



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
December 22—December 28
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE

PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Marlene Morris
5:30 p.m. Stephen A. Losee; Joseph Maselli III; Leona O'Dwyer; Jules J. Vulliet

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
9:30 a.m. Roberta W. Bruley; Marion F. Carriere; Jane O. Chatelain; John J. Clesi; John M. Coogan; Mrs. Emilda Formusa; Charles Gegg; Nellie J. Leone; Mr. & Mrs. Elton Mackie; Carol Mallett; Norma McClellan; Marc McLyneux, Jr.; Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Mr. & Mrs. Louis K. Turner; Joseph I. Vidau
11:00 a.m. Camden Boatright; Calvin Cage; Cynthia Hemelt; Beverly Orillion; Roy A. Robichaux, Sr.; Karl Snyder, Jr.; Jules J. Vulliet
5:30 p.m. Albert Moschella; Barbara Rush

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

No midday Masses

4:00 p.m. Edward & Sue Comeaux; Edward & Violet Pizani; Lee Vaccari
5:30 p.m. E. Carlton Guillot, Jr.; Jules J. Vulliet

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Midnight Marion F. Carriere; John M. Coogan; Tracy L. Cooper; Lolita R. Crespo; Charles G. Favret; Mrs. Emilda B. Formusa; Charles Gegg; Stephanie M. Grisaro; Frank Hemelt; Stewart Lagarde; Mr. & Mrs. Elton T. Mackie; Norma McClellan; Laura M. Messina; Leona O'Dwyer; Amos J. Oelking, Jr.; Thomas R. Preston; Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr. Barbara Rush; John H. Schroder, Jr.; John D. Sparck; Mr. & Mrs. Louis K. Turner; Carmen D. Waterson; Anthony L. Zuppardo
9:30 a.m. Stella & Woodrow Bergeron; Paul & Theresa Johnson; William L. Maylie; Norma McClellan
11:00 a.m. Eileen M. Baynes; Peter P. Meehan III; Alex & Ginny Neale; Father Timothy Pieris; Antonio L. Rosal; John H. Schroder, Jr.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Stephen A. Losee; Peter P. Meehan III

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

11:30 a.m. Mrs. Frances Vuskovich
12:00 p.m. Mrs. Frances Vuskovich

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Discalced Carmelites of Infant Jesus & St. Joseph

**There will be NO Adoration or Benediction
Sunday, December 23.**

TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.
Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

SUNDAY OFFERING

December 16, 2007

First Collection \$ 10,476

Second Collection* \$ 2,860

* Restoration and Maintenance

CHRISTMAS SEASON 2007—MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24, 2007—Vigil of Christmas

Security will be provided.

No midday Masses

4:00 p.m. Mass (Ordinary Rite with carols)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Ordinary Rite with carols)

Solemn High Mass of Midnight—Extraordinary Rite

Security will be provided.

11:00 p.m. Doors open
11:15 p.m. Music begins
12:00 a.m. Solemn High Mass of Midnight

St. Patrick's Choir will perform *Mass in C, KV 317 (Coronation Mass)* with soloists: Sarah Jane McMahon, Therese Juneau, Jane Wilson, Rene Toups and Chris G'sell.

Tuesday, December 25, 2007—Christmas

8:00 a.m. No Mass
9:30 a.m. Ordinary Rite with carols
11:00 a.m. Ordinary Rite with quartet (Novus Ordo)
5:30 p.m. No Mass

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God—Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 31, 2007—Vigil

5:30 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, January 1, 2008—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:30 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY—THE CORONATION MASS

Sunday, January 6, 2008, **Feast of the Epiphany**, St. Patrick's Choir with orchestra will perform Mozart's *Mass in C, KV317 (Coronation Mass)* at the **9:15 A.M. Mass**. Prelude music will begin at 9:00 A.M. Please note the time change for this Mass.

IN MEMORY OF—2008 ENVELOPES

Names are now being accepted for the 2008 "In Memory Of" listing on the back of the Sunday Bulletin. Envelope forms, found in the vestibule of the church, should be completed and returned to the rectory office no later than **Friday, January 11, 2008.**

1. To ensure proper spelling, recording, etc., all requests **MUST** be made by completing the designated envelope form.
2. The rectory office will **NOT** be responsible for requests received without the completed envelope form.
3. The United States Postal Service is quite often heavily burdened with the amount of mail. Please do not rely on the USPS to deliver mailed envelopes before the final date **Friday, January 11, 2008.**
4. During these next **three weeks** completed envelopes can be deposited in any Mass collection basket or hand delivered to the rectory office.

The office staff appreciates your understanding and cooperation in assisting with this annual project.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; Brett Bradley; Sara Cashio; Tony Clesi; Rene Crane; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Ann Clair Duplechin; Rose Fee; Reverend Stan Klores; Lolita Lannan; Stephen Losee; Betty McArthur; Lucille Ogden; Stephanie Summers; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Elizabeth Robert; Diane Sikes; Adele

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHRISTMAS CONVERSION OF ST. THÉRÈSE

It happened at Christmastime in 1886.

In France, young children left their shoes by the hearth at Christmas, for their parents to fill them with gifts. Thérèse should have outgrown this tradition by the age of 14, but she was the spoiled baby of a family who had lost their mother to cancer. Her elder sisters continued to leave presents in Thérèse's shoes at Christmas, and she was still looking forward to the Christmas event.

As she climbed the stairs with her older sister Celine, Thérèse heard her beloved father say about the ceremony of shoes and gifts, "Thank goodness that's the last time we shall have this kind of thing!"

Thérèse was hypersensitive, and had suffered from a terrible nervous illness only a few years before. She froze, for a moment, with horrified hurt feelings. Celine looked at her helplessly, and knew that Thérèse would probably be heartbroken over her father's comments.

Thérèse remained calm. Something had happened. She said Jesus had come into her heart and converted her, taking her selfish immaturity and banishing it forever. She forgot the crying, walked downstairs, and exclaimed over the gifts in the shoes, as if she had never heard a word her father said.

Despite great opposition, Thérèse entered the convent the next year, and began the rapid spiritual growth for which she is famous.

Thérèse always referred to this as her "Christmas Conversion." To one unfamiliar with Thérèse, it may seem an insignificant event. "So, a 14-year-old girl finally realized she was being a baby and 'got over it.' What's the big deal?"

Thérèse would probably have agreed that the whole incident seemed small. For her that was the big deal. All the events recounted in her life were small. They were middle class, and seemingly insignificant. They were a "big deal" because Thérèse realized God himself was working his miracle of grace through the little everyday events of a very ordinary life. Thérèse recognized that in the midst of a 14-year-old girl making a step toward maturity, God's grace was thundering through.

This enlightenment, and the spiritual theology that flowed from it, transformed the Catholic Church and brought Thérèse the status not only of being the greatest saint of her time, but eventually being named a Doctor of the Church.

If God was working out his purpose in the midst of an ordinary girl's family life and growth, then God's work was just as constant and ubiquitous in the lives of all those who simply trusted him and obeyed the promptings of his love.

That Thérèse's conversion was a "Christmas conversion" is not simply a sentimental touch weaving in Christmas and presents and children. That it was a "Christmas conversion" has a deeper meaning, for Thérèse's lesson that the grace of God is constantly at work within the nitty gritty of everyday life is the lesson at the heart of Christmas itself.

The poet Henry Vaughn wrote, "Here in dust and dirt, O here, the lilies of his Love appear."

The realization that God is working his purpose out within the dust and dirt of ordinary life is the message of Thérèse.

It is also the message at the heart of the Christmas story, for there in the ordinary, warm earthiness of a stable God is born. There within the most ordinary event — a mother and a birth — new life comes to earth.

*Father Dwight Longenecker
Author and contributor to National Catholic Register*

FLOWERS ON THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR

In Honor Of

President George W. Bush
Anthony and Rita Bailey
Adrian and Esther Bruley
Sara Cashio
Philip B. Duplessis
Easter Aeschliman Mackin
Shirley Robichaux
United States Marine Corps

In Memory Of

Ree Alario	H. Lawson Hitt, Sr.
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Allen, Jr.	J. Hoffman
Blossom G. Barberot	Mildred Hymel
Malcolm L. Barberot, Sr.	Curtis A. Jordan
Louis E. Battistella	Anita Dresser Jurgens
Martha J. Battistella	Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Koen
Felder Charles Black	Mr. and Mrs. Patrick E. Lawless
Grace Lynn Black	Mr. and Mrs. Elton T. Mackie
Mr. and Mrs. Francis T. Boh	George Mackin
Roberta Wynne Bruley	Officer Kelly Marrione
Mr. Frank E. Cavadi, Sr.	Elvera S. Martin
Leah Park Chatry	Joseph P. Milano
Frederic M. Chatry	Edward F. O'Keeffe, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Clesi	Alfred E. Ramirez
Susan Wegmann Collins	Dr. Alfred Edmund Ramirez, Jr.
Coustaurot-Vergez Families	Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Rini, Sr.
Paul R. Davis	Roy A. Robichaux, Sr.
Mr. Michael W. Deshazo, Sr.	Louis and Gladys Schwartz
DiGrado and Wagner Family	Smith and Melancon Family
Claude J. Dubret, Sr.	Joseph and Anna Szabo
Marcel Ducatel	Lucille Cashio Tuminello
Robert Frandce III	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Key Turner
Katherine R. Gambel	Geraldine P. Vocke
Mary L. Gaudet	Emily Von Bodungen and Family
Merlin James Gaudet, Jr.	Wallace Lee Walker II
Frank and Lena Hansen	

At Christmas we contemplate God made man, divine glory hidden beneath the poverty of a Child wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger; the Creator of the Universe reduced to the helplessness of an infant. Once we accept this paradox, we discover the Truth that sets us free and the Love that transforms our lives. On Bethlehem Night, the Redeemer becomes one of us, our companion along the precarious paths of history. Let us take the hand which he stretches out to us: it is a hand which seeks to take nothing from us, but only to give.

Benedict XVI



*Father Stan Klores, Monsignor
Charles Duke, Father Van Constant,
Father Anthony Fontenot,
Father José Lavastida, Father Donald
Saunders, SJ, Father Anthony White, Deacon
Cris DiGrado, and Seminarian Nile Cross
along with the entire staff at St. Patrick's
Church wish you a very Blessed Christmas
and A Joyful New Year!*