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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Robert Pettaway
May the presence of the Lord be with you
as you celebrate today,
and for many years to come.
Ruth, Shea, Keidrick, Trish
Kameron & Kollins

YOUR MESSAGE
COULD BE HERE!

YOUR MESSAGE
COULD BE HERE!

YOUR MESSAGE
COULD BE HERE!

ADVERTISEMENTS

Would like to advertise you business or send a special message to a loved one? Contact anyone on the Media and Public Relations Committee.

PERSONAL ADS (cost per week)	BUSINESS ADS (cost per month)
Up to 32 Characters \$7	Business Cards\$25
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Providing a Beacon of Hope
in the Maysville Community.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen Remilekun Sohe, S.S.J. Pastor
Rev. Mr. Ronnie A. Hathorne..... Deacon

CONTACT INFORMATION

RECTORY(251) 473-3761
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E-MAIL..... Stjosephsch@18546bellsouth.net
FACEBOOKStJoseph's
TWITTER.....StJosephMaysvil

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM
Sunday Mass 9:30 AM
Tuesday 5:30 PM
Wednesday – Friday 7:45 AM
Holy Days Of Obligation6:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Sunday 8:45 – 9:15 AM
(or by appointment)

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

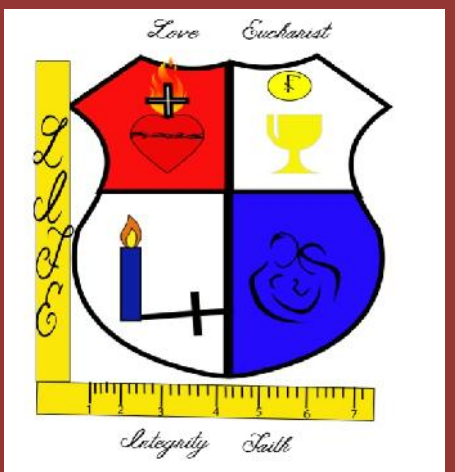
Sunday.....For the People of the Parish
WednesdayFor Rueben Harrison
ThursdayFor Catherine Turner
FridayFor Anna Slaughter
SaturdaySpecial Intentions

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CCD Classes After Sunday Mass
Bible StudyMonday, 6:00–7:00 PM
RCIA Classes Thursday, 6:00–7:00 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Friday:6:00 PM



St. Joseph Catholic Church Maysville

1703 Dublin Street ▪ Mobile, AL 36605
Staffed by the Josephites and Dedicated Lay People of St. Joseph Parish
December 08, 2013
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT





UNCLOGGING OUR DRAINS WITH HOPE
By Ruth McKitric

Isn't it frustrating when we notice our kitchen sink is beginning to drain out slower and slower? We immediately try to unclog it with every tool and chemical available at our disposal. And what a relief when it is finally working properly!

Similarly, there are times when we feel that our lives are clogged with disappointments, troubles, anxieties, worries and more. Sometimes there is much more disappointment in our hearts than hope. According to the prophet, Isaiah, hope is hidden deep within us, safe and secure, and is ready to burst forth in renewed life. Our first reading tells us that all the Israelites desperately needed to hear was a word of hope represented by the green shoot growing out of dry-looking stomp.

Isaiah was an old man when he started searching for a sign of the coming Messiah. He probably felt that there was no hope when he prophesied about the stomp of Jesse. As the years of waiting grew longer, giving up may have crossed his mind several times. But he continued to watch and wait, proclaiming even more eloquently than any other prophet, the Messianic hope. Isaiah's gate of hope must have been completely opened, because he never stopped speaking of the coming hope for the Israelites. He never gave up!

We mustn't give up hope either. This is the time for us to shout. “Don't give up hope yet!” Let us also count on the fact that God's promise of salvation can flood our hearts and spirits and open up our gates of hope. That Holy and divine hope, who is Jesus, comes as a gift from God. Like Isaiah, we may not ever see that kind of hope fulfilled in our life time. Both Isaiah and John the Baptist, were the most credible and expressive prophets of Advent's hope, however, neither of them would see their prophesies fulfilled. But we have been given the opportunity to tell others to remain hopeful. The stomp of Jesse was described as a dead and rotting, dry and barren tree stomp. However, it began to show a hint of vibrancy and new leaves came forth from it.

You may feel hopelessness and helplessness but let us proclaim to one another to “hold on”... the roots underground are still Alive! Let us rejoice, sing and proclaim from the depths of our spirits, the faith and hope that the world needs to hear. What Paul wrote to the people of Rome in the second reading, he is writing to us now, the people of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Maysville.... “Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope”. Our brother, John the Baptist, says, “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!” John's primary mission was to prepare a way for our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us prepare our hearts for His 2nd coming by pouring a steady amount of hopeful God's Word into our clogged drains.

MINISTRIES

Altar Servers Brandon Barnes
Altar Society..... Patricia Reed
Bereavement Pamela Barnes
Bible Study Ruth McKitric
Bldg & Grounds Mgr Walter Battles
Choir Director Lillie Key
Finance Chair Robert Pettaway
Hospitality & UshersSharon Malone
Legion of MaryHilda Carroway
LiturgicalRuth Pettaway
Liturgical DancersYvette Smith
Male Choir William Frazier
Media & Public Relations..... Greg Cyprian
Parish Council Thomas Whittaker
RCIADeacon Ronnie Hathorne
Religious Education Dir. Tiffany J. Barnes
St Joseph School Alumni Shawn Bivens
Stewardship..... Keith Brewer
Technology/IT..... Michael Smith
Youth Activities & Family Life Tara Evans

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

•TODAY - DECEMBER 08

Lectors.....Pam Barnes & Sheila Mosley
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Robert & Ruth Pettaway
Altar Servers Kai, Ashley & Azure
Family Gift BearersMathis Family

•DECEMBER 15

Lectors..... Barbara Mitchell & Ruth Pettaway
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Walter Battles & Rita Hathorne
Altar Servers:.....Jessica, Kiara & Keari B.
Family Gift Bearers:Frazier Family

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

•ANNIVERSERIES

15Allen & Gwen Hickman
30.....Herman & Teresa Alexander

•BIRTHDAYS

01 Malachi Pratt
06 Courtney Simpson
07 Marshae Blackmon
09 Herman Alexander III
09 Rafael Donaldson
09 Robert Pettaway
19 Johnny Thompson
20 Lisa Dewberry
21 Caleb Roberson
23 Genevieve Carter
23 Tiffany Davis
26 William Lofton Jr.
26 Michael Steele
28 Kendrick Mackie

Weekly Collection - \$2145.00

(December 1)

Attendance - 135

KNOW YOUR FAITH

By Rev. Stephen Remilekun Sohe, S.S.J.



SIGNIFICANCE OF ADVENT CANDLES

One of the important practices of the Church during this Advent season is the lighting of four candles. The colors of these candles are three purple and one pink. They mostly signify the color of the season of Advent. The first candle is called the prophet’s candle. It reminds us of our hope in the coming of Jesus. The second is the Bethlehem candle, symbolizing our preparation for the revelation of the expected Messiah. The Shepherd candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent. It reminds us of the joy that filled the heart of the shepherds on hearing the good news of the birth of the baby Jesus. It continues to invite us to patiently, in sober reflection, look forward to the joy which comes with our celebration of the commemoration of the birth of the baby Jesus at Christmas. The fourth is the Angel’s candle, a symbol of love. It reminds us of the love of God for His creation. For it is written, “*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him*” (John 3:16-17).

There is a fifth candle, the white candle often placed at the center of the Advent wreath. This candle, which we light at Christmas, echoes the presence of Christ, the true Light, among us and in the world.

THOUGHTS & REMINDERS



Keep In Prayer Our...
Ill & Homebound Parishioners

Mrs. Delores Battle
Mrs. Delores Isom
Mr. William Lucas
Mrs. Reola Juzang
Mrs. Theresa Gulley
Mr. Noel Moseby
Mr. James Thomas
Mr. Kevin Hayes
Mr. James Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Hickman
Little Christen Roberson

(Please sign the Healing Prayer Book to list ill and/or homebound parishioners)

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS

The Media and Public Relations Committee would like to thank each and every member of the St. Joseph Maysville Family for intrusting us to create, design, and produce your first in-house Sunday bulletin. The new bulletin should be viewed as a “living document” of St. Joseph parish and its parishioners. We ask that you advise any member of the committee of your thoughts and suggestions of any needed improvements.

Please find it in your heart to patronize the businesses that have given to the parish by their advertisement. Your support to these businesses will encourage their continued support to the church.

The new bulletin will be available on the church’s website (www.stjosephmaysville.org) on the Ministries page. It will also be emailed to you if your email is listed in the church directory. At the conclusion of Sunday Mass our ushers will ask if you would like a printed bulletin. We ask that if the electronic form is your preferred method, just politely decline the printed version. May God’s blessings continue throughout our parish and we ask that you continue to pray for the future of St. Joseph Catholic Church Maysville.



READINGS FOR MASS

First Week of Advent

December 08-14, 2013

SUN 08	First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9 Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12
MON 09	First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10 Gospel: Luke 5:17-26
TUE 10	First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 Gospel: Matthew 18:12-14
WED 11	First Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31 Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30
THU 12	First Reading: Revelation 11:19, 12:1-6, 10 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38
FRI 13	First Reading: Isaiah 48:17-19 Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19
SAT 14	First Reading: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 Gospel: Matthew 17:19-13

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

NEW LAW PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR
CHILDREN AND TAX CREDITS FOR
SUPPORTERS:

What if there was a way to donate to a scholarship fund for at-risk children, *at absolutely no cost?* Now there is for Alabama taxpayers. Through a simple process made possible by the landmark passage of the Alabama Accountability Act of 2013, individuals and corporations can receive dollar for dollar tax credits for contributions to approved Scholarship Granting Organizations, effectively directing their tax dollars to fund scholarships for low income K-12 students who want to transfer out of failing public schools in Alabama. Through this program the financial barriers of tuition can be lowered or erased, allowing these families the freedom to choose the education that they feel works best for their children. For more info, se the December 6th issue of the *Catholic Week*.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ A time to pause: An **ADVENT RECOLLECTION** in preparation for Christmas. This will include the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Here at the church on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ **FELLOWSHIP** — Make plans on Sunday after Mass to join us at the Carroll’s Coffee Café near the picnic tables for coffee, doughnut, bagels (held in the convent in inclement weather).
- ❖ The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary and Court 210 will sponsor their **MONTHLY FUND RAISING TRIP** to IP Casino this afternoon. Bus will depart from St. Joseph at 2 PM. Donation is \$15 per person, \$20 for 2 persons.
- ❖ Dedication of the Stained Glass Window for **SISTER JOSÉ** located in the Choir Loft will be held next Sunday, December 15th during the 9:30am Mass.
- ❖ Good Food, good fellowship. **Pub Theology** is offered every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Benjamin’s, 2101 Airport Blvd. (at the Loop). Dinner at 6:00 with a brief talk at 7:00p.m. Join us December 10th to hear Archbishop Rodi speak about the Liturgy of the Word.
- ❖ **PRAYER INTENTION CARDS** are now located the Vestibule of the Church.
- ❖ Our Community Life Committee is asking for clothing donations for the **WINTER CLOTHING & BLANKET DRIVE** for Catholic Social Service.

