



1869

Sesquicentennial

2019



Celebrating our past with joy today
and with hope for the future

DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES
Established April 25, 1980

The Most Rev. Glen John Provost, D.D., M.A.
Bishop of Lake Charles

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CATHEDRAL PARISH**
Established December 8, 1869

PARISH STAFF

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Rev. Fr. Ruben Buller, *In Residence*
Canon Jean Marie Moreau,
In Residence

Rev. Deacon Christopher Fontenot

Mr. Robert Marcantel
Music Director

Mrs. Marlene Mullenix
Organist

Ms. Sue Burke
Receptionist

Mrs. Lavonne "Cookie" Dennison
Secretary

Ms. Carla Primeaux
Bookkeeper

Mr. Philip Ardoin
Maintenance

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CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
APRIL 19, 2020

**ALL PUBLIC MASSES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED PER BISHOP PROVOST DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK.
OUR PRIESTS WILL CELEBRATE DAILY MASS WITHOUT A CONGREGATION FOR OUR PARISH INTENTIONS.**

THE CATHEDRAL WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR INDIVIDUAL VISITS AND PRIVATE PRAYERS:

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
SATURDAY—SUNDAY 1:00 PM—5:00 PM

CONFESSIONS:

MONDAY—FRIDAY 11:00 AM—12:30 PM
SATURDAY—SUNDAY 3:00 PM—4:00 PM

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT WILL BE EXPOSED IN A MONSTRANCE
FOR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING THE HOURS OF CONFESSION**

Please note
schedule change!



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What extraordinary graces are available on Divine Mercy Sunday?

A. Our Lord revealed to St. Faustina His desire to literally flood us with His graces on that day. He told her: **On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion* [see note below] shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary 699).**

***(Note: Bishop Glen John Provost issued a Decree on March 18, 2020 dispensing the faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles from the obligation of receiving Holy Communion in order to obtain a plenary indulgence. This dispensation is in effect as long as the suspension of public Masses is in place in the Diocese of Lake Charles.)**

The theologian who examined St. Faustina's writings for the Holy See, Rev. Ignacy Rozycki, explained that this is the promise of a *complete renewal of baptismal grace*, and in that sense like a "second Baptism" (in much the same way that St. Catherine of Siena called sacramental Confession, undertaken out of true love of God, an "ongoing Baptism") (*The Dialogue*, no. 75).

The extraordinary graces promised to the faithful by our Lord Himself through St. Faustina should not be confused with the plenary indulgence granted by Pope John Paul II for the devout observance of the Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday). The Decree of the Holy See offers: "A plenary indulgence, granted under the usual conditions sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!)"...

Q. How can I receive extraordinary graces on Divine Mercy Sunday?

A. In order to receive the extraordinary graces, you should prepare by making a good Confession, so that you can receive Holy Communion* (see note above) in a state of grace on Divine Mercy Sunday. In addition, Our Lord asked St. Faustina to be sure to perform acts of mercy: **Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy (Diary 742).**

Our Lord also requested that the Image of The Divine Mercy be solemnly venerated on that day. **I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it (Diary 341).**

Q. Can I offer the graces of Divine Mercy for someone else, living or deceased?

A. Our Lord's promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is given to those who

accept His invitation to come to the Fountain of Life. These graces are for ourselves.

I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy (Diary 1109). Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment (Diary 300). The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary 699).

However, given the extraordinary graces that the person receives from Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday namely, the complete renewal of baptismal grace the time after that Communion is an excellent time for the communicant to intercede for loved ones on earth, and to begin to undertake indulgenced works, as established by the Church, for the sake of the souls in purgatory.

In fact, Pope John Paul II granted a plenary indulgence for special devotions to The Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday, and these indulgences can be obtained for the suffering souls in purgatory.

Q. I am Catholic, but I cannot receive the Sacraments because I'm divorced and remarried outside the Catholic Church. Can I receive the graces of Divine Mercy Sunday?

A. If at present you cannot generally receive the Sacraments in the Catholic Church because of your marital circumstances, you would also not be permitted to receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday until you rectify your situation through the pastoral offices of the Church.

Our Lord said to St. Faustina: **The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive. Souls that trust boundlessly are a great comfort to Me, because I pour all the treasures of My graces into them. I rejoice that they ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much (Diary 1578).**

With this in mind, you can participate in the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday by making a Spiritual Communion, with great trust. God will give you all the graces that He sees that you need because of your great trust.

* * *



The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will be open for individual visits and private prayers on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Eucharistic Adoration and the Divine Mercy image will be displayed for veneration. We will have Confessions* available from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

**Those who already went to Confession should make room for others. The Church allows Confession up to 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday, as long as Holy Communion is received in the state of grace on the feast itself.*

In Loving Memory...

Gus Schram, Jr.
 father Gus Schram III
 died on April 9, 2020

We pray that he will find peace and joy in the presence of Our Lord. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family and to all who mourn his death.

Given the circumstances, Bishop Provost is providing this prayer for the use of the faithful:

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least into my heart. I embrace You as if You are already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

(You may make this Act of Spiritual Communion any-time you need it and as often as you need it.)



**Salus Populi Romani
 Protectress and Health of the Roman People
 Prayer against the Coronavirus**

O Mary, you shine continuously along our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman people, know what we need, and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that, as at Cana of Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and took up our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



The new schedule for times the Cathedral will be open for individual visits and private prayer, as well as Confessions, is listed below and on the front page of this bulletin.

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OFFERTORY DONATIONS

April 12...\$14,460
 (mailed in...\$6,659)
 (online...\$7,801)

Our weekly offertory collection provides the necessary funds to meet our financial obligations - staff payroll, insurance payments, utility bills, building maintenance, etc. While public Masses are suspended at this time, our daily work of parish and pastoral ministry will continue on. Please consider sending your weekly donations by mail, dropped through our mail slot on the office door, or online. Here's the link to our secure online donations page:

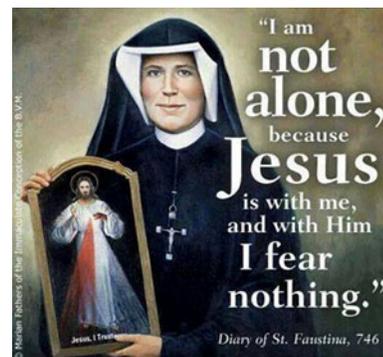
immaculateconceptioncathedral.com/donations

You may now access online giving through the Diocese by logging onto:

lcdiocese.org/resources/support-the-diocese.

If you access "Support My Parish," you will have the option to select your parish and properly direct your donation.

Thank you so much for your generous spirit during this difficult time.



HOW TO KEEP IN TOUCH!

Visit Our
Website

immaculateconceptioncathedral.com

Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception



If you haven't signed up for the Cathedral's **Flocknote** yet, we urge you to register **so that you can keep up with our news, latest developments and more.**

You can either visit flocknote.com/iccathedral or text **ICCATHEDRAL** to **84576** from your cell phone to subscribe. Then follow instructions from there. Flocknote is free, safe, secure, and your personal information will not be sold to 3rd parties. You can unsubscribe at any time, but please give it a try!

FORMED[®] THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Formed is a valuable resource for your homeschooling, religious ed, study and entertainment!

Don't forget to access formed.org, the Cathedral's gift to you! Go to formed.org, enter our parish code on the homepage: **J8M3GP**, create a personal account with your email and password. Start enjoying inspiring movies and video series, Catholic ebooks, and audio presentations. The best Catholic content is all in one place...and it's free!



The Diocese of Lake Charles will continue to stream Bishop Glen John Provost's private Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays while public Masses are suspended. The Bishop's Mass will also be televised on KPLC from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (The Mass recorded for television is restricted to 30 minutes, so for this reason, the rites have been shortened and abbreviated to the extent allowed by liturgical law.) The Mass will be available on the Diocesan website as well as on the Diocesan Facebook Page and on YouTube. You can also tune in at 9:30 a.m. on the radio to KLCL-AM 1470 or KJEF-AM 1290 in Jennings.

There are a number of priests throughout the diocese live-streaming Masses on their websites or Facebook Pages. (NOTE: This listing is being updated regularly. Please check the Diocese website: lodiocese.org often for the latest information.)

For more news, updates, and a daily reflection from Bishop Provost follow the Diocese on lodiocese.org and on its Facebook page Roman Catholic Diocese of Lake Charles.

Additional Resources:

- ◆ Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) — broadcasts daily Mass, Sunday through Saturday, at 7 a.m., 11 a.m. (except Thursday at 10:30 a.m.), and 6 p.m. (except at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and no 6 p.m. Mass on Sunday)
- ◆ For Mass in the Extraordinary Form, go to [Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest](http://InstituteofChristtheKingSovereignPriest.org) or [Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter](http://PriestlyFraternityofSaintPeter.org).
- ◆ Word on Fire with Bishop Robert Barron @ [Bishop Robert Barron](https://www.facebook.com/BishopRobertBarron) on Facebook
- ◆ [Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception](http://BasilicaoftheNationalShrineoftheImmaculateConception.org) in Washington, D.C. — through the remaining Sundays of Lent, the Basilica will live stream Mass at noon, as well as several beloved Catholic devotions. Recitation of the Rosary will take place at 1:30 p.m. CT and the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2 p.m. CT, followed by Benediction with the Most Blessed Sacrament.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

**Free Resources from the
United States Conference of
Catholic Bishops**

Visit www.usccb.org to access these links:

- ◆ Continuity of Learning and Community Plan for Parents and Student
- ◆ The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- ◆ Educational Resources and Ongoing Discipleship Formation
- ◆ Ideas and Recommendations for Families with Children who have Diverse Learning Needs
- ◆ Daily Readings: English | Spanish
- ◆ Daily Readings Audio
- ◆ Video Reflection
- ◆ Tips on Livestreaming the Mass
- ◆ Mass in Time of Pandemic

The following publishers have generously made their resources available to support prayer during these difficult days. We thank them for their generosity and pastoral concern.

- ◆ Liturgical Press: Give Us This Day
- ◆ Magnificat
- ◆ Bayard: Living with Christ
- ◆ The Word Among Us
- ◆ Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. . . (for parents)
- ◆ RENEW International
- ◆ Loyola Press
- ◆ Oregon Catholic Press
- ◆ Liturgy Training Publications (LTP)
- ◆ Our Sunday Visitor
- ◆ Sadlier
- ◆ RCL Benziger
- ◆ Pflaum: Resources for Families
- ◆ Catechist.com Resources
- ◆ My Catholic Faith Delivered

The following article from the Diocesan webpage is a reflection from each transitional deacon in his own words about the effect the pandemic has had on them as they draw closer to their ordination to the priesthood scheduled on Saturday, June 27, here at the Cathedral.



Deacon Andrew DeRouen

Like most transitional deacons studying in Rome, I was looking forward to finishing up my time in Rome this June and returning home in time for our ordinations to the priesthood. A sudden call to return home early out of an abundance of caution has changed that plan, but there's been no shortage of grace to continue persevering. I find it quite special that my last Lent before ordination has demanded discomfort and detachment in nearly every aspect of life.

At a moment's notice, I had to part ways with things that didn't fit in a suitcase. After living with friends for four years, I had to say goodbye in a matter of hours, knowing I wouldn't see many of them ever again. But entering the world outside the seminary, I began to witness fear overwhelming many people. Even in our own country and diocese, where the faithful have limited access to the Sacraments, despair has crept into our hearts.

What a time to strive for holiness, and what a time to become a priest! If anything, early entry into a pastoral assignment has affirmed this dire need for fearless and holy priests, and I pray that I can become one among them.



Deacon Joseph Caraway

For nearly the last four years, I have lived and studied Theology in Rome for my formation to the priesthood. The recent COVID-19 circumstances have brought that time to an unexpected end.

I received a phone call at 3:00 p.m. one afternoon to notify me that I would need to depart my home of the last four years by 5:00 a.m. the next morning — and I would not be returning. While my departure from the Eternal City was earlier and more abrupt than expected, I had a two-week quarantine awaiting me when

I returned home. This was a blessing to reflect on my time in Rome. Different than most people who think back on their vacation and remember the architecture and art found in the basilicas and museums, I thought of my memories and friendships made during my stay.

I have become friends with many people in Italy, including some in the most affected areas in the north, and it is sad to hear about their struggles. However, amid the circumstances they are going through, I am inspired by their steadfast faith through this crisis. As one Italian said, "All of Italy is on its knees."

I have frequently found myself joining them in prayer for all of us going through this time of carrying the cross. I recognize that I have been blessed with many gifts, and when they are taken away, it is easy to see the negatives and the unfortunate circumstances. However, I challenge myself each day to see the positives and how much the Lord is still giving me.

We must trust and have faith in Christ. This pandemic is offering us the chance to turn to Him and stand at the cross like His Mother and the disciple whom Jesus loved.



Deacon Samuel Bond

In the Fall of 2014, having graduated from McNeese in Civil Engineering and feeling that God was calling me to serve Him radically, I contacted the Diocese of Lake Charles. I then entered into formation to become a priest. Six years ago, I moved into Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans where I have studied Philosophy and Theology, learned how to pray, and learned how to be a gift to those around me in ways that God has called me to do so.

Having spent six years in the seminary, with about 140 other men, we forge relationships centered on Christ and help to build each other up in our vocation. These are friendships that will last a lifetime, and yet, in the onslaught of the recent developments of the Coronavirus, these connections are seemingly put on hold. Now, my last semester before ordination to the priesthood, there seems to be a dark cloud that hangs over this time.

This time that would typically be marked with joy and anticipation for the culmination of my six years of hard work, fraternity, and dedication, feels lonely and thrown off. The friends I have spent this time with, the Chapel I have spent hours in prayer in, and the professors I studied under, I was unable to give a proper

goodbye as I returned to Lake Charles.

What is it that God is trying to say to me at this moment? Despite all this apparent chaos, God is still enough. God can still the roaring seas and cast out the demons of the heart. Even during the times when I (and the rest of the country) feel lonely and detached from those we feel closest to, nothing can come between us and our relationship with Him. Not sickness, not death, and especially not the coronavirus.



Deacon Levi Thompson

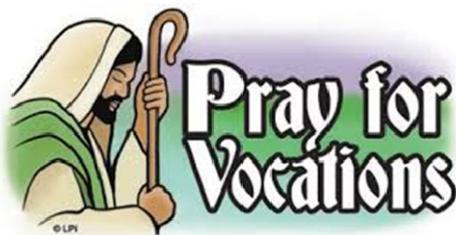
The drastic change happened in a week and was one of the most traumatic events of my life. In the seminary, the primary focus is the spiritual, intellectual, and human formation to the priesthood. In the seminary in Rome, I appreciated the faith of the universal church and the lives of the saints in the Eternal City.

But we were asked to come home as soon as possible, and not to expect a future return to Rome. We would find a solution to finish seminary formation from the Diocese. My entire life and formation in Rome came crashing down. I packed up my entire room and life and caught a flight to the States 14 hours later in order to continue formation from the Diocese.

Due to the coronavirus, my entire seminary formation in Rome ended in a day. I had to let go of the past in the seminary, in order to look forward to future ministry. All I could do in the moments of transition was trust in God's will. I had my own will and desire for how things should have been, but I learned to let go and trust God. Even in the crazy moments, I can now see God's presence with me in the journey. He can mysteriously take the difficulties caused by the virus and bear fruit in forming me into a holy priest.



Please keep our seminarians and all those affected by COVID-19 in your prayers.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

April 20—April 26, 2020

| | |
|------------|---|
| Monday: | Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8 |
| Tuesday: | Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15 |
| Wednesday: | Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21 |
| Thursday: | Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36 |
| Friday: | Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15 |
| Saturday: | 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20 |
| Sunday: | Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35 |



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

A Pre-Baptism class must be attended before the celebration of Baptism. These classes are held the 4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Arrangements for celebration of Baptism may be made by calling the parish office after having attended the Baptism Class. **Note: The dates of the baptism classes have changed due to the closure of the Cathedral office. Please call 436-7251 for updates.**

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least six (6) months before the wedding date by calling the parish office. An appointment must be made for a pre-marriage interview.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.

An ongoing process of formation and education is provided for anyone who is interested in inquiring into the Roman Catholic faith. The RCIA process is available throughout the year to those who are seeking initiation into the church as well as for those non Catholics seeking more information about the Roman Catholic church. Information concerning participation in the RCIA process may be obtained through the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

ALL PUBLIC MASSES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED PER BISHOP PROVOST DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK. OUR PRIESTS WILL CELEBRATE DAILY MASS WITHOUT A CONGREGATION FOR OUR PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, April 18—Julie Moon; Annette Pronia; Souls in Purgatory.

SUNDAY, April 19—"Pro Populo" (For the People); Robichaux & Robert Families; Dr. Francis X. Bride, Jr.; Enos Miller Family; Ryan Skrnich; Angel Infante; Mabel & Lee Trahan; Joy Gaspard & Family (living); Regina Hidalgo (living); Cynthia Louise Williams (living).

MONDAY, April 20—Vickie Denison (living); Kerry Burke & Family (living).

TUESDAY, April 21—Tyra Shelton (living).

WEDNESDAY, April 22—Marie Lupo.

THURSDAY, April 23—Trish Leger (living).

FRIDAY, April 24—Sue & Joseph Scurria.

SATURDAY, April 25—Dora Jean "Dori" Scalisi Rogers; Annette Pronia.

SUNDAY, April 26—"Pro Populo" (For the People); L.D. Gervais Family; Dena & Fred Nodier; Marie Lupo; Bev Wise; Larry Miller; Peggy Guidry; Emmadell Bodin Hay; Gwen Craft & Family; Craig Smith (living); Hayley, Andrew & Arthur Yearby (living).

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE ILL

Sondra Abraham; Rosa Adams; Sam Ange, Jr.; Jenna, Aden, Grace, David Babcock; James M. Bailey; Henry Barnatt; Gloria Bennett; Charles Benoit; June Benoit; Donald Blanchard; Leneta Boudreaux; Robert Boudreaux; Melanie Bowles; Chandra Broussard; Dean Broussard; Kylan Broussard; Stephen Broussard; Turner Brumby; Jerry Cain; Emily Carleton; Teresa Chapoy; Ada Cochran; Denise Collette; Thad Crouch; Betty Daigle; Wade Davis; Vickie Denison; Claudia Dyle; Charles Elter; Dee Elter; Bill Ferguson; Lamont Francisco; Carolyn Gauthreaux; Ty Griffen; Diane Hagerty; Gabriel Hardy; Michelle Hart; Mary Hebert; Stephanie Hinton; Brenda Hoback; Emery Hooper; Anne Hoyer; Jessica Hulin; Georgia Ieyoub; Mary Jeffers; Gary Johnson; Brice Jones; Darrel Jones; Hattie Kadlubar; Janet LaBiche; Cheryl Lecompte; Helen Lecompte; Sarah LeCompte; James Leger; Michael Lee; Della Lemaire; Melanie Lupo; Elizabeth Louviere; Judy Marcantel; Jules Maust; Brett McCaughey; Barbara McCombs; Ray Miles; Elaine Morrow; Betty Mueller; Kenneth Newman; Ruth Ottenweller; Larry Parker; Chris Percle; Ben Perry; Clifford Raleigh; Oliver "Rick" Richard; William P. Richard; Taylor Rock; Marian Rome; Lathan Russell; Rene Russell; Michael & Marie Scimemi; Cammie Shaddock; Sue Spears; Jaxson Spikes; Chris Stemmann; Rob Stephens; Beau Styron; Darrell Sullivan; Theresa Theriot; Warren Thomas; Betty Trahan; Charlie Viccellio; Aly and Riley Wilkins; Gay Young; Martha Young.

***If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the church office at 436-7251.
Please let us know if your loved one has recovered or is deceased.***

Prayer Intentions for April:

Pope Francis: We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Bishop Provost: May the celebration of Easter increase our devotion to Christ, strengthen our faith in His Resurrection, and keep us united in the pursuit of what is good, moral, and just.