



# THE MESSENGER

WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ROBERTSON COUNTY

## ST. MICHAEL

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## OUR LADY OF LOURDES

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VOLUME V, ISSUE 11

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 20, 2015

## OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Website: [www.ollsm.org](http://www.ollsm.org)

### MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY – 8:30 AM

WEDNESDAY – 6:30 PM

THURSDAY – 5:00 PM & MIDNIGHT 12/24

FRIDAY – 10:00 AM 12/25

Noon - Spanish Mass 12/25

SATURDAY – No 8:30 Mass 12/26

VIGIL – 5:00 PM

SUNDAY - 10:30 AM

IN SPANISH - 1:00 PM

HOLY DAY - 7:00 PM

### CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY – None 12/26

BEFORE VIGIL MASS - 4:15 PM

### ROSARY

SATURDAY – 4:30 PM

### ADORATION

WEDNESDAY - None 12/23

SATURDAY – None 12/26

## ST. MICHAEL

Website: [www.ollsm.org](http://www.ollsm.org)

### MASS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY - 7:30 PM - 12/24

SUNDAY – 8:00 AM

### CONFESSIONS & ROSARY

BEFORE MASS – 7:30 AM

## MUSIC OF THE MASS

**PROCESSIONAL:** "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #489

**OFFERTORY:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #652 Verse #7

**COMMUNION:** *Instrumental*

## Pastor's Column

To the Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Michael:

With all that is going on overseas and in our own country, I believe the brief story of *Tahar* (below), is just what we – and what the world needs. We are just days away from our Lord coming again and may we take to heart his words that "it is not easy to admit Jesus into your life" but the love of God knows no bounds. This Fourth Advent, may we know what *Tahar* knows: "There is hope."

Tahar, a truck driver, born in France in 1963, is the son of an imam, married to a practicing Muslim and father of four small children. In 1982 he converted to Christianity. Here is what he told Aleteia.

### "Why did you become a Christian?"

When I was in Algeria for some months during the '80s, I began

practicing Islam. It was there that I read Surah 9, which invokes the holy war: "Fight [slay] the unbelievers wherever you find them, may they find severity in you". I understood [then] that Islam doesn't coincide with the spirit of peace and love, and I also met some Algerians who had converted to Christ. I received the grace to see the truth.

"Why me? I don't know, but I thank the Lord. My father was an imam and never had the chance to understand the Gospel. It's true; it's not easy to admit Jesus into your life. When I converted in 1982, I began preaching the Gospel in Algeria; I always sat in the rear seats of the bus for fear of being stabbed in the back. But when you have Jesus in your life, you thank

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God day and night. Nobody is better than anyone else, but God has given us grace. Today it doesn't matter whether I'm French or Algerian: I'm a citizen of Heaven.

### **“How do you spread the Good News?”**

This morning I distributed Christian calendars during my break. At work I put a tag on the back of my jacket with “I love Jesus” on it. Some make fun of me... We cannot speak about Jesus to everyone, but we have to show His love in one way or another, even if sometimes we are mocked. One day, an imposing gypsy told me that everyone used to be afraid of him, but after his conversion, no-one was afraid of him anymore. People would say: “Antoine has changed”. The faith makes your heart good. But we have no right to force anyone to become a Christian. Each person has to choose for himself.

### **“What do you think of the recent terrorist attacks in Paris?”**

It is not surprising. We see the true face of Islam in these attacks. Those people are not to blame, the blame lies with those who preach the Koran. Some people say they are mad or fundamentalists, but they are simply applying the Koran to the letter. Everyone knows this, but nobody says anything for fear of offending the sensitivity of Muslims. Most Muslims, are good people, but have a veil over their eyes. They aspire to an Islam of peace and truth, but it doesn't exist. In Islam, for example, if you offend me and I don't forgive you, God cannot forgive you either. In other words, a Muslim doesn't only put himself on the same level as God, but thinks he is superior to God.

### **“How can a climate of peace and hope be restored?”**

I hope that all Muslims come to know the Gospel, because it's not through reciting prayers or respecting Ramadan that we are saved, but in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Saviour. Muslims live in uncertainty. “Inshallah” means “if God wills”. And if He doesn't will? Peace will be possible when Jesus returns in all His glory. This is the only hope. However, I know that God loves Muslims, I'm certain of it! Recently, in Algiers, I met an 80 year old man, who had just completed a pilgrimage to Mecca. Upon arriving there, he saw Jesus, Who said to him: “Go back to where you came from”. He went back to Algeria and converted to Christ – at 80 years of age! There is hope!”

Original article in Portuguese translated into Italian by Roberta Sciampliocotti; translated from Italian to English by Rorate contributor Francesca Romana

## **OVER 50 GROUP SPONSORS NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

The Over 50 group will sponsor a New Year's Eve Party on December 31 in St. Luke's Hall beginning at 8:00 pm. All are welcomed. Please bring a snack and enjoy fellowship with friends and playing cards.

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### **THANK YOU**

The Women's Ministry and Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone for making the Cookie Sale and Spaghetti dinner such a success!

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## **AQUINAS VIRTUES CLASS STARTS IN JANUARY**

Understanding the how and why of virtuous living will be the topic of discussion in Part 2 of the Aquinas for Beginners class, which will start at Our Lady of Lourdes on Wednesday, Jan. 13. The class will meet in the church rectory on Wednesday nights from 7:10 to 8:30 PM.

The class is a continuation of the study of Saint Thomas Aquinas under the ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) program, which aims to help busy Catholic women understand their vital role in humanizing and transforming society. The cost of the class is \$20 plus shipping. Participants may register online at <https://store.endowonline.org/teresa-dean-p2782.aspx> or contact Teresa Dean at 615-517-1864. Scholarships are available to cover the cost of the class for those in need.

The writings of this brilliant saint puts a spotlight on the many unreasonable and illogical views touted by our modern culture. The second part of the course studies the saint's teachings on the three theological virtues: faith, hope and charity; and the four cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. Why study virtues? In the words of Catholic author Peter Kreeft: “Without personal virtue, we will do good only sporadically. The main source of a good and happy life – for the human race, for each nation and community and each family – is the personal virtue of each individual. No system or set of laws, however, perfect, can work for good without virtuous individuals.”

Attendance of Part 1 of the class is helpful, but not essential. New participants are welcome. Participants should register by Jan. 6 to ensure they have material in time for the first class on Jan. 13.

## CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 22

8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, December 23

6:30 pm Mass

No Adoration or Dead Theologians Class

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve - Office Closed

5 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes

7:30 pm Mass at St. Michael

Midnight Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes

Friday December 25

Christmas Day - Office Closed

10 am Mass

Noon - Spanish Mass

Saturday, December 26

No Morning Mass, Adoration or Confessions

5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 27

8 am Mass at St. Michael

No Religious Education

10:30 am Mass

1 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, December 28

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 29

8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, December 30

8:30 am Mass

No Adoration or Dead Theologians Class

Thursday, December 31

New Year's Eve, Office Closed-

7 pm Mass at St. Michael

8 pm - New Year's Eve Party in St. Luke's Hall  
sponsored by the Over 50 Group

Friday, January 1 - Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Day, Office Closed

10 am Mass

Saturday, January 2

No 8:30 am Mass, Adoration or Confessions

5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 3

8 am Mass at St. Michael

No Religious Education

10:30 am Mass

1:00 Spanish Mass

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES  
WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 10**

## DTS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Pictured above are: Cecilia Chamberlain, Sarah Chamberlain, Belle Holmes, Nick Haynes, Denilson Martinez, Ibett Ortiz, Emmanuel Ortiz, Gerardo Ortiz, Gili Rivera, Yonathan Rivera, Will Salsman, Luke Salsman, Miguel Soto and Salvador Soto.

The Dead Theologians Society Youth Group gathered to celebrate Christmas on Wednesday night. DTS class is open to all confirmed teenagers. The next class is on Wednesday, January 6. Our motto is: Saints of Yesterday Inspiring Youth Today.

**SECOND COLLECTION  
UNITED MINISTRIES**

## NDCCW MEETING

The Nashville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Winter Meeting will be Saturday January 16 at St. Rose of Lima Church 1601 N. Tennessee Blvd. Murfreesboro, TN 37130. Registration at 9:30am. \$10 for members, \$15 for soon to be members which includes lunch, drawing for table centerpieces, and guest speaker, who will be Julie Cragon <http://www.juliecragon.com/> author and manager of St. Mary's Bookstore. St. Mary's will have a table of their wonderful books for sale! RSVP to Doreen Flash, President 615-476-6244. Childcare will be available!

# PRAYER LIST

## HEALING

\*Sandra Armour  
\*June Bell  
\*Susie Bess  
\*Dorothy Bradley  
\*Robert Bradley  
\*Cheryl Bush  
\*Jerry Bush  
\*Helen Byrne  
\*Tim Carney  
\*Don Cole  
\*Tom Cuff  
\*Jim Curry  
\*Eva Davanport  
\*Bea Heatherly  
\*Macky Hunter  
\*Joe Langford  
\*Thelma Lee  
\*Ann Marie Legate  
\*Maurice Limoges  
\*Rosa Priest  
\*Nora Rabie  
\*Mary Senecal  
\*Robert Senecal  
\*Dee Smoker  
\*Gloria Snow  
\*Mary Stout  
\*Joyce Traughber  
\*Raquel Van De Velde

## PETITIONS

\*For the respect and protection of human life.

## DEPARTED AND THOSE WHO MOURN

*\*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord: and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

## HOMEBOUND

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

\*Helen Byrne  
\*Dorothy Crosslin  
\*Claudia Traughber  
\*Mary Ann Klimek  
\*R.C. Boyle  
\*Dorothy Johnson  
\*Tom Crumpler  
\*Patty Zawierucha

### ST. MICHAEL

\*John Baker  
\*Elizabeth Jenkins  
\*Robert & Regina Head

## ASSIGNMENTS

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

SATURDAY - 12/26/2015

*Lector:* Kay Braddock

*Extraordinary Ministers:*

Jenny Gonyea & Connie Mitchell

*Ushers:* John Schwarz & Volunteer

*Altar Server:* Volunteer

SUNDAY - 12/27/2015

*Lector:* Lynn Wiemelt

*Extraordinary Ministers:*

Nathan Smith & Mandee Johnson

*Ushers:* Don Owens & Volunteer

*Altar Servers:*

Holly & Brianna Wiemelt

*Collection Counters:* Joan Byrne,

Taylor Johnson, Jessie Johnson &

Kendra Monfette

### ST. MICHAEL

SUNDAY - 12/27/2015

*Lector:* Pat Gower

*Extraordinary Ministers:*

John Restey & Mike Ellis

*Usher/Greeter:*

Kaye Sharp

*Collection Counters:*

Kaye Sharp & Jim Conaghan

## GOSPEL: December 21-26

MONDAY: Luke 1:39-45

TUESDAY: Luke 1:46-56

WEDNESDAY: Luke 1:57-66

THURSDAY: Luke 1:67-79

FRIDAY: Luke 1:1-18

SATURDAY: Matthew 10:17-22

## OFFERING DECEMBER 13

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Parish: \$3,158.79

Religious Retirement: \$694.37

### ST. MICHAEL

Parish: \$1,491.00

Religious Retirement: \$385.00

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS 5:00 PM

SUNDAY MASS 8:00 AM

SUNDAY MASS 10:30 AM

TUESDAY MASS 8:30 AM

WEDNESDAY MASS 6:30 PM

THURSDAY MASS 5:00 PM

7:30 PM

Midnight

FRIDAY MASS 10:00 AM

SATURDAY MASS No 8:30 AM Mass

For the intentions of Harry Lee

For repose of the soul of Bruce Carlton Traughber Jr.  
by Bruce & Betsy Traughber

For the intentions of Cecilia Smith by John & Cissy Rampino

For the repose of the soul of Richard Goetz by Berta Goetz

For the repose of the soul of Richard Goetz by Berta Goetz

For the repose of the soul of Don Axley

For the intentions of Sister Henry Suso by The Rampino Family

For the intentions of Sister Marie Vianney by The Rampino Family

For the intentions of Sister Matthew Marie by The Rampino Family