PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
Our purpose, at Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic Church, is to provide a place of spiritual worship and growth for our members, our children, and all visitors. We wish to instill a spirit of prayer, integrity and generosity in each other, with a special concern for the poor, sick, elderly, disabled, the unborn and the weak. We especially encourage our parish members and organizations in their practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy with the poor and informed.

PARISH STAFF

**PASTOR**
Rev. Fr. Christopher Chike Amadi, S.S.J.

**PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS**
Mrs. Martha S. Creecy (985) 536-2613
Ms. Valencia Dunn (985) 536-2613

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**
Mrs. Charlotte Hooker (504) 559-4573

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**
Mr. Edward Phillips (985) 536-2613

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**
Mrs. Myrtle Lucas (985) 536-2028

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY (CYO)**
Mrs. Tracy Watson (504) 296-7852

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**
Mrs. Vanessa Noble (504) 220-7674

**PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD**
Mrs. Precious A. Joseph (985) 536-3115

**RCIA CLASSES**
Any adult interested in joining the Catholic Faith or knowing more about the Catholic Religion should contact the parish Office to sign up for RCIA faith classes.

Announcements for the bulletin can be brought to the parish office, faxed or sent via email to olgchurch@arch-no.org The deadline to submit announcements to be placed in the bulletin is on **Mondays** by **12 noon**.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**
**AUGUST 6, 2017**

**VIGIL MASSES**
Saturday  4:00 PM
Sunday  8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**WEEKDAY MASSES**
Monday  **NO MASS**
Tuesday  6:00 PM
Wednesday  5:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday  8:30 AM Special Intentions
Friday  8:30 AM Parish Mass
Saturday  8:00 AM (1ST SATURDAY ONLY)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**
Begins 1 Hour before each Mass and ends 15 minutes before Mass or by appointment anytime.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**
Parents and god-parents preparation is held on the 3rd Sunday of each month after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Baptism will take place on the 4th Sunday of each month. Baptismal registration takes place ONLY at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class.

**MARRIAGES**
Please notify the Priest at least six to eight months prior to planning the wedding.

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK**
Please call the rectory if someone is sick or hospitalized.

**FUNERALS**
Please call the rectory before making arrangements with the Funeral Director.
Today’s feast of the Transfiguration presents the full force of God’s power. In the rare moments when humans are permitted to encounter God’s intense fullness, the human reaction is the same: fear. The prophet Daniel is so frightened by his visions that he falls flat on his face in terror. Today’s Gospel reports that Peter, James, and John were “very much afraid” when they saw Jesus transfigured on the mountain. They too fell prostrate in fear. These mighty revelations of God’s brilliant majesty have a paralyzing effect on those who witness them. God does not prefer to terrify us, however. God chooses only rare moments to reveal the divine glory, and then sends witnesses to the rest of us so we can believe without fear. Saint Peter’s letter advises us to be attentive to God’s witnesses. Their testimony is true. Their words renew our hearts and transform our lives.

Saint Matthew’s Gospel reveals that Jesus’ face “shone like the sun” during his transfiguration. The evangelist is using a figure of speech, of course, but we can imagine what beholding the Transfiguration might have been like for Peter, James, and John. The brightness of Jesus’ face is compared to the sun. Earth is about ninety-three million miles distant from the sun, yet if we look directly at it, we suffer retinal burns, permanent eye damage, or severe vision loss. The disciples were so close to the Lord during his transfiguration that he could touch them. What is it like to behold the brightness of Jesus? The disciples were terrified. Perhaps looking at Jesus in his glory feels as dangerous as staring at a solar eclipse. Sure enough, the disciples hid their eyes, falling flat on their faces.

**SCRIPTURE VERSE:** The heavens proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. — Psalm 97:6
PRAYER FOR PROTECTION AGAINST STORMS AND HURRICANES
Our Father in Heaven through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us during this Hurricane season from all harm. Protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIFE BEYOND ADDICTION
The Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center invites you to join us for “Life Beyond Addiction”, a Silent Retreat from August 11-13, 2017, with Sr. Linda Fischer, ASC. This silent retreat will focus on rebuilding one’s life after abstinence has been achieved. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST
ARTISTS: That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK
Our Lady of Grace Church Parish continues to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank to distribute food to those in need. Food will be distributed from the Fr. Joseph C Rodney Parish Hall on Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and August 24, 2017 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the foyer of the church.

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday’s at 6:30 PM in the Fr. Joseph C. Rodney Parish Hall. All are invited and welcome to attend.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE
The 16th Annual Community Mass & Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 10:00 AM. More information will be provided at a later date.
James Wagner, Jr
Agent
985-652-1400

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