

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 4:00 PM**  
DOLORES DUFF  
GOOD HEALTH & SPECIAL INTENTIONS  
**SUNDAY DECEMBER 17 8:30 AM**  
VINCENT DUFF  
GOOD HEALTH & SPECIAL INTENTIONS  
11:00 AM  
+ FRANCES TONSMEIRE

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 19 8:00 AM**  
THE OLLIGER'S  
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS  
**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20 8:00 AM**  
JULIE MAGEE  
HEALTH & HEALING  
**THURSDAY DECEMBER 21 8:00 AM**  
+ DENNIS KEITH  
**FRIDAY DECEMBER 22 8:00 AM**  
KATE LADNIER  
HEALTH & HEALING  
**SATURDAY DECEMBER 23 4:00 PM**  
+ GENE BOUTRIES  
**SUNDAY DECEMBER 24 10:00 AM**  
+ BENDER SR

**3:30 PM**  
BEASLEY FAMILY  
SPECIAL INTENTIONS  
+ NICOLE SFRICARD  
+ SIDNEY DUFF & DODIE DUFF

**Collection details :**

12/03/2023

Candles \$ 22  
1st collection \$ 3943 2nd Collection \$ 298  
Immaculate Conception \$ 200 Flowers \$ 350  
**Total deposit \$ 4813**



KNIGHTS OF COLUBUS AND LADIES AUXILIARY #8740



In the beginning was the word...



Our Lady of Lourdes Liturgy



Bulkheads • Boathouses • Dredging • Boatlifts



CHRIS LOVVORN  
5958 Bayou Road  
Mobile, AL 36605

Home: 251.443.5671  
Cell: 251.331.4941  
chrislovvorn@bellsouth.net

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Fr. Prabhu A. will bring communion This Thursday of December, those communicants are encouraged to make confessions and receive communion.

**SHARE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS**

Christmas is a time of sharing and giving and it's a time of joy and it's a time of heaven coming from above to the earth to make it a place of heaven as God gave his only son into this world to redeem it and save it so May we also share what we have with others in the form of your gifts. So, you're requested to give your personalized cards and gifts to your priest Fr. Prabhu A and Deacon Ed Connick during this Christmas season.

**WEEKLY READINGS**

**Sunday 17** Is 61:1-2A, 10-11  
1 Thes 5:16-24  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28  
Third Sunday of Advent

**Monday 18** Jer 23:5-8  
Mt 1:18-25  
Monday of the Third Week of Advent

**Tuesday 19** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a  
Lk 1:5-25  
Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

**Wednesday 20** Is 7:10-14  
Lk 1:26-38  
Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

**Thursday 21** Sg 2:8-14  
Lk 1:39-45  
Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

**Friday 22** 1 Sm 1:24-28  
Lk 1:46-56  
Friday of the Third Week of Advent

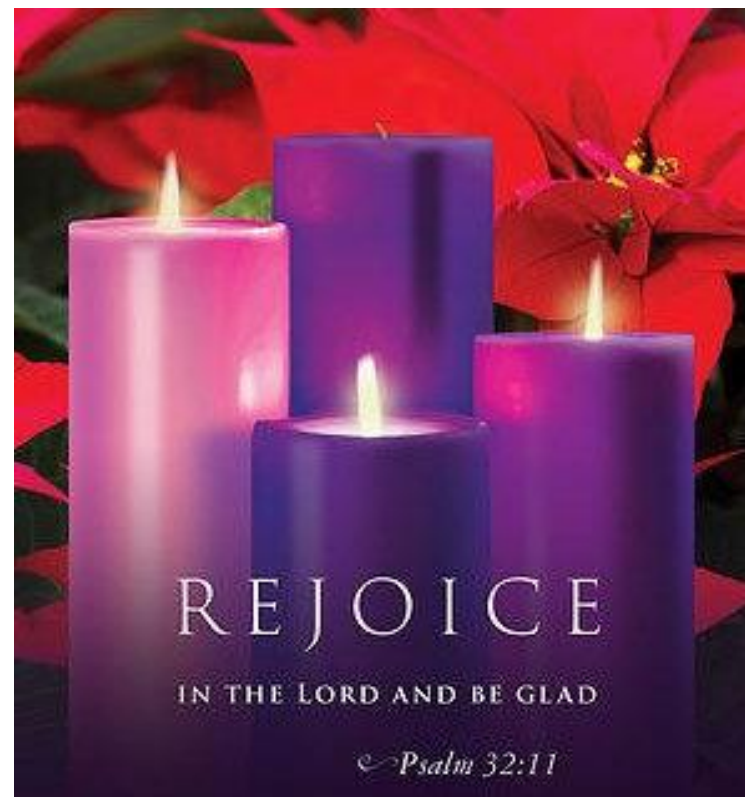
**Saturday 23** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Lk 1:57-66  
Saturday of the Third Week of Advent



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

Catholic Parish

REV. PRABHU AROCKIASAMY, PASTOR  
ED CONNICK, DEACON



December 17 2023  
Third Sunday of Advent

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION, SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND MASS SCHEDULES**

**SATURDAY 3:15PM**  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSION  
**3:30 PM** – HOLY ROSARY  
**4:00 PM** – HOLY MASS

**SUNDAY 8:00 AM** – EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
**8:30AM**– HOLY MASS  
**10:30 AM** – EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
**11:00AM**– HOLY MASS

**REGULAR WEEKDAYS MONDAY-COMMUNION SERVICE TUESDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 AM – HOLY**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2024 Tithing Envelopes are ready to pick up from the cry room, so please take your envelopes.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Mass Schedules**  
4th Sunday of Advent 12/24/2023 Only one Mass at 10:00am  
Christmas Eve mass 12/24/2023 Two Masses 3:30pm & 5:00pm  
Christmas Day Mass 12/25/2023 @ 9:00am

**New Year Mass Schedule**  
12/31/ 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 8:30 & 11:00am Masses  
12/31/2023 New Year Eve mass @ 3:30pm only one mass  
1/1/2024 New year day mass @ 9:00am

1621 Boykin Blvd  
Mobile, AL 36605 Church Email: ollparish@att.net  
Church Phone Number: 251-479-9885  
WWW.OURLADYOFLOURDESPARISH.COM  
**Office hours:**  
Monday : Office Closed Tuesday—  
Friday : 9AM to 1PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY : OFFICE CLOSED

Eastern Shore Medical Weight Loss

251-625-4030



**ENCYCLICAL LETTER FRATELLI TUTTI  
OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON FRATERNITY  
AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP**

**159.** “Popular” leaders, those capable of interpreting the feelings and cultural dynamics of a people, and significant trends in society, do exist. The service they provide by their efforts to unite and lead can become the basis of an enduring vision of transformation and growth that would also include making room for others in the pursuit of the common good. But this can degenerate into an unhealthy “populism” when individuals are able to exploit politically a people’s culture, under whatever ideological banner, for their own personal advantage or continuing grip on power. Or when, at other times, they seek popularity by appealing to the basest and most selfish inclinations of certain sectors of the population. This becomes all the more serious when, whether in cruder or more subtle forms, it leads to the usurpation of institutions and laws.

**Foot Note : Ibid., 196: AAS 107 (2015), 925.**

**160.** Closed populist groups distort the word “people”, since they are not talking about a true people. The concept of “people” is in fact open-ended. A living and dynamic people, a people with a future, is one constantly open to a new synthesis through its ability to welcome differences.

In this way, it does not deny its proper identity, but is open

to being mobilized, challenged, broadened and enriched by others, and thus to further growth and development.

**Foot Note : Ibid., 197: AAS 107 (2015), 925.**

**161.** Another sign of the decline of popular leadership is concern for short-term advantage. One meets popular demands for the sake of gaining votes or support, but without advancing in an arduous and constant effort to generate the resources people need to develop and earn a living by their own efforts and creativity. In this regard, I have made it clear that “I have no intention of proposing an irresponsible populism”. [133] Eliminating inequality requires an economic growth that can help to tap each region’s potential and thus guarantee a sustainable equality. [134] At the same time, it follows that “welfare projects, which meet certain urgent needs, should be considered merely temporary responses”. [135]

**Foot Note : Ibid., 181: AAS 107 (2015), 919.**

**162.** The biggest issue is employment. The truly “popular” thing – since it promotes the good of the people – is to provide everyone with the opportunity to nurture the seeds that God has planted in each of us: our talents, our initiative and our innate resources. This is the finest help we can give to the poor, the best path to a life of dignity. Hence my insistence that, “helping the poor financially must always be a provisional solution in the face of

pressing needs. The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work”. [136] Since production systems may change, political systems must keep working to structure society in such a way that everyone has a chance to contribute his or her own talents and efforts. For “there is no

poverty worse than that which takes away work and the dignity of work”. [137] In a genuinely developed society, work is an essential dimension of social life, for it is not only a means of earning one’s daily bread, but also of personal growth, the building of healthy relationships, self-expression and the exchange of gifts. Work gives us a sense of shared responsibility for the development of the world, and ultimately, for our life as a people.

**Foot Note : Ibid., 178: AAS 107 (2015), 918.**

**The benefits and limits of liberal approaches**

**163.** The concept of a “people”, which naturally entails a positive view of community and cultural bonds, is usually rejected by individualistic liberal approaches, which view society as merely the sum of coexisting interests. One speaks of respect for freedom, but without roots in a shared narrative; in certain contexts, those who defend the rights of the most vulnerable members of society tend to be criticized as populists. The notion of a people is considered an abstract construct, something

that does not really exist. But this is to create a needless dichotomy. Neither the notion of “people” nor that of “neighbour” can be considered purely abstract or romantic, in such a way that social organization, science and civic institutions can be rejected or treated with contempt. [138]

**Foot Note : PORTUGUESE BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE, Pastoral Letter Responsabilidade Solidária pelo Bem Comum (15 September 2003), 20; cf. Encyclical Letter Laudato Si’ (24 May 2015), 159: AAS 107 (2015), 911.**

**TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Christmas Decoratons:**

**21 December 2023 Flowers Delivered**

**22 December 2023 Christmas decorations after 8:00am mass. We need volunteers so please mark your calendars to come and help with Church decorations. (for more information: contact Mrs. Sallie Washington + 1(251)471-5096**

**Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Mobile Deanery : Fall board meeting on 24 January 2024; Venue: Catholic Social Service center, Located at 188 S. Florida Street @ 10:00am**

**Winter quarterly Meeting on 31, 2024: Venue: St. Joan of Arc Parish, 1260 Elmira Street, Mobile, Al 36604 Please make your reservations with Carlee Russell @ 252-533-4771 or carlee.russell@icloud.com Lunch : \$ 15 Meeting @ 9:45Am**

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, This Sunday’s Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John’s Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark’s Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John’s Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the “prologue.” This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus’ existence with God since the beginning of time. In John’s Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world’s darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John’s Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John’s denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John’s response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus’ presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will

continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day. The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means “rejoice,” is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday’s Mass. This theme is echoed in today’s second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians.

It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit—  
Amen

Rev. Prabhu Arockiasamy

**Announcements**

**Income, Expense & Profit for benefit night will be soon enlisted in the bulletin. Thanks for your Patience.**

**Christmas flower envelopes are on the pews, please take and contribute to cover the cost for flower expenses.**

**PRAYER LIST**

Anita Barclay, Campbell Berger, Katherine Berger, Bethany Ann Boltz, Roy Williams, Logan Bowers, Jerry Boyes, Patrick Webb Brownlie-Carey, Noli Causay, Teresa Coleman, Lee Cooley, Peter Cooley, Anita Cowart, Anne Davidson, Daniel Dorriety, Marquitta Dukes, Dodie Dumas, Louise Frontz, Janet Gafford, Tony Golemon, Mary Ann Keith, Dennis Keith, Liz Kilborn, Edward Kimbrough, Debora Klaus, Steven Kuszynski, Shirley Lacy, Michael Langan, Alfred Leonard, Margie Lord, Rodney Lundy, Mary McKeough, Patricia McRoy, Craig Miley, Archie Moore, Elaine Moore, Wally, Tiffany Neese, Darlene O'Rourke, Alex Paneda, Lita Paneda, Scott Peck, Ursula Quintana, Kaitlyn Reynolds, Simon Schindler, Snow, Mandy Spotswood, Curtis Steiner, Rita Steiner, Todd Stringfellow, Barbara Thomas, Tillman, Tyler Upton, Rudy Visperas, Melanie Wacker, Albert Washington, Heather Washington, Darlene Watson, Lou Watt, Brad Wells, Bubba Williams, Bobby Zarate, Diane Little, Joyce Ladnier, Roy Still, William Patrick A, Fred L. Lorge, Joan A. Lorge, Barbara Smith, Frank Seltzer, Dennis Cottrell, Pete, Sam Barksdale, Joey Murphy, Chuck Simmons, Damian Turk, John O'Conner, Fr. Francis J. Sofie Jr, Megan, Stephen Wiese, Matthew wiese, Raymond Floyes, Kay K Shaw, Lloyd J. Thompson, Ruby P Thompson, George E. Merren, Jr, Flora Decker, Mary Ann Fletcher, Pat McKeough, Mathew Wilson, Eddie Booth Jr, Helen Bender, Paige Ellis, Eunice Miles, Gloria Leslie, Diana Holifield, Bea Burton, Janet & John Frazier, Henry Hoven, Mark Westbrook, Ronnie Hudson, Jewanda Taylor Jowe, Nicholas Balch, Jean Stanley, Colleen O'Rourke, Perry Hockaday, David Curtis, Kristi D Young, Beth Kenny, Chad Gorlett, Ted Beasley, Angie Beasley, Mark Tranier, Barbara Tranier & Linda Davis

**MASS OPENING**

**December 31 2023—8:30am**

**Opening**

**January 7 2024—Opening**

**January 9 2024—Opening**

**January 10 2024 —Opening**

**January 11 2024—Opening**

**January 12 2024—Opening**

**January 13 2024—Opening**