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

BOOKKEEPER:
Polly Camacho

SECRETARY:
Kimberly Richard

RECEPTIONIST:
Sheryl S. Bourque

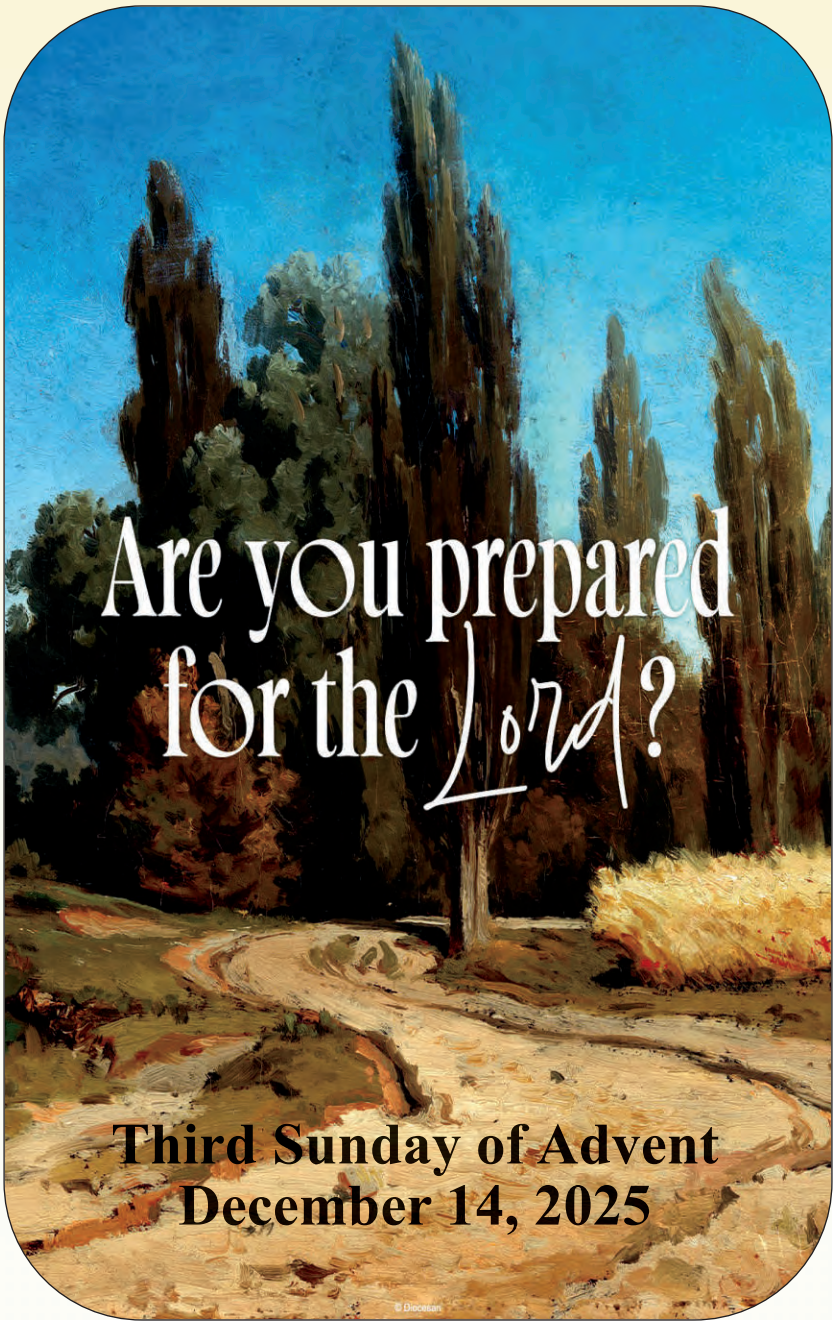
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:
Janet Viator – 337-365-3759

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:
Amber Salsman

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: *Andreé Schlicher*

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

ROSARY:
Wednesday: 8:20 am *(Pro-Life)*
First Friday: 6:30 am
First Saturday: 8:20 am



TODAY'S READINGS



Isaiah 35:1-6,10
Psalm 146:6-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11



Third Sunday of Advent

John questions Jesus from prison in today's Gospel for his disciples' sake and for ours. He knows that Jesus is doing "the works of the Messiah," foretold in today's First Reading and Psalm. But John wants his disciples and us to know that the Judge is at the gate, that in Jesus the marvelous works and words of God - the lame leaping like a stag, the dead raised, the good news preached to the poor (see Isaiah 29:18-20; 61:1-2). The Liturgy does this to give us courage, to strengthen our feeble hands and make firm our weak knees. Our hearts can easily become frightened and weighed down by the hardships we face. We can lose patience in our sufferings as we await the coming of the Lord.

As James advises in today's Epistle, we should take as our example the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Jesus also points us to a prophet-holding up John as a model. John knew that life was more than food, and the body more than clothing. He sought the kingdom of God first, confident that God would provide (see Matthew 6:25-34). John did not complain. He did not lose faith. Even in chains in his prison cell, he was still sending his disciples and us to our Savior.

We come to Him again now in the Eucharist. Already He has caused the desert to bloom, the burning sands to become springs of living water. He has opened our ears to the air with songs of thanksgiving (see Isaiah 30:18). Once bowed down, captives to sin and death, we have been Ransomed and returned to His Kingdom, crowned with everlasting joy. Raised up we now stand before His altar to meet the One who is to come: "Here is your God."

Scott Hahn

Joy Grows In the Waiting

The 3rd Sunday of Advent Year A is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice." This Sunday reminds us that even while we wait, we can be joyful. Advent is a time of hope and preparation. But this week, we pause to smile, sing, and take heart.

The readings for the 3rd Sunday of Advent are full of life. Isaiah tells us the desert will bloom. James encourages us to wait with patience. Jesus reminds us of the signs that God's kingdom is near. These words give strength to those who are tired or uncertain.

This Sunday points us toward joy. Not because everything is perfect, but because Jesus is near. His coming brings healing, justice, and peace. Even now, we can see signs of that in the world.

As Advent moves forward this Sunday helps us refocus. We do not wait alone. We wait with hope and with joy.

@young-catholics.com

The Light is On For You

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation



Wednesdays in Advent
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
December 17th

Our parish will be open for individual confessions on the Third Wednesday of Advent from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Knights of Columbus Raffle

K.C. Council #12997 is holding its annual benefit raffle. The proceeds will be used for parish activities, improvements and charities.

- 1st - $500 Cash - Donated by KC Council 12997
- 2nd - $400 Cash - Donated by Phil Haney
- 3rd - $300 Cash - by Duhon's Heating & Cooling, Inc.
- 4th - $200 Mr. Lester's Steak House & 1 free Hotel night
- 5th - $125 Home Depot Gift Card - by MS Welding
- 6th - $100 Gift Card - Donated by Jane's Seafood
- 7th - $250 Value Handmade Quilt by Holly Bishop
- 8th - $100 Cash - Donated by Art Merryman
- In Memory of Carmen Merryman
- 9th - $100 Lowes Gift Card - Donated by Rickey & Kathy Segura
- 10th - $100 Cash - Donated by Landry's Plumbing
- 11th - $75 Certificate - Donated by Mill Side Market
- 12th - $50 Cash - Donated by Special Force Riders
- 13th - $50 Harbor Freight-In Memory of Donald Dupuis
- 14th - $50 Cash - Donated by K.C. Council 12997

Donations are $1.00 per ticket.
See any KC Member or the Church Office to purchase a ticket.
Drawing will be held on December 21, 2025.

2026 CALENDARS



We wish to thank our sponsors: Coastal Timbers, Countryside Storage, Soileau's Pharmacy & Gifts, Jane's Seafood & Chinese, Duhon's Heating & Cooling, Fremin's Food & Furniture, Knights of Columbus - Ben L. Kiper Council 12997, Lucretia Pecantte - Attorney at Law, Advantage Assets, and Michael & Allison Flash, for providing our Church parish with 2026 calendars. Please pick one up on your way out of church. Please limit one per family due to the limited number of calendars.

OUR LADY'S ALTAR SOCIETY
November 2025 Raffle Winners:

1 Wooden Christmas Tree - Doris Degeyter
2 Wooden Grotto w/Cross - Shannon Rogers
3 Metal Yard Bird - Thomas Murdock
4 Hummingbird Kitchen Towel Set - Dot Gonsoulin
5 Winter Warm & Cozy Set - Mary Pesson
6 Ceramic Casserole - Dale Maturin
7 Frosty the Snowman Pillow - Cynthia Elmer
8 Nativity Dish Towel - Glenn Touchet
9 36" Fall Floral in Vase - Dee Thibodeaux
10 Fall Arrangement in Basket - Sandra Aucoin
11 Christmas Wreath - Louella Ransonet
12 Signed Book-The Gumbo Gator - Sandra Gaspard
13 Rustic Wood Prayer Bowl - Karl Guilbeau
14 $100.00 Cash - John Vice
15 $100.00 Visa Gift Card - Lenny Dubois
16 Poinsettia Wreath - Rosemary Escoto
17 Poinsettia Plant - Tracee Derouen
18 Tiki Brand Torch - Margaret Melancon
19 Bible w/Cover - Lionel Louviere
20 Faith Book w/Bookmark - Liz Arcement
21 Sunflower Print - Kylee Voorhies
22 Amaryllis Print - Brenda Comeaux
23 Button Pumpkin Pillow - Vicki Murdock
24 Burlap Lemon Slice - Mary Delcambre
25 Prayer Tote w/Religious Items - Mike Simon
26 Angel Collection - Nancy Barras

We want to thank everyone who contributed in anyway to make our "Sweet" Sale and Raffle such a great success!! Totals collected:
"Sweet Sale & Donations" - $1,624.00
Raffle - $250.00.
Thank You for your support!!

GOING ON VACATION?

For nationwide Mass times and locations, Phone 1-410-676-6000 or visit www.masstimes.org or download the Mass Times App on your smartphone.

The Nativity Youth Group would like to thank everyone who donated goods, making this year's Thanksgiving Basket Drive such a wonderful success.



SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Memory of:
Mark Bourque



Inspirational Catholic Quotes

Come, O blessed Spirit of knowledge and light, and grant that I may perceive the will of the Father. Show me the nothingness of earthly things, that I may realize their vanity and use them only for your glory and my own salvation, looking ever beyond them to you and your eternal reward.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Sacristan Needed

We are in need of a Volunteer Sacristan every Tuesday for 9:00 am Mass at New Iberia Manor North Nursing Home. Please call Cindy Landry for more information at 337-256-2208, or the Church Office at 337-364-8360.



REFLECTIONS - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prayer is the key to a fruitful spirit. In prayer we open. ourselves to the insights and inspiration of the Spirit. Everyday we are bombarded with messages) not just from marketing ads but from people and events in our lives) and it can be confusing and overwhelming. Taking a little time to step aside and reflect, can help calm the chaos within us and allow us to sift the wheat from the chaff so that we can hold on to what is food.

Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks. - 1 Thessalonians 5:16

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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.

Sirena Rogers, Janis & Nathan Dugas, Billy Simon, Edward Simon, Lynette Landry, Janet Viator, Ronnie Landry, The Delahoussaye Fly, Patsy & Percy Barrilleaux, Fran Jackson, David & Robin Viator Fly, Sheryl S. Bourque, Michael & Claire Landry Fly, Dustin & Nicole V. Ortego Fly, Linda & Clint Trahan Fly, Ruth Bernard, Bridget Aitken, The Greig & Belaire Fly, Caroline Dubois, Josephine Delcambre, Mary Saltzman, Jody Ellen Hudson, Jim & Brenda Prejean, Jessica Gary Dubois, Joni Gullotta, Fisher Whitaker, The Babin, Trahan & Richard Fly, Deacon John Sarkies, James & Doreen Norman, Melvin & Brenda DeRouen, Myrna & Millard Poche, Gloria K. Bonin, Daphne C. Lopez, Beverly B. Walet, Jerome Guillotte, Leoni Derouen, Cade T., Betty DeRouen, Geraldine Babin, Robert McDaniel, Ron Cutrera, Lori Aguilar, Bailey & Gage Tucker, The Sinitiere Fly, The Fitch Fly, Raywood & Virginia Buteaux, Barbara Keegan, Mike & Doris Degeyter Fly, Rory Suire, Crystal Elizabeth Olivier, Patrick Valls, Nickas Bonin, Gene Gonsoulin, Coty Bourque, Erskine Katz, Randy & Jessica Broussard, Jane Arceneaux, Rebecca Segura, Terry Trahan, John Babin, Phil Duplantis, Ray Landry, Shane DeRouen, Cody Theriot, Sandra Upton, Kay Charpentier Green, Hardy Jenkins, Bridgette Louviere, Amye Hammond Bellot, Hadley Babin, Roland & Faye Boudreaux. Please also pray for those individuals who, although in need of your prayers, have requested that their names not be publicized for privacy reasons.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 16, 2025
7:00am Lupe Camacho
Wednesday, December 17, 2025
9:00am Patrick J. Richard, Kevin Elmer
Dickie Broussard, The Belaire Fly
Fly of Carrol & Brenda Romero
Ernest "Topper" Breaux
Thursday, December 18, 2025
7:00am Richard Dickie David, Jr.
Hadley J. Babin, Sr. (liv bd)
Friday, December 19, 2025
7:00am Lupe Camacho
Saturday, December 20, 2025
4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Rachel R. Romero
Lynward Ransonet, Juliette C. Dubois
Madison Claire Olivier, Bill Olivier
Bayne Olivier, Chanda Bourque (liv bd)
Alpha & Lilly Viator, Mark Bourque (bd)
Nicholas Simon (liv bd)
Gersie & Rodney Bienvenu
Sunday, December 21, 2025
8:00am Parishioners, Carroll Aucoin
Henry & Dorothy McDonald, Nigeria
Liv & Dec Fly of Warren & Sandra Gaspard
Mrs. Terry Borel, Quang Nguyen
10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt, Donna M. Lanza
Liv & Dec Moss & Prejean Flys

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 of earlier deadlines. Thank you.



A Night in Bethlehem
Live Nativity

Sponsored by
KC Council #12997
KC Ladies Auxiliary
Nativity Faith Formation
Nativity Youth Group

Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church
130 N. Richelieu Circle
New Iberia, LA 70560

Saturday, December 20, 2025
Sunday, December 21, 2025
Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

FREE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

A Hands-On Holy Land Experience

Experience Bethlehem during the census, visit shopkeepers in the marketplace and learn about their trades. Make special keepsakes and sample breads and sweets on your journey through Bethlehem.

At 6:30pm follow the innkeeper to the stable to meet Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, as well as the shepherds, wise men and animals.

Please keep
Fr. Matthew P. Higginbotham
Fr. Ed Degeyter
and **all priests** in your prayers.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD November 30, 2025

Loose	$ 2,655.00
Envelopes	$ 1,907.00
Total (collected)	$ 4,562.00
Online Giving offertory	$ 671.00
Mailed in offertory	$ 3,785.00
Total offertory (week)	$ 9,018.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

Jesus, You are my Hope, my Joy, my Everything!!!

Christmas Masses

Vigil Mass (Wednesday, December 24th)	4:00 pm
First Mass (Thursday, December 25th)	8:00 am
Second Mass (Thursday, December 25th)	10:00 am

New Year's Day Masses
Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Vigil Mass (Wednesday, December 31st)	4:00 pm
First Mass (Thursday, January 1st)	8:00 am
Second Mass (Thursday, January 1st)	10:00am

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, December 16, 2025
Mass at 7:00 am
Patriotic Rosary - 7:30 am
Faith Formation - 6:00 pm - Barsen Hall
Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20 am
Mass at 9:00 am
Light Is On For You - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 18, 2025
Mass at 7:00 am
Friday, December 19, 2025
Mass at 7:00 am
Saturday, December 20, 2025
Mass at 4:00 pm
Live Nativity - 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 21, 2025
Masses at: 8:00 am & 10:00 am
2nd Collection - New Iberia Poor & Needy
Live Nativity - 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

PARISH VOCATION CROSS



The Vocation Cross is taken by:
Willie & Cynthia Elmer
(December 14th - December 20th)
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.

MASS SERVERS
December 16, 2025 - December 21, 2025

DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 12/16/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Pete Aucoin	Sacristan	Sacristan
Wednesday 12/17/25	***9:00am***	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	Cindy Landry Ross Landry Phil Haney Renee Haney	Sacristan
Thursday 12/18/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Vikki Morgan	Sacristan	Sacristan
Friday 12/19/25	***7:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Keith Comeaux	Sacristan	Sacristan
Saturday 12/20/25	***4:00pm***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Jenny Gonsoulin	Cynthia Elmer Willie Elmer	Madalyn Salsman Morgan Salsman
Sunday 12/21/25	***8:00am***	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Janis Dugas	Rickey Segura June Jones	Khoi Nguyen Tai Nguyen
	10:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Vikki Morgan	Doc Voorhies Melissa Dworaczyk	Autum Trahan Gunner Moss

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