



Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.

A NEW CHURCH YEAR NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, December 1-2 is the beginning of a new church year as we begin the Season of Advent, the liturgical season of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas. A new church year begins a new cycle of the Lectionary. We begin Cycle C with its reading of the Gospel of Mark. As you know, the Lectionary is the schedule of readings from Scripture that we use at Mass. There are three cycles: (A) Matthew; (B) Mark with portions of John; (C) Luke. The first reading from the Old Testament is chosen to complement the Gospel reading. The second reading from the letters of the New Testament chooses a letter that we read sequentially. Let's make Luke's Gospel a focus of our reflections this coming church year.

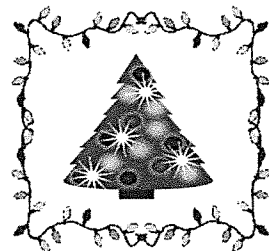
MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES



The choirs invite you to join with them in singing at the Christmas Masses. The Knights Choir invites all men and women of the parish to join them for the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the church. For more information contact Gerald Berzat @ 225-276-4674.

The Traditional Choir invites all parishioners to sing with them at Midnight Mass at 12:00 AM on December 25. Practices will begin on Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 PM. For more information, please contact Keith Thierry.

SCOTLANDVILLE COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING



On Saturday, December 1 at 5:00 PM-8:00 PM, there will be a tree lighting ceremony at Scenic Highway and Scotland Ave with Mayor Sharon Weston Broome, live Gospel Music, Christmas Carols, Liturgical Dance, Puppets, and more. Please come out and support this important event for the building up of the Scotlandville community.

MLK CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER LATE NIGHT STUDY - NOVEMBER 26-27



The MLK Catholic Student Center in collaboration with CSS Tutoring will host two Late Night Study Nights for students on Monday and Tuesday, November 26-27 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. All students are welcome to come out and take advantage of tutoring by peer tutors and faculty tutors. Snacks will be available. Get ready for finals in a supportive and helping atmosphere!

Announcements and Upcoming Events

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Saturday, December 8, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated on Friday evening at 7:00 PM and on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. As we celebrate our patronal feast, we remember the 65th Anniversary of the Dedication of our church on December 13.

THANK YOU FOR GENEROUS SERVICE



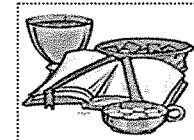
On behalf of the church, we thank Carl Thierry, Jr. who generously gave of his time and talent and replaced one of the air conditioning/heating units in the classroom in the Activity Center. We thank Wilson Reado, who assisted us with repairs at the MLK Catholic Student Center. Thank you to Stephen Stewart who cleaned up and mowed the lawn in the lot next to the parking lot. To all who in many unseen and unsung ways contribute to the well being of our church, we say thank you.

BIBLE STUDY DURING ADVENT



During the month of December, Bible Study on Monday evenings at 7:00-8:00 PM will consist of focusing on the readings for the following Sunday. We will put the Old Testament, the New Testament letter, and the Gospel into context and reflect on its meaning for us during the Advent time of joyful and eager waiting. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a Bible.

LECTORS WORKBOOKS AND MEETINGS OF LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS



The Lectors Workbooks have been delivered. Lectors, please keep an eye out for them in the foyer of the church. Please pick up your copy when they are placed in the foyer.

There will be a mandatory meeting of the Lectors on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 PM in the Activity Center to review the ministry of Lector and update your scheduling information. Also, there will be a mandatory meeting of the Eucharistic Ministers on Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 PM in the Activity Center to review the ministry and update scheduling information. Please make your attendance at this meeting a priority.

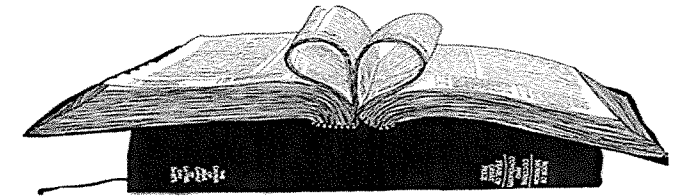
Happy Birthday

ANDRES	AUGUSTINE	11/25
REBECCA	JOHNSON	11/25
RAVEN	JONES	11/25
ALMA	PATRICK	11/25
TONY	BARTHELEMY	11/26
CHERYL	EDWARDS	11/26
SHANNON	HARRIS	11/26
RENEE	MCGEE	11/26
HENRY	STEWART, III	11/26
RANDALL	THOMAS, JR.	11/26
SYLVINA	THOMPSON	11/26
VIRGINIA	GREEN	11/27
INDIA	HAYES	11/27
JONATHAN	VICTOR	11/27
TASHARVIS	ELLISON	11/28
SHAZLY	JONES	11/28
VERA	DECUIR	11/29
LATISA	SAM	11/29
KAREN	TUGGLE	11/29
ALBERT	JOHNSON, SR.	11/30
JOHNNY	HARRIS	11/30
BERNARD	WASHINGTON	11/30
ELIZABETH	BELLAIRE	12/1
CHRIS	HODGE	12/1
SUMMER	ZILAITIS	12/1
HELEN	TAYLOR	12/1
SHANITA	VANCE	12/1

#IGIVECATHOLIC

SUPPORT MLK CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER WITH A GIFT TO [igivecatholic](http://igivecatholic.org)

On Giving Tuesday, please consider making a contribution to the MLK Catholic Student Center by going on line to www.igivecatholic.org and choosing the Diocese of Baton Rouge from the menu and then choosing the MLK Catholic Student Center. Your tax deductible gift will help us to continue to minister to the students at Southern by offering MLK as a place to study and by our being out on campus meeting students. If you prefer to make a donation by check or in cash, please contact Fr. Clark.



Mass Readings November 25th - December 2nd Sunday

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 93; Rv. 1:5-8
Gospel: John 18:33b-37

Monday

Rv. 14:1-3, 4B-5; Psalm 24
Gospel: Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday

Rv. 14:14-19; Psalm 96
Gospel: Luke 21:5-11

Wednesday

Rv. 15:1-4; Psalm 98
Gospel: Luke 21:12-19

Thursday

Rv. 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Psalm 100
Gospel: Luke 21:20-28

Friday

Rom. 10:9-18; Psalm 19
Gospel: Matt. 4:18-22

Saturday

Rv. 22:1-7; Psalm 95
Gospel: Luke 21:34-36

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent
Jer. 33:14-16; Psalm 25; 1 Thes. 3:12-4:2

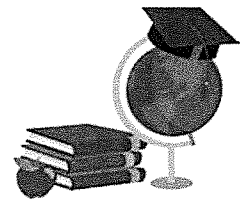


The Joy Of The Lord Is Your Strength

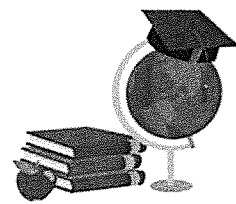
CHOOSE TO LIVE IN JOY

Life goes by in the blink of an eye. It's too short to live upset, angry, resentful, or ungrateful. If you look for the good, you'll find it. Choose to be happy, to be at peace. Decide that each day is going to be a great day and grab each moment and make the best of it. Refuse to let negative thoughts take root in your mind and refuse to let negative people and situations drag you down. Trust your journey and know that if you make a mistake, it's okay. See it as a lesson learned and keep moving forward. Spend less time worrying and more time being grateful for those who love you and all of life's goodness. Choose to live in joy.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY



Daisy Bates



Born Daisy Lee Gatson on November 11, 1914, in Huttig, Arkansas. Bates' childhood was marked by tragedy. Her mother was sexually assaulted and murdered by three white men and her father left her. She was raised by friends of the family.

Bates met Lucious Christopher "L.C." Bates, an insurance agent and an experienced journalist. The couple married in the early 1940s and moved to Little Rock, Arkansas. Together they operated the *Arkansas State Press*, a weekly African-American newspaper. The paper championed civil rights, and Bates joined in the civil rights movement. She became the president of Arkansas chapter of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1952.

In 1954, the United States Supreme Court declared that school segregation was unconstitutional in the landmark case known as *Brown v. Board of Education*. Even after that ruling, African American students who tried to enroll in white schools were turned away in Arkansas. Bates and her husband chronicled this battle in their newspaper.

In 1957, she helped nine African American students to become the first to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, who became known as the Little Rock Nine. The group first tried to go to the school on September 4. A group of angry whites jeered at them as they arrived. The governor, Orval Faubus, opposed school integration and sent members of the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the students from entering the school. Despite the enormous amount of animosity they faced from white residents of the city, the students were undeterred from their mission to attend the school.

Bates' home became the headquarters for the battle to integrate Central High School and she served as a personal advocate and supporter to the students. President Dwight D. Eisenhower became involved in the conflict and ordered federal troops to go to Little Rock to uphold the law and protect the Little Rock Nine. With U.S. soldiers providing security, the Little Rock Nine left from Bates' home for their first day of school on September 25, 1957.

Three years later, her account of the school integration battle was published as *The Long Shadow of Little Rock*. For a few years, she moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the Democratic National Committee and on antipoverty projects for the Lyndon B. Johnson's administration. Bates returned to Little Rock in the mid-1960s and spent much of her time on community programs. Bates died on November 4, 1999. For her career in social activism, Bates received numerous awards, including an honorary degree from the University of Arkansas. She is best remembered as a guiding force behind one of the biggest battles for school integration in the nation's history.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. Please make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

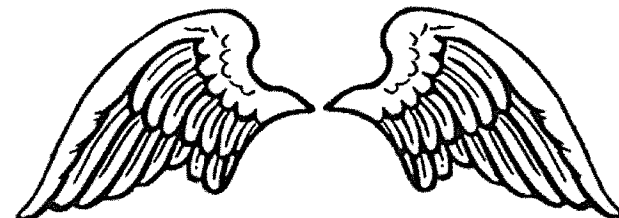
TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory

To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....	778-1977
Child Protection Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Communication Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....	936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder	428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....	775-7067
Lectors: Yvonne Jackson.....	362-0897
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....	775-5824
Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....	229-6076
Pantry/Food and Vouchers:	774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.	362-0907
Traditional Choir: Lloyd Doucette, Jr.....	999-0090
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

This Week's Prayer

God, you love me more than I can ever comprehend. You have even given your angels charge over me, to guide and protect me. Help me be worthy of your love and the angels' care, and that those I meet might consider me as a bearer of angelic love. Amen.



Blessed