December 25, 2022



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

P. O. Box 365 117 South Main St. Loreauville, Louisiana 70552 (337) 229-4254 FAX (337) 229-4255

Rev. Barry F. Crochet, Pastor Rev. Godwin Nzeh CMF, Associate Pastor

Deacon Roland Jeanlouis, Pastoral Associate

pastor@stjosephparishonline.org stjosephparishonline.org



Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of Your Incarnate Word, the Light of Faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds.

Please pray for our parish family members who are sick:

Stuart Sandoz, Duffy Domingue, Eric Clements, David Louviere, Trevor Louviere, Austin Willett, Willey Poirrier, Inez Barras, Butch and Debbie White, Lydia May, Louis "CoCo" Landry Jr., Rowena Borel, Falyn Sonnier, Caline Provost, Patricia Freyou, Lecia Broussard, Roshondra Nora, Noah Abraham, Jimmy LeBlanc, Chad Borel, Ashley Hebert, Stephen Dugas, Jade Delcambre, Pat and Elaine Villermin, Ira

Bourque, Hailey Thomassee, Lon Prioux, Brennan Wingfield, Betty Suire, Joe Judice, Mike Habetz, Lori Brasseaux, Jamie Brady, Lisa N. Dugas, Nona Bourque, Leroy Begnaud, Betty Champagne, Keri Bonin Boutte, Leroy and Gloria Courville, Anna Richard, Wayne LeBlanc, Melvin Broussard, June Granger, Max Borres, T-Boy and Diane Leger, Vivian LeBlanc, Beckie LeBaron, Patricia Sorrell, Ned Dugas, Ted

Habetz, David Dupuy, Hazel LeBlanc, Ava Rose and Olivia James Dworaczyk, Ray Broussard, Anne Adcock Hebert, Shyla Romero, Curt Tauzin, Randy Jett, Nicholas Richard, Bart Doucet, Ellenor Hebert, Jory L. Bernard, Annette Dugas, Kayla Barras Veronie, Glen Adcock, Jamie Ransonet, Lawrence Albert, Joan Arceneaux, Robert LeBlanc, Sr., CL Romero.

December 18, 2022			
Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes	\$ 3,147.00		
Regular Sunday Offering Loose	\$ 4,857.00		
Regular Collection Total	\$ 8,004.00		
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,385.00		
Difference	+\$ 619.00		
Present Loan Balance	\$ 233,465.85		
Donation Against Loan Balance	\$ 1,437.00		
Insurance Balance 2022-2023	\$ 32,712.00		
Insurance Collection	\$ 120.00		

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning for The Community

The Vocation Chalice is at the Adoration Chapel

Please pray for vocations. If you would like to have the vocation chalice in your home please call the rectory office at 229-4254

> The Bi-Monthly Statue is in the home of **Parishioners**

Flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of See page 5

Saint Joseph Altar Candles are burning for

Chad Romero, Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Special Intention Mr. and Mrs. Collins Louviere and Kerney, Will and Lily Roberts Louis, MaeMae and Ronald Broussard Francis Crochet, Horace Thibodeaux, Talmon Vice Kelly Duplantis, Jimmy LeBlanc, Vance Breaux Sr. Lynn and Theresa Delcambre Families Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Special Intention Eric Suire, Freddie Suire, Bettina Suire Special Intention, Steve and Donna Berard Special Intention Alfred and Lucille Landry and Russel, James R. Romero, MD

Mass Intentions — 12/24 - 12/30

Christmas Eve

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. — See page 4 Christmas Day

Sunday 7:00 a.m. — See page 4

* * * NO 10:30 a.m. Mass * * *

Monday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Brian Derouen, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Tuesday 5:30 p.m. StJo — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, John and Doris Prados, Donna and Steve Berard, Special Intentions, Souls

in Purgatory Jason Suarez Family, Cameron Barrilleaux Family, Destani Armstong Family, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Wednesday 6:45 a.m. StJo— Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne, Families Ancestors and Descendants, John Michael Steiner, Andrew "Toupee" Bonin, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Thursday 5:30 p.m. StJo — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Jon-Luke Patrick Jude Lancon, Glinda and Roy Guidry, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Friday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants, Judice and Walet Families, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 26, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023

MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	
December 31 4:00 p.m.	Emily Begnaud	Sandra Boudreaux	Volunteers	
January1 7:00 a.m.	Maxine Latiolais	Debbie Oubre	Volunteers	
10:30 a.m.	Catherine Lejeune	Linda Thomas	Volunteers	

Saturday, December 31, 2022

Solemnity of Mary
Confessions — 3:00 p.m.
Vigil Mass — 4:00 p.m. St Jo

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Solemity of Mary, Mother God Mass — 7:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. St Jo 9:00 a.m. OLV

Please pray for our Priests, Seminarians and Deacons

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these special men. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

December 25	Rev. David Brian Hebert/John Dugas
	Dcn. Charles Ortego
December 26	Rev. Matthew Hebert /Tré Fontenot
	Dcn. Juan Pagan
December 27	Rev. T.J. Hebert/Brother John Paul Fruge
	Dcn. Scott Peyton
December 28	Rev. Gregory Heslip, LC/Rev. Mr. David Furka
	Den. Richard Picard
December 29	Rev. Matthew Higginbotham/Brother Francis Xavier Gyles
	Dcn. William Pollingue
December 30	Rev. Stephen Dayasamy, HGN/Coby Hebert
	Dcn. Kyle Polozola
December 31	Rev. Sal Istre/Evan Hebert
	Dcn. Charles Richard
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Happy and Holy Christmas to our parish family from the clergy and staff



Save the Date

Transitional Diaconate Ordination Saturday, May 20, 2023 10 am, St. John Cathedral

John Dugas



Christmas Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24, 2022 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Clarence and Hilda Landry, Alfred and Lucille Landry and Russel, James R. Romero, MD, Donna and Steve Berard, Special Intention, Souls in Purgatory, Rhule, Mabel and Wayne Gondron, Dr. Harold and Kathleen Heitkamp, Merlin and Edna Walet, Butsy Walet, Walter and Doris M. Judice, Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Breaux, Breaux and Viator Families, Ronald, Louis and Mae Mae Broussard, Lee Gonsoulin Family, Mozard Gondron Family, Connor and Kathy Sorensen, Orford and Mary Lou Breaux Family, Lenwood and Mabel Delcambre, Patricia Gachassin, Freddie Suire, Eric Suire, Bettina Suire, TouPee Bonin, Stanley Crochet Family, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bonin, Sr., Jack Braquet, Jimmy Clifton, Jeffrey and Theresa Viator, Lionel Duplechain, Sr. and Lionel Duplechain, Jr. Guernice and Lloyd Dugas, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hebert, Dupoy and Lasseigne Family, Andrew Thompson and Family, Alma Jo Landry, Sue Boutte, Abras and Constance Arceneaux, Gloria Albert (Special Intention), Nick LeBlanc, Jr. Family, Terry and Michael, Cobey Braquet, LeBlanc and Braquet Families, Doris Boutte Barras, Ossie Romero, Jr., Daisy and Perfice Armentor, Delores Simon, Craig Breaux, Sidney Breaux Family, Pauline B. Guidry, Roslie LeJeune, John Lacour, Special Intention, Billy Degeyter, Chester "Butch" Gonsoulin and Parents, Muchie Ransonet, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Clyde Hebert, Lucille Landry Hebert, Audrie Hebert Delahoussaye, Ancestors and Descendants, Robert Lee Prados, Lucille Breaux Prados, Nola Champagne, Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Landry and Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Elvage Prados, Matilda Prados and Becky Doucet Ancestors and Descendants, Gloria and Sam Delcambre and Family, Otto Sr. and Laurence Girouard, Terradot Family, Theresa Girouard Allen, Dr. J. R. Hebert, Perry Iudice, Lorrain Breaux Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Ronald Albert, Johnny

Albert Sr. Family, John V. Perez Family, Chad Romero, Devna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Paul Crochet Family, Jordan Prince and Special Intention, Vance Breaux Sr., Sally Domingue, Cabrol and Domingue Family, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Melvin Dugas, Roy Sr. and Gladys Berard, Lloyd and Anne Broussard, Simon and Felicie Granger, Forbus and Myrtle Mestayer, Kay Dooley and William and Dolores Dooley, Kim Decuir, Leed and Mabel Gondron, Carolyn Aquillard, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Sunday, December 25, 2022 7:00 a.m.

Suzette Judice, Wayne Bienvenu, Bienvenu Family, Pliny and Carolyn Breaux Walet, Ancestors and Descendants, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Ronald and Mildred Gonsoulin, Hubert Richard Family, Eddie Edler Family, Dr. Harold and Kathleen Heitkamp, Paul and Audry Crochet, Jordan Prince, Courville, Louviere, Porrier, Derouen, Bonin, Boudreaux Families, Rita Mais, Judy Douet, Berard, Bonin, Douet and Morvant Families, Mary and Clark Provost, David Provost, Breaux and Delcambre Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hebert, Katie Boutte, Justin Boudreaux Family, Jan Bourque, Helen and Joseph Bastian, Louto and Anite Gondron Family, Clyde Dressel, Judy Judice, Beauregard Judice, Phyllis Crochet LeBlanc, Deceased CDA Members, Gene Jefferies, Nick LeBlanc, Sr., Family, Terry and Michael, Cobey Braquet, LeBlanc and Braquet Families, Doris Boutte Barras, Boo Castille, Aimie and Kernis Peltier, Edgar and Emmerite Peltier, Stanley and Elsie and Francis Crochet, Loto Louviere, Jr., Gam Gondron Family, Lori Albert,

Special Intention, Breaux and Delcambre Families, Sandra Daigle, Lionel, Sr. Duplechain, Lionel Duplechain, Jr., Goldie T. Bonin, Leroy J. Bonin, Janell B. Broussard, Vance Rodriguez, Albert Rodrigues, Dr. J. R. Romero, Matthew Thibeaux, Francis Crochet, Devna Champeaux, Chad Romero, Harold Champagne, Jimmy Clifton, Clifton and Shirley Maturin Family, John Michael Steiner, Jay Gonsoulin Family, Paul Sonnier Family and Clyde Warfel Family, Antoine "Boy" LeBlanc Family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Albert Sr., Virginia Landry, Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry, Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Joe and Rita Habetz, Mary Kay Habetz, Tom Voorhies, Tommy Breaux, Jennings Fournet, Maude Granger and Warren Granger, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger Dr. Raymond Schneider, Elaine Schneider, Skip Schneider, Lolly Harbin, S.J. "Bute" Granger, Junius and Mary Hebert, Lovell Romero, Larry Crochet, Nick Crochet Family, Souls in Purgatory, Kim Crochet, Matthew Thibeaux, Talmon Vice, Lori Albert, Loto Louviere, Jr., Gam Gondron Family, Francis Crochet, Glen Martin, Gondron and Deville Family Ancestors and Descendants, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Wayne Guillory and Mathilde Romero, Horace and Sylvia Thibodeaux, Patrick and Theresa Melancon Latiolais, Pliny Walet Family, Louis Breaux Sr. Family, Anthony Melancon, Sr., Cathy Defelice, Tracey Defelice Guilbeau, Sandra Angelle and Glenn Angelle, Granger Family, Wade & Lou Dupre, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

Christmas Flower Memor

Landry and Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Walet, Carolyn, Herman, Pliny and Carolyn Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Walet, Rita, Lillian and Theresa Walet Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Spiess, David, Mary Ann and Clark Provost

Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Thibeaux and Family Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Lancon and Family

Courville, Louviere, Porrier, Derouen, Bonin and Badeaux Families

Crochet, Prince and Leger Families Bonin and Crochet Families Breaux and Delcambre Families

> Iris Vaughn Dugas Family Bill Elliott Family Louis Thibeaux Family

Dennis M. Melancon, Pat, Mable, Rita and Jo Allen Rosen, Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Walet and Butsy Dr. Harold Heitkamp and Kathleen, Alton Gondron Troy LeBlanc, Ed Broussard, Sam and Glo Delcambre Jeanne and Albert Broussard Family, Mayor Al, Lora Bloom, Noelie Seneca

Evan and Owen Allen
Stella and Bert Amedee
Glen and Sandi Angelle
Cal and Margie Berard
Sophie and Fanges Bonin
Willie and Louise Bonin
Melvin and Rae Borres
Billy and Cheryl Lancon Bradshaw
Orford and Mary Lou Breaux
Clarence and Nola Champagne
Ena and Ernest Cook, Jr.
Earline and Kenny Crochet

Lenwood and Mabel Delcambre
Claude and Nola Dugas
Clayson and Lillian Dugas
Lavania and Eddie Edler
T. J. and Barbara Eldridge
Louto and Anite Gondron
Dr. Harold and Kathleen Heitkamp
Wilfred and Bertha Hulin
Edelia and Robert Johnson
Antoine and Marie Judice
Been and Mag Judice
Roland and Hilda Judice

Paul and Audrey Crochet and Jordan Prince Mr. Roy and Michael Thibodeaux

Delia, Rita, Lillian, Howard and Laurence Walet

Mr. and Mrs. Clet Dugas and Abby Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Savoy and Daughters

Sidney, Margaret and Craig Breaux Mike, Catherine and Anthony Catanzar Sam, Bea and Sammy Napoli Albert, Lydia and Bob Thibodeaux Herman, Teresa and Pliny Walet

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Boudreaux
Mr. and Mrs. Laurent Braquet
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Crochet
Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Deville
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Eloi Dugas
Mr. and Mrs. Leander Gondran, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Loto Louviere, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Louis P. Judice
Mr. and Mrs. Newton Melancon
Mr. and Mrs. Avie Poirrier
Mr. and Mrs. Sylvest Thibodeaux

Walter and Doris M. Judice Edmond and Euline Lancon Lloyd and Maudrey Landry Jean and Noelie Laviolette Ben and Valerie Lissard Sis and Maurice Provost Hubert and Lily Richard James and Hazel Richard Noelie and Warren Solar Paul and Buddy Stephens

Aunt Lone Nick Bienvenu Elodie Bodin Andrew Bonin Beryl Kern Bonin Allen Borres Chuck Borres Bonnie Boudreaux Cheryl Lancon Bradshaw Thelma "Pee Wee" Broussard Dayna Champagne Harold Champagne Roland Champeaux Audrey Crochet Paul Crochet Jerry Deville

Roger Deville Dolores Dooley William Dooley Kamryn Elizabeth Dorsey Etta B. Dugas Marion Forstall Leander Gondran, Jr. Pauline B. Guidry Patrice Hebert Pete Horton Darrell Judice Jeanne Judice Michael "Mike" Judice Perry M. Judice Wayne Judice Jon Luke Lancon

Mae Provost Lassalle Charlie Latiolais Isador "T-Boy" Leger Loto Louviere, Jr. Mary Ann Louviere Doris Luke Rita Mais Joe Moore Claire Bonin Myers Grace Napoli Bonnie E. Oubre Chris Percle Karen Percle Eddie Pierre Lucille Pierre Yola Pierre

Willie Poirrier
Magnolia Pratt
Jordan Prince
Lucy Quinlan
William J. Quinlan
Chad Romero
Bettina Suire
Eric Suire
Freddie Suire
Matthew Thibeaux
Hosie Thigpen
Mary Helen Toups
David Viator
Talmon Vice
Myrt Woodruff

ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN MAKES A SUPERMAN AND CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

"What is Superman got to do with Christmas?" is a question Bishop Fulton Sheen asked at the start of a 1960s TV broadcast.

What did Bishop Sheen mean? How does it link to Christmas? Let's imagine asking him. This is a slightly abbreviated form. You'll have to imaging the inimitable way Bishop Sheen would speak to us.

Bishop Sheen, how did you come up with this comparison/contrast for Christmas?

You know what Superman does; Batman, and then these men we have from other planets. He goes into a telephone booth, or a closet, just as an ordinary mortal, and he puts on the form and the habit of Superman. Then once he's broken through with this great power of his, he begins to do wonders. He relieves us in our afflictions, helps damsels in distress, defends those who have been persecuted ... lover of the poor and the socially disinherited. And this intensely pleases the American people.

Why might be an important reason it does so? I think there's a subconscious reason, almost an unconscious one. First of all, we know that the help that we need is not just among us ordinary mortals in the affairs of daily life. If we are to have the inner strength that we need, it has to come from outside. We've never expressed this perhaps in so many words, but we know the need of it.

Superman, Batman and men from other worlds satisfy our needs — at least from the point of view of imagination ... the amusements that we like are the unconscious expressions of hidden desires. Superman is the desire for Christmas.

What's the specific connection between Superman and Christmas?

Superman comes from outside. There's a kind of a breakthrough. First, there's a

breakthrough, and then, because he helps others, there is a kind of a renovation a strengthening, an aiding.

Now Christmas is just this. First, there is a breakthrough. Instead of someone going into a closet and taking on the form and the substance of a Superman, the breakthrough this time is a God — God coming down to earth. Breaking through time! Splitting it! Splitting it so much so, that from that time on to this, it's BC and AD.

So what is different about the comparison?
But there's this difference with Superman. And this is very important.

Superman goes from weakness to power. The breakthrough of Christmas is from power to weakness. We see the crib ... Here is infinity and littleness. This isn't a man getting strong ... This is a God becoming weak. You made the world, the world even rejected by it.

The tiny little hands that are not quite long enough to reach the huge heads of the cattle are the hands that hold the reins that steer the Sun and Moon and stars in their courses ... wrapped in swaddling bands, divinity enclosed, wrapped, confined, cabin-cribbed, helpless as a babe!

What a difference between Superman and this breakthrough! Not a manifestation of power to please the pride of man, but with humility to humble man's pride. This idea of a God becoming a man that you saw there in the crib is something very hard for us to realize.

You used a striking analogy to help us realize the humility of the Lord. Please tell us?

Suppose you love dogs. And you were sorrowful for the way dogs were treated by some masters. Or neglected. You had the power to dispossess yourself of your body. But you could do with your soul what you wanted. And you took that soul of yours and you put it into the body of a dog, and when you did that you would resolve rarely to exceed limitations of that dog organism. What a humiliation that would be. You know that you had a mind that could write

poetry, and that could study science. And absorb literature. And understand Dante and Aquinas. Yet here you were and the body of a dog.

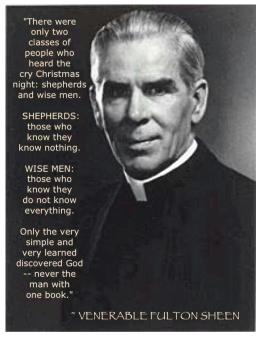
And then there would be another humiliation ... you would have to associate with other dogs knowing all the while that you were better, that you were a man. You think it humbling ... to become a dog just simply to give dogs examples of good conduct?

Well, what do you think it is for this breakthrough — not going into a closet, but going into a stable and a crib. Being bound with swaddling bands. That's the difference in the Superman — weakness instead of power.

Are there any other differences with the Superman contrast?

The Superman, when he comes to this earth of ours to do His Wonders, only touches the environment. He touches what is outside of man. In other words, all the Superman does is to change circumstances on the outside. But He does not touch man on the inside. That's the difference.

When God becomes man, when we have Christmas, He leaves circumstances very much the way they are. He leaves Roman soldiers parading through the street. The same problems. Pain, suffering, and hunger, and so forth. But He begins reforming the hearts of men. And once they are reformed, then if they live according to his way, they will



do away with these boring things of indigence and suffering. So the God-Man works in the heart of a man.

Another analogy to help us understand?

This internal operation of God when He comes to this earth may be likened to a plague. suppose that there was or something in the world today like the Black Death during the Middle Ages remember that wiped out one-third of the population of Europe.

Suppose a great scientist found a remedy for that plague, and he made the remedy available to the whole human race. There would be some who would come to be relieved. Others might not. Now that's just exactly what happened when God came to this earth.

We're all willing to have our circumstances changed. We'd like to have more money ... maybe live in a different house. Do we want our thinking changed? We want our lives changed?

The God-Man came to this earth for the remedy for moral and spiritual plagues. Came to make us happy on the inside. Not everyone wants it. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not." Now this is Christmas in terms of the Superman.

Have you had an experience during some Christmas in the past to illustrate this breakthrough Jesus came to bring?

Let me reduce it to a concrete case. The breakthrough operates through what we call grace. That means an illumination of the intellect, the strengthening of character.

I did a great deal of work in my life in Soho Square district of London, which is the international area of London. And in one church there, because I was an American, I had to get up early and read the first Mass. The English sleep late.

Well, this was Christmas morning ... Christmas. That night there had been a heavy London Fog. When I opened the door, a limp figure fell in. A young woman — she'd been asleep against the door, almost frozen. And I said, "How did you happen to be here?"

She said, "I don't know Father ... Oh

Father ... I used to be a Catholic, but not anymore.

I said, "How did you happen to be here."

She said, "I don't know. I was a bit drunk."

Well," I said, "men often drink because they like the stuff, and women drink because they don't like something else. What didn't you like?"

"Well," she said, "I didn't like the three men that I was going with, and they were beginning to find out I was playing false to them. So I got drunk."

"What is your name?" She told me her name pointing to a billboard on the office building across the way.

I said, "Is that your picture there?"

"Yes," she says. "I'm the leading lady in that musical comedy now."

I went in and made her a cup of coffee. And I said, "Come back now this afternoon."

She said, "I will come back on one condition — that you don't ask me to go to confession."

I said, "All right."

She said, "I want you to promise me faithfully that you will not ask me to go to confession."

I said, "I promise you faithfully not to ask you to go to confession." So she came back that afternoon before matinee. And I said, "We have paintings by Rembrandt and a Van Dyck in this church. Would you like to see them?"

She said, "Yes."

So as we walked down the side aisle, we passed the confessional box. I ... pushed her in. I didn't ask her to go ... I always keep my promises.

Well, she went Communion. She was there month after month. And then she became a nun in London.

Now, here you see the breakthrough. Not the breakthrough into a crib, but the breakthrough into a stable — a heart that's a stable. Then when the breakthrough happened, there was a change, a renovation of heart and character. She was no longer what she was before. It was not the outside that was changed, it was the inside.

That's what Christmas is, Christmas is

not just something that has happened. It's something that is happening. And some of us were afraid of it.

It's very much like people going through life not knowing they have cancer. They're unhappy. They're a bit miserable but they don't know why. If a doctor tells them that they have cancer, then their whole attitude toward life changes. They may be even able eventually to find a remedy.

This perfectly illustrates why people should want to come to Christ at Christmas. Why do you see many stay away from the manger?

People stay away from this Babe of Christmas. They stay away from Christ. They're a bit afraid. Unbelief is dread of the truth about ourselves. That's unbelief. Faith is our willingness to face the truth about ourselves. When we do, once that original dread is overcome and we admit the breakthrough, then we're changed. And then our mind is illumined. Our will strengthened. We have a great joy and happiness. So therefore it's hard for some people to accept Christmas.

Any final suggestions for us?

I'm going to give you a tip because I'm talking to everybody. I always do on television. If you do not want to start there, in that stable, with the full recognition of that breakthrough, I will tell you where to start.

Start loving your fellow man. Start loving your neighbor. And begin to love him, not just because of what he could do for you. Because of any pleasure anyone gives you. But just love him as a fellow man. And then eventually you begin to see that he's a creature of God.

The only unhappy people in this world are the people who are selfish. And I have known in this world some people who just *love* humanity ... Won't you begin to love *really* and *truly?* Please do that for me. And you will eventually come to know the true meaning of Christmas.

Then you'll have ... a Merry Christmas.



Serving Breakfast & Lunch

Tuesday-Friday 5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

105 N. Main Street Loreauville

Saturday & Sunday 7:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday Evenings 5:00-9:00 p.m.



R & R Glass Works **Repairs & Installation** Ricky Bourque, parishioner 365-9311



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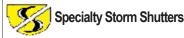
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