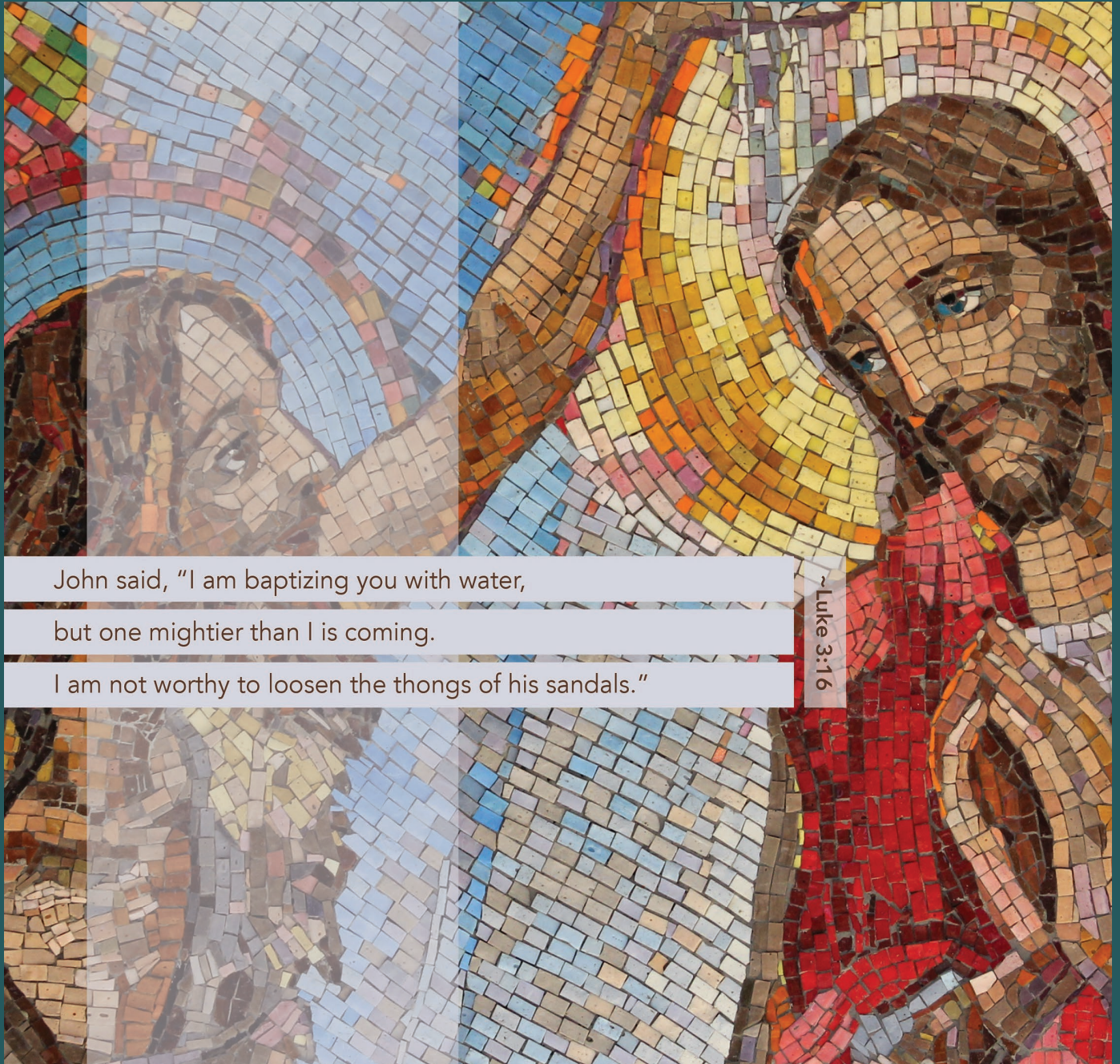


# st. Joseph

## Roman Catholic Church

Est. 1872



John said, "I am baptizing you with water,

but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals."

~ Luke 3:16

### Parish Office

400 S. Adams Ave.  
P.O. Box 199  
Rayne, La 70578  
337-334-2193

[stjoseph1872@diolaf.org](mailto:stjoseph1872@diolaf.org)

### Office Hours

M, T, Th: 8am - 4pm  
W: 8am - 2pm  
F: 8am - Noon

### The Baptism of the Lord

January 09, 2022

[stjoerayne.org](http://stjoerayne.org)  
[facebook.com/stjoerayne](https://facebook.com/stjoerayne)

## Weekly Mass Times

**Saturday Anticipated:** 4:00 pm

**Sunday:** 7:00 am, 10:00 am & 5:30 pm

**Monday:** NO MASS

**Tuesday:** 12:05 pm

**Wednesday:** 6:30 am

**Thursday:** 12:05 pm

**Friday:** 6:30 am

**First Saturday:** 9:00 am

### Reconciliation/Confession

30 minutes prior to Mass or any other time by appointment.

### Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled through the Parish Office. Please call 334-2193 to schedule the sacrament. Preparation Classes are held the 4th Sunday of each month after 10 AM Mass.

### Marriage

Call the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance of desired wedding date to schedule an appointment and begin the preparation process.

### Funerals

Funeral home personnel will contact the parish office for you to make all the necessary arrangements.

### Anointing of the Sick

Contact the parish office to schedule the sacrament of anointing.

## HELP US FUND THE **NEW SOUND SYSTEM** FOR ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



**\$69,145**  
collected

**\$3,855**  
left to go

**\$73,000**

<https://stjoerayne.org/giving>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

## Prayers for the Sick

Dale Alleman, Lou Barry, Darrell Bellard, Nessie Boudreaux, Zora Boudreaux, Nola Comeaux, Denise Constantin, Marvin Constantin, Phoebe Deshotel, Diana Meaux Doty, Kerry Doucet, Theresa Cramer Doucet, Margie Dubois, Linda Durio, Zubaida Elahi, Paula Fontenot, Shannon Fontenot, Abigail Foreman, Roger Dale & Debra Fusilier, Barbara & Tanya Gaspard, Laura Gautreaux, Laurie Guenther, M/M Glenn Guidry, Keylonna Guidry, Raymond & Deanean Guidry, Stanley Granger, Sophie B. Guillory, Karen Hebert, Martha Hodge, Lloyd Jeffers, Janelle Kibodeaux, Tara P. Logsdon, Sandy Matte, Merella McFalls, Debra Ann Meaux, Richard Melancon & Family, Jessica F. Miller, Loretta Miller, Ronnie Myers, Kristian Navarre, Francis Pellissier, Jackie Pintacura, Pam Quebodeaux, Clyde Reed, Darrell (Bubba) Richard, Jr., Judy Richard, Hayden Ruffner, Myrtle Servat, Kevin Simon, Jeanette Simoneaux, Carita Sonnier, Mary Trahan, Rose Venable, Becca Guidry Vidrine, Jan Wright, Lois Yokum

## The Sanctuary Lamp



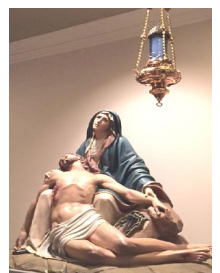
The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly to proclaim the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Tabernacle. This week we dedicate the flame to:

**Allison Comeaux & Comeaux Family  
Cecile Landry  
Margie Bujol**

## The Pieta Lamp

Mother of Sorrows, You who held Jesus in your arms, please intercede with your Divine Son on behalf of:

**Ronnie Joseph Lavergne  
Cecile Landry  
Willie, Edward, James Leger**





## Weekly Offertory

Offertory of 12/19/2021	\$14,794.82
Offertory of 12/26/2021	\$28,441.71
Monthly Offertory EFT/Credit Card	25.00%
Total Building & Maintenance	\$3,418.92

2nd Collection next weekend is for St. Joseph Parish Insurance Fund

## Who Me?

Do you love God's holy word? Do you love the Holy Eucharist? We need you as a Lector proclaiming his Word. We need you as an Extraordinary Minister bringing Christ's Body and Blood to his people.

Call André Landaiche for more information. 337-250-1332

## Our Choir Needs You!

We are looking for new members for our choir. Help us make a joyful noise! Congratulations to Denise Brignac who has agreed to step up as our new choir director. There are so many in the congregation that have wonderful voices. Please share your gift with us. Phone is 288-4515 or cbirc318@aol.com

## FORMED: Catholic Faith On Demand

St. Joseph has purchased a parish account at Formed.org. There you will have access to Hundreds of Hours of Watching, Reading, and Listening to the Best Catholic Content online.

Go to [www.formed.org/signup](http://www.formed.org/signup) and search for St. Joseph to **sign up for free!**



St. Joseph Church  
Electronic Offering



# ONLINE

# OFFERTORY

SCAN THE CODE TO GIVE



venmo

Thank you for your generosity!

## Monthly Giving

*Ever consider direct deposit or scheduled monthly credit card offerings?*

As stewards of the many gifts God has given us do you ever think about the consistency of your offertory giving?

One way you can remain consistent with your offertory giving is through direct deposits or even rack up mileage points for your next family vacation by setting up monthly credit card transactions.

***This is how direct deposits work:***

- You complete a "Direct Deposit Authorization" form (this gives us permission to debit your checking or savings account for the amount and on the date you specify)
- We make withdrawals on the 2nd and 16th of each month (when the 2nd or 16th falls on a weekend or banking holiday the withdrawal will occur the next banking day)
- You determine the amount and frequency of your donations

***For credit card donations:***

- You simply fill out your information on the parish website and the amount you would like to give monthly and you are all set.

*To obtain a "Direct Deposit Authorization" form or to set up a monthly credit card donation visit  
[stjoerayne.org/giving](http://stjoerayne.org/giving)*

## Men's Bible Study

Hosted by Fr Brent  
When: Fridays at 7am  
Where: Rectory



A VOICE CAME  
FROM HEAVEN,  
“YOU ARE MY  
BELOVED SON;  
WITH YOU I AM  
WELL PLEASED.”

LUKE 3:22

## THE BAPTISM of the LORD

JANUARY 9, 2022

### A MODEL FOR OUR PRAYER LIFE

The Advent/Christmas cycle that began on November 28 ends with the Baptism of the Lord. We likely have an image in our minds (based on details from the Gospels and works of art) of what that scene looked like. We might wonder, “Who else was there and who wasn’t?” No disciples were present because Jesus had not yet begun his ministry. They would have to wait until the Transfiguration to hear a similar message. However, the three persons of the Blessed Trinity are accounted for: the Father (the voice from heaven), the Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Interestingly, Luke alone notes that it was after Jesus had been baptized and while he was praying that the voice was heard. All of the Gospels show Jesus praying at turning points in his ministry; this is but the first example of Jesus’ need to root himself in prayer throughout his life—a model for us to follow.

### ON THE CUSP OF A NEW CREATION

It was on the Fourth Sunday of Advent this past December that we first heard of the two cousins, John and Jesus, meeting. Then it was in the womb of their mothers, Elizabeth and Mary. Now the cousins meet again on the shore of the Jordan River. John is already well known—so much so that people had begun to wonder if he was the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus, on the other hand, is about to begin his ministry. One could say that Jesus entered the waters of the Jordan as a private person and came out of them as a public one. The voice from heaven left no doubt about that. As we come to the end of the Christmas season our readings echo Isaiah and Titus (see Advent and Christmas Day readings) and together with today’s Psalm 104 they point us to Pentecost. We are on the cusp of a new creation.

### JOHN THE BAPTIST: PATRON SAINT OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS?

John the Baptist was what we might call today a “social influencer.” People paid attention to what he had to say. And what he said affected the choices people made. Yet today’s Gospel reminds us of John the Baptist’s ultimate goal: “One mightier than I is coming.” The Baptizer walks the fine line between drawing attention to himself with his fiery preaching and then re-directing that attention to Jesus, the “beloved Son.” John the Baptist could be considered the “patron saint” of those who minister as lectors, extraordinary ministers of the eucharist, cantors, greeters, acolytes, and musicians. Isn’t John’s teaching a good goal for a liturgical (or any!) minister? Rooted in the graces of their own baptism, ministers must be skilled and confident enough to draw people’s attention (or, at least, not turn them off!) and then gradually re-focus that attention on Jesus. It is a dynamic and awesome responsibility.

### TODAY’S READINGS

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11  
Psalm 104:1b–2, 3–4, 24–25,  
27–28, 29–30  
Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–7  
Luke 3:15–16, 21–22



# Pope Francis

## Catechesis on Saint Joseph - 5. Saint Joseph, persecuted and courageous migrant

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today I would like to present Saint Joseph to you as a persecuted and courageous migrant. This is how the Evangelist Matthew describes him. This particular event in the life of Jesus, which also involves Joseph and Mary, is traditionally known as “the flight into Egypt” (cf. Mt 2:13-23). The family of Nazareth suffered such humiliation and experienced first-hand the precariousness, fear and pain of having to leave their homeland. Today so many of our brothers and sisters are still forced to experience the same injustice and suffering. The cause is almost always the arrogance and violence of the powerful. This was also the case for Jesus.

King Herod learns from the Magi of the birth of the “King of the Jews”, and the news shocks him. He feels insecure, he feels that his power is threatened. So, he gathers together all the leaders of Jerusalem to find out the place of His birth, and begs the Magi to inform him of the precise details, so that - he says falsely - he too can go and worship him. But when he realised that the Magi had set out in another direction, he conceived a wicked plan: to kill all the children in Bethlehem under the age of two years, which was the period of time, according to the calculations of the Magi, in which Jesus was born.

In the meantime, an angel orders Joseph: “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him” (Mt 2:13). Think today of the many people who feel this impulse within: “Let’s flee, let’s flee, because there is danger here”. Herod’s plan calls to mind that of Pharaoh to throw all the male children of the people of Israel into the Nile (cf. Ex 1:22). The flight into Egypt evokes the whole history of Israel beginning with Abraham, who also sojourned there (cf. Gen 12:10); to Joseph, son of Jacob, sold by his brothers (cf. Gen 37:36) before becoming “ruler of the land” (cf. Gen 41:37-57); and to Moses, who freed his people from the slavery of the Egyptians (cf. Ex 1:18).

The flight of the Holy Family into Egypt saves Jesus, but unfortunately it does not prevent Herod from carrying out his massacre. We are thus faced with two opposing personalities: on the one hand, Herod with his ferocity, and on the other hand, Joseph with his care and courage. Herod wants to defend his power, his own skin, with ruthless cruelty, as attested to by the execution of one of his wives, some of his children and hundreds of opponents. He was a cruel man: to solve problems, he had just one answer: to kill. He is the symbol of many tyrants of yesteryear and of today. And for them, for these tyrants, people do not count; power is what counts, and if they need space for power, they do away with people. And this happens today: we do not need to look at ancient history, it happens today. He is the man who becomes a “wolf” for other men. History is full of figures who, living at the mercy of their fears, try to conquer them by exercising power despotically and carrying out inhuman acts of violence. But we must not think that we live according to Herod’s outlook only if we become tyrants, no; in fact, it is an attitude to which we can all fall prey, every time we try to dispel our fears with arrogance, even if only verbal, or made up of small abuses intended to mortify those close to us. We too have in our heart the possibility of becoming little Herods.

Joseph is the opposite of Herod: first of all, he is “a just man” (Mt 1:19), and Herod is a dictator. Furthermore, he proves he is courageous in following the Angel’s command. One can imagine the vicissitudes he had to face during the long and dangerous journey and the difficulties involved in staying in a foreign country, with another language: many difficulties. His courage emerges also at the moment of his return, when, reassured by the Angel, he overcomes his understandable fears and settles with Mary and Jesus in Nazareth (cf. Mt 2:19-23). Herod and Joseph are two opposing characters, reflecting the two ever-present faces of humanity. It is a common misconception to consider courage as the exclusive virtue of the hero. In reality, the daily life of every person requires courage. Our way of living – yours, mine, everyone’s: one cannot live without courage, the courage to face each day’s difficulties. In all times and cultures, we find courageous men and women who, in order to be consistent with their beliefs, have overcome all kinds of difficulties, and have endured injustice, condemnation and even death. Courage is synonymous with fortitude, which together with justice, prudence and temperance is part of the group of human virtues known as “cardinal virtues”.

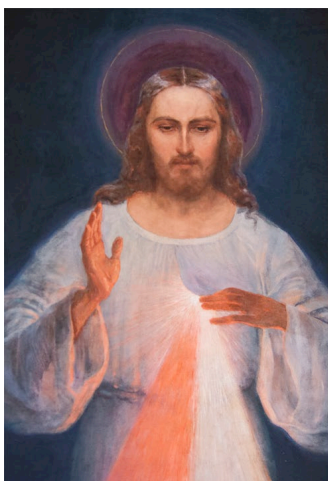
The lesson Joseph leaves us with today is this: life always holds adversities in store for us, this is true, in the face of which we may also feel threatened and afraid. But it is not by bringing out the worst in ourselves, as Herod does, that we can overcome certain moments, but rather by acting like Joseph, who reacts to fear with the courage to trust in God’s Providence. Today I think we need a prayer for all migrants; migrants and all the persecuted, and all those who are victims of adverse circumstances: be they political, historical or personal circumstances. But, let us think of the many people who are victims of wars, who want to flee from their homeland but cannot; let us think of the migrants who set out on that road to be free, so many of whom end up on the street or in the sea; let us think of Jesus in the arms of Joseph and Mary, fleeing, and let us see in him each one of the migrants of today. Migration today is a reality to which we cannot close our eyes. It is a social scandal of humanity.

Saint Joseph,  
you who have experienced the suffering of those who must flee  
you who were forced to flee  
to save the lives of those dearest to you,  
protect all those who flee because of war,  
hatred, hunger.  
Support them in their difficulties,  
Strengthen them in hope, and let them find welcome and solidarity.  
Guide their steps and open the hearts of those who can help them. Amen.

## Ministers Schedule

January 2022

**Sat. 4pm:** Lector - Cathy Breaux Extraordinary Ministers - Diana Duhon, Neal Duhon Altar Servers - 4 o'clock Team **Sun. 7am:** Lector - Connie Speyrer Extraordinary Ministers - Randy Bertrand, Albert Johnson Altar Servers - 7 am Team **Sun. 10am:** Lector - Anthony Emmons Extraordinary Ministers - Linda Ancona, Angelo Ancona, Mandy Miller - Choir Altar Servers - 10 am Team **Sun. 5:30pm:** Lector - Tammy Clark Extraordinary Ministers - Gracie Mouton, Emma Landaiche, Leah Guidry Altar Servers - 5:30 Team



### Divine Mercy Ministry for the Dying

If you know someone who is in imminent danger of death, call the number below for a Divine Mercy chaplet to be prayed for that individual.

337-237-5059

A Diocesan Ministry of St. Pius X  
Catholic Church available for all,  
Catholic and non-Catholic

## Adoration Sign Up

Sign up for Adoration

[rayne.weadorehim.com](http://rayne.weadorehim.com)

## First Friday Mass & Adoration

The first Friday of the month is often marked by special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) reported visions of Jesus Christ directing her to promote devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on nine consecutive First Fridays in reparation for sins and in order to show love to Jesus. In return for this act of devotion, which usually includes Mass, Communion, confession and even an hour of Eucharistic Adoration, our blessed Savior reputedly promised St. Margaret Mary the following blessings:

"In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour."

*Please join us every first Friday of the month for 6:30am Mass followed by Adoration from 7-8am. Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours!*

## Please consider supporting our Parish

### DIRECT DEPOSIT OFFERINGS

Detach, and return to parish office with a voided check.

General Offertory in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: ☐ Monthly / ☐ Bimonthly Draft on Date: ☐ 2nd / ☐ 16th

Building and Maint. in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: ☐ Monthly / ☐ Bimonthly Draft on Date: ☐ 2nd / ☐ 16th

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Financial Institution)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Financial Institution - Branch, City, State, Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Financial Institution Routing Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number

I (we) hereby authorize ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH OF RAYNE LOUISIANA to initiate electronic debit entries and if necessary, credit entries and adjustments for any transactions debited in error to my account. This authority will remain in effect until ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH OF RAYNE LOUISIANA is notified by me (us) in writing to cancel it in such time as to afford ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH OF RAYNE LOUISIANA and THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name - PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

St. Joseph Catholic Church #467550  
400 South Adams Ave.  
Rayne La 70578

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337-207-0291

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