

# Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

2621 Colonial Blvd, Violet, LA 70092

**Contact Information**

Rev. Bryan Howard, Pastor  
 bhoward@arch-no.org

(504) 400-9217—*for Sacramental Emergencies Only*

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 Craig Taffaro, Jr. — Deacon

Georganna Alphonso — Secretary  
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Debbie Taffaro—PCL

(504) 339-9188

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**Office Hours:**

Mon.—Thurs.: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY:** 9:00 am & 11:00 am

**SATURDAY:** 4:00 pm (Vigil)

**WEEKDAYS:** Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 8:00 am  
 Tues.: 6:00 pm

**SACRAMENTS**

**CONFESSION:**

1/2 hr. before each weekend mass &

1/2 hr. before Tuesday evening mass

**BAPTISM:** Please call the office to schedule a baptism.

**MARRIAGE:** Contact Fr. Bryan at least six months prior to the desired date.

Confirmation of the wedding date must be made by the priest officiating the ceremony.

**FUNERAL:** Please contact Fr. Bryan before going to the funeral home to make arrangements.

**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:**

Available upon request.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK OR**

**HOMEBOUND:** If you cannot attend mass and receive Communion, please contact the parish office.

**LITURGY OF THE HOURS:**

Immediately following 8:00 am daily mass.

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** First Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** First Wednesday of each month, following 8 am Mass until 7 pm.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion:** Thursday after 8:00 am mass

**Parish Holy Hour With Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament:**

Every Friday at 7:00am leading to 8:00 am mass.

**FIRST** of Sunday of **Advent**

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another.

Isaiah 2:4

December 1, 2019

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, members of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, are committed to establish a safe haven for believers in our community. Having Christ as the center of our worship and being impelled by his teachings:

- We continually grow in ministries that address the needs and concerns of our community.
- We strive to be a vibrant “Christ-Centered” spiritual family and experience His love and presence in the celebration of the Eucharist.

Our Lord loves you and loves you tenderly; and if He does not let you feel the sweetness of His love, it is to make you more humble and abject in your own eyes.—St. Pio of Pietrelcino

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD's house (Isaiah 2:1-5).  
**Psalm** — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).  
**Second Reading** — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).  
**Gospel** — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).  
**The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.**



### HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday, November 30:

4:00 PM **Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church**

Sunday, December 1st:

9:00 AM **Ursula Repath; Leo Ivy Turnbull, Jr.; Tina Marie Perez Ireland; Carroll Arcement; Orilea Lear; Mazie Lafond; Lucille Nunez; Jessica Ronquille; Elsie Deffes**

11:00 AM **Carolyn LeBlanc; Louis Burns; Blake Lopez; Mary Rose Licciardi Sperier; Rene' Pecar; Valentino Molero; Barbara Ann Pigno; Raymond Neal, Sr.; Barbara Ann Pigno; Elizabeth Brown;**

Monday, December 2: **Fr. Bryan's Intentions**

Tuesday, December 3: **All Souls**

Wednesday, December 4: **All Souls**

Thursday, December 5: **Deborah Desselle Henderson**

Friday, December 6: **Milyn Molero (Birthday)**

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** First Sunday of Advent;  
World AIDS Awareness Day  
**Tuesday:** St. Francis Xavier  
**Wednesday:** St. John Damascene  
**Friday:** St. Nicholas; First Friday  
**Saturday:** St. Ambrose; First Saturday;  
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11  
**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24  
**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37  
**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27  
**Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1  
**Sunday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

### HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation.

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### MEMORIAL FLOWERS



THE BLESSED MOTHER:

ST. JOSEPH

THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS THIS WEEK IN MEMORY OF:

**SISTER MARY PAULE VARDIGAN, DC**

THE MARIAN CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK FOR:

**THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY**

THE ST. JOSEPH CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK FOR:

**ALL MILITARY MEMBERS**



When you approach the tabernacle, remember that He has been waiting for you for twenty centuries.  
—St. Josemaria Escriva

# PRAYER REQUEST

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Allen Nunez; Fr. Stanley Klores; Peggy Schifano; Traci Bouterie; Katie Caluda Santos; Janice Doran; Eileen Monson; Sandra Pelitier; Ferdinand Espadron; Brielle Silcio; Kathleen Kolar; Joseph Kearney; Ryan Guerra; Wilton Richard, Jr.; Donna B. Richard; James Ireland; Bernadine Reimoneng; Rosemary Navarro; Anthony Wool; Cheryl Peters; Cornelius Dennis, Jr.; Hillary Nunez; Sheri Fernandez; Alfred Schneider, Sr.; Carol Licciardi; Lanny Villanueva; Timmy Alphonso; Tony; Rosalyn Thomas; Michelle Jeanfreau

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NEED

Joy Dennis; Faye Hammer; Timmy Alphonso; Bob Maloz; Josie Landry; The Landry Family; Catherine Landry; Elijah David Landry; Rende Family; Pat Hitchcock; April Tucker; Natalia Baca; Art Nelson; Vincent Gainnobile



### Prayer for the Sick

O God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world, who lives and reigns with you and the

Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



### OUR FAMILY PRAYER

Loving & faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have appreciated the prayers and love of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in times of war, disaster, epidemic and illness. We come to you, Father, with Mary our Mother, and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder, and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which gives respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be peacemakers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence. Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

Mother Henriette Delille, pray for us that we may be a holy family. Amen.



### Prayer for Protection against Storms and Hurricanes

Our Father in Heaven, through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us during this Hurricane season from all harm. Protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## A PRAYER FOR THE First Sunday of Advent

God of light and life,  
give us hope as we wait  
for your coming again.

When we are tempted  
to be grateful to have found you  
while others are lost,  
send us out into the darkness  
in search of those  
who need you most.

Amen.



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### Novena Prayer in Honor of **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER** Feast Day: December 3

O Great St. Francis, well beloved and full of charity, with thee I reverently adore the Divine Majesty; and since I specially rejoice in the singular gifts of grace bestowed on thee in life, and of glory after death, I give thanks to God, and beg of thee, with all the affection of my heart, that by thy powerful intercession thou mayest obtain for me, above all things, the grace to live a holy life and die a holy death. Moreover, I beg of thee to obtain for me (request your favor); but if what I ask does not tend to the glory of God and the greater good of my soul, do thou, I beseech thee, obtain for me what will more certainly attain these ends. Amen.

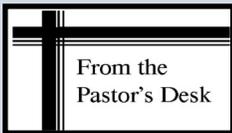
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

Indulgence 300 days

First Novena: March 4 to March 12

Second Novena: Nov. 25 to Dec. 3

**Bulletin Deadline:** 3:00 pm, every Wednesday (1 wk. Before scheduled bulletin date)



**Fr. Bryan Howard**

**December 1, 2019**



### **STIRRING THE POT**

If you say that someone is stirring the pot, you usually mean that they're making trouble or bringing up things that they know will lead to arguments and tension, and we almost always see this as a bad thing. It's the same idea as the rule that you're not supposed to talk about politics or religion in polite company, because it will just lead to an argument. However, stirring the pot has a literal meaning, too, in cooking, and it's absolutely vital to preparing good food.

If you're making a pot of beans or stew you need to occasionally stir the pot to make sure that everything's not just sitting in one place on the bottom. If you don't stir the pot, it'll burn and you'll be left with ruined beans and a pot needing to be scrubbed down. The same is true in the spiritual life. You need to occasionally examine your conscience in prayer, asking the Lord to help you see where your sins and vices are, where you've failed to listen to the voice of God and how He's calling you to conversion. We normally do this before going to confession so we can make a good and complete confession, but if you only go to confession once a year or less, that's not really enough. We know that saints like Mother Teresa and Pope St. John Paul II went to confession at least every week or two. We don't need confession less than they did. That's why I encourage people to go to confession at least once or twice a month. In this way we don't let things just sink to the bottom but keep them stirred up where we can see them and, with God's help, grow in holiness and virtue.

Things like beans only need to be stirred every 15 minutes or so, but some things need to be stirred constantly, like a roux for gumbo or sauce. If you don't keep stirring the roux, it won't combine and the butter and flour will start to burn, then you'll have to completely start over. I compare this to the spiritual discipline of

practicing the presence of God. You can't live your life if you're constantly examining your conscience. There has to come a point when you stop examining and start acting. Most of life consists in putting into action in our lives what we've heard from God in prayer. Practicing the presence of God, however, is something that we can do all the time. It's a very simple discipline where you just remind yourself that God is present. Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, and whoever you're with, whether in Church, at work, or in a bar, God is present there in some way. Remembering God's presence can motivate us to avoid sin, to practice Christian virtue, and to have the courage to live out our faith even in the most difficult times.

Stirring the pot just to cause trouble for people is bad, but we do occasionally need to stir up our own spiritual lives in order to keep things on the right track. After all, if you ruin a pot of beans you've lost a few hours work and some beans, but you only get one shot at life.



### **SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS (c. 675-749)**

**December 4**

From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict said that in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

# AROUND OUR PARISH



## Santa is Coming

Santa will be at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Center on Sunday, December 8.

All are welcome to visit Santa from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Families may take pictures with Santa with their own cameras.

A breakfast of pancakes and sausage, including one beverage, is available with the purchase of one \$5 ticket per breakfast.

Tickets may be purchased after all Masses starting November 16 as well as at the door on December 8. Additional milk, coffee or juice will also be sold for \$1.



## OLOL ROSARY GROUP

The Rosary Group will meet Tuesday, December 3rd @ 10:00 am. in the Community Center.



**Caroling with the Our Lady of Lourdes Choir in the Community Center Saturday, Dec. 21st , 5:30pm**  
Light refreshments will be served.



## ADORATION

Wednesday December 4th  
9:00 am - 7:00 pm  
Please consider spending one hour with Christ.



## Christmas Flowers

If you would like to make a donation for Christmas Flowers; envelopes are available in the gathering area. Include the names of those you would like remembered at the masses.



## BAPTIZED IN NOVEMBER

*Brent Thomas Ruiz, Jr.  
Trent Morgan Kramer*



**Looking for a place to have a Gathering (Christmas Party, Birthday Party; Baby Shower, etc.) Please consider "The Community Center"**

For information please call the office.  
**504-682-7070**



## Religious Education Class Schedule

Sunday Dec. 1st 6th - 11th grade **No Class**

Tuesday Dec. 3rd 6:00p.m. - 7:30p.m. 1st - 5th grade

Thursday, Dec. 5th R.C.I.A. 7PM

Sunday Dec. 8th 10:00a.m. - noon 6th - 11th grade

## Family of Faith

Tuesday December 10th 6:00p.m.

December 24th/25th Christmas Mass as a Family

WE RETURN TO GOD FROM WHAT HE HAS GIVEN US  
We gratefully acknowledge all that God has given to us.

### Nov. 23rd & 24th

Attendance:  
Offertery: \$  
Online Giving: \$  
Budget: \$3500.00  
\$

**The collection totals were unavailable at time of print and will be published at a future date.**

Poor Box: \$

*Thank you for your generosity and spirit of caring!*

**Bulletin Deadline:** 3:00 pm, every Wednesday (1 wk. Before scheduled bulletin date)

## AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

### Archdiocesan Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration

will take place on  
 Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.,  
 in St. Joseph Church in New Orleans.

*This event is for couples married in the year 1995  
 in celebration of their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.*

**Registration forms must be returned to the rectory.**

Please Note: This celebration will not be a Mass, but a prayer service.  
 Attendance of Mass for Sunday obligation will have to be met within one's parish.

Registration forms are available in the office.  
 All registrations must be turned in no later than January 13, 2020.

## LAY ENRICHMENT SERIES

A Semester Through The Catechism  
 Wednesday, December 11th



**Part IV: Christian Prayer—Breathing Fire**  
 Dr. Tom Neal  
*Professor of Spiritual Theology at NDS*

6:30-7:30 PM at the NDS Pastoral Center



### ADVENT RECOLLECTION

December 14th, 2019

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church

2320 Paris Road, Chalmette, La.

**Guest Speaker: Deacon Kenny Uhlich**

**Topics: Eucharist, Incarnation, and the  
 Endwelling of the Holy Spirit**

**Holy Hour/Confessions—11:00 a.m. to noon**



### RETRouvaille WEEKEND FOR TROUBLE MARRIAGES

Retrouvaille is a program designed to provide help and support to married couples who are undergoing difficulties in their relationship. Sponsored by the Catholic Church, Retrouvaille is open to couples of all faiths. It has proven helpful to couples who are troubled and stressed, or if the relationship has grown cold and distant. The next Retrouvaille Weekend will be January 10-12, 2020, at the William J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. For registration or additional information, please go to the Retrouvaille website:

<https://www.helpourmarriage.org/> or email [retrouvaillenola@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvaillenola@gmail.com).



### IN AND OUTSIDE-AN ADVENT RETREAT

On Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM the Redemptorist Community & Ministries of New Orleans will host the Inside & Outside: An Advent Retreat at the Seelos Welcome Center located at 919 Josephine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. The retreat will focus on how Advent affects the way we live our daily lives inside our homes as people of faith and outside in the world as people of justice. The retreat cost is \$15 per person and includes a sandwich lunch. To register for the retreat, stop by the Seelos Welcome Center or contact Lillian at 504-522-6748 or [rm1254@hotmail.com](mailto:rm1254@hotmail.com) or Dawn at 504-525-2495 or [ddawson@seelos.org](mailto:ddawson@seelos.org)



#### Upcoming Offerings

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>November 1-3</b><br/>                 When the Saints Go Marching In!<br/>                 You Can Be in that Number!<br/> <i>Rev. Richard B. Williams, OP</i></p>  | <p><b>December 10</b> <b>Becoming a<br/>                 Woman of Faith</b><br/>                 A Heart That's Been Purified<br/> <i>Lorraine Hess</i></p> |
| <p><b>November 12</b> <b>Day of Prayer</b><br/>                 A Look at Life through<br/>                 the Lens of Gratitude<br/> <i>Dr. Paul Caesar/Darryl Ducote</i></p>                                 | <p><b>December 12</b> <b>Day of Prayer</b><br/>                 Advent: The Time of Expectation<br/> <i>Rev. Sergio Serrano, OP</i></p>                     |
| <p><b>November 15-17</b> <b>Young Women's<br/>                 Retreat</b><br/>                 I Know the Plans I Have for You,<br/>                 Says the Lord<br/> <i>Jane Hebert/Stephanie Davis</i></p> | <p><b>January 10-12</b><br/>                 Becoming a Disciple of<br/>                 Jesus of Nazareth<br/> <i>Rev. Glenn LeCompte</i></p>              |

5500 St. Mary Street, Metairie, LA 70006  
 (504) 267-9604 \* [neworleansretreats.org](http://neworleansretreats.org)

## ADVENT NOVENA

*This little prayer has traditionally been prayed 15 times a day, beginning on November 30 (feast of St. Andrew the Apostle) and continuing until Christmas. Say it once a day or as many times as you like, starting whenever you discover this inspiring prayer!*

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires (*here mention your request*), through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.



[knightsoftheholyeucharist.com](http://knightsoftheholyeucharist.com)