria, Louisiana College, and Northwestern State University.

LSU of Alexandria:
Catholic Student Organization, 318-447-2956

Northwestern State University
Catholic Student Organization
FOCUS Ministries: <https://nsucatholic.org/focus>

Louisiana College:
Catholic Student Organization, 318-447-2956



CYNTHIA HILLHOUSE NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR AT ST. MARY'S. Mrs. Cynthia Hillhouse, a second grade teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School in Natchitoches, was named the recipient of the Em W. Knipmeyer Excellence in Teaching Award for the 2021-22 school year.

The Em W. Knipmeyer Excellence in Teaching Award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the St. Mary's Faculty. This is the 17th year the award has been presented. It is given annually by Mrs. Joe Stamey, a 1952 St. Mary's graduate, in honor of her sister Em who graduated in from St. Mary's in 1941. Mrs. Knipmeyer was a long time educator who taught and was later principal at St. Mary's. Mrs. Stamey is proud of her long time association with St. Mary's where all of her children and several grandchildren graduated.

Mrs. Hillhouse received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education from the University of Mississippi in 1993. She continued her education by earning a Master of Science in School Counseling from Mississippi State in 2008. She has her National Board Certification in School Counseling. When she joined the St. Mary's staff in 2019, Mrs. Hillhouse had a total of twenty five years in education as a teacher and as a guidance counselor.

"Mrs. Hillhouse embodies the St. Mary's school mission in every way," said Principal Jason Lachica. "She is committed to her students and is respected by everyone who has had the honor of working with her. She sets high expectations for herself, as well as her students, while giving them the support they need to reach their potential. She is not only a wonderful teacher, but a dedicated mother, wife, and daughter. She puts everyone before herself and is an absolute blessing to our school!" The award was presented at a school assembly for weekly mass.

Pictured are: Father Blake Deshautelle (Chancellor), Mrs Joe Stamey, Cynthia Hillhouse and Jason Lachica (Principal).

Discalced Carmelite Meeting - Jan. 8

The Order of 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 studies, please contact Mary Jo McCoy (318) 346-6860 or (318) 481-9638.

Adult Faith Series - Jan. 12 - Mar. 23

Beyond the Basics of our Catholic Creed: In the New Year, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria will be offering an Adult Faith Series on The Apostles' Creed on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Room. This is a presentation in Apologetics (defense of our Faith), and will be a refresher course in the fundamentals of our Faith that will also move beyond the basics to explore the fullness of truth. Register for this free series of classes by calling the church office at (318) 445-3693.

Heart of St. Kateri Circle meeting - Jan. 13

The next Heart of St. Kateri Circle meeting will be on Thursday, Jan. 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Tekakwitha Conference Center, 2225 North Bolton Avenue, Alexandria, LA. All are welcome. For more information contact Scotty Durio at (318) 483-3908 or finance@tekconf.org.

Domestic Church Retreat - Jan. 14-17

Come, receive the Good News, and stir up the grace of your Sacrament! Sacramentally married couples interested in joining Domestic Church typically do so by attending an Evangelization Retreat as an introduction to formation. The weekend retreat will be held Jan. 14-17 at the Wesley Center in Woodworth. Please contact Chris and Jenay Franco at domesticchurchcenla@gmail.com, or visit domesticchurchfamilies.com/events to register.

Inaugural March for Life, Natchitoches - Jan. 21

Save the date for the first of an annual March for Life in Natchitoches. St. Mary's Catholic School and the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Church, in partnership with the Women's Resource Center, will host a March for Life on Friday, Jan. 21. The day will begin with a Pre-Rally concert by the Josh Blakesley Band, followed by a Pro Life Rally with guest speakers and finish with the march from the riverbank to the rectory lawn of Immaculate Conception.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS

The Natchitoches March for Life will mirror and take place at the same time as the national March for Life in Washington, D.C. which has become the largest human rights demonstration in the world.

For more information contact: Jessica Spear (jspear@smstigers.org), Lisa Guillet (lisaguillet@yahoo.com) or Jennifer Luna (wrcnatladirector@gmail.com).

National Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - Jan. 22

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children."

In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

Priestly Vocations Retreat - Feb. 5

There will be a day of reflection at Maryhill for any man who is discerning priesthood or wants to know more about seminary. Any high school, college, or adult male is invited to attend. More information will be provided soon.

Fullness of Truth Catholic Conference - Feb 18 - 19

Why go to Mass? With virtual live-streaming available, especially in times of pandemic, is in-person attendance still necessary? Should it now be "optional" for modern Catholics? On February 18-19 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria, Fullness of Truth presents its timely conference entitled, "Rediscover the Holy Mass: Real Presence, Real Power!" Come explore both fresh insights and the non-negotiable truths related to our central act of worship, with the "spot-on" missionary preaching of Fr. Ken Geraci, CPM, the straight-forward rationale of EWTN call-in radio show host Dr. David

Anders, and the Augustine Institute's dynamic scripture scholar & author Dr. Michael Barber. This conference will provide clarity on such an essential matter... Your salvation! Don't miss it! To register & for more information, visit: FullnessOfTruth.org or call: 877.21.TRUTH.

Beyond the Limits - March 5 - 6

To really love Christ, we must love "Beyond the Limits." Please join us March 5-6, 2022 for the Beyond the Limits Junior High Conference. All students in grades 6 - 8 are encouraged to attend. Speakers include Kris Frank and Ragan Savedra. Email info@steubenvillesouth.com for more information, or visit www.steubenvillesouth.com to register. We can't wait to see you there!

Steubenville South - June 24 - 26

Calling all high schoolers! Throughout the Bible, the Lord tells us over and over again, "Be not afraid," and he continues to speak these words to us today. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at Steubenville South in Alexandria, LA on June 24 - 26, 2022 to experience the peace of Jesus Christ, who is always faithful.

All rising freshmen in high school through rising freshmen in college are invited to attend this retreat. Learn more at www.steubenvillesouth.com, email info@steubenvillesouth.com, or contact your church parish for more information. We can't wait to see you there!

Enduring Faith documentary

Enduring Faith - A documentary film on the faith, perseverance, and inspiring example of Indigenous Peoples across North America - available for all to watch at kofc.org/enduringfaith.

Indigenous communities across North America have a rich and vibrant testimony to share - both past and present - including the witness of their faith. Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholics dives deep into the rich contribution of Native Americans in the tapestry of the Catholic faith. Produced by the Knights of Columbus as part of its Faith Formation and Native Solidarity initiatives, the 60-minute documentary offers a missing piece to the greater story of Catholicism on the continent and a beautiful example of how Christ reveals himself through the uniqueness of every culture. A must watch with the family, classroom, or faith group. Available to all at kofc.org/enduringfaith. Please spread the word. Know someone who could benefit from joining the Knights? Visit or share kofc.org/joinus for details.

Church Today News Deadlines

January 31

Deadline for news:
Thursday, Jan. 20



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January 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>DECEMBER 27</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. M. YOUNG</p>	<p>28</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO</p>	<p>31</p> <p>NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAY FOR DCN. W. ALDRIDGE</p>	<p>JANUARY 1</p> <p>FIRST SATURDAY SOLEMNITY of MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD NEW YEAR'S DAY PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL</p>	<p>2</p> <p>The EPIPHANY of the LORD PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY</p>
<p>3</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. EJ BARRE</p>	<p>4</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW</p>	<p>5</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET</p>	<p>6</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO</p>	<p>7</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Discalced Carmelite Meeting 9:00 a.m. Maryhill Renewal Center, Pineville PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM</p>
<p>10</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE</p>	<p>11</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Adult Faith Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria PRAY FOR DCN. LG DELOACH</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Heart of St. Kateri Circle meeting 5:30 p.m. Tekakwitha Conference Center, Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Domestic Church Retreat -- Wesley Center, Woodworth PRAY FR. J. DESIMONE</p>	<p>15</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. DHARMARAJ</p>	<p>16</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. D. DUBROC</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Domestic Church Retreat Wesley Center, Woodworth DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY PRAY FOR FR. D. DUCOTE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. W. ENDRIS</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Adult Faith Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK</p>	<p>20</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria PRAY FOR DCN. L. FELDKAMP</p>	<p>21</p> <p>March for Life, Natchitoches PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON</p>	<p>22</p> <p>National Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children PRAY FOR FR. W. GEARHEARD</p>	<p>23</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. GOOTEE</p>
<p>24</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. S. GRAMIGNA</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Adult Faith Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. D. HART</p>	<p>27</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura PRAY FOR FR. J. HASEIBER</p>	<p>28</p> <p>PRAY FOR MSGR. R. HOPPE</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. HUMPHRIES</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. H. IMAMSHAH</p>
<p>31</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. JOHNSON</p>	<p>PRAY FOR FR. R. GREMILLION</p>					

CHRISTUS HEALS

Antionette was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017 and after her initial treatment it returned in 2019. The Cancer team was a big part of her healing, from chemo to radiation to surgeries. Antionette also leaned on her faith, right along with the team at Cabrini. They treated her as part of their family.

She proudly talks about Cabrini, "They get to know their patients, they take a bad situation and make it good. I knew I had to walk this journey for whatever reason, and I knew they were right by my side."

Every day when she wakes up she's excited because God gave her another chance. "I can live in remission and that's what I intend to do. Anytime cancer comes to my doorstep we're gonna beat it with my forever team at Cabrini."

I AM A THREE-TIME CANCER SURVIVOR. THE DOCTORS, NURSES, AND ASSOCIATES AT CABRINI ARE MY ANGELS."

"CHRISTUS Cabrini's Cancer Center provided healing. They are my forever team."

**ANTOINETTE
BLAKE**



CHRISTUS
ST. FRANCES CABRINI
Hospital