

RENOVATIONS POSTPONED:

Out of an abundance of caution – owing to our recessed economy locally as well as the a lack of confidence among the lay faithful in Church governance surfacing nationally in the wake of the release of names of priests who had been accused of sexual abuse in the past – we have made the decision NOT to move forward with the renovations at this time.

Since my request for donations was for money to be spent NOW and NOT for money to be invested for the future and since your intention was for the money to be spent, we must offer each of you your donations back. Any donation you wish to leave on deposit for renovations at a future date will be deposited in a restricted account which can only be used for Renovations to the Cathedral. The deposit is made through the Catholic Foundation because it yields a higher rate of interest than Central Finance does.

And in time, as the economy recovers and the confidence in church governance is restored, the necessary moneys will be raised and the Renovations will indeed take place.

PARISH NEWS



**NEW YEAR'S DAY - Tuesday, January 1st
5:30 p.m. Vigil, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**

The Cathedral Office will be closed Dec 24th, 25th & 26th and Dec 31st - Jan 1st for the Christmas Season.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC 31 – JAN 6

- Monday** - 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
- Tuesday** - **Solemnity of Mary**
Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Wednesday** - 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
- Thursday** - 1 Jn 2:29 – 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
- Friday** - 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
- Saturday** - 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
- Sunday** - **The Epiphany of the Lord**
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



PRAY FOR: Jenny Fanguy, David Porter, Taylor Riché, Susan Laperouse, Holden Sawyer, Jason Chiasson, Edrith Boudreaux, J.A. Foret, Penny Simmons, Linda Lee, Alaina Maiorana, Cassandra Rios, Charles Spence, Isabella Cole, Kathy Savoie, Ken Pitre, Christina Sparks, Peter Cantrelle, Betty Olivier, Ursula M. Breaux, Pam Jarveaux Ford, Beryl Toups Odom, Wilbert Duplantis, Harold Lapeyre, Russ Todd, Donald Picou, Kathie Folse, Ethan LeBoeuf, Ralph Deroche, Dianne Deroche, Barbara Toups Miller, Reggie Redmond, Edward Ougel Sr., Deacon Doug Authement, Sylvia Chauvin, Delaney Walsh, Jo Ann Landry, Lee Dugas, Patty Lejeune, Michael Guidry, Christian Olden, Aiden Robichaux, Claire Belanger, Delores Deroche, Yvonne Fanguy, Brooklyn Verdin and for all prayer shawl recipients.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Jesus was sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

Luke 2:41-52

St. Luke tells us of the journey of Jesus as a young boy to the great city of Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. With Joseph and Mary, their family and friends, including children his age, Jesus traveled from Nazareth and shared the rigors and dangers for the four day journey. Jesus, who would have played games with the other children along the way. They had to protect themselves; make camp each night; and cook food; rise early; break camp and continue traveling. In Jerusalem there would be many groups like them camped in the hills surrounding the City. After the Feast Jesus was attracted to the teachers in the Temple precincts who had studied the Law of Moses for many years. They were amazed by the wisdom of such a young boy, and the depth of his understanding of the God of all Creation. When Joseph and Mary realized Jesus was not with them, he returned to find Him in the Temple. They chided him for staying behind. He responded by saying he must be about his Father's business. And so must we. Are we?

Sunday – December 23

Envelopes (264).....	\$16,270.00
Loose	2,687.33
	<u>\$18,957.33</u>
 Christmas Charities.....	 \$ 7,704.83
Christmas Offering.....	\$17,443.32

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES**

The Christmas Season is meant to be a time of joy. Oftentimes, due to a crisis, families experience just the opposite. The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Francis de Sales weekly distributes funds for rental and utility payment emergencies. Additionally, at Christmas, it distributes food vouchers that allow families to have a Christmas meal. Under certain conditions, it assists the needy to acquire other items that might be needed from the St. Francis de Paul Thrift Store. Funds are limited to persons in the geographical boundaries of the parish with parishioners being favored. On months having five Sundays, there is a bucket collection to help St. Vincent de Paul Society maintain this charitable work of mercy to the neediest in our parish.

**The next bucket collection
is the weekend of December 28th – 30th.**

Please be generous so that we can continue to help those in need. For more information about how you may individually assist or if you would like to join the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please contact Murke Trahan at 985.217.0593. Thank you for your generosity in advance.

A Christmas Thank You

Bread or Stones - Legion Park Project

As a result of the generosity of the community of St. Francis de Sales, prior to Thanksgiving, the 257 families of Legion Park School each received bags of laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, soap, floor cleaner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, tissue paper and deodorant, among other items, as well as one hundred \$30.00 food vouchers sent out to the neediest of their families as a result of cash donations. As well, all 355 students of Legion Park School each received a Christmas gift bag filled with toys and clothes. Yes, even with our economy down, the generous people of our community pulled together and made it happen!

Some of our team was present for the delivery and for distribution. To see the eyes of these children light up like Christmas trees was such gift! To see the joy they portrayed brought joy to our hearts! And to have one of the older children extend their arms for a hug in thanksgiving - that was priceless!

Know that that hug was for all of you! They know now that we care! They know we are here for them - and we are here to stay!

With heartfelt joy, on behalf of the staff and students, I express my sincere gratitude to all of those who made these projects such a huge success! In the truest sense of the word, thank you - for in reality - you have gifted the Christ child - and allowed the Light of Christ to shine through you, and in you, and in our world this Christmas! May God continue to bless you with His abundant grace throughout the Christmas Season and the New Year!

YOUTH NEWS

1st RECONCILIATION - 1st COMMUNION

Sacramental Information Packets for Sacramental Prep have been mailed out to candidates. If you have not received a packet and you feel your child is eligible, please call Mrs. Jane Lirette 856-5488. Any parishioner that has a child in 2nd grade preparing for First Communion and First Reconciliation must return a completed registration form, copy of baptism certificate, and \$30.00 fee, no later than Monday, January 7, 2019.

There will be a mandatory meeting January 23, 2019 in the Youth Center at 6:30 p.m. We expect one parent to attend, but sincerely hope that both will attend this meeting.

Junior High Faith Experience 2019 "Illuminate"

6th – 8th Grade

Saturday, January 12, 2019

ED White Catholic High School

Regular Registration Deadline January 2nd

If you would like to attend or chaperone, please contact Gina Danos at (985)688-9696 or StFrancisHoumaYouthMinistry@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Houma is currently seeking a full-time Administrative Assistant to:

- Provide all administrative/clerical support to the parish of St. Francis de Sales Cathedral and to the Pastor
- Work collaboratively with the Diocesan Finance Office on all bookkeeping/accounting services
- Record all sacramental records and maintain parish census
- Meet with parishioners to schedule all sacraments and other needs
- Liaison with parish staff and other diocesan offices
- Communicate regularly with parishioners by creating up-to-date and accurate information in the weekly parish bulletin as well as electronically on the parish website and social media outlets, when necessary.

The ideal candidate must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Strong computer skills including MS Office software are required. Must possess strong organizational skills and be able to maintain confidentiality; work independently and as a team; and multi-task in a fast paced environment.

The candidate shall possess:

- Minimum education of high school or GED required;
- Associate or Bachelor's degree preferred
- 1-3 years of office experience preferred
- Knowledge of Roman Catholic Church and its Teachings preferred

The position will require a work schedule of 35 hours per week; Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm with an hour break for lunch. Excellent benefits and generous paid time off included. Salary will commensurate with experience and education.

Applications for consideration, please submit a cover letter, including salary requirements, and a resume to hr@htdiocese.org. Please include St. Francis de Sales in subject line. Applications are now being accepted until December 31, 2018 or until position is filled.

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against applicants or employees by reason of race, color, religion*, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, genetic information of any other basis prohibited by applicable law.

* The Diocese, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to require "practicing Catholic" to be a qualification for a position.

Grief Support

If you or someone you know is experiencing grief because of the loss of a loved one, we invite you to attend a grief support group entitled; "THE JOURNEY OF GRIEF". It is a 13 week session beginning Tuesday, January 8th 10:am at St. Eloi Church rectory meeting room, 1335 Bayou Dularge Rd, Theriot, LA 70397.

Facilitators are Deacon Glenn and Marilyn Porche. For registration, please call St. Eloi 985-872-2946

Catholic Charities is in dire need of volunteers to help prepare income tax returns for low income seniors, individuals and families. Only the simple tax forms are prepared & e-filed on IRS computer software – all other situations are referred to paid preparers. The income tax site is run on the second floor of the Terrebonne Main Library every Tuesday during tax season (February 5 – April 9) from 9am – 3pm. No prior tax experience is necessary – we will train you if needed. Please contact Jennifer Gaudet at 876-0490 if you can help out. Thank you!



RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH



Terrebonne Lafourche Right to Life will offer transportation to the annual Right to Life March in Baton Rouge, LA on Saturday, January 26, 2019 for a charge of \$10 per person. Time of departure is 7:30AM sharp from Vandebilt Catholic High School, and return is scheduled for approximately 3:00PM. Reserved seating before December 31, 2018 is required. Please see the flyer attached for more details about the trip and how to register.

MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Weekend of January 5-6

Commentators

4:00 PM Jude Fanguy
7:00 AM Ida Robichaux
9:00 AM James Watkins
11:00 AM Tommy Chauvin
5:30 PM Ginny Hamilton

Lectors

4:00 PM Yvonne Fanguy
7:00 AM Evelyn Ruckstuhl
9:00 AM Scott Hebert
11:00 AM Tommy Tabor
5:30 PM Jody Duet

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Brenda Tanner, Melva Fournier, Carl & Deborah Soudelier, Volunteer, Volunteer
7:00 AM John Breaux, C.J & Kay Stoufflet, Dolly Duplantis
9:00 AM Dale Norred, Holly Champagne, Michael Boudreaux, Tammy Blanchard, Volunteer, Volunteer
11:00 AM Carol Domangue, Norman Simon, Dianna Olivier, Rene & Julie Rhodes, Volunteer
5:30 PM Gina Danos, Randy Bethancourt, Cathy Duet, Melanie Babin, Volunteer, Volunteer

Altar Servers

4:00 PM Marley Johnson, Misha Johnson, Brady Hazleton
7:00 AM John Breaux, C.J. Stoufflet
9:00 AM Jordan Champagne, Delsin Blanchard, Lucia Pizzolato
11:00 AM Aubree Seely, Luryn Trosclair, Presley Theriot
5:30 PM Sadie Viator, Madeline Sonnier, Alexander Hernandez



DIOCESAN OUTREACH LINE

In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has made the following provision for anyone who has been hurt or sexually abused by anyone who works for the church. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has set up an Outreach Line for all victims/survivors of sexual abuse.

In continuing our commitment to support and healing, we invite and encourage people who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, to call our outreach line. The Outreach Line operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily Monday through Friday. A trained mental health professional responds to the line. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line telephone numbers are (985) 873-0026.