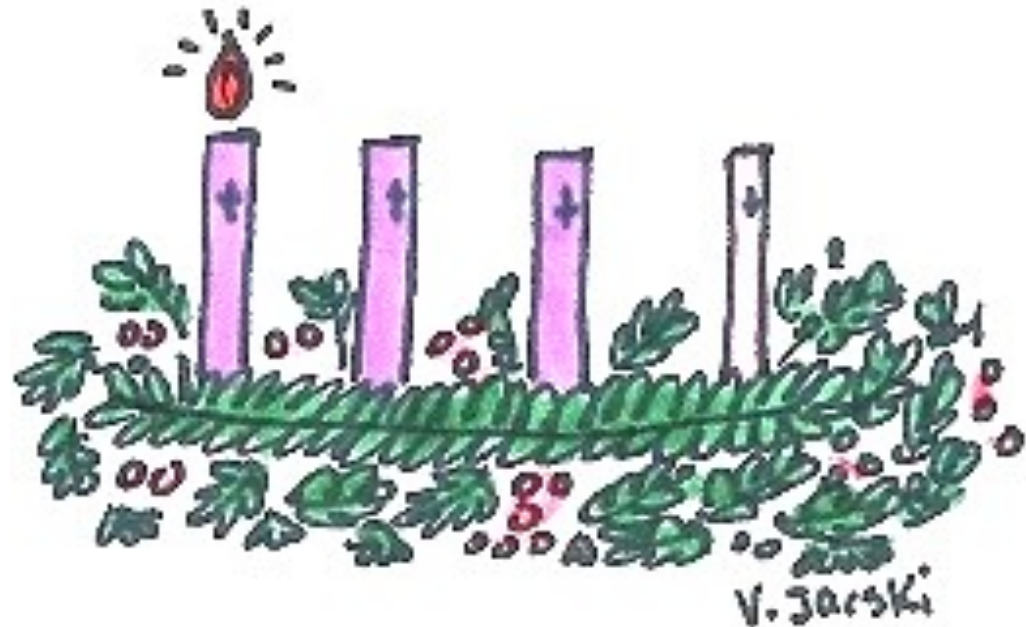


First Sunday of

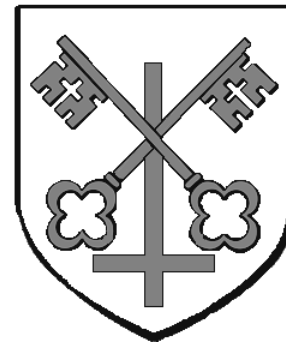
ADVENT



Keep the sick and healing of our community in your prayers:

Carrie Belaire, Bruce Fruge, John D. Istre, Gracie Zaunbrecher, Curt Simon, Anita Broussard, Randy Benoit, Hubert Suire, Billy Portie, Sidonia Primeaux, Christine Campbell, Wilson & Willie Mae LeJeune, Beth Branson, Gail Smith, Tammy Broussard Cormier, Ruston Weekly, Macey Vallo, Cookie Smith, Irene Simon, Terri Guillette McBride, Julie Delgado, W.J. Jr, W.J. III, Karine, Margaret, Lance, Landon, & Raven Jollivette, Dexter & Sidney Harris, Nia Ned, Roland, Juanette, Alva Jane Richard, Kade Babineaux, Tonya Lougon, Ronald Bertrand, Dexter Harris, Kylee Ned, Wade Davis, Tina Boudreaux, Larry Geater, Ken Daugereau, Bobby dePerrodil, Tabby Broussard Benoit, DFL, Carol Badon, Tina Breaux, Roland Marceaux, Tammi Marceaux, JoAnn Martin, Marilyn Roche, Floyd Saltzman, Dolores Benoit, Ronnie M. Lemaire, Cade Guidry, Susan B. LeJeune, Wesley & Harley LeMaire, Lori Touchet, Juanita Ardoin, Dru Cormier, Kim Benoit Pesson, Daisy Mier, Harold Matthews, Kayla Heglemeyer.

Think, O God, of our friends who are ill, whom we now commend to Your compassionate regard. Comfort them upon their sickbed, and ease their suffering. We beg for deliverance, and submit that no healing is too hard for the Lord, if it be His will. We therefore pray that You bless our friends with Your loving care, renew their strength, and heal what ails them in Your loving name. Thank You, Lord.



Holy Mass Schedule

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday	Noon
Thursday	5:15 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m.
(Gueydan Guest Home)	
Saturday	4:00 p.m.
Sunday	7:00 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.
St. David	8:30 a.m.

Confession:

Saturday 2:45-3:45 p.m. & 30 minutes before all other Masses or by appointment.

Baptism:

Arrangements made by the parents with the Pastor. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics.

Marriage

Arrangements made by the couple with the pastor no less than 6 months before desired date.

Anointing:

Emergency calls are answered immediately; call office for Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick at home or in a hospital.

Office Hours:

Monday: Closed
Tues-Thurs 8am-3pm
Friday-8 am-Noon
Lunch: Noon- 1pm

Saint Peter the Apostle Catholic Church

603 Main Street - (P.O. Box 28) - Gueydan, La. 70542

337-536-9258

saintpeterchurch.org

Rev. Fr. Corey Campeaux-Pastor

December 3, 2017 First Sunday in Advent

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Is a Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times are as follows:

December 7, 5:30 p.m @ St. David Chapel

December 8, 6:30 a.m. @ St. Peter's
9:00 a.m @ Gueydan Memorial Guest home

6:00 p.m. at St. Peter's

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

The Catholic Daughters will be having their annual Christmas Fundraiser to help the elderly with utilities. Christmas trees with envelopes will be at entrance of church. Envelopes are to be dropped in boxes provided during week-end masses.

**ADVENT MISSION
DECEMBER 11, 12 & 13
6:30 P.M. ST. PETER CHURCH**

PRAYER FOR SEMINARIANS

O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, I pray that you call many worthy souls to your holy priesthood. Enlighten the Bishop and Vocation Director in the choice of candidates, the Spiritual Directors in molding them, and the professors in instructing them. Lead the seminarians daily in your unerring footsteps, so that they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom, and heroes of sacrifice. May they be steeped in humility and aflame with love for God and man, apostles of your glory, and sanctifiers of souls. Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us. Amen

- December 3 Seth Lemaire
- 4 Joseph Marcantel
- 5 Riley Maturin
- 6 Scott Mitchell
- 7 Rev. Mr. Stephen Pellessier
- 8 Reverend Mr. Ben Pitre
- 9 Connor Poirrier

Offerings of the Past Week: St. Peter Church St. David's Chapel
First Collection \$ 1813.43 \$ 622.00

Second collection this week-end is for the church loan.

<p>Perpetual Adoration</p> <p>Let us love being with the Lord! There we can speak with Him about everything. We can offer Him our petitions, our concerns, our troubles, our joys, our gratitude, our disappointments, our needs, and our aspirations. Above all we can remember to pray! "Lord send laborers into Your Harvest! Help me to be a good worker in Your vineyard!"</p>	Adorers needed for:	
	Monday	3:00 p.m.
	Tuesday	9:00 p.m.
	Wednesday	2:00 p.m.
	Thursday	3:00 p.m.
	Friday	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
Please call church office at 536-9258 to commit spending an hour with the Lord.		

"You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?" -Isaiah 63:16b

As we begin the holy season of Advent, the readings speak well of our position. The prophet Isaiah laments for the people. The people of Israel have not heeded the Lord, and I imagine he feels pretty alone. Instead of despair, Isaiah pours his heart out before the Lord. "Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage" (Is 63:17). In doing so, Isaiah reminds us that salvation comes from a relationship with God. If you refuse a relationship with God, you refuse salvation. God allows us our passion. We think that these are God's plan, but they lead us into difficulty. These difficulties can lead us back to God. The holy season of Advent is a time when turn our faces to God and actively hope for the saving help he promised.

Here is my observation about the culture in general today. I find that we live in a world without love and a world which has no hope. We are in a world with many promising prospects, but which never turn out the way in which we hoped they would. The result is feeling flat like there is no hope or this is as good as it gets. Faith tells me that God allows this so that we can see the utter folly of our ways. Our way profits us nothing. Those who have realized the nothingness of the world and come through it to a life of faith understand our situation better. There are many who are examples of this. One is the founder of the Mission for the Love of God, John Rick Miller. He was a man who lived for this world until God acted in his life and he (and this world) was changed forever.

The essence of Christian hope is in God. It does not come from ANY thing in this world. We do not rejoice eternally for tax reform. We do not exercise overwhelming hope because 'our man' is in office. Real hope comes from God and persists even when the chips are down. What can we see as the reason for our hope? Nothing except what the light of faith reveals. John Rick Miller once said that if you work on a very high level in the corporate world, there will come a point that you cannot look at yourself in the mirror because of the choices you have to make. He was speaking of his own life. Imagine not being able to live with yourself. What hope is there to escape this feeling? None if you live by the world. Another Christian who shared a similar testimony was living a Godly life and was unaware of the less than savory business practices in his company. When he discovered them, he was told, "We tried to keep this from you because we know you were a faithful man, but now that you know, this is the price of business." What hope is there for such a person? None by the world. What then is our hope?

John Rick Miller has described the moment of his conversion in this way. Mary spoke to his heart, "My son, have you had enough?" Are you ready to come home?" His heart was turned back to God. I don't think he ever described to me the time after his conversion. I imagine it was full of hope which he could not comprehend. The effect is observable though. He began to follow a path of conversion which ended in the founding of the Mission for the Love of God. Faith and hope put into practice are the way God blesses the world.

To live 'in advent' of the Lord is to acknowledge our sinfulness and to recognize our only true hope is in him. It is one and the same time recognizing our poor estate and remembering God's promise to us. "Take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted" (Psalm 80:16). There is no quick way to achieve this. What I recommend to you is look around you and look at yourself. Recognize what the efforts of men (including our own) has provided us. Remember also the things we have been told of God. "We heard with our own ears, O God;/ our forebears have declared to us/ the things you did in their days./ you yourself, in days long ago." Advent is expressing in ourselves the hope that God will do for us the things that he did of old. We have to put this hope into action. First in the expression of our prayer, then in other ways. Mary is the perfect example of this Advent waiting, the 'star of the sea which leads us home. I will leave you with the words of the Advent Marian Antiphon from Night Prayer.

Holy mother of our Redeemer, thou gate leading to heaven and star of the sea; help the falling people who seek to rise, thou who, all nature wondering, didst give birth to thy holy Creator. Virgin always, hearing the greeting from Gabriel's lips, take pity on sinners. -*Alma Redemptoris Mater* trans. Rev. Adrian Fortescue, 1913