

# FAITH FORMATION

The readings for the 3rd Sunday of Advent this year are full of life. Isaiah tells us the desert will bloom. James encourages us to wait with patience. Jesus reminds us of the signs that God's kingdom is near. These words point us towards joy as they give strength to those who are tired or uncertain.

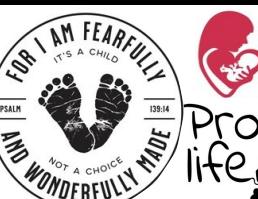
This Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, is also a reminder for us to look at the signs of God's presence in our own lives. Just as Jesus pointed to His works as signs of the Messiah, we too can see God's work around us. When we witness acts of kindness, healing, or forgiveness, we are seeing the same signs that Jesus spoke of. Take some time this week to talk with your family about ways you see God's promises being fulfilled in your lives. What are some ways that you and your family can spread joy to others, then pray together — Lord, help us to see the signs of Your presence in our lives. Give us patience as we wait for You and fill our heart with joy as we trust your promises. May we find hope in Your works and remain faithful in our journey toward heaven. Amen.

God Bless! BWM, DRE

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## Bible Quiz # 52

The Book of Judges (Chapters 6 to 10)  
DUE: Wednesday, December 17th



EMMANUEL  
HOPE  
WREATH  
CHRISTMAS  
ADVENT  
JESSE  
GREEN

SUNDAY  
MESSIAH  
BETHLEHEM  
EVERGREEN  
CELEBRATE  
ISAIAH  
ANGEL

GOD  
SAVIOR  
PREPARE  
LIGHT  
CANDLE  
CHRIST  
JESUS

# St. Bernadette Catholic Church

## Bayou Vista

### December 14, 2025



Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
(Closed for Lunch)

Physical Address:  
1112 Saturn Rd.  
(Bayou Vista)  
Morgan City, LA 70380

Contact Us:  
Ph: 985-395-2470 Fax: 985-395-6514  
Email: stbern@teche.net  
Website: www.stbern-bv.org  
Facebook: @StBernBayouVista



The Light is ON for You.

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

The light will be on for you  
Wednesday, December 17  
from 6:30—7:30 pm



God of joy, it is in Your love  
that we find lasting joy. Teach  
us to find joy in the gift of  
Your Son, Jesus, who came into  
this world with nothing. May  
His joy fill our hearts and  
overflow to all we encounter.  
Amen.



There will be NO Mass  
on Monday,  
December 15th



**Pastor**  
Rev. Thainese Alphonse  
Email: talphonse@diolaf.org

### Parish Staff

**Bookkeeper:** Lois Bosworth  
Mon. 8:30am - 3:30pm,  
Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30am - 12pm

**Secretary/DRE:** Becky W. Meranta  
Wed./Thurs. 8:30am - 3:30pm

**Church & Rectory House Keeper:**  
Melinda Frederick  
Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 12pm

### Sacraments

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Sat. 3:15 - 3:50pm; Sundays & weekdays  
20 min. before Mass.

### Sacrament of Baptism:

Contact the office to schedule a meeting with the pastor, at the parents' convenience, one month prior to the desired Baptism date. Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday after 10:30am Mass.

### Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples wishing to get married should call the office at least six months prior to the anticipated date of the wedding to begin the marriage preparation.

### Marriage annulment:

Contact the pastor for easy guidance.

### Anointing the Sick:

Call the office to schedule an appointment.

### Youth Faith Formation:

Wednesday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm

### Schedule of Holy Masses

**Weekends:**  
Saturday - Anticipated Mass - 4:00 pm  
Sunday - 7:30 am & 10:30 am  
**Weekdays:**  
Tuesday - Friday 12:10 pm

# MASS Intentions

Monday, Dec. 15th  
NO MASS

Tuesday, Dec. 16th  
12:10 pm

†Cheryl Breaux  
†Danny Peterson †John Ourso.

Wednesday, Dec. 17th  
12:10 pm  
†Souls in Purgatory.

Thursday, Dec. 18th  
12:10 pm  
†Danny Peterson †John Ourso

Friday, Dec. 19th  
12:10 am  
†Souls in Purgatory.



Melinda Frederick, Judy Tholen, Jude Duval, Gerald Hotard, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Daisy Roberts & Family, Don Campos, Alice Waguespack, Susan Legendre, Darryl Dimaggio, Alice Boudreault, Michael Silva, Ryan Arcemont, Karen Duhon, Maddi Duhon, Mynette Zimmer, Jane Mayo, Dalton Dupree, Lisa Morel, Mary Ann Lambert Adams, Elma Braus, Cherie Schlafte, Matt Braus, Nelwyn LaHoste, Jamie Huffman, Maria McGinnis, Sonya Meranta, Wilson Acosta, Sr., Steve Meranta, Kenny Meranta, JY & Elaine Mula, Audie Pete, Blaine St. Romain, Robert David, Jr., Robert Paul David, Gert Simoneaux, Kristi Wisdom, Juanita Prestenbach, Barbara Rivet, Bill Vincent, Judy Cornwell, Ella Ryker, Brenda Dawson, Mike Reed, Rhodes Family, Jaret Matte, Carl Written, Mary Liles, Jean Derise, Barry Clark, Ross Mire, Ina Miller, Greg Verret, Doug Pillsbury, Aubrey "Poochie" Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock, Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeanssone, Crue Hotard, Vanessa Solet, Dawn Spinella, Laila Claire Gardemal, Cynthia Athinson, Logan Gros, Ella Ryker, Special Intentions, Belinda Fabre Lee, Rosa Rosado, Armando Rosado, Glen Cormier, SJ Sampey, Ruby Breaux, Barbara D. Aucoin, Sarah Ford, Carlo Streva, Jr., Danny Barras, Lynn Rose Pete Allen, Lanny Theriot, Jim Turner, Kevin Cothron, Bill Ford, Sr., Lynette Rink, Emily Dupre, John Meir, Sheila Toups, Priscilla Hebert Sampey, EJ Landry, Dr. Keith Comeaux, Brent Driskill, Sharon Rulf Guidry, Wiley Magee, and Barbara Cothron.



The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes JOY with the "SHEPHERD'S CANDLE" reminding us of the joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. (Pink Candle)

The third candle is called the Shepherds Candle because the news of joy about the birth of Jesus Christ was first communicated to humble and sincere people. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

## St. Bernadette Church Offerings December 6-7, 2025

Offering.....\$4,383.00  
Insurance.....\$1,527.00  
Christmas Flowers.....\$1,190.00  
Thank you for your generosity!

**Saturday, December 20th**  
**Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm**

† NJ Hebert †Trey Smith †Jim Aloisio †Thomas Rivet, Jr  
Thomas Rivet III †Thomas Rivet IV †Ray LaHoste, Jr  
†Raymond LaHoste, Sr, †Clarence & Ella Walker  
†Mary Bernard Blanchard †Kenny & Jerri Guillot  
†Peggy & Albert Hebert †Red & Yvonne Anne Adams  
†Claire Torres Ingalls †Patricia & Donald Torres, Sr  
†Louis & Gailie Berthelot †Lois Granier †Whalen Kiffe  
†Murphy L. LeBlanc †Miranda Pennison †Kim Ordigne  
†Velma & Eldridge Williams †Curtis & Althea Verret  
†Marge Williams †Allen H. Duhon †Nadia Dykes  
†C.C. Dykes †Zip Deroche †Troy Landry  
†Tracey Peterson & John Ourso Families.

**Sunday, December 21st**

**7:30 am**

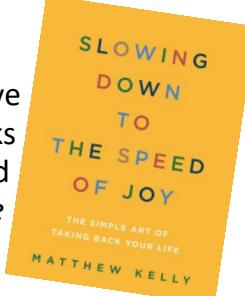
†Albert Solet †Luke Guillot †Maria & Ruben Trevino  
†Ruby & Roland Crappell.

**10:30 am**

†Rose Lipari †Ruth Wiggins †Terry Wiggins  
†Carlo Streva, Sr †Alice & Lester Waguespack  
†Roberta Duplantis Family †Don Lasseigne Family - Living & Deceased  
†Cherry Johnson Family - Living & Deceased  
†Scholler & McGinnis Families - Living & Deceased  
†Landry & Justilian Families - Living & Deceased  
†Cart & Romaine Families - Living & Deceased.

## Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy (Your Christmas Gift)

Every Christmas, our church offers a special gift to our parishioners. In the past, we have been blessed to share books such as *Holy Moments* and *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory*, thanks to the generosity of the *Ladies Altar Society*. This year, through their continued kindness and dedication to our community, we are delighted to present the book *Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy*. I am happy to offer a short summary of the book.



**Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy** is a brief and reflective work in which *Matthew Kelly* encourages readers to slow the pace of their lives so they can rediscover meaning, joy, and presence. His central message is clear: modern life is noisy, rushed, and fragmented—and unless we intentionally slow down, we risk missing what matters most.

The book highlights several key themes:

### The Power of Pause

Kelly urges us to build intentional pauses into our daily lives—moments of silence, reflection, and stillness that help us reconnect with ourselves, others, and God. Joy comes not from doing more, but from doing less with greater awareness.

### Choosing What Truly Matters

Much of our stress arises from saying yes to too many commitments. Kelly encourages pruning unnecessary obligations, simplifying routines, and focusing on people and activities that genuinely enrich our lives.

### Living with Purpose

Joy grows when we align our days with our deeper purpose. Slowing down gives us the mental space to ask important questions: *What kind of person am I becoming? What do I value?* Our daily choices should flow from these answers.

### The Gift of the Present Moment

Kelly reminds us that joy is often found in ordinary moments—conversations, nature, family, gratitude—if we are fully present. The book invites us to reclaim our attention from distractions and technology.

### Practical Practices:

He offers simple, daily habits such as:

- taking brief moments of silence
- reflecting on daily blessings
- limiting media consumption
- simplifying our goals
- protecting time for relationships

### Sabbath Opens Space for Joy

Kelly presents the Sabbath as an intentional rhythm of rest that helps us step away from busyness and return to what truly matters. Rather than a rule to follow, it is portrayed as a restorative gift—one that slows our inner pace and fosters presence with ourselves, others, and God. By letting go of constant productivity, we make room for joy, peace, and gratitude through simple and life-giving moments. Embracing Sabbath regularly nurtures a healthier, more grounded, and more joyful way of living.

Ultimately, the book teaches that joy is not something we chase; it is something we slow down enough to experience. By simplifying our lives, being present, and living with intention, we create the space for joy to naturally arise.

It is a timely book. Please read it and be blessed.

Merry Christmas.

**In the Service of the Lord,**

*fr. Thaineese Alphonse*

## Liturgical Ministries

Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min. of Comm.	Altar Servers
Sat. Dec. 20	4:00 pm	Michelle/ Paul Tholen	Michelle Tholen	Paul Tholen	
Sun. Dec. 21	7:30 am	Frances Bergeron	Jimmy Lemoine	_____	Parker L. Elijah
	10:30 am	Renee Garris	Cindy Viola	Renee Garris	Dylan Connor Koen
Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min of Comm.	Altar Servers
Christmas Eve Wednesday, Dec. 24th	4:00 pm	Judy Brannon	Kathleen Louviere	Kathleen Louviere	Rickey Dylan Connor
	8:00 pm	Carlo Streva, Jr	Madeline Guillot		Parker D. Logan Koen
Christmas Day Thursday, Dec. 25th	9:00 am	Paula Wiggins	Becky Meranta	Kim Meranta	Ethan