

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:

7:00 am (Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)

9:00 am (Wednesday)

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:

Fr. Matthew P. Higginbotham

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: *Andrée Schlicher*

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:00 pm — 3:45 pm and
30 minutes before weekday Masses

ROSARY:

Wednesday: 8:20 am (*Pro-Life*)

First Saturday: 8:20 am



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“There is need of only one thing.
Mary has chosen the better
part and it will not be taken
from her.”*

July 20, 2025

TODAY'S READINGS



Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings:

[Genesis 18:1–10](#)

[Psalm 15:2–5](#)

[Colossians 1:24–28](#)

[Luke 10:38–42](#)

God wants to dwell with each of us personally, intimately—as the mysterious guests once visited Abraham’s tent, as Jesus once entered the home of Mary and Martha.

By his hospitality in this week’s First Reading, Abraham shows us how we are to welcome the Lord into our lives. His selfless service of his divine guests (see Hebrews 13:1) stands in contrast to the portrait of Martha drawn in this week’s Gospel.

Where Abraham is concerned only for the well-being of his guests, Martha speaks only of herself—“Do you not care that my sister has left me by myself . . . ? Tell her to help me.” Jesus’ gentle rebuke reminds us that we risk missing the divine in the mundane, that we can fall into the trap of believing that God somehow needs to be served by human hands (see Acts 17:25).

Our Lord comes to us not to be served but to serve (see Matthew 20:28). He gave His life that we might know the one thing we need, the “better part,” which is life in the fellowship of God.

Jesus is the true Son promised today by Abraham’s visitors (see Matthew 1:1). In Him, God has made an everlasting covenant for all time; He has made us blessed descendants of Abraham (see Genesis 17:19, 21; Romans 4:16–17, 19–21).

The Church now offers us this covenant, bringing to completion the word of God, the promise of His plan of salvation, what Paul calls “the mystery hidden for ages.”

As once He came to Abraham, Martha, and Mary, Christ now comes to each of us in Word and Sacrament. As we sing in this week’s Psalm: He will make His dwelling with those who keep His Word and practice justice (see also John 14:23).

If we do these things, we will not be anxious or disturbed. We will not have our Lord taken from us. We will wait on the Lord, Who told Abraham and Who tells each of us: “I will surely return to you.”

Scott Hahn

Eleven Keys to a Successful Marriage

1. **Recommit yourself to your marriage every single day.**

If you want to cultivate a strong and happy marriage, start each morning by making a renewed personal commitment to keeping your relationship healthy and rewarding. Start by remembering what you said you'd do in your wedding vows: Love your spouse. Honor her (or him!) Cherish her. Comfort her. Remain faithful to her. Do these things in good times and bad, in sickness and in health — every day of your marriage.

2. **Take responsibility and stop trying to fix your partner.**

It's always best to look at how your own behavior could improve before you try to change your spouse's.

3. **Evaluate where your self-worth comes from.**

I believe that the happiest couples draw a lot of their self-worth from their relationships with each other. Ask yourself whether or not you're consistently relying on something other than your marriage, like your job, to make you feel good about yourself. Yes, it's okay to proudly say, "I'm the manager of my division at work," but you should also be able to say, "I am the world's luckiest man to be married to my wife," with the same sense of accomplishment.

4. **Consistently verbalize to your spouse the things you love and appreciate about him or her.**

Complimenting your partner will make her feel great in the moment, and doing so consistently is the single greatest long-term vitamin you can give your marriage. Start by reminding yourself of all of the reasons why you fell in love with him or her in the first place, and then list how much more wonderful your partner has gotten since then. Also, tell her (or him!) how much she means to you, how much you love her, and how beautiful she is ten times a day. We can't count on hearing compliments from our kids, our coworkers, or even our friends, and we're harder on ourselves than anyone else ever could be. Over time, this lack of positive reinforcement makes us feel small and unhappy. Make it your personal mission to ensure that your spouse feels as valued and appreciated as possible.

5. **Acknowledge the little things your spouse does and return the favor.**

In addition to complimenting your spouse, perform small but meaningful acts of kindness. For example, if your wife hates unloading the dishwasher, make a point to get into the kitchen and put away the dishes first. Acts like this don't take much time or energy, but they show your spouse that you are paying attention and that you care — and that is truly priceless! And when you're on the receiving end, be sure to say thank you. You'll perpetuate a positive cycle of giving and getting in which neither party feels ignored or taken for granted.

6. **Learn — and then do — what makes your spouse feel most loved.**

While any expression of love is, of course, a good thing, we all feel loved in different ways. Even if you feel most valued when your husband gives you a hug, the same might not be true for him. It's important to ask your spouse, "What have I done in the past that made you feel the most special?" Some people might want a date night. Others might need to be told verbally that they are the greatest. Whatever your spouse's response is, be sure to include those actions or words into your regular repertoire.

7. **Don't let resentment build.**

When you live in fairly close quarters with another human being, it's inevitable that sooner or later you're going to annoy and anger each other. While it's not a good idea to nit-pick, don't let negative feelings build up and fester. Even if you have to go for a walk to clear your head first, be sure to express your frustrations in a calm, constructive way — preferably before you go to bed angry. Also, remember that this is a two-way street. When your spouse is upset with you, make every effort not to fly off the handle and to fairly consider what you're hearing. Marriage does involve compromising and modifying your behavior for another's well-being — and believe me, your mutual happiness is worth it. If you and your spouse reach a point where you're unable to address problems without raised voices and heated emotions, marriage counseling may be a good option because each person has the opportunity to voice dissatisfactions without being interrupted. Remember, seeking out help does not mean that you are weak or that you have failed — it means that you are acting wisely and responsibly for the good of your marriage and your future.

8. **Take responsibility and stop trying to fix your partner.**

It's always best to look at how your own behavior could improve before you try to change your spouse's. When you begin to take responsibility for areas in which you may have been dropping the ball, the dynamic of your marriage will change. Perhaps your spouse has been trapped in a cycle of negativity that has been fed by your own less-than-helpful attitude. Plus, when you begin to behave more positively, there's a good chance your partner will begin to mirror your behavior. If, for example, you want your husband to send you love letters, start by sending love letters to him first. If you want your wife to say, "I love you" more often, start assuring her of the same thing more frequently.

9. **Figure out what your strengths are and play to them.**

You and your spouse should each play to your strengths within your marriage and back away from your weaknesses. If, for example, you're great with words but don't have much of a math brain, don't take on the task of making sure the bills are paid and the accounts are balanced each month. Instead, take the lead in dealing with teachers, repairmen, etc. When you force yourself to do something for which you have little aptitude, you only frustrate yourself and, by extension, the people with whom you live.

10. **Date your spouse again.**

After a few years of marriage, many couples find that they're going weeks at a time without having any serious conversations that don't revolve around work, money, or kids. That's why it's imperative to set aside time to date your spouse and invest in the romantic part of your relationship. Without that so-called "spark," the other parts of your life, like work and kids, will suffer too. Try to act like you did when you were both in the infatuation period of your relationship: Bring home flowers or other small gifts. Plan a special date night (maybe involving a babysitter this time around!). Get tickets to the reunion tour of a band you and your spouse loved when you first began dating. Basically, get back to the essence of how you fell in love in the first place!

11. **Put your Marriage in the hands of the Lord each week.**

Go to Mass every Sunday with your spouse/family, pay attention to everything that takes place as it occurs, and before you leave... ask yourself... what is the one thing that stood out the most for me. Then go to breakfast, and talk about it with your spouse/family. Never underestimate the importance of celebrating, respecting, loving, and prioritizing your spouse each and every day.

@ICSC



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.

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, Scotty Champagne, Sirena Rogers, Monica Harrington, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Edward Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, Betty B. Leblanc, Barbara Martin, Michael "Tee" Theriot, Elise C. Verret, Phyllis S. Bourque, Doris Scheldon, Ovide Buteaux, David Spelly, 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, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, Norvelle Belaire, Caroline Dubois, Norrie B. Kenner, Josephine Delcambre, Mary Saltzman, Zachary Richard, Sarah Richard, Duppy Duplantis, Joylynn Trosclair, Earline Romero, Jarrod Lege, Jay Jacquemoud, Jody Ellen Hudson, Jim & Brenda Prejean, Toni Boudreaux, Rick Boudreaux, Steve Chambers, Mike Degeyter, Gloria Trahan, Dickie Broussard, Jessica Gary Dubois, Joni Gullotta, Fisher Whitaker, The Babin Fly, Deacon John Sarkies, James & Doreen Norman, Melvin "Boo" & Brenda DeRouen, Myrna & Millard Poche, Gloria K. Bonin, Daphne C. Lopez, Calvin Segura, Beverly B. Walet, Jerome Guilotte, Leoni Derouen, Cade T.

Please also pray for those individuals who, although in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

Reminder

Some of the families who had their pictures taken for the pictorial directory, have not picked up their copy yet. Please come by the Church Office to pick yours up. Thanks.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	July 6, 2025
Loose	\$ 2,114.12
Envelopes	\$ 3,984.00
Total (collected)	\$ 6,098.12
Online Giving offertory	\$ 993.00
Mailed in offertory	\$ 1,761.00
Total offertory (week).....	\$ 8,852.12
Vacation Bible School	\$ 3,018.25

Thank you for your generosity!!!!



PARISH VOCATION CROSS

The Vocation Cross is taken by:

Karl & Rose Guilbeau

(July 20th - July 26th)

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 you.

NEW WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

July 1, 2025 Weekday Mass times changed to 7:00am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. There is no longer a 5:30pm Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and no longer a 6:30am Mass on Fridays. Wednesday 9:00am Masses remain the same.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Memory of:

Maydel J. Dugas




Please keep Fr. Matthew Higginbotham and all priests in your prayers.

REFLECTIONS Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - The story about Martha and Mary is often used to support the value of prayer and quiet time with the Lord. However, it can also be viewed in terms of a guide to hospitality. Hospitality is something we strive for whether it is making people feel at ease in our homes, offices or parishes. Martha made sure everything was in perfect order and looking good. But there was one thing missing. Martha was so busy taking care of "things" that she forgot the guest! The most important part of hospitality is being "present" to your guests. Consider your hospitality rating. Are you more concerned with appearances or with the people?.

Holy Spirit, grant me a spirit of hospitality so that those who enter my home may find peace and refreshment for their spirits.

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Mass Intentions for the Week

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Tuesday, July 22, 2025
7:00am Maudrey C. Landry (19th ann of death)

Wednesday, July 23, 2025
9:00am Kevin Elmer, Joseph Viator
 Patti Gagnard, Carrol Romero, Sr.
 Jeff Gerrets

Thursday, July 24, 2025
7:00am Larry Eugene Romero

Friday, July 25, 2025
7:00am Bobby Norris

Saturday, July 26, 2025
4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Lynward Ransonet
 Rachel R. Romero, Roy Flores
 Rodolph Dugas, Jr. & Fly
 Mabel Smith, Mona Simon
 Octavia Boudreaux, Don Rogers

Sunday, July 27, 2025
8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin
 Clark Romero

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
 Harvey & Joyce DeCourt
 Donna M. Lanza
 Oris Gachassin (ann of death)

Inspirational Catholic Quotes

“We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean in the whole scheme of things, but not for the people we serve. So, our work may be just a drop in the ocean, but if that drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.” - Mother Teresa

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, July 22, 2025
 Mass at 7:00am

Wednesday, July 23, 2025
 Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20am
 Mass at 9:00am

Thursday, July 24, 2025
 Mass at 7:00am

Friday, July 25, 2025
 Mass at 7:00am

Saturday, July 26, 2025
 Mass at 4:00pm

Sunday, July 27, 2025
 Masses at: 8am & 10am
 2nd Collection - New Iberia Poor & Needy

Nativity of Our Lady is hosting a  **BIRTHDAY RECEPTION FOR FR. ED** following the **9am Mass on Wednesday, August 13th**. Please bring your favorite finger foods. Please contact Margo LeBlanc if you have any questions @ marleb1947@gmail.com.

May God shelter us in the midst of storms
 and hold us in His mercy.
 Amen
 @Diocese of Lafayette Office of Worship

MASS SERVERS July 22 - July 27, 2025					
DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 7/22/25	7:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Ellen Claudy	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Wednesday 7/23/25	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Thursday 7/24/25	7:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Volunteer	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Friday 7/25/25	7:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Keith Comeaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sacristan
Saturday 7/26/25	4:00pm	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Karl Boudreaux	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Sophia Comeaux Allie Comeaux
Sunday 7/27/25	8:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Janis Dugas	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Autumn Trahan Gunner Moss
	10:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Lan Nguyen	<i>See Signup Sheet Inside Church</i>	Morgan Salsman Charlie Salsman

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*Nativity of Our Lady's
 Sunday Bulletin*

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