

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church

130 N. Richelieu Circle • New Iberia, LA 70560

Phone: (337) 364-8360 • Email: nativity@ni.brcoxmail.com

Website: www.nativityni.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am

Weekdays:

5:30 pm (Tuesday and Thursday)

9:00 am (Wednesday) 6:30 am (Friday)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am — 5:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am — 12:00 pm

(Closed daily from 12:00 pm — 1:00 pm for Lunch)

PASTOR:

Rev. Msgr. J. Robert Romero

SACRAMENTAL MINISTER:

Fr. Ed Degeyter

SECRETARY:

Kimberly Richard

BOOKKEEPER:

Polly Camacho

RECEPTIONIST:

Sheryl S. Bourque

DIRECTOR OF FAITH

FORMATION:

Janet Viator — 337-365-3759

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

COORDINATOR:

Amber Salsman

PASTORAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: *Barbara Breaux*

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:00 pm — 3:45 pm

and

30 minutes before weekday

Masses

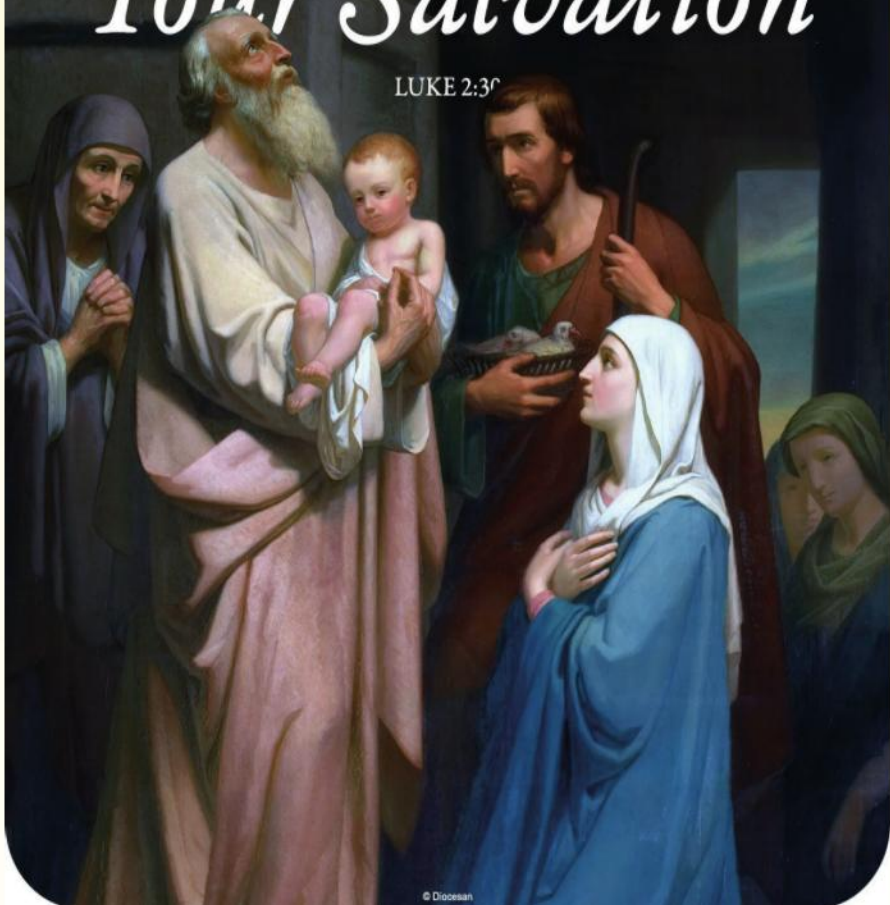
ROSARY:

The Presentation Of The Lord
Sunday, February 2, 2025

FOR MY EYES HAVE SEEN

Your Salvation

LUKE 2:35



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

5:30pm Delta Guidry

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

9:00am Ernest "Topper" Breaux, Rudy Delcambre
Carrol Romero, Sr.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

5:30pm Delta Guidry, Landon Burton (liv)

Friday, February 7, 2025 - First Friday

6:30am Don Taylor, Janell Broussard
Lee Broussard, Carlyle Hebert Fly
Ray & Nancy Shuman, U.S. Military

Saturday, February 8, 2025

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Lynward Ransonet
Rachel R. Romero, Rodolph Dugas, Jr. & Fly
Roy Flores, Rudy Delcambre

Sunday, February 9, 2025

8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin, Quang Nguyen
Clark Romero, Mrs. Terry Borel

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza
Robin Valverde (liv) (bd)

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Presentation of the Lord

Question: Luke's Gospel is the only one to mention the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. What is Luke trying to communicate here and what connection does it have with Mary?

Answer:

February 2 is exactly forty days after December 25, the nativity of Jesus. Jewish law (Ex 13:2, 12) dictated that Jesus, as the firstborn, be consecrated to God. This was done by the parents as they presented their Son in the Temple.

Jewish law further specified (Lv 12:2-8) that a mother was ritually impure after giving birth, and that she had to wait a set period of time (forty days for a boy) before she was to offer a sacrifice to the Lord for purification.

The convergence of these two Jewish regulations occasions Luke's account of both the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Mary. These days the liturgical emphasis is more on the Presentation of Jesus. Luke highlights the role of Simeon and Anna, two righteous Jews who recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and praised God for being able to see and experience such a marvel in their lifetimes.

Simeon's prayer concerning the special role of Jesus states that Jesus is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." This phrase eventually originated the custom of blessing candles on this day which were to be used in the ceremonies, rituals, and processions throughout the church year. Thus February 2 is also known as Candlemas Day. This day is indeed a rich feast to be savored.

©LPi

**We are a sacrificial giving Parish,
giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure:**

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	January 19, 2025
Loose	\$ 924.00
Envelopes	\$ 1,894.00
Total (collected)	\$ 2,818.00
Online Giving offertory	\$ 743.00
Mailed in offertory	\$ 540.00
Total offertory (week).....	\$ 6,919.00
Church in Latin America Fund.....	\$ 703.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

PRACTICING CATHOLIC RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Thoughts of Many Hearts

When Simeon cradles the infant Messiah in his arms, he speaks of salvation and glory and revelation. He speaks of his own death. He speaks of the fulfillment of God's promise to all people.

But most memorable, in my opinion, are his words about the hearts of men. This Child, he says, will be the way "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Perhaps you're like me. Perhaps you don't enjoy scrutinizing yourself, your actions, your intentions. You don't like reflecting on why you feel or react the way you do, and you really don't enjoy measuring those feelings and reactions against what you know they could be.

It's exhausting to sit with God, your heart in your hands, both of us looking at it, talking about it. So far too often, I opt out.

The oldest trick of the devil, you see, is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do. There are so many other things I could be doing, after all. Answering emails. Catching up on laundry. Scrolling Facebook. Worrying about inflation and the election. Stressing about my kid's dance recital and next week's busy schedule.

But where is God truly at work? Where is the place God will point to, when my life on Earth has come to its close?

It is the very depths of my heart. The place where I am my most authentic self, for better or worse. The place where all my pretensions crumble away, and I am alone with the truth of who I am and what I choose to do.

Am I brave enough to look into the depths of my own heart?

@LPi

Because our church bulletin is printed out of state, all Mass intentions and announcements should be submitted to the office at least two weeks prior to the requested bulletin date, earlier if it is a holiday season because we have earlier deadlines. Thank you.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

Provided By:

Our Ladies Altar Society



DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

Prayer to St. Joseph
February 2, 2025

Mini Explanation — For centuries, Christians have relied on the intercessory prayers of Joseph, earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Christ. One particular novena prayer to St. Joseph is often called “the unfailing prayer to St. Joseph.”

Prayer to St. Joseph, *Explained*

For centuries, Christians have relied on the intercessory prayers of Joseph, earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Christ, who was obedient to the will of God in all things.

One particular novena prayer to St. Joseph is often called “the unfailing prayer to St. Joseph.” It is thought to have originated in the first century A.D. and was sent by the pope to Emperor Charles as he went into battle. It is said that those who recite this prayer will not suffer a sudden death and will likewise be protected from drowning, the effects of poison and fire, falling into the hands of the enemy or being overpowered in battle.

Novena to St. Joseph

Oh St. Joseph whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the Throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh St. Joseph do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your Heavenly power I may offer my Thanksgiving and Homage to the Loving of Fathers.

Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart.

Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head for me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen

Say for nine consecutive mornings for anything you may desire. It has seldom been known to fail. @LPi

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6

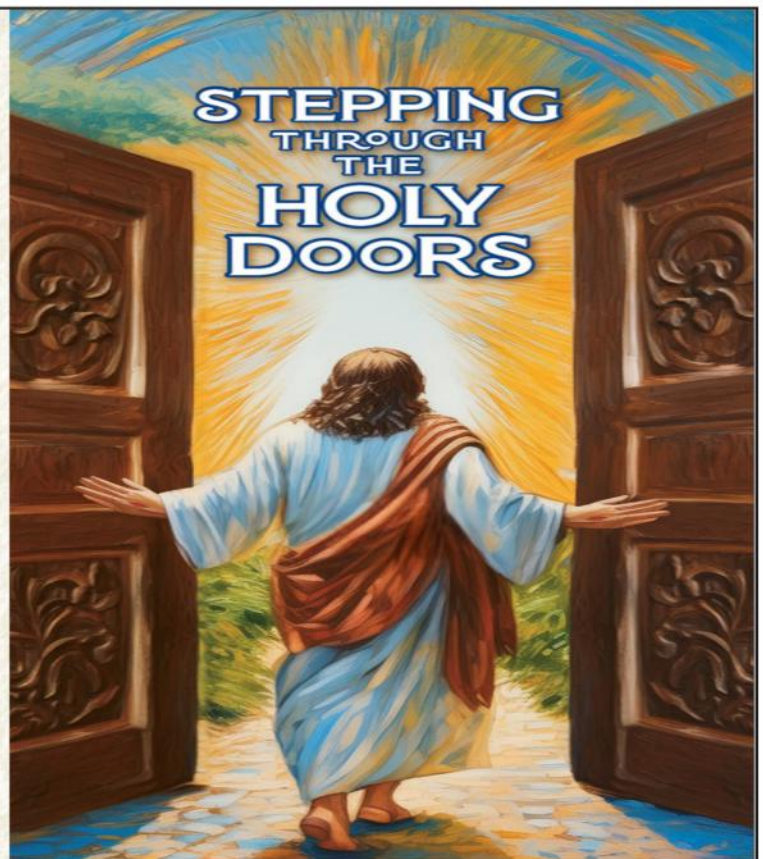
Your **commitment** is a **pilgrimage of hope** and a testament to your belief in the promises of Jesus.

Jesus showed us the way.

Please give to the **2025 Bishop’s Services Appeal.**



Donate online at diolaf.org/bsa
or text **DIOCESE** to 50155





PRAYER & SICK LIST

The names on our prayer list will stay on for 90 days. If you want to add or delete a name, please call the office @ 337-364-8360: Elijah Hebert, Baby Guillory, Frank Onebane, Lena Lopez, Debbie Johnson & Fly, Cameron Alba, Mel & Stacey Boutte, Betty C. Champagne, Donna Francis, Farina Guidry, Betty Robichaux, Earline Estave, Chad Babineaux, Tammy Dore, Dylan Ducote, Judy Meyers, Garland Reed, Carly Tajmir, Diane & Ronald Broussard, Lance Castille, Grace Armendariz, Hardy Jenkins, Louis Boudreaux, Jr., Gloria Comeaux, Larry Romero, Scotty Champagne, Edward Simon, Sirena Rogers, Monica Harrington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, Betty B. Leblanc, Christine Guidry & the Guidry Fly, Barbara Martin, Michael “Tee” Theriot, Elise C. Verret, Phyllis S. Bourque, Doris Scheldon, Ovide Buteaux, David Spelly, Ellen Guidry, Dean Delahoussaye, Patsy & Percy Barrilleaux, Patsy Thibodeaux, Tom Stowe, Tim & Staci Stowe, John & NeCole Babin, Fran Jackson, Reed Michael & Cody Lynn Romero, David & Robin Viator Fly, Sheryl S. Bourque, Mark Bourque, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, Norvelle Belaire, Caroline Dubois, Jarrod Lege, Josephine Delcambre, Peter Saltzman, Mary Saltzman, Sarah Richard, Geraldine Romero. Please also pray for those individuals who, although they are in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Anna and Simeon saw greatness and glory in the face of a tiny babe. Jesus was insignificant in the eyes of others who looked for the Messiah in the gilded halls of kings. But Anna and Simeon recognized God when they saw him. Do we? @LPi

Prayer of Faith

Dear God,
Open my eyes to Your movement in my life. And, even when I don't see it or don't understand, help me to rely on the promises of Your love and mercy
Amen.

@LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION

February 2, 2025

Presentation of the Lord

Luke 2:22-40

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophecies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear — somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which **“the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed”** (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty. — *Father John Muir* @LPi

REFLECTIONS Presentation of the Lord - Have you ever noticed how often God uses messengers to prepare people to receive what he is offering them? The Scriptures are full of angels and prophets delivering God's message to people. Often the message is calling people to change - to give up their old ways and learn to live God's way. God knows we do not like change and find it difficult to accept; but change is part of life and part of growing up. God is always calling us to be better than we are right now and he sends us messengers to help prepare us. His messages come in all forms and from all sorts of people. Are you listening to what God is trying to tell you?

“I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me.” - Malachi 3:1

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TODAY'S READINGS

The Presentation Of The Lord February 2, 2025

Reading I: Malachi 3:1-4

Malachi prophesied a coming messenger who will purify those making offerings to the Lord. How do you prepare for Sunday worship?

Reading II: Hebrews 2:14-18

Hebrews teaches that Jesus was tested and suffered so that he could be merciful and understanding with our struggles and challenges. What are you facing this week that Jesus could help you with?

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Mary and Joseph received incredible news from Simeon and Anna about the infant Jesus at his presentation in the Temple. Who helps you process startling or unsettling information?
@LPi

Nativity of Our Lady offers Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure. And it is convenient for you and for our parish staff. You can use your checking account, saving account, Visa or MasterCard! Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our church website: www.nativityni.org and selecting the Online Giving link on the right-hand side of the homepage. Your Contributions are greatly appreciated.

2024 Contributions Statement

If you would like to have a copy of your 2024 Statement of Contributions mailed to you, please call the office at (337)364-8360 to request one.

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am - Mass - 9am
Holy Hour - 9:30am - 10:30am

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Mass at 5:30pm

O.C.I.A. Meeting - 6pm

Friday, February 7, 2025 - First Friday

OLAS, K.C. Ladies Auxiliary & K.C. Members to attend 9:00am Mass

Saturday, February 8, 2025

Mass at 4pm

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Masses at: **8am & 10am**

Confirmation Class after 10am Mass - Parish Hall
Parent Meeting - Barsen Hall
2nd Collection - Nativity Building Fund



PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

Willie & Cynthia Elmer
(February 2nd - 8th)

Each week, a family or an individual from our parish receives the vocation cross. If you or your family would like to receive the vocation cross, please sign-up on the sign-up sheet near the tabernacle in church. We appreciate the prayers. Thank

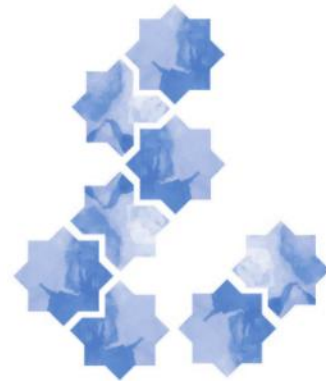
To give the "Body and Blood of Jesus Christ" to our brothers and sisters in Christ is an awesome privilege. Are you worthy? No, none of us is worthy, but we are striving to grow in holiness. If you are being called to this ministry, call Msgr. Romero at the church office (364-8360).

MASS SERVERS February 4 - 9, 2025					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 2/4/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 2/5/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 2/6/25	5:30pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 2/7/25	6:30am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 2/8/25	4:00pm	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Serena Bedia Amari Romero
Sunday 2/9/25	8:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Autum, Ephraim & Benjamin Trahan
	10:00am	Msgr. J. Robert Romero	<i>See Reader Schedule</i>	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Morgan Salsman Charlie Salsman

Diocesan is proud to now be printing *Nativity of Our Lady's Sunday Bulletin*

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