

What do the Saints Say?

JEROME. In this word Woe, these towns of Galilee are mourned for by the Savior, that after so many signs and mighty works, they had not done penitence.

RABANUS. Corozaim, which is interpreted 'my mystery,' and Bethsaida, 'the house of fruits' or, 'the house of hunters,' are towns of Galilee situated on the shore of the sea of Galilee. The Lord therefore mourns for towns which once had the mystery of God, and which ought to have brought forth the fruit of virtues, and into which spiritual hunters had been sent.

JEROME. And to these are preferred Tyre and Sidon, cities given up to idolatry and vices; *For if the mighty works which have been done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have long ago done penitence in sackcloth and ashes.*

GREGORY. In *sackcloth* is the roughness which denotes the pricking of the conscience for sin, *ashes* denote the dust of the dead; and both are wont to be employed in penitence, that the pricking of the sackcloth may remind us of our sins, and the dust of the ash may cause us to reflect what we have become by judgment.

RABANUS. Tyre and Sidon are cities of Phœnicia. Tyre is interpreted 'narrowness,' and Sidon 'hunting;' and denote the Gentiles whom the Devil as a hunter drives into the straits of sin; but Jesus the Saviour sets them free by the Gospel.

JEROME. We ask where it is written that the Lord did wonders in Corozaim and Bethsaida? We read above, *And he went about the towns and villages, healing all sicknesses, &c.* (ch., 9:35.) among the rest, therefore, we may suppose that He wrought signs in Corozaim and Bethsaida.

AUGUSTINE. It is not then true that His Gospel was not preached in those times and places, in which He foreknew that all would be such, as were many in His actual presence, who would not even believe on Him when He raised men from the dead. For the Lord Himself bears witness that they of Tyre and Sidon would have done penitence in great humility, had the wonders of the Divine power been done in them. Moreover, if the dead are judged according to those deeds which they would have done had they lived, then because these would have believed had the Gospel been preached to them with so great miracles, surely they should not be punished at all, and yet in the day of judgment they shall be punished; for it follows, *But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment, than for you.* Those then shall be punished with more, these with less severity.

JEROME. This is because Tyre and Sidon had trodden under foot the law of nature only, but these towns after they had transgressed the natural and the written Law, also made light of those wonders which had been wrought among them.

RABANUS. We at this day see the words of the Savior fulfilled; Corozaim and Bethsaida would not believe when the Lord came to them in person; but Tyre and Sidon have afterwards believed on the preaching of the Apostles.

REMIGIUS. Capharnaum was the metropolis of Galilee, and a noted town of that province, and therefore the Lord mentions it particularly, saying, *And thou, Capharnaum, shalt thou indeed be exalted to heaven. Thou shalt go down even to hell.*

CHRYSOSTOM. This makes the accusation heavier, for it is a proof of extreme wickedness, that they are worse, not only than any then living, but than the wickedest of all past time.

JEROME. In Capharnaum, which is interpreted 'the most fair town,' Jerusalem is condemned, to which it is said by Ezekiel, *Sodom is justified by thee.* (Ezek. 16:52)

JEROME. The careful reader will hesitate here; If Tyre and Sidon could have done penitence at the preaching of the Savior, and His miracles, they are not in fault that they believed not; the sin is his who would not preach to bring them to penitence. To this there is a ready answer, that we know not God's judgments, and are ignorant of the sacraments of His peculiar dispensations. It was determined by the Lord not to pass the borders of Judæa, that He might not give the Pharisees and Priests a just occasion of persecuting Him, as also He gave commandment to the Apostles, *Go not into the way of the Gentiles.* Corozaim and Bethsaida are condemned because they would not believe, though Christ Himself was among them—Tyre and Sidon are justified, because they believed His Apostles. You should not enquire into times when you see the salvation of those that believe.

AUGUSTINE. Luke also gives this as spoken in continuation of some other of the Lord's discourses; from which it appears that he has rather followed the actual order of events; Matthew to have followed his recollection. Or the words of Matthew, *Then began he to upbraid the towns,* must be taken, as some think, as expressing some particular time by the word *then*, but not referring generally to that time in which the many other things here told were done and said. Whoever, therefore, thinks thus must suppose that this was spoken twice. And when we find in the same Evangelist some things spoken by the Lord at two different times—like that in Luke concerning the not taking a scrip for their journey,—what wonder is it if anything else, which was twice spoken, is found once severally in two several Gospels in the actual connection in which it was spoken, which connection is different, because they are two different occasions on which it is related to have been spoken?

Merry Christmas Saints Edition

BEDE. As men who were truly watching, they said not, *Let us see (the child; but) the word* which has come to pass, i. e. the Word which was from the beginning, let us see how it has been made flesh for us. since this very Word is the Lord. For it follows, *Which the Lord hath made, and has shown to us;* i. e. Let us see how the Lord hath made Himself, and hath shown His flesh to us.

AMBROSE. How remarkably Scripture weighs the import of each word. For when we behold the flesh of the Lord, we behold the Word, which is the Son. Let not this seem to you a slight example of faith, because of the humble character of the shepherds. For simplicity is sought for, not pride. It follows, *And they came in haste.* For no one indolently seeks after Christ.

ORIGEN. But because they came in haste, and not with loitering steps, it follows, *They found Mary,* (i. e. her who had brought Jesus into the world,) *and Joseph,* (i. e. the guardian of our Lord's birth,) *and the babe lying in the manger,* (i. e. the Savior Himself.)

BEDE. It seems to succeed in due order, that after having rightly celebrated the incarnation of the Word, we should at length come to behold the actual glory of that Word. Hence it follows: *But when they saw it, they made known the word which had been spoken to them.*

PHOTIUS. Beholding with hidden faith indeed the happy events which had been told them, and not content with marveling at the reality of those things which at the very first they saw and embraced when the Angel told them, they began to relate them not only to Mary and Joseph, but to the others also, (and what is more they impressed them on their minds,) as it follows, *And all who heard it marveled.* For how could it be otherwise, at the sight of one of the heavenly host upon earth, and earth in peace reconciled to heaven; and that ineffable Child binding together in one, by His divinity, heavenly things, by His humanity, earthly things, and by this conjunction of Himself effecting a wonderful union!

AMBROSE. Esteem not the words of the shepherds as mean and despicable. For from the shepherds Mary increases her faith, as it follows: *Mary kept all these sayings, and pondered them in her heart.* Let us learn the chastity of the sacred Virgin in all things, who no less chaste in her words than in her body, gathered up in her heart the materials of faith.

BEDE. For keeping the laws of virgin modesty, she who had known the secrets of Christ would divulge them to no one, but comparing what she had read in prophecy with what she now acknowledged to have taken place, she did not utter them with the mouth, but preserved them shut up in her heart.

ATHANASIUS. But everyone rejoiced in the nativity of Christ, not with human feelings, as men are wont to rejoice when a son is born, but at the presence of Christ and the luster of the Divine light. As it follows: *And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard, &c.*

BEDE. That is to say, from the Angels, and had seen, i. e. in Bethlehem, as it was told them, i. e. they glory in this, that when they came they found it even as it was told them, or as it was told them they give praise and glory to God. For this they were told by the Angels to do, not in very word commanding them, but setting before them the form of devotion when they sung glory to God in the highest.

BEDE. To speak in a mystery, let the shepherds of spiritual flocks, (nay, all the faithful,) after the example of these shepherds, go in thought even to Bethlehem, and celebrate the incarnation of Christ with due honours. Let us go indeed casting aside all fleshly lusts, with the whole desire of the mind even to the heavenly Bethlehem, (i. e. the house of the living bread,) that He whom they saw crying in the manger we may deserve to see reigning on the throne of His Father. And such bliss as this is not to be sought for with sloth and idleness, but with eagerness must we follow the footsteps of Christ. When they saw Him they knew Him; and let us haste to embrace in the fulness of our love those things which were spoken of our Saviour, that When the time shall come that we shall see with perfect knowledge we may be able to comprehend them.

BEDE. Again, the shepherds of the Lord's flock by contemplating the life of the fathers who went before them, (which preserved the bread of life,) enter as it were the gates of Bethlehem, and find therein none other than the virgin beauty of the Church, that is, Mary; the manly company of spiritual doctors, that is, Joseph; and the lowly coming of Christ contained in the pages of Holy Scripture, that is, the infant child Christ, laid in the manger.

BEDE. The shepherds did not hide in silence what they knew, because to this end have the Shepherds of the Church been ordained, that what they have learned in the Scriptures they might explain to their hearers.

BEDE. The masters of the spiritual flocks also, while others sleep, at one time by contemplation enter into the heavenly places, at another time pass around them by seeking the examples of the faithful, at another time by teaching return to the public duties of the pastoral office.

BEDE. Every one of us, even he who is supposed to live as a private person, exercises the office of shepherd, if, keeping together a multitude of good actions and pure thoughts, he strive to rule them with due moderation, to feed them with the food of the Scriptures, and to preserve them against the snares of the devil.



MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of December 24, 2019 –December 29, 2019

Tuesday, December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

4:00 pm

*Parishioners of St. Ann, Rev. Guy Zeringue, Rhea P. Voisin & Eddie Voisin Jr.,
Rai & Thaddeus Pellegrin, Clinton & Wilma Picou, Jerry & Betty Bascle
Erous, Eric, Omer & Clarice Eschete, Wilson & Julien Sevin, Floyd & Maybelle Songe
Carmen, Ann & Michael Boquet, Harris Ledet, Roland, Paul, & Eula Mae Rodrigue
Cindy R. Broussard, Bourg & Rogers family, Frank Rogers family, Neva & Bill Morris,
Clintoin & Wilma Picou, Keri Lynn Niette, Fr. Gregory Boquet, Fr. Shenan Boquet,
Fr. Ty, Fr. Joey Lirette, Dcn. Timmy White, Dcn. Steve Brunet, Dcn. Chris Prestenback,
Alton Neil, Claude Triche, Dcn. Gerald Belanger, Matthew Prosperie, Fr. Cody Chatagnier,
Gina Babin Pellegrin, Katie Pellegrin Lambert, Fr. Alex Gaudet, Marie Eschete,
George Derrington, Antoine & Manella Verrett, Henry & Hazel Eschete, Mark Triche,
Dolores Viteaux, Linda Whipple Schouest, Maxine Christoffersen, Clarice & Bobby LeBlanc,
Odette & FW Schouest, Benjamin & Josephine LeBlanc, Shara & Dean Ramsier, Nicholas Nutter,
Julian Bourg, Geveva & Scott Marcel, Roy & Dean Hunter, Lee Lapeyrouse Sr., Cy Ledet, Alvin Thelma,
Wade, Melvin & Dennis Ledet, Faye & Thomas Rogers, Nora & Ernest White, Cele Fabre, Waldron,
Arthur & Modess Lapeyrouse, Gustave, Doris, Elmer & Earl Bergeron, Louis & Eula Mae Hebert,
Billie F. Pellegrin(DA), Caroline Lirette, Barry Aucoin Sr., Evan Aucoin, Boquet & Naquin family,
Loyd Savin, Kerry Lapeyrouse, Horace & Camille Boquet & sons, Kerry Lapeyrouse, William P. Leonard*

6:00 p.m.

*Eldred & MayBelle Ellender, Keri Lynn Niette, Herbert, Celina, Joyce,
Deborah & Ronald Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont, Ramos & Coralie Hornsby,
Jimmie & Virgie Prosperie, George Wiley Spruill, Brad Michael Falgout,
Eula & Gustave Pellegrin & family, Mildred & Clifton Dupre & family, Floyd & Maybelle Songe
Dylan Rousseau, Milton Babin, Rose Authement, Kerry Lapeyrouse, Douglas Hutchinson*

10 P.M.(Midnight Mass)

Ronnie & Connie Ard, Douglas Hutchinson, Floyd & Maybelle Songe

Wednesday, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

*Parishioners of St. Ann, Rhea P. Voisin & Eddie Voisin Jr., Roland, Paul, & Eula Mae Rodrigue,
Cindy R. Broussard, Macon Bascle family, Remy Reulet family, Mark & Billy Pellegrin, Keri Lynn Niette,
William & Rita Leonard Sr, Steve & Julie LeBouef, Carold Leonard, Alton & Gladys LeCompte,
Linda Whipple Schouest, Loretta & David Pellegrin, Rita & Tony Battaglia, Maxine Christoffersen
L.J Verdin, Elta Billiot, Evence & Jeanne Verdin, L.J. & Barbara Forest
Roland & Gloria Henry, Morgan & Flossie Chauvin, Elliot H. Crochet, Floyd & Maybelle Songe*

*Chubby Chauvin, Boquet, Rhodes, Lecompte & Chauvin family
Geraldine Donaldson & Dorina Dupuis, Clarence & Ella Scott
Beldon & Emsy Foret & sons, Ruben & Cecile Trosclair & family, Lawrence Dupre*

8:00 A.M. -Thursday December 26

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Randy & Ken

8:00 A.M -Friday, December 27

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Wayne Romero Jr. & family

4:00 P.M. Saturday, December 28

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

*Parishioners of St. Ann, Eldred & MayBelle Ellender Jerry & Matthew Arceneaux,
Keri Lynn Niette, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Clinton & Wilma Picou, Dolores Viteaux
Cynthia Charpentier, Melvin Hebert, Cecil Fabre
David & Melissa Lirette (WA), Barry Aucoin Sr., Evan Aucoin, Loyd Savin
Kerry Lapeyrouse, Abel Adams*

8:00 A.M. - Sunday, December 29

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

*Parishioners of St. Ann, Lawrence & Eula Mazerac Sue Bueche, Mary Eve & Vayne Bascle,
Lionel Bascle family, Arthe' Breaux family, Arthur Lee Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fabre,
Mr. & Mrs. Irby Petit, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Michael Falgout, Vin & Joyce LeBlanc family,
Gilbert & Rita Bergeron family, Sterling & Mary Ellen Authement, Sterling Authement Jr.,
Mark & Randy Naquin, Marion & Irma Bascle, Norman & Eunice Falgout, Eugene & Leona Theriot,
Israel & Mae Authement, Tel Meeker, Larry Falgout, Dean & Dot Bascle, David & Iris Bascle, Tessa Dupre,
Allen Theriot, Craig Dupre, Butch, Eugene Theriot Jr., Earline Theriot, David Percle, Francis & Iris Theriot,
Patricia Grabert, Becky Gautreaux, Phillip Theriot, David Massey, Jenna Theriot,
Norman Falgout Jr., Chris Boudreaux, James Bergeron, Margie & Elton Thibodaux, Paul Jackson,
Angela Authement, Meva Blanchard, C.J. Authement, Kymber Pellegrin, Rusty & Chris Authement (B)
Clyde Pitre, Clyde, Elizabeth & Curtis Lirette, Matthew & David Naquin Sr,
Andrew Sr., Edna, Elie, Morris, Bruce Pitre, Special intention, Marie Gaston, Ernestine Pitre
Andrew Pitre Jr., Barry Aucoin Sr., Evan Aucoin, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery,
Veronica Trahan, Terry Lirette, Amelie Thibodaux, Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., Ann Hebert, A.J. Theriot
Brad Michael Falgout, Wanda Aucoin*

10:00A.M. – Sunday, December 29

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

*Parishioners of St. Ann, Herbert, Celina, Joyce, Deborah & Ronald Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont
Living & Deceased Members of the Naquin, LaJaunie, LeBoeuf & Lapeyrouse Families,
Maxine Christoffersen, Barry Aucoin Sr., Evan Aucoin*

6:30 P.M.-Sunday, December 29

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

*Parishioners of St. Ann, E.J. Olivier, Scott & Donaldson & family
Douglas Hutchinson*

MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22 2019

The Sanctuary Light burns this week in memory of *Mark & Billy Pellegrin* requested by Randolph & Kathie Bascle.
The Altar Bread is in memory of *Michael, Ruby, Merlin Bascle, L.E. & Gussie Fletcher* requested by Dickie & Sharon Bascle.
The Altar Wine is in memory of *Cele Fabre* requested by the family.
The Altar Candles are in memory of *Clarice & Bobby LeBlanc, Alvin & Thelma Ledet, Kerry & Lee Lapeyrouse Sr.*
requested by Stacey, Heidi, Louis & Tyler.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 14 & 15: Envelopes: \$+ Loose:\$ + \$547.16 (Online giving)

Thank you for your generosity!

MASSES	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	COMMENTATOR/ LECTOR	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
<u>December 28 & 29</u>				
<u>SATURDAY</u>				
4:00P.M.	Sue R, Steve R, June P, Yvonne W	Randolph B, Connie N	Isabella, Rebecca	Ollie, Jan Dave
<u>SUNDAY</u>				
8:00A.M	Patsy E, Adrian M, Tim, Mona M.,	Christine R, Nick P	Lucas	Numa
10:00A.M.	Melissa L, Johnnie O, Gerald, Melody A.	David L, Connie D.	Gavin	Joseph, Kenneth
6:30 p.m.	Brett G, Hayes B, Ashley D	Lisa R, Amanda R.		

