

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

Q J A P T F N T N E V D A E E K J
Z H T H J X E U U C W Z M I Q M F
S W G B S U P L D W H M H M G R G
D I V K N U A T D N A R H O C C L
L U E B E O W Z R N O Z I Q P R P
C I Z K E L D F U E A O P S E E B
H M I F R D Q E A P S C D E T E N
R Z Y V G D L S O N G H A I A S I
I C W M R B E T H L E H E M D V C
S R Y M E O E L E S U S E J N R E
T O A E V N S E R A P E R P E C L
M I D S E F S N A S A A J O E X E
A V N S W R E A T H N V V U R S B
S A U I B O J V G G N Z N T G O R
V S S A W V K E E D V Z A Z B L A
F V X H R K C L C I Y L P G O D T
I H M T B Y U V K G U L F H O Z E

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



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday
Dec. 24th
4:00 pm
8:00 pm

CHRISTMAS

Thursday,
Dec. 25th
9:00 am

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

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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.

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 & Girlie Berthelot †Lois Granier †Whalen Kiffe
†Murphy L. LeBlanc †Miranda Pennison †Kim Ordogne
†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

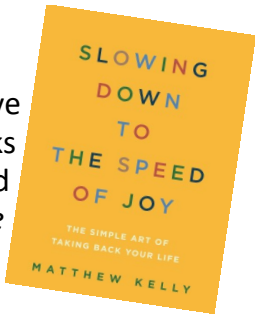
†Albert Solet †Luke Guillot †Maria & Ruben Trevino
†Ruby & Roland Crappell.

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. Thaisese Alphouse



Melinda Frederick, Judy Tholen, Jude Duval, Gerald Hotard, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Daisy Roberts & Family, Don Campos, Alice Waguespack, Susan Legendre, Darryl Dimaggio, Alice Boudreaux, Michael Silva, Ryan Arcemont, Karen Duhon, Maddi Duhon, Mynette Zimmer, Jane Mayo, Dalton Dupree, Lisa Morel, Mary Ann Lambert Adams, Elma Braus, Cherie Schlatve, 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 Denise, Barry Clark, Ross Mire, Ina Miller, Greg Verret, Doug Pillsbury, Aubry "Poochie" Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock, Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeansonne, 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 Touns, 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!

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