

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

PASTORAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: *André Schlicher*

RECONCILIATION:

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

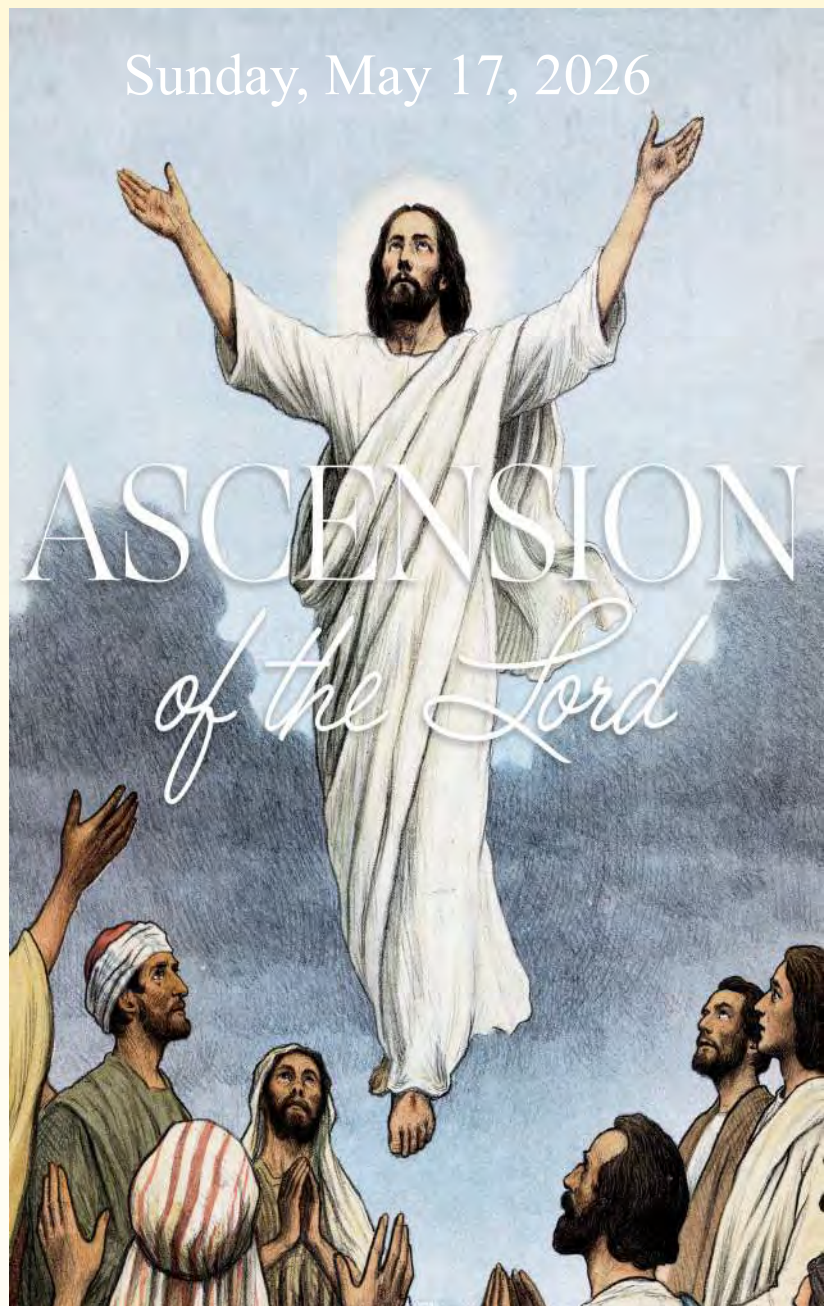
ROSARY:

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

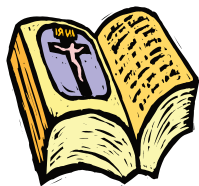
First Friday: 6:30 am

First Saturday: 8:20 am

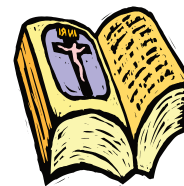
Third Tuesday: 7:30 am (*Patriotic*)



TODAY'S READINGS



Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20



Ascension of the Lord

In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and He has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies. The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see Hebrews 4:14-15). Indeed, His intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the First Reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). The Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through baptism. The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace. The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" because of the light that came with God's saving grace (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32). Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believers. Their "hope" is "His" inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with Him at the Father's right hand. This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem at the Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today.

Scott Hahn

REFLECTIONS Ascension of the Lord

Christ's work on earth did not end with His ascension into heaven. He made it very clear that there was more to be done. He charged His disciples to continue the work He had begun. The disciples spread the teachings they had received from Jesus. Generation after generation has continued to pass on these teachings. Now it is our turn. We do not have to be a theologian nor a preacher. We spread the gospel through our daily lives. We reveal God's love in our respect for others and care for the poor and outcast. What gospel message is your life proclaiming?

*Know that I am with you always,
Until the end of the world. - Matthew 28:20
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Sacrament of Penance

The Church recommends that Catholics receive the Sacrament of Penance frequently. Strictly speaking, after they've reached the age of reason, Catholics are obliged to confess their serious sins at least once a year (CIC 989), but the minimum should not be made a maximum. Catholics should come to confession as soon as possible after they've committed a mortal sin. If they're seeking to grow in holiness, the regular practice of confession at least once a month is commended.

The Sacrament of Penance is a spiritual resurrection bringing us to life again after we were dead through mortal sin (Lk 15:24). It reconciles us with God in loving friendship and restores us to his grace. It is normally followed by peace, joy, serenity and spiritual consolation. The sacrament also reconciles us with the Church, repairing or restoring the damage our sins have done to our communion with others. The sinner also auspiciously anticipates the judgment that will come at the end of his life, choosing the path of life over the path of death (CCC 1468-1470).



Prayer for 2026 Graduates

Lord, we ask for Your clear guidance and direction for these graduates. Show them Your path, O Lord, and teach them Your ways. As they navigate new opportunities and decisions, let Your wisdom illuminate their steps. May they always seek Your will above their own and trust that Your direction leads to life and fulfillment. Guide their thoughts, their words, and their actions according to Your perfect plan for their future. Amen.

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” — Psalm 119:105



SAVE THE DATE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026
TO
FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026

Novena for Couples in Distress



Oh, most Holy Trinity, divine Unity. Look kindly upon husbands and wives who are in distress. Through the intercession of the Holy Family, shine Your Spirit's light upon them, so that the evil one may have no opportunity to work his cunning, divisive ways. Rather may they and we all remain as one in You, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

SANCTUARY LIGHT:

In Honor of:
Nicole Gaspard
(liv bd)



Baby Bottle Collection

Please return your filled baby bottles this week to the collection area of the church. Also, return any unused bottles so that they may be re-used for other campaigns.

We appreciate your prayerful contribution and generosity!

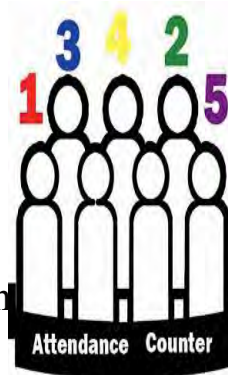
Thank you for joining us in
Honoring Life and Preserving the Family

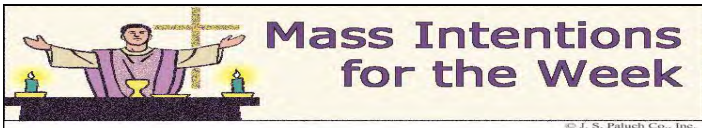


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Every May and October, Nativity parish is asked to take a Mass attendance count for the Diocese of Lafayette. Our count will continue for every week-end Mass during the month of May.





Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

9:00am Matthew Boudreaux (liv bd)

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

9:00am Marjore & Don Poche, Jude Broussard
Andre LaBauve, Connie Olivier (liv)
Carrol & Brenda Romero Fly
Walter DeGravelle, Jr., Juanita Winkle

Thursday, May 21, 2026

9:00am Don Corson (liv bd)

Friday, May 22, 2026

9:00am Stuart Hulin

Saturday, May 23, 2026

4:00pm Fr. Tom Finley, Rachel R. Romero
Lynward Ransonet, Mrs. Terry Borel
Bayne Olivier, William Kell Lewis
Sarah Elizabeth Richard (liv bd)
Raymond & Pearlle Romero

Sunday, May 24, 2026

8:00am Parishioners, Connie Olivier (liv)
Henry & Dorothy McDonald
Creed Dugas

10:00am Msgr. H.J. Barsen, Fr. A.J. Boumans

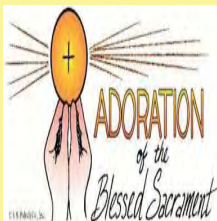
Harvey & Joyce DeCourt
Donna M. Lanza, James Heitman
Romero & Walker Fly
Charles Froisy (ann of death)
Kylee Rose Voorhies (liv bd)

MEMORIAL BOOK

The weekend of the first Sunday of every month the "Memorial Book" is placed in the sanctuary as a reminder that we pray for all those who have been enrolled. You can enroll any deceased person by making a donation to Our Lady's Altar Society (minimum \$5.00). This money stays with the Altar Society to assist the parish with Altar needs. Call Sheryl Bourque @ 364-8360, in the Church Office.

Monthly Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Eucharistic Adoration on the **First Friday** of every month following the 7am Mass, with Benediction at 10am.



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, Josephine Delcambre, Jody Ellen Hudson, Jim & Brenda Prejean, Joni Gullotta, Fisher Whitaker, The Babin, Trahan & Richard Fly, Deacon John Sarkies, James & Doreen Norman, Myrna & Millard Poche, Gloria K. Bonin, Daphne C. Lopez, Beverly B. Walet, Jerome Guillotte, Leoni Derouen, Cade T., Betty DeRouen, Robert McDaniel, Ron Cutrera, Lori Aguilar, Bailey & Gage Tucker, Raywood & Virginia Buteaux, Barbara Keegan, Mike & Doris Degeyter Fly, Rory Suire, Crystal Elizabeth Olivier, Nickas Bonin, Gene Gonsoulin, Coty Bourque, Erskine Katz, Randy & Jessica Broussard, Jane Arceneaux, Rebecca Segura, Terry & Gloria Trahan, John Babin, Phil Duplantis, Ray Landry, Shane DeRouen, Cody Theriot, Sandra Upton, Kay Charpentier Green, Hardy Jenkins, Bridgette Louviere, Amye Hammond Bellot, Roland & Faye Boudreaux, Delina Lafont, Emma Judice, Kathleen & Larry Viator, Duppy Duplantis, Caroline Dubois, Bailey Prudhomme, Jane Patin, Juanita & Hargis Lewis, Nettie Voorhies, Johnathon Angers, Alice Trahan, Francine Gauthier, Betty Romero, Deborah Plouet, Donald Voorhies, Megan B. Broussard, Beverly Simoneaux, Adrain Wilson, Alexis Wilson, Ronnie & Madeline Duhon, Matt Elmer, Fr. Paul Onuegbe, Carlos Bedia, Shawn Dugas, Celeste Guardia, Bru Kokenge, Coleen K. Woolard, Katherine Kokenge, Victoria Kokenge, Connie Olivier, Anna Kober, Cornelius Joseph, Randy Gonsoulin, Daniel & Brailyn Segura Fly, Mark & Magie Bihm Fly, Craig Herndon, Ty & Katelyn & Cassie Daigle.

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

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

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

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD	May 03, 2026
Loose.....	\$ 2,328.00
Envelopes	\$ 4,519.00
Total (collected).....	\$ 6,847.00
Mailed in offertory.....	\$ 410.00
Online Giving offertory	\$ 893.00
Total offertory (week).....	\$ 8,150.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!!

PARISH VOCATION CROSS



The Vocation Cross is taken by:

Dan & Ellen Claudy

(May 17th - May 23rd)

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.

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Mass at 9:00 am

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Pro-Life Rosary - 8:20 am

Mass at 9:00 am

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Mass at 9:00 am

Friday, May 22, 2026

Mass at 9:00 am

Saturday, May 23, 2026

Mass at 4:00 pm

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Masses at: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

2nd Collection - VBS



FYI

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2026, in observance of Memorial Day.

MASS SERVERS May 19, 2026 - May 24, 2026

DAY DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	READERS	LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
Tuesday 5/19/26	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ellen Claudy	Brenda Romero Percy Barrilleaux Margo LeBlanc Nancy Barras	Sacristan
Wednesday 5/20/26	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Ginger Comeaux	Willie & Cynthia Elmer Ross & Cindy Landry	Sacristan
Thursday 5/21/26	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Vikki Morgan	Linda Viator Percy Barrilleaux Brenda Romero Vicki Murdock	Sacristan
Friday 5/22/26	9:00am	Fr. Ed Degeyter	Pete Aucoin	Vicki Murdock Phil & Renee Haney Linda Viator	Sacristan
Saturday 5/23/2026	4:00pm	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Jenny Gonsoulin	Nancy Barras Holli Cambre	Comeaux Fly
Sunday 5/24/26	8:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Paul Broussard	Margo LeBlanc Ricky Segura	Bedia Fly
	10:00am	Fr. Matthew Higginbotham	Vincent Borne	Melissa Dworaczyk Brendda Romero	Trahan Fly

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*Nativity of Our Lady's
 Sunday Bulletin*

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