

Come, Lord Jesus!



NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2026 VOL. CX NO. 126



Glory to the Newborn King!

**January
Every Thursday
Memorial Mass
for the enrollees
in the CLJ! Memorial Burse**

**January 4
The Epiphany of the Lord**

**January 11
The Baptism of the Lord**

**January 18
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

**January 25
Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time**



We can appreciate anew the wonder of Jesus and truly grasp how his divine person affected people during his earthly life by reviewing certain key Biblical passages:

John the Baptist “leaped for joy” while still in his mother’s womb upon Mary’s visitation with her newly conceived divine Jesus (Lk 1:39-45).

When the Shepherds experienced the newly born Jesus lying in the manger, they “returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen” (Lk 2:20).

When Simeon caught sight of the Child Jesus at his presentation in the temple, he was taken up into a kind of ecstasy as he took Jesus in his arms and began to praise God for the privilege of seeing God’s own anointed Son and Messiah. The divinity of Jesus impacted him to such an extreme degree that now he could die in peace after having seen and held in his own arms the Savior of the World (Lk 2:25-32).

When the Magi finally found Jesus after their long journey from the East, was it not the divinity that shown forth from the child that compelled them to prostrate themselves and do him homage (Mt 2:9-11)?

As an adult, we recall the excitement Jesus’ first disciples experienced when they came into Jesus’ presence. John the Baptist introduced Jesus to them saying, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world...I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him...Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God (Jn 1:29-34).

This astonishing mystery of the divine indwelling of Jesus glorified, one with the Father in the love of the Holy Spirit, is the way that the all-powerful Lord chose to be always with us in the most personal way – within our hearts which is the deepest and most intimate center of our being. There we can be with him all the time, to love him and never leave him. There he gives himself entirely to us and calls us to give ourselves entirely over to him in love. We must allow nothing to intrude into this sacred, joyful union of love.

Father Conley Bertrand



God's Anointed One, as Foretold and Fulfilled

This Jesus with whom we are taken up in wonder fulfills the dreams and hopes of the people of God articulated by the prophets. For example, Isaiah was inspired to speak of the sevenfold gifts with which God's Anointed One would be endowed.

"But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from its roots a bud shall blossom, the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and understanding. A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord..." (Is 11:1-3).

All of these gifts would enable him to "...judge the poor with justice and decide fairly for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked" (Is 11:4).

When we reflect upon Jesus' actions in the Gospels, we see how he employed all of these gifts for the good of those he ministered to in the Holy Land – he fulfilled all of their longings.

"For he rescues the poor when they cry out, the oppressed who have no one to help...May the tribes of the earth give blessings with his name..." (Ps 72:12,17).

We are in wonder over how Jesus was able to fulfill the hopes of his people:

"He will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces; On that day it will be said: Indeed this is our God; we looked to him and he saved us! This is the Lord to whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us" (Is 25:8,9)!

We marvel at how Jesus, our wonder-Lord, fulfilled the dream of the prophets who were expressing the longings of their people:

"Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you. The eyes of the blind shall see, the ears of the deaf be opened; Then the lame

shall leap like a stag, and the mute tongue sing for joy" (Is 35:4-6).

The Gospels are full of examples of how Jesus fulfilled these hopes. He performed miracles in abundance throughout the Gospels. These are signs of how he can create a new humanity for all of us, the new world to come. When John the Baptist sent his disciples to ask whether he is the "one who is to come," Jesus responded in these words,

"...Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them" (Lk 7:22).

The multitude of these miraculous cures so instantaneously performed, requiring such amazing supernatural power, leaving us stunned and full of wonder. These leave us completely satisfied that Jesus is indeed God's promised Anointed One.

"May his name be forever; as long as the sun, may his name endure. May the tribes of the earth give blessings with his name..." (Ps 72:17).

We who are living in the time of fulfillment and have the privilege of seeing how God fulfilled his promises need to be struck with wonder at what actually took place.

Recall the words of the prophet Isaiah to Ahaz, King of Judah. He gave him a sign that God would protect the nation. This promise occurred some eight centuries before Christ:

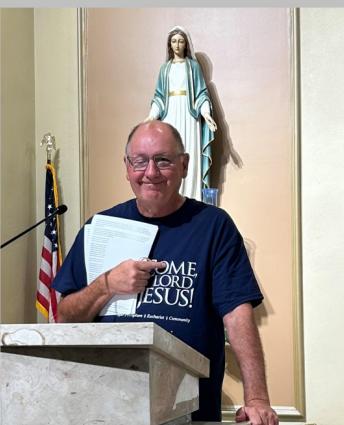
"Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign; the virgin shall be with child and bear a son and shall name him Emmanuel" (Is 7:14).

Isn't all of this amazing! Centuries before the Son of God became man, all the intricacies of his life and mission were known and foretold by God in such detail by his prophets. We cannot but be in contemplative wonder at all this! We must be like children in wonderland. What seemed to be incredible of ever happening has happened – and we must not take it for granted!

Father Conley Bertrand



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church Anniversary Mass Ville Platte, LA







COME, LORD JESUS! ANNUAL 2026 CONFERENCE



THE BEATIFIC VISION

MARCH 14
8:30-12:00

REGISTER HERE



Keynote Speaker:
Msgr. Curtis Mallet
Vicar General

St. Mary Catholic Church 419 Doucet Road Lafayette, LA



IGNITE

Divine Pep Talks

Rekindle your fire for evangelization!
Please join us to be filled, refreshed and empowered as we answer God's call to expand our program.

- ✓ Themed gatherings for outreach teams
- ✓ Scheduled every 3 months
- ✓ Zoom and in-person encounters





Jan 8th 10:00 St. Jules 2:00 Zoom
Text - 337-962-3379 to sign up

New members

Abbeville, LA: Mary V. Mitchell

Carencro, LA: Tara Mire

DeRidder, LA: Shirvey and Beverly Hebert

Erath, LA: Donna Thibodeaux

Forked Island, LA : Emily Couvillion

Jefferson, LA: Connie Benoit

Lafayette, LA: Michelle Harrelson

Lake Charles, LA: Jeanne Brown

Lufkin, TX: Debbie Greszler

Marrero, LA: Melissa Ditranco

New Iberia, LA: Bonnie Wallace, Julie Oubre,
Hung Van Nguyen

Paulina, LA: Adele Berthelot

Perkinston, MS: Mary McPherson, Karen Hebert,
Marybeth Stillwagon, Ms. Olivia, Merle Martin,
Mark and Debbie Barnes, Wyndell Peterson.

Westwego, LA: Theresa Landreneau, Frances Shelton,
Fr. Emmanuel Omunyokol.

Youngsville, LA: Tessa Privett.

Returning members

Ville Platte, LA: Evelyn Fontenot

Marrero, LA: Nicole Perque

New Groups Youngsville, LA

Fletcher, North Carolina

Leaders- Karen & Kerry Jambon

Charenton, LA

Leader - Tanya Hebert

Todd Hebert, Janet Hebert, Jules Hebert,
Mark Gaudet, Christina Vilcan, Robert Vilcan,
Connie Durocher, Cindy Mire.

Attention Leaders:

*Group Update packets will be mailed out
toward the end of January. Be on the lookout
for a big yellow envelope!*

**Please Note: The office will be closed
Dec 24th & Dec 31st.**



Gift Bags Received During the month of **November 2025**

Luke 6:38

Abbeville	Gretna	Parks
Algiers	Harvey	Patterson
Baker	Henderson	Perry
Bayou Vista	Houma	Pierre Part
Bell City	Jeanerette	Prairie Ronde
Borger TX	Jefferson	Ragley
Bossier City	Jennings	Rayne
Bourg	Judice	Richard
Breaux Bridge	Kenner	Schriever
Broussard	Kinder	Scott
Buda TX	Krotz Springs	Slidell
Carencro	Lacombe	St. Amant
Charenton	Lafayette	Sugartown
Church Point	Lake Charles	Sulphur
Coteau	Lufkin TX	Terrytown
Cow Island	Marrero	Vidrine
Dalhart TX	Maurice	Ville Platte
Delcambre	Mermentau	Washington
DeRidder	Metarie	Welsh
Duson	Milton	Westwego
Erath	Mire	Youngsville
Eunice	Morgan City	
Fenton	Morse	
Franklin	New Iberia	
Fritch TX	New Orleans	
Grand Coteau	Oberlin	
Grand Prairie	Opelousas	

Upcoming Events:

January 8 *IGNITE!* Outreach Ministry Team Workshop
10:00 – 12:00 St Jules Catholic Church Lafayette/or Zoom
2:00 -4:00

January 17 - Spiritual Formation for
Leaders of Church Point, Mire, Rayne, Crowley,
Lyons Point groups /Assumption Church in Mire/10:00

January 24 - Spiritual Formation for the Area Coordinators of the Lafayette Diocese 9:00 -1:00

January 24-25 - Outreach Campaign,
St Thomas More, Baton Rouge

February 28 - Anniversary Mass for the
Houma / Thibodaux Diocese, St. Joseph Pierre Part/ 10:00

March 14 - *Come, Lord Jesus!* Annual Conference St.
Mary Catholic Church 8:00 - 12:00

April 25 - Spiritual Fitness Workshop
Our Lady of Fatima/ Lafayette/ 10:00 - 2:00

Nov. 18- Dec 15, 2025 Memorial Burse Donations

Theresa Berthelot
Gail B. Boudreaux
Lionel "Sing" Broussard
Darryl D'avy
Michael Derise
Herman Gesser
Mary Focht Groves
Lillian Hebda
Ed Roy
Linton Fontenot

Condolences

To member Beth DePaso of Terrytown, LA on the death of her mother, Lillian Hebda.

To the members of "He Opened Their Minds" group in Forked Island, LA on the death of their member, Douglas Frederick.

To leader Steve Landry of Youngsville, LA on the death of his mother, Ora Landry.

To member Laura Matthews of Duson, LA on the death of her daughter-in-law, Jessica Matthews.

