



Der Löwe und der Pfeil



The Lion and the Arrow — Issue 7

Announcements

Monthly Saint

Saint Nick & Santa will be visiting Roberts Cove on Sunday, 6 December 2020. This year they will be stopping on the Church grounds to visit the children due to Covid. It is recommended that you wear a mask and try to make it at your designated time slot. Saint Nick & Santa asked Fr. Broussard to do a blessing sometime between 6 & 6:30. Everyone is invited to pass through Reznicek Hall to help celebrate Fr. Broussard's birthday with cookies & cake. Please do not bring any food or drink items.

Every month the newsletter will feature a Saint or Religious Figure. Many times, a prayer or novena will be featured. For December we feature Saint Nicholas.

- Ray & Stella Spaetgens Morgan 4:45 -5:30
- Johnny & Ann Schneider Hains 5:00-5:45
- Hebert & Elaine L. Gossen 5:30-6:00
- Glenn & Loretta Boudreaux 5:45 - 6:15
- Al & Mendie Cramer 6:00 - 6:30
- Kevin & Connie Habetz Bossier 6:15-6:45
- Craig & Ashley Habetz Martin 6:30-7:00
- Joe & Bertha Gary LaCombe 6:30-7:00
- Ronald & Sally Habetz 6:45-7:15

Saint Nicholas is the Patron Saint of children. His generous spirit and love for youth have led the way to the popular tradition of the gift-giving Santa Claus celebrated throughout the world. Born into a wealthy family and orphaned young, Saint Nicholas gave his inheritance to the poor, then dedicated his life to serving God as a Priest, and later as a Bishop. Saint Nicholas was born in the third century in Patara, which, at the time, was a part of Greece (but is now present-day Turkey). He was brought up in a wealthy and very devout Catholic family. While still young, his parents died in an epidemic, leaving Nicholas an orphan. Nicholas gave his large inheritance away to the poor and needy. When he was old enough, he was ordained a Priest, and later became the Bishop of Myra. The people of Myra admired him for his generosity and love of children. He was also particularly concerned for the safety of sailors, since Myra was a port town, and many of the villagers took to the seas to make a living.

Plan B:

Should it be raining or too cold to be outside, the following schedule will take place in Reznicek Hall. Please abide by the times because we are limited to the number of people allowed in the hall.

Saint Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in 325, in which he fought against a heresy that a man named Arius was spreading. This heresy stated that Jesus the Son was not equal to God the Father. Many Bishops listened to Arius and were close to agreeing with his position until Saint Nicholas presented the truth to them, at which point the Bishops agreed with Saint Nicholas. The Nicene Creed, which is recited during the Roman Catholic Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, was written in response to what was determined as truth at this Council.

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- Ronald & Sally Habetz 8:00-8:30

Saint Nicholas died on 6 December 343 at Myra. His body was buried in the Cathedral. Due to turmoil in the land, in the year 1067 his relics were moved to Bari, Italy, where many of them remain today. His body exudes an oil to this day (called the "manna of Saint Nicholas") which is said to have healing properties. The site of his burial in Bari is a popular location for pilgrimages.

Please be PROMPT when it is your turn.

Danke!



Saint Nicholas, pray for us.

Events and Holy Days

Any events going on in Roberts Cove and in Branch during the month of the newsletter will be featured in this space. If you wish to have an event for the month listed, then please send all the information to ampdupuis@yahoo.com by the third Sunday of the month before the event is scheduled to take place.

November 29 – First Sunday of Advent

December 1 – Confirmation Mass at 6:30 p.m.

December 2 – St. Joseph Mass at 6:30 a.m.

December 6 – Saint Nick and Fr. Broussard's Birthday

Look under the Announcements section for all the information regarding the Saint Nick celebration.

December 7 – Anticipated Mass at 6 p.m. at St. Edmund

December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Mass at St. Leo IV will be at 6 p.m.

December 13 – CDA Christmas Party

The party will be following the 9 a.m. Holy Mass and be held in the Saint Benedict Room.

December 24 – Christmas Eve

Anticipated Mass at 4 p.m. at St. Edmund

December 25 – Christmas

12 a.m. Midnight Mass at St. Leo IV

7:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Edmund

9 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Leo IV



December's flower is the holly.



The birthstone of December is Turquoise. It symbolizes good fortune and success. It is believed to relax the mind and to protect its wearer from harm.



Archive Dive

This month we will look at different German and Cajun French Christmas Traditions.

On December 5 in Germany, children place a freshly polished pair of boots in front of their bedroom doors in the hope that Saint Nicholas and his assistant *Knecht Ruprecht*, who is dressed in a brown or black robe with a pointed hood, will visit their house. Children wake up the next morning hoping that Saint Nicholas left them a gift in their boots, such as chocolate, nuts or fruits, or a bag of gummy bears. But not all children receive a gift from Saint Nicholas because he usually only brings gifts to those who are well-behaved throughout the year. If you weren't well-behaved, *Knecht Ruprecht* would take a lump of coal from the sack he carried on his shoulder and leave it in your boot.

Knecht Ruprecht also has another purpose in the German traditions of Saint Nicholas. Much like our Saint Nick celebration here in Roberts Cove, Saint Nicholas in Germany will visit the children at their homes and ask them if they have been good or bad, and he carries around a golden book that tells him everything the children have been up to during the year. *Knecht Ruprecht* is a menacing figure who goes around with Saint Nicholas though and tries to scare little kids into behaving with treats and threatens spankings if they don't behave.

The Festival on Bonfires is a tradition that dates back to the 1800s and was a carryover from both French and German traditions of lighting bonfires around the holidays. The four-sided wooden plank structures were constructed for the bonfires and would easily burn bright.

Here in Acadiana we have our own traditions, such as Noel Acadien au Village, where more than 500,000 Christmas lights illuminate the night. People also go during the holiday season to visit Santa and enjoy live music.

Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.

–Dr. Seuss' *The Grinch*

