

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 6:30 a.m.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Zec 2:14-17 / Lk 1:26-38*

Julie Bradberry, Monica Mancuso, Dr. Ed Cancienne, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 6:30 a.m.

*St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr  
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 / Mt 21:28-32*

Julie Bradberry, Angelique LeLeux, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6:30 a.m.

*St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church  
Is 45:6b-8, 21b-25 / Lk 7:18b-23*

Julie Bradberry, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 6:30 a.m.

*Advent Weekday  
Is 54:1-10 / Lk 7:24-30*

Julie Bradberry, Antoinette LeBlanc, Mitzi Vaughn, Ada Fangué, Charlene F. Rentrop, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 12:10 p.m.

*Advent Weekday  
Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 / Jn 5:33-36*

Julie Bradberry, Josette Dupont, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

*Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Is 7:10-14 / Rom 1:1-7 / Mt 1:18-24*

**4:00 p.m.** Joseph P. Russo fly. (L&D), Gerald Ohmer fly. (L&D), Julie Bradberry, Jamie & Brittani Head, M/M Ivan Carline fly. (L&D), Miles Liner fly. (L&D), Lee Nini, Sr. fly. (L&D), Gary Melancon, Cody Cousins, Andrew J. Daigle, Ada Fangué, Mary Tamporello, Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

**7:00 a.m.** Emile & Ivy Adams, Stephen E. Adams, Andy Robichaux

**10:00 a.m.** Julie Bradberry, M/M E.J. Lemoine fly. (L&D), Nila Nini, Gloria Landry

**6:30 p.m.** Matthew, Todd & Ellis Braus, Jr. & families, Marcia Bergeron

Offertory

\$4134.00

## Quelques paroles de Monsieur le Cure

Is it just a coincidence?

There is a lovely Madonna and Child, an original work of Dom Gregory de Witt, in my office. Miss Leandre Guillot gave it to me as an ordination gift on January 4, 1976.

Dom Gregory did the murals in the church and the monastic refectory at St. Joseph Abbey, more popularly called St. Ben's.

So how did Miss Leandre Guillot, a native of Lafayette, come to possess an original work by Dom Gregory?

Dom, the title frequently used to address Benedictine choir monks in Europe, Gregory de Wit, a native of the Netherlands, was a gifted artist. Abbot Columban, the second abbot of St. Joseph Monastery, admired the work of Dom Gregory and engaged his services.

Dom Gregory arrived at St. Ben's in 1946 and remained there until 1955. During a trip to Europe in 1950, he met a young artist, Milo Piuz, and invited him to work at St. Ben's.

Milo Piuz, whose style is similar to Dom Gregory's, painted the mural at the Carmelite Monastery in Lafayette and created the Stations of the Cross.

During this time, Dom Gregory would frequently visit Maurice for extended periods because of the pastor of the church there. The pastor, Fr. Veekmans, a native of Belgium, was also an artist.

As was the custom at the time, Fr. Veekmans had a live-in housekeeper, Miss Leandre Guillot.

As he was about to return to Europe, Dom Gregory gave Miss Leandre this painting as an expression of his gratitude for her kindness to him during his visits over the years.

Miss Leandre happily received the gift and treasured it, bringing it with her to the various rectories in which she worked. Eventually she began to work for Fr. Paul Thibodeaux. Fr. Thibodeaux was assigned to Cecilia in 1966 and remained there until 1975.

Early on, Miss Leandre told me she would give me the painting as an ordination gift. She presented it to me on January 4, 1976 at the reception following my First Mass in Cecilia.

Every day for forty years I have looked upon this lovely work of art. More than art, it reminds me of so much: my early childhood in Lafayette, my later childhood in Cecilia, my wonderful years at St. Ben's. It also reminds me of an unusual thread in the fabric of my life: Miss Leandre, Fr. Thibodeaux, Mother Theresa Margaret and the Carmelite Nuns, Milo Piuz, Dom Gregory, and others. Are these coincidences?

I think not. There may well be no coincidences. It may well be the will of God.

The last few days of Advent are not about coincidences either: Mary and Joseph, Zechariah and Elizabeth, the Lord Jesus and John. This is the will of God.

Do you think the developments in your life are coincidences? If so, you may want to reflect upon these events anew. It probably is the will of God.

(Msgr.) Courville

## New Announcements

**Volunteers Needed:** Volunteers are needed to decorate the church for the Christmas Season. The work will begin at 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 18.

**Christmas Mass Schedule:** There will be two Masses on December 24, Christmas Eve: 4 and 6. There will be three Masses on Christmas Day, December 25: 6:30 a.m., 10 a.m., and 6:30 p.m.

**Holiday Schedule:** The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 26, for the holiday.

## Repeat Announcements

**Christmas Concert:** The Sound of Pride, the Berwick High School band, will present its annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 20, at 6 p.m. in the school gym. Help yourself to get into the Christmas spirit and plan on attending.

**Pray for the following priest each day:** Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. 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 12, Rev. Richard Wagner, SSJ

December 13, Rev. Arthur Warren

December 14, Rev. Brian Webre

December 15, Rev. Derrick Weingartner, SJ

December 16, Rev. Travis Abadie

December 17, Rev. Lawrence Abara

December 18, Rev. Ambrose Akalawu, CSSp

**Please pray for the sick of our parish:** Diane Bergeron, Reggie Sampey, Gayle Arnould, Floyd & Linda Robicheaux, Roxanne Colbert, Theresa Henry, Michael Keller, Wendell Chauvin, Anthony Rhodes, Sr., Paul Bower, Deborah Hernandez, Ken Macey, Vanessa Clements, Onesime Richard, Johnny Thomas, Rand Nini, Braxton Burch, Kim Beiver, Reese Grace Johnson, Roland Lege, Jr., Brooke Rhodes, Edna Alcina, Brevon & Brinlee Colbert, Shawn McClelland, John Czajka, Jennifer Landry, Harold Adams, Jr., Jeff Brown, Beatrice Talbot, Karen Moore, David Berg, Bren Guillory, John Keenze, Sr., Frank Cavalier, Thomas LeBlanc, Samantha & Sammy Barker, IJL, Diane Bates, Travis Blanco, A. Doiron, Marcelle Campbell, Lenora Ackman, Verdie Laws, Kristi Liner, Ana Rogers, BHL, Mary Geoffroy, Mable LaCoste, Jerry Guillory, Gwen Tillman, Tammy Flirt, Engelle Borden, Kevin Theriot, Bridget Thibodeaux, Donovan LeBlanc, Donna Duplantis, Susan Price, David Gilmore, MIL, Jane Webster, Cheryl Williams, Ian Davis, Boyd Landry, Bobby Monceaux, Adeline Maddix, Cass Oubre, Clay Leonard, Donna Barrow Hoya, Tina Theriot, Gretchen & Lee Nini, Jr., Alli Keith, Mary Grace Rentrop, Marlene Cole, Brenda Dooley, Marilyn Simmons, Wayne Crappell, CJL, Jeanine Derise, Michelle Billiot Landry, Ginger Berryhill, Daniel Fromenthal, Jeana Francis, Duval family, Julie Barrilleaux, Jake Billiot, Steve Thorguson, Teresa Allbriton, Shirley Gilfour, BGL, Troy Osburn, Oliver Alfred, Angie Melancon, Dean Carrington, Archer Rogers

DATE / TIME	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF COMMUNION	ROSARY
December 17, 4:00 p.m.	Janea Giroir	Brian Giroir	Mary Catherine Gray
December 18, 7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Susan Blanchard Sandra Watson Monique Ratcliff	Carolyn Chaisson Brian Theriot	