


MASS INTENTIONS	
Sat, Dec 20.....	For the people
Sun, Dec 21.....	+ Sherry Hankins & Joshua Hankins
Tue, Dec 23.....	+ Sharon Girouard
Wed, Dec 24.....	Special Intention
Wed, Dec 24	For the people
Thu, Dec 25.....	For the people
Fri, Dec 26.....	No Mass Today

IN OUR PARISH

OCIA Dec 21, Rite for Entrance/ Welcoming Mass. Sessions will pick up Jan 6, 2026.

CHRISTMAS PLAY : Dec 21 at Blessed Seelos—3pm and Dec 22 at St. Michael—6pm. You are invited to enjoy a beautiful retelling of the birth of our Lord.

ENVELOPES: 2026 Collection envelopes will be in the vestibule. Please find your name on the list and the coordinating box from your previous year and initial that you have picked them up. If you want to get a box for the first time, please print neatly on the blank line of t he list next to the box number you grab. Any that are not claimed will be up available for redistribution the first week of January.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES can be picked up from the back. Please print your loved ones’ names clearly in the space provided. Return your envelope in the collection basket or to the church office. We appreciate your contribution toward the flowers for our church at Christmas.

2026 YEARLY CALENDARS are available in the vestibule. Your support is always accepted.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026: Juniors and Seniors requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring and a parent/guardian will meet Sun, Jan 4, at 6:40 pm at Nativity BVM Cathedral’s Sacred Heart Center in the Youth Ministry room. Please contact Mrs. Kristy Arguelles, (228)324-9934 with questions or concerns.

SVDP: The pantry will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve and will reopen the following Wednesday, January 7.

PREVIOUS WEEK’S COLLECTION BASKETS	
Dec 13 & 14.....	\$5091
UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS	
Dec 20 & 21.....	Loaves & Fishes

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Mon Dec 22	1 Sm 1:24-28, 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8d, Lk 1:46-56
Tue Dec 23	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24, Lk 1:57-66
Wed Dec 24	Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16, Lk 1:67-79 Is 62:1-5, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25, Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Thu Dec 25	Is 62:11-12, Lk 2:15-20
Fri Dec 26	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59, Mt 10:17-22

MINISTRIES: God is calling YOU. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters! Prayerfully consider God’s calling to serve your St. Michael Family. Call 228.435.5578 or email stmichaelccbiloxi@gmail.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The SVDP provides a food pantry each Wednesday from 10—11 am. We value your time and your donations! Your continued support helps to ensure SVdP is able to provide support for those in need. There is a basket in the vestibule for non parish-able donations.

CARD MINISTRY Sends out inspirational cards monthly to homebound parishioners and friends. Stamps are al-ways needed. Drop off in the church office or contact Cynthia Powell.

STELLA MARIS EXPLORERS homeschool ministry serving catholic children grades PK3-12th with a Thurs-day morning program in the FLC. If you're interested in dropping in for a club meeting or to get more infor-mation, please visit our website (StellaMarisExplorers.com).

OCIA The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to en-hance their knowledge in the Roman Catholic Church. The O.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. We will begin OCIA classes again in the Fall. Participants will meet weekly for nine months in the Family Life Center. Questions, contact Deacon Wescovich at 228-860-1575.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec 22—Christmas Play 6pm**
- Dec 24—Christmas Eve**
Masses at 4pm and 6pm
- Dec 25—Christmas Day**
Mass at 10am





- Jan 1— The Solemnity of Mary**
Mother of God—Mass at 9am



Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

First Reading
Isaiah 7:10-14
Ahaz proclaims the sign that the Lord will give: a virgin shall give birth to a son, Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 24:1-2,3-4,5-6
The Lord is the King of Glory who established the earth.

Second Reading
Romans 1:1-7
Paul greets the community at Rome and declares himself a servant of Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-24
An angel appears to Joseph, directing him to take Mary as his wife and telling him that the child she will bear will be called Emmanuel.

Background on the Gospel Reading
Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: “Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about” (Matthew 1:18). The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Je-sus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evan-gelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his line-age through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we asso-ciate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).



FOURTH Sunday OF ADVENT

'GOD FILLS US WITH HIS GREAT LOVE.'

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of pray-er and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the “Angel’s Can-dle,” symbolizes LOVE. It re-

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Jo-seph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes. The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means “Yahweh saves.” He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: “. . . The virgin shall be with child . . . and shall name him Emmanuel [God with us].” Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God. [Sunday Connection](#) | [Loyola Press](#)



Iberian Peninsula Pilgrimage

11 Days: April 13 - 24, 2026

Visiting Spain, France and Portugal

Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes and Fatima
Barcelona with Flamenco Show and Dinner
Benedictine Abby of Montserrat Monastery
Basilica of the Sagrada Familia
Torrelavega, Oviedo, Porto
Santiago de Compostela “Way of St. James Tour”
Santarem/Most Holy Eucharistic Miracle
Lisbon, and much more

HOSTED BY
Father Dominic Pham and Mrs. Paula Spears
\$5,820 based on 2 per room

Includes Round trip air from New Orleans, LA
Land, Hotels, all Breakfasts, and most Dinners

Email: Iberianpeninsulatour@gmail.com

**THE FLOWER INTENTIONS ARE
IN HONOR OF OUR BELOVED
ST. MICHAEL PARISHIONERS**