

Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church

1303 St. Jude Avenue
New Iberia, LA • 70560 ~
Phone: 337-365-5481 Fax: 337-365-5483
Email: olphni@gmail.com ~ Website: www.olphni.net

Weekend Mass Schedule:

1st Saturday: 8:00am
Saturday: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 12:15pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 5:15pm

Confessions: 30 minutes before each Mass;

Saturday: 3:00 pm-3:45 pm, and by appointment.

*Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

JANUARY 27, 2019

STAFF
Pastor
Fr. Bill John Melancon

Parochial Vicar
Fr. Korey R. LaVergne

Deacon Durk Viator

Trustees:
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Anne Minvielle

**Catholic High School
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Middle School Formation**
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Elementary School Formation
Anna Breaux

Receptionist—Anne-Claire Viator

Bulletin Editor/Office Assistant
Sandy Babineaux

Sacristan
Karen “Kerrie” Laviolette

Custodian
Roxanne Hebert

Office Hours

Monday
11:00 am - 12:00 pm,
1:00 pm- 4:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8:30 am - 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday
8:30 am- 12:00 pm

Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks,
and allot portions to those
who have nothing prepared;
for today is holy to our Lord.

Nehemiah 8:10

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KNOWING YOUR GIFTS

A few years ago, a parish held a Women's Day of Reflection. Each participant was asked to compile a list of what they perceived as their God-given talents. Many seemed to get stuck at this point. Some gazed out of the window, others chewed on their pencils, and a few wrote things down and then vigorously crossed them out. One woman whispered, "This is so difficult. I could have written much more if I'd been asked about my faults and failings." Finally time was up, and the facilitator asked everyone to share what they had written. She looked around the room and asked someone to start things off. Rather reluctantly, Kerrin stood up. Many people there knew her well. She was deeply involved in service to others throughout the community. She studied scripture with other parishioners, she belonged to a prayer group, she helped organize annual parish retreats, and she ran a local food pantry. She said, "I really had to think hard about this. I couldn't come up with a list, because I don't believe I'm all that special. But I do know that my family says I'm a gentle person." There was an audible gasp of astonishment that this wonderful woman could not see her own gifts. Many of us have never stopped to think what our real talents are. Alternatively, we may think that we know what they are but we believe that to acknowledge them is to show undue pride. Either of these approaches may hold us back from the fullness of life to which we are called. It is part of the adult life of faith, however, to recognize what skills and capabilities God has blessed us with and then decide, in gratitude, to use those gifts to help build God's kingdom here on earth.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength (Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10).

Psalms — Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life (Psalm 19).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body (1 Corinthians 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]).

Gospel — The Spirit of the Lord has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21-30

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TIME

The holidays are well behind us; the year stretches out ahead. And what sort of year will it be? To judge by the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, it will be "a year acceptable to the Lord." And Jesus surely didn't mean only the next three hundred sixty-five days facing his listeners at that time.

When Jesus announced the "arrival" of God's favor, it was a message for all time, for every year. Similarly, we read today in Nehemiah how the people gathered with solemnity to hear God's word as though for the first time. They listened, and then fell to the ground and wept. But the prophet said, "Today is holy . . . do not be sad, and do not weep."

The "year acceptable to the Lord" is this year. The day that is "holy" is this day. The time to listen is now. What sort of year will you have? What sort of day? God's help is always here. What you do with each day can be holy and acceptable to the Lord if you but listen to and act on God's word.

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"DO NOT BE SAD, AND DO NOT WEEP"

"Do not be sad," Nehemiah said, "and do not weep" (9:9). Our days are holy when they are lived in the presence of God. So why do we weep? Not because God is not present to us. That's impossible. We weep because we are not present to God. We lose ourselves in our fears and our wishes that things would be different than they are.

The people of Nazareth sat down to listen. Jesus sat with them, and opened up the book of Isaiah. And what passage did he turn to? A message of consolation, the promise of "glad tidings to the poor . . . liberty to captives . . . recovery of sight to the blind" and freedom for the oppressed. Then when all eyes were fixed on him, he declared, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:18, 21).

When is that "today"? Is it yet to come? If so, then Jesus was mistaken. Is it already past? If so, then it is not today. "Today" is now, always now. All rights reserved.

WE PLAY OUR PART . . . TODAY

Paul tells us that we are "Christ's body." He explains that in the church there are apostles, prophets, and teachers, as well as gifts of mighty deeds, "healing, assistance, administration, and varieties of tongues" (1 Corinthians 12:28). In other words, a lot of different gifts, a lot of different jobs.

In God's work—work like setting captives free and giving sight to the blind—we have our part to play. Our part is not to fall down on our faces and weep because we haven't done more. Our part is to recognize and acknowledge what we have done, see what else we might do, and then walk out into today and do it.

God has made this year a "year acceptable to the Lord" and this day a "holy day." God is present to us and we need to be present to God and to God's world. We each have our part to play, our contribution to make. Each of us can make God's world more peaceful, more joyful, healthier, and freer. This year! Today! All rights reserved.

MASS INTENTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26th

4:00pm— Arnold “Bud” Pellerin/
 Joey Glenn Broussard/Ella & Walter F. Shipp,
 Dr. & Mrs. Rene Broussard/
 Marie Louise Romero Menard & Horace Menard/
 Fr. A. Gayle Nunez/ Ella Mae Sedotal/
 Beulah Derouen/ Danny & Nolan Meche/
 Hardy & Muriel Landry/ Norris P. Rader, Sr.,
 Sue Marsalis Robichaux/ Dennis Seaux, Sr.,
 M/M Alvin Menard/ Herbert “Pa-Put” Bonin,
 Rita Norris/ J.Larry Viator/ Jared Michael Maturin/
 Glynn Breaux & Family/ Aimee Nguyen

5:30pm—Fr. A. Gayle Nunez/
 Henry”Hank”Fontenot

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th

7:00 am—Fr. Godwin Nzeh/ Faye Gray
9:00 am—All Parishioners of OLPH
11:00 am—Fr. Godwin Nzeh/ Doris & Bob Edler,
 Mrs. Lou Connors & Daughters/
 Patricia Verret/ For the Souls in Purgatory/
 Bryce, Jade, Eastin, Dolly & Andrew Guidry,
 Mildred Adams in Thanksgiving,
 Annie Lee LaBiche Bourgeois, Rita LaBiche

MONDAY, JANUARY 28th

Angelus @ noon

12:15pm— Fr. Anselm Ofodum/
 F.J. & Vivian Fontenot

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29th

5:15 pm— Fr. Norman O’Neal/
 Deceased Priests of Mt. St. Mary

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30th

Angelus @ noon

12:15pm— Maxine McDonald Boudreaux/
 Fr. Paul Onuegbe

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31st

5:15 pm— Fr. Paul Osterle/ Elmae & Henry Pesson

FRIDAY, Feb. 1st

Angelus @ noon

12:15pm— Ernest Freyou/ Pope Francis



The OLPH Lamp will burn in Memory of the
 1. **Hebert, Kleinpeter & Trahan Families**
 the week of January 27th.

2. In Thanksgiving

The St. Joseph Lamp will burn in Memory of
 1. **Nolan G. Lecompte**
 the week of January 27th.

***WE ARE IN NEED OF ALTAR SERVERS. IF
 YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING IN
 THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, PLEASE CALL
 THE PLC @ 365-5481.***

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in
 Memory of **Norris P. Rader, Sr.**
 the week of January 27th, 2019



A Memorial Donation was made in Memory of
J. Larry Viator by Leonard J. & Eloise S. Kern.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 2nd

4:00 pm—Hallee Mire
 5:30 pm—Ethan Leleux
 Jack Leleux
 Carter Leleux

Sunday, February 3rd

7:00 am— Michael Pellerin
 9:00 am— Remi LeBlanc
 Jalan LeJeune
 11:00 am— Capri Boutte



St. Francis Garage Sale
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
February 7th, 8th, & 9th
8:00am to 1:00pm
For more information call
Pat Waguespack, 365-1766



The Vocation Cross will be
 in the home of the
Judy & Alvin J. Menard
 the week of January 20th, 2019

In Prayerful Remembrance of
 our beloved deceased. Please
 pray for the soul of
J. Larry Viator
 who has recently died and for
 those who mourn for him.





Born in Cuvilly, France, into a family of well-to-do farmers, young Marie Rose Julie Billiard showed an early interest in religion and in helping the sick and poor. Though the first years of her life were relatively peaceful and uncomplicated, Julie had to take up manual work as a young teen when her family lost its money. However, she spent her spare time teaching catechism to young people and to the farm laborers.

A mysterious illness overtook her when she was about 30. Witnessing an attempt to wound or even kill her father, Julie was paralyzed and became a complete invalid. For the next two decades she continued to teach catechism lessons from her bed, offered spiritual advice and attracted visitors who had heard of her holiness.

When the French Revolution broke out in 1789, revolutionary forces became aware of her allegiance to fugitive priests. With the help of friends she was smuggled out of Cuvilly in a haycart; she spent several years hiding in Compiegne, being moved from house to house despite her growing physical pain. She even lost the power of speech for a time.

But this period also proved to be a fruitful spiritual time for Julie. It was at this time she had a vision in which she saw Calvary surrounded by women in religious habits and heard a voice saying, "Behold these spiritual daughters whom I give you in an institute marked by the cross." As time passed and Julie continued her mobile life, she made the acquaintance of an aristocratic woman, Francoise Blin de Bourdon, who shared Julie's interest in teaching the faith. In 1803 the two women began the Institute of Notre Dame, which was dedicated to the education of the poor as well as young Christian girls and the training of catechists. The following year the first Sisters of Notre Dame made their vows. That was the same year that Julie recovered from the illness: She was able to walk for the first time in 22 years.

Though Julie had always been attentive to the special needs of the poor and that always remained her priority, she also became aware that other classes in society needed Christian instruction. From the founding of the Sisters of Notre Dame until her death, Julie was on the road, opening a variety of schools in France and Belgium that served the poor and the wealthy, vocational groups, teachers. Ultimately, Julie and Francoise moved the motherhouse to Namur, Belgium.

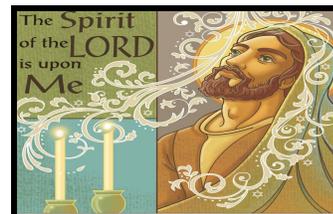
Julie died there in 1816. She was canonized in 1969.

COMMENT:

Julie's immobility in no way impeded her activities. In spite of her suffering, she managed to co-found a teaching order that tended to the needs of both the poor and the well-to-do. Each of us has limitations, but the worst malady any of us can suffer is the spiritual paralysis that keeps us from doing God's work on earth.

Father John P. Fischer of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. This ministry was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Learn more about your Catholic faith by taking an Aquinas Institute Course today! Spring 2019 Courses are now open for registration. ..Come to know the Blessed Virgin Mary more intimately and why she is so honored by Catholics. World renowned expert on Mary, Msgr. Arthur Calkins, will present a course (THE 391) at Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Student Center on Wednesdays 6-8:45pm beginning January 16. Course can be taken for credit or audit. Dr. Jennifer Miller will present a course (THE 491) at John Paul the Great Academy on the ever so important topic of Gender Identity on Thursdays 6-8:45pm beginning January 17. Dr. Miller teaches Moral Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and is presently writing a book on masculinity and femininity in the Catholic tradition. Come and learn about what Christian tradition has to say about what it means to be a man or a woman in today's confusing times. For more information on these course offerings or to register, contact Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC at 337-395-6550 or visit us at www.aquinaslafayette.org. Register now!



**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 27, 2019**
*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*
— Luke 4:18a

Morning Offering

“Your every act should be done with love.” (1Cor 16:14) In all that I undertake today, Lord, may I carry a heart of love. As I begin each task, as I prepare and serve, nurture and comfort, may I act with charity for You, my family, and neighbor. Help me to see these ordinary things of life as stepping stones to future joys, the jewels in the crowns of the just in Heaven, if only I follow You, the Crucified Christ, who embraced all things in love and for love. May my heart be conformed to Yours, eradicating self-interest and all that hinders me from keeping the new Commandment, to love one another as You have loved me. Amen.

Prayer For A Deeper Conversion To Christ

Lord Jesus, You know how radically I need to be converted to You. Certainly I have particular habits and sins to reform; but there is something broader and deeper—a basic reluctance to fully entrust my life to You. Foolishly, I fear what I would have to give up to be “all Yours.” Please help me to overcome this fear, this half-heartedness. Help me to be convinced that Your Kingdom is truly the “Pearl of Great Price,” Worthy of all that I am and all that I possess. I ask this in Your name. Amen.

Prayer For The Sick

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless your friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience with pain. Let them recover their health, so that restored to the Christian community, they may joyfully praise your name, for you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer For Those Serving in The Military

Almighty God, send your blessings upon all who serve in our armed forces. Shield them from all harm. Let peace be the sentry that stands guard over them. Look with compassion on all victims of war; ease their sufferings and heal their wounds. Put an end to wars over all the earth, and hasten lasting peace. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer For Returning Catholics

Dear Lord Jesus, may our hearts and minds be nourished by your sustaining love, may our words and actions be guided by your ever present grace, that all who seek to know you, encounter you here. That all who seek to serve you, be welcomed to the vineyard. That all who seek to love you, know that they are loved. That all who seek to return to their Catholic faith may be welcomed and received. Amen.

Stewardship of Finance

January 13, 2019

Envelopes	\$6,996.00
<u>Loose cash/checks</u>	<u>3,349.00</u>
Total	\$10,345.00

Thank You for your generous spirit of giving!
Average Weekly Expenses: \$16,100.45
Average Monthly Expenses: \$69,768.63

Living Stewardship Now

“All things in this world are created out of God’s love, and they become a framework of gifts, offered us so that we can know God more easily and make a return of God’s love more readily.” —Saint Ignatius Loyola

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Saturday’s feast of the Presentation is a day for the blessing of candles. Why does liturgy require candles? In the first years of the church, worship was often at night, and candles and torches were carried from place to place within the worship space as needed. Candles were also a mark of festivity and hospitality when people gathered for prayer in homes, and later on in large buildings with thick walls and dark corners. But even after gaslight and electricity, candles were kept.

Part of the reason has to do with the warm, clean light of a candle’s flame. Candles are a good sign of the partnership of God and creation: wax made by bees, gathered and fashioned by human hands into something beautiful and useful. In order for the light to shine, the candle surrenders itself, almost as if it is pouring itself out so that the light can flood into the world. The candle of baptism, placed into our hands, and carried again and again, speaks silently of that same wisdom. If you would save your life, you must lose it. You must pour your life out like Christ so that you may be filled with the light of his love.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Get Away on an Unbound Awareness Trip!

Meet Your Sponsored Friend....Now’s your chance to make the blessing of sponsorship real to you and your sponsored friend. Join an Unbound awareness trip in 2019 and experience a new culture, the ins and outs of our program, and best of all, the excitement of meeting your sponsored friend face to face.

More information can be found at www.unbound.org/trips or by contacting a trip co-ordinator at trips@unbound.org or 800-875-6564.. We can’t wait to travel with you!

What Do We Gain From Prayer?

Once a man was asked, "what did you gain by regularly praying to God?" The man replied, "Nothing....but let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity, and fear of death." Sometimes the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing; which ultimately is the gain.—

Anonymous



This unattributed quote has been making its way across the internet via social media the past few weeks. Reading it, I was moved to reflect on the question, "What do we really gain from praying?"

In the quote, the man explains what he has lost through prayer, but truthfully each of the things he says he has lost are actually gains if you look to the positive.

He lost anger....but gained happiness, lost ego....but gained compassion, lost greed....but gained generosity and gratitude, lost depression....and gained joy.

He lost insecurity....but found comfort in God's word, lost fear of death....and gained everlasting life. So, what do we gain from regularly praying to God? Here are some thoughts:

1. *Prayer helps our physical and psychological health.* Praying makes us feel better, reduces anxiety, and calms us in our times of need.

2. *Prayer deepens our relationship with God.* When things are going wrong, we want to tell our problems to a friend. We want someone to tell us that things will be alright; to comfort and console us. If Jesus is truly our friend, then isn't He the One best friend to offer us comfort? By going to Him, we deepen our relationship with Him and find comfort and consolation in His promise.

3. *Prayer helps us to draw on God's strength.* When we realize that we are helpless to solve our problems on our own and that we need God's strength to sustain us, remember Ephesians 6:10 where we are told to *draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power.*

4. *With prayer, joy and Grace are guaranteed.* God's never ending supply of grace is waiting for us if we just ask. Prayer is the vehicle by which His grace is heaped upon us and our depression and fears are turned to joy.

5. *With prayer, God supplies our needs and fulfills our desires.* A verse that my wife Diane and I held close to our hearts early in our marriage was this magnificent promise from the gospel of Matthew: *Again [amen,] I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.* I can't speak for others, but this promise has worked for us 100% of the time.

6. *With prayer, we gain wisdom.* When we are making a decision, any important decision, like taking a new job, buying a house, picking a college to attend, or deciding on surgery, He will guide us.

Prayer is always positive and we profit from it whenever we pray. If we pray regularly, we not only *lose anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity, and fear of death*, but we gain so much more.

Got a problem my friend; why not try praying? God's grace is there for the asking.

To Be a Christian Steward

A Summary of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace”(1 Pt 4:10).

What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God’s gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

Disciples as Stewards

Let us begin with being a disciple—a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. As members of the Church, Jesus calls us to be disciples. This has astonishing implications:

- ~ Mature disciples make a conscious decision to follow Jesus, no matter what the cost.
- ~ Christian disciples experience conversion—life shaping changes of mind and heart—and commit their very selves to the Lord.
- ~ Christian stewards respond in a particular way to the call to be a disciple. Stewardship has the power to shape and mold our understanding of our lives and the way in which we live. Jesus’ disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus for guidance in living as Christian stewards.

Stewards of Creation

The Bible contains a profound message about the stewardship of material creation: God created the world, but entrusted it to human beings. Caring for and cultivating the world involves the following:

- ~ Joyful appreciation for the God-given beauty and wonder of nature;
- ~ Protection and preservation of the environment, which would be the stewardship of ecological concern;
- ~ Respect for human life—shielding life from threat and assault, doing everything that can be done to enhance this gift and make life flourish; and Development of this world through noble human effort—physical labor, the trades and professions, the arts and sciences. We call such effort “work.” Work is a fulfilling human vocation.

The second Vatican Council points out that, through work, we build up not only our world but the Kingdom of God, already present among us. Work is a partnership with God—our share in a divine human collaboration in creation. It occupies a central place in our lives as Christian stewards.

Stewards of Vocation

Jesus calls us, as his disciples, to a new way of life—the Christian way of life—of which stewardship is part. But Jesus does not call us a nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually, by name. Each one of us—clergy, religious, lay person; married, single; adult, child—has a personal vocation. God intends each one of us to play a unique role in carrying out the divine plan. The challenge, then, is to understand our role—our vocation—and to respond generously to this call from God. Christian vocation entails the practice of stewardship. In addition, Christ calls each of us to be stewards of our personal vocations, which we receive from God.

Sacramental Information

Baptism



Baptism:

Expectant parents should contact the office four to six (4-6) months *before the birth of the child.*



Marriage:

Couples planning marriage need to make an appointment with the pastor at least **six months** before the intended wedding date to begin the preparation process. A wedding date cannot be scheduled without approval of the pastor.



Anointing of the Sick:

Contact the office to schedule an appt., home or nursing home visit, and, if death is imminent, contact the office for immediate action.

Knights of Columbus Council 3425 meets every 2nd Monday of each month, @ the KC Hall on L. Theriot Rd., **New Iberia, La.** Rosary at 6:15PM . Meeting follows.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Blessed Mother Teresa #2550 meets every 2nd Monday of the month (except June and July) in the Parish Life Center of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1303 St. Jude Ave., @ 6:00pm. "We welcome anyone interested in joining to attend."



.....a tradition of excellence in grades 4-12.

Now accepting applications for admission to Catholic High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Students and parents are invited to Touring Tuesdays from 8:00am to 12:30p.m. Please call for information or to schedule an appointment.

For more information please contact the Admissions Office at 337.256.5383 or email: admissions@chspanthers.com.

Catholic High, New Iberia...dedicated to the development of 4th-12th grade students through academic excellence and Christ-centered values rooted in caring discipline, compassion, and zeal.



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Software:

Microsoft Publisher 2007
Adobe Acrobat XI Standard
Windows 7

Printer:

Savin MP C2003

Transmission Time:

Monday, January 21, 2019

Sunday Date of Publication:

Sunday, January 27th, 2019

Number of Pages Sent:

1 through 9

Special Instructions:

None