

Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church

1003 North Tyler Street - Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
"Encounter Jesus, Serve Others."



Fr. Daniel Velasco, Pastor
Fr. Bhaskar Malapolu, Associate Pastor
Deacon John Hall
Deacon Jim Goodhart
Deacon Ted Saer
Deacon Lawrence H. Jegley (*Retired*)
Shelley Tienken, Business Manager
Nan Connell, Accountant
Susej Thompson, Pastoral Music
& Faith Formation Director
Samantha Minster, Faith Formation Coordinator
Andrew Baka, Youth Director
Laura G. Humphries, Parish Life & Stewardship Director
Susie Williams, Facilities & Events Coordinator
Stacey Matchett, Pastoral Secretary
Wendy Floriani, Church Secretary
Cindy Stabnick, Bulletin Editor & Sacristan
Amber Bagby, Principal
Sarah Richards, Assistant Principal

Church Office: (501) 663-8632 • **Office Hours:** 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday
Website: www.holysouls.org • **E-mail:** office@holysouls.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/OLHSAR • **School:** (501) 663-4513

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD December 24, 2023



Christmas Message Father Daniel

The end of another year is approaching, a year filled with many events ranging from the natural disasters that affected some of our parishioners to the ongoing conflicts around the world. All of these events remind us of the finitude of our earthly life. Within the context of the temporality of this world our faith reminds us of the life and light of Jesus coming into the world. He is the cause of our joy which is why we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ because God's love came to dwell among us. When we celebrated Christmas last year we could not have known what this year would bring. But now as the year comes to an end we are invited to ponder the many ways in which God's love was truly present in our lives – in the moments of joy and even in the midst of loss and tragedy.

My prayer for all our family members here at Our Lady of the Holy Souls is that we may continue to open our hearts to God's great love for us, not just during this Christmas season but every day of our lives.

Blessings,
Fr. Daniel

Grateful Stewards of God's Gifts . . .

Laura Humphries,
Parish Life & Stewardship Director

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
may it be done to me according to your word."

Luke 1:38

Most of us will never have to be the disciple that Mary was. God will more than likely not ask us to do what Mary did. Can you imagine what she had to endure? A young woman, pregnant, not married. But she answered God's call without hesitation. Can we answer God's call? As Catholics we are called to be disciples of Christ, called to be his servants. Jesus tells us in Matthew 22:37 to love God above all things and in Mt. 22:39 to love our neighbor as ourselves. If we do this, we will want to be servants of God out of love for Him and always do as he asks us to do. With the sacraments God has given us grace to help us be closer to Him so that we can become the disciples He wants us to be. We are offered the opportunity to go to Mass every day especially on Sunday and Holy Days Of Obligation where we are nourished with Christ himself.

We should try to imitate the humility of Mary. To try to be charitable to the person who rubs us the wrong way; to refrain from gossiping about someone. God gives us opportunities to serve others and serving others we are serving Him. There are organizations that need donations of time and treasure: Helping Hand, Arkansas Foodbank, Watershed Family Resource Center, Women and Children First, just to name a few. We can use volunteers here at church in many ways, as well. Just reach out to me and I will help find a way.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a most joyful New Year full of goodness and prosperity in your lives personally and with God. Make this the year that we grow closer to God and build the relationship that will fill the spot that only God can fill, giving us the happiness that only comes from Him.

Encounter Jesus, Serve Others



Thank you to our parishioners, Jena & John Selva (Engel&Volkers Real Estate) for again this year sponsoring our Parish Calendar. If you have not picked up your 2024 Calendar, they are available in the church vestibule.

Traveling Chalice for Vocations



Has God been asking you to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Our Vocations Chalice is a beautiful way to pray for vocations. A prayer for vocations is provided for your use.

Every weekend, the chalice will be presented during the closing Mass Announcements and can be returned on Fridays at the 7:00 a.m. Mass or to the Church Office during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. To be assigned a week or for more information, please contact the Church Office at 501-663-8632 or office@holysouls.org.

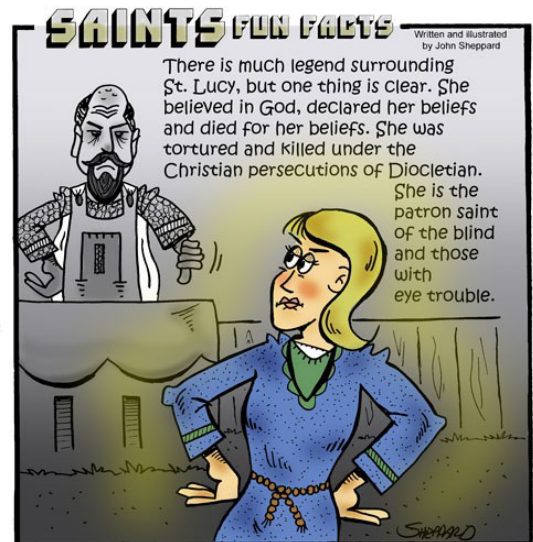
Saint of the Month

Saint Lucy

FEAST DAY: December 13

PATRON SAINT:

Blindness; Those with Eye Ailments



St. Lucy pray for us!

Learn, Pray, Be a Saint

COLLECTIONS/STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Mass attendance --	Adults	Children	Total
December 2 & 3	850	154	1,004
December 9 & 10	834	133	967

Diocesan Collections –

National Retirement Fund for Religious	\$	7,801
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Weekend Collections –

December 2 & 3	\$	22,634
December 9 & 10	\$	66,964

Total December Collections \$ 89,598

Total Dec. Budgeted Collections \$ 275,000

Actual Collections (7/1/23 - 11/30/2023) \$ 642,075

Budgeted (7/1/23 -11/30/2023) \$ 635,000

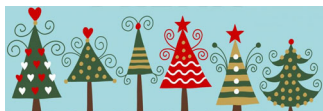
Amount in excess of Budget \$ 7,075

Children's Collection \$ 292

Maintenance Fund \$ 1,198

The attendance and collection figures for Dec. 16 & 17 will be printed in the next bulletin.

Thank you for supporting our church.



CHURCH OFFICE & SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS HOLIDAYS

Our Lady of the Holy Souls Church Office & School are closed for the Christmas & New Year's Holidays. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, at 8:00 a.m. During this time, if you have a church emergency, please call our answering service, 501-373-8600.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gosponer, (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler St., Little Rock, AR 72207.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 24

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass*

4:15 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass #2 in Allen Center

6:30 p.m. Christmas Children's Mass*

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass *

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Christmas Mass*

**Carols begin 30 minutes before Mass begins.*

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday, December 30

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 31

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass

5:30 p.m. Mass

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

New Year's Day, Monday January 1, 2024

10:00 a.m. Mass



Advent Wreath Prayer

"O Lord, stir up your power, we pray you, and come; and with great might help us, that with the help of your grace, your merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins obstruct. We ask this in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen."

(An adult then lights all of the candles on the wreath.)



Please be sure to thank the generous advertisers in our bulletin. Through their participation, our parish receives our weekly bulletin free of charge.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



To read the daily reading online, go to www.usccb.org/nab/today.shtml

Monday, December 25 10:00 a.m. Mass	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 Intention of Parishioners
Tuesday, December 26 7:00 a.m. Mass	ST. STEPHEN - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17; Mt 10:17-22 Elsie Rhein by John & Christina Bohannon and Chuck & Deborah Johnson
Wednesday, December 27 5:30 p.m. Mass	ST. JOHN - 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1-8 Eamon McManus by Breda McManus
Thursday, December 28 7:00 a.m. Mass	THE HOLY INNOCENTS - 1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7-8; Mt 2:13-18 Special Intention for Deacon Charlie Kuehl by a friend of the School of Spiritual Direction
Friday, December 29 7:00 a.m. Mass	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5-6; Lk 2:22-35 Special Intention for Deacon Fabio Cruz by a friend of the School of Spiritual Direction
Saturday, December 30 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40 Special Intention for Masil George by Mary & Justin George
Sunday, December 31 8:00 a.m. Mass 10:30 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	THE HOLY FAMILY - Gn 15:1-6; 21; 1-3; Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 Michael Alexander Pollock by Michael & Susie Whitacre Intention of Parishioners Robert Koehler by Laurie Koehler

Mass Intentions may be offered for the Repose of the Soul of a deceased loved one or for healing, a special occasion, or a special intention for yourself, a family member, or friend. Please contact Stacey in the Church Office for more information.



In order to keep our bulletin prayer list up-to-date for the sick, names will remain on the list for four weeks. Then their name will be written in the Book of Intercession where they will be remembered during every Mass. To continue for another four weeks, please call the church office.

OUR PARISHIONERS -- Benjamin Stuart; Glennabell McCumpsey; Kelly Ochoa; Alice Stuff; Tom Johnson; Noel Oman; Lillian Henriquez; Judy Sims; Doug Schneider; Nick Kirchner; Curt Lassiter; Chris Price; Karen Blanzenski; Morgan Payne; Tracey Gibby; Cathy Donovan; Aloise Medlock; Sam Williamson; Alice Price; Frances DeLeuil; Hank & Carole Schulte; Russell Dority; Roberta Cagle; Sally Crisp; Annette Wahlgreen; James Louviere; Margaret Olberts; George & Sylvia Hart; Jack Flynn; Charlie Baker; and Bob Skarda.

OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS -- Lucille Marconi; Frances Heffington; Craig Cagle; Eleanor Suttle; Ellen Perkins; Jack Finley; John Oaks; Suzanne Hanratty; Bill Margrave; Millie Cross; Sarah Graham Goin; Corbin Binz; Mason Harder; Robert Hall; Eileen Connell; Dorothy Ehlebracht; David Menz; Pete Pilkington; D. J. Pilkington; Tyler Grubb & family; Gary Davis; Loris Fullerton; Aid Maria Vega Morales; Tom Bartsch; Amanda Cogburn; John Cullen; Orville Bolin; Evan Hargett; Glenn Bratcher; Maude & Pat McGuire; Bea Williams; and Landon Scroggins.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED -- Gary Korte, husband of Paula Korte, father of Natalie Ruh, grandfather of Griffin & Greer Ruh, brother of Danny Korte, son-in-law of Deacon Larry & Pauline Jegley; brother-in-law of Larry Jegley, Jr.; uncle of Melissa Mansfield & Amanda Jegley; great-uncle to Maddison, Mallory, Mason, & Mollie Mansfield and Abigail & Silas Wood; and **Charlotte Halter**, mother of Paula Dempsey.


OUR SEMINARIANS – Jackson Nichols, Samuel Ray, and especially Our Lady of the Holy Souls' seminarian Phillip Zawislak.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP

SIPS ~AND~ SCRIPTS

FOOD, DRINK, FELLOWSHIP, AND THE WORD!

1ST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
PARISH HALL FOLLOWING 5:30PM MASS




OUR LADY OF THE HOLY SOULS

Petitions of the Ministry of Praise

December 2023

Pope Francis' Intentions:



We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

38th Annual
**SHRIMP AND OYSTER
 DINNER**



AN EVENING IN MONACO AFTERPARTY



Presented by **whLaw**

Sponsored by the Holy Souls Men's Club

Saturday, January 13, 2023 5:00-8:00 pm - Holy Souls Allen Center

Dinner Tickets - \$35 Corporate/Group Tables - \$600 (10 people)

Call Al Malzewski @ 501.747.4454 or Pete Stabnick @ 501.400.4460

ORDER ONLINE at holysouls.org

All Reservations Must Be Made Before January 3, 2024

*Adoration
 of the Blessed Sacrament*

On Wednesdays from 9am to 5:15pm the church is open for Adoration. Take advantage of this opportunity to spend time with Jesus. To deepen your personal relationship with him. Become more like him. Become more aware of the obstacles of sin in our lives. Develop a stronger desire to make better choices. The more time we spend with Jesus in this way* the more brilliant our souls become. There are no rules other than reverence; sit and read, pray the rosary or a chaplet, or just sit. Enjoy the silence in this noisy world. (*Guidelines for Adoration)



Responding to the Word This Week

Mary gives herself completely to God's plan for her.

What is God inviting me to do to share in Christ's work now?

Jesus, today I will . . .

*To reflect on this Sunday's readings online, go to www.usccb.org/bible/readings/122423.cfm

REGISTRATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

Registration for new members is completed in the church office or online by visiting our web page, www.holysouls.org. Please contact the church office or go online at www.holysouls.org if you have moved, changed your telephone number, or email address. When parishioners reach 18 years of age, they should register separately from their family.

RCIA

If you are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Susej Thompson at 501-663-8632 or office@holysouls.org.

RETURNING CATHOLICS

If you are interested in returning to the Catholic Church, please contact Susej Thompson at 663-8632 or office@holysouls.org.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 2:30 to 3:30pm and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00pm or call the church office for an appointment.

CHURCH VISITS

The Church is open for private prayer time on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 7:30am-3pm and on Wednesday from 7:30am -5:15pm. Please enter through the door on Harrison St. side by piano or the handicapped door in the front of church.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled on an individual basis. Please call the church office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the church office a minimum of six months in advance.