

A Few Words from Fr. Gary:

Baptism of the Lord - January 13, 2008

This weekend we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus as he comes before John in the Jordan, hears God's call like a parent praising their own Son. We, as Christians too, are called by God to be God's adopted sons and daughters. And like Jesus, God wants to praise our being for a love that is unconditional. God's call continues in our lives. Jesus even at the end of His life continued to receive the call to follow God's will. We too are called to enter into a deeper relationship with God. St Augustine writes, "*Our hearts are restless until they rest in You, Oh, God.*" We find fulfillment and happiness when we follow God's call and plan for our lives. As Christians our vocation is to seek God's will above all else in the world. This weekend you are receiving a prayer for Vocations. Please consider placing it in a prominent place in your home, so that you may consider using it for prayer through out the coming year to pray for vocations.

Vocation Cross: We are in need of parishioners to sign-up to take the Vocation Cross home and pray for vocations. In taking the cross you commit yourselves to pray daily for vocations during the two weeks you have it in your home. On the Sunday you are assigned, you will be called forward at a weekend Mass to receive the vocation cross.

Please mark your calendars for St Thomas Feast Day on Monday, January 28 at 6:00 PM. We will have a parish wide celebration of the feast day and of our parish with a short prayer service featuring a reflection on St Thomas's works by Fr Blane. Following this service we will have a potluck in the Student Center.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This week, January 13-18th is *National Vocation Awareness Week*, a special time in which the Church prays for the renewal and strengthening of vocations of dedicated people as married and single people, men to serve as priests, deacons, brothers, and women as religious sisters. Choose to make a difference!

"SOUP"ER BOWL SUNDAY

Mark your calendars, Feb. 3, 2008 we will celebrate Super Bowl Sunday in Lincoln Parish by donating soup or money for soup to CCA. If each member of the church brought ONE can of soup to donate to CCA that Sunday, it would help greatly as soup is something single adults, families with children, and older adults enjoy on a cold winter day. These and other items may be delivered to our office from 9am-12pm Mon. through Fri. Please call us at 251-3282 to make arrangements to drop off a donation after hours.

NEW FLOWER CHART

The 2008 Flower Chart is now up in the back of Church. It is on the bulletin board next to the pamphlet rack. Please PRINT clearly. Thanks!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jack Duguid, brother of Beth Buske.

PSR MEETING CHANGED

The PSR Advisory Board meeting has been moved from this Sun., Jan. 13 to Sun., Jan. 20 in the AV room during PSR.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

For those who offered a memoriam during Christmas, please pick up a poinsettia following all the Masses this weekend. Also, check with the church office on Mon. if you know of someone who might like a poinsettia plant that is not picked up. All leftovers will be discarded.

ITEMS NEEDED

SVDP is in need of two dressers, kitchen table and chairs, and living room set. These items can be dropped off at 1201 Larson St. in Ruston or you can call 255-8090 or 251-2689. Thanks for all your support.

RENOWNED HISTORIAN TO SPEAK

Dr. Douglas Brinkley, author of *The Great Deluge*, compiler of *Reagan Diaries*, and historical researcher of past American presidents, will speak Thurs., Jan. 17 at noon & 7pm at the Trinity Center. The evening lecture will focus on politics of past presidents & the relevancy to the 2008 election. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 and lunch will be available. Call 251-0750 or trinityruston.org for further information.