

Sixth Sunday - Season of the Year

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 11, 2017

4:30 P.M. MASS – Frances Meaux, George & Clara Schneider, Jeremy Rider, Keith LeJeune, Marvin & Sheryl Banks, Freddie & Becky Gorman, Darrell, Eloise & Greg Reed, John C. Durio, Sonnier Fly., Remy Spring

SUNDAY, February 12, 2017

7:30 A.M. MASS – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

10:00 A.M. MASS – Edward Maddox, Dreau Granger, Weston Monceaux, Sr., Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Augustine Goodley, Roislyn, Dwight & Gracie Gradney, Arson Victorian, Agnes Victorian, Robby Taylor, Living & Dec. members of Ken Taylor Fly.

MONDAY, February 13, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

TUESDAY, February 14, 2017

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – Clement & Emma Granger

THURSDAY, February 16, 2017

5:30 P.M. MASS – Jo Ann Hebert

FRIDAY, February 17, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – John C. Durio

SATURDAY, February 18, 2017

4:30 P.M. MASS – Frances Meaux, Sox Gordon, Dorothy J. Montou, Jeremy Rider, J.C. & Bertha Smith, Hubert Bertrand, Emily Adams, Keith LeJeune

SUNDAY, February 19, 2017

7:30 A.M. MASS – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

10:00 A.M. MASS – Edward Maddox, Angelle L. Durio, Linda LeJeune, Helen Sonnier, Glenn Sonnier, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons

Last Week's Collection

\$7,286.75

2nd Collection this weekend – Religious Education

PRAYER LIST

Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Gerry Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Corey Briscoe, Douglas Briscoe, Luke Burnham, Bernice Bushnell, Helen Bushnell, Kristin Carlton, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, David & Natalie Carrier, Beatrice Cezar Fly., Vivian Cole Family, Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Virginia Cotongin, Aiden Darbonne, Carol Deshotel, Jackie Deville, Jabe Doyle, Poochie Duplechain, David Fontenot, Donald Fontenot, Justin Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Paul Fontenot, Rodney Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Jeri Garcille, Tim Germany, Elaine & Justin Giles, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Daniel Goodly & Fly., Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Todd Guillory, Victoria Lynn Guillory, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Shirley Hebert, Jan Horton, Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Rudolph & Joyce Johnson, Paul LaFleur, Essie Langley, Grayce LaRacca, Dwain LeBleu, Tina Morgan Lantier, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joseph, & Adam LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Shirley Manuel, Trista Marler, Reed McIver, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Charles Mancil, Joy Mancil, Ray Marcantel, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Louanna McGee, Sam & Rochelle McMahan, Christina McNutt, Ronald Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Kara Montou, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Nicholas Odum, Gabriella & Martel Papillion, Howard Patin, Devin Pelt, Sally Pitre, Linda & Don Potier, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Erin Ramos, Ronnie Ramos, Ashton Read, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Sara Reed & Fly., Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Leonard Richard, Donald Rider, Sharon, Richard, Jonathan, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skyline, Jackson, Martha, Rusty, and Patsy Rider, Michael Roger, Beverly Romero and Fly., Ann Rooney, Vera Ross, Rev. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Quentin Savoie, Sister Ann Margaret Savant, Tucker Scimemi, Helen Shreeman, Remy Spring, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Margie Smith, Donald Paul Sonnier, Barbara Strickland, Kelly Strother, Lucille Strother, Carl Tarver, Kenneth Taylor, Celeman Thomas, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Zachary Villereal, Linda Voeller, JoAnn Welch, Robbie Willis, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Leading the Rosary before Mass this Weekend

4:30 P.M. – Haddie Goodly 7:30 A.M. – Lucy Brandon

10:00 A.M. – Deacon Norris Chapman

Vocations Candle – Mrs. Mary Ann Goodley

Vocations Cross – Mrs. Mary Ann Goodley

Divine Intimacy Reading Guide

Feb. 12 th – Feb. 19 th	Entry Number
Sunday	77
Monday	78
Tuesday	79
Wednesday	80
Thursday	81
Friday	82
Saturday	83
Sunday	84

SJOA LADIES ALTAR SOCIETY CATFISH DINNER FUNDRAISER

Sunday, March 5, 2017 from 10:00 AM – 1 PM

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Hall

\$10.00

Dinner includes ½ lb. Catfish Fillet, French Fries, Coleslaw Fried Pistolette, and Dessert

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This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, February 12th – R.C.I.A. at 5:00 P.M.; **Ultreya at 5:00 P.M.; Solemn Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M.**
- ❖ Monday, February 13th – Knights of Columbus at 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, February 15th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD and Youth Group**
- ❖ Thursday, February 16th – Holy League at 6:30 P.M.

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FROM FATHER CONNER

Rachael's Vineyard: Healing After Abortion

A few Sundays prior I referenced an exceptional outreach of the Catholic Church for those who have been involved, to whatever degree, in abortion. If you or someone you know are struggling with guilt, depression, regret or other difficult emotions from an abortion, you are not alone. Come experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat: **February 24-26, 2017**, at the Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff. The weekend retreat is sponsored by the Diocese of Lake Charles and will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Penance (i.e., confession), a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. The cost is \$210.00 for meals, private room with private bath, and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available by contacting me (Father Conner). Again, every aspect of a Rachael's Vineyard retreat, including contacting me, is absolutely confidential. For more information or registration contact: RV of SWLA 337-439-7400 ext. 317 or E-mail rachels.vineyard@ldioocese.org For a National listing of retreat dates & locations contact 1-877-HOPE-4-ME or visit the Rachel's Vineyard website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

More youth participation at SJoA ...

SJoA is happy to welcome **Brianna Rex** to the choir and **Logan Rex** as a new altar boy. Brianna joins the choir and Logan serves Mass for the first time this Sunday. We also want to welcome the entire Rex family to SJoA, as they only recently moved to Oberlin. Welcome!

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

GENERAL GRANT'S CATHOLIC ENCOUNTER

After serving his term as president, U.S. Grant went with his wife on a world tour. One of the stops on their trip was the Vatican. When Grant was presented to the Pope the Holy Father said, "I want to thank you for the religious privileges you granted to Catholic soldiers in your armies."

Thinking back, the general couldn't recall any special privileges he'd granted to Catholics. Perceiving this, the Pope explained, "I'm referring to the fact that before every battle you told your officers to allow the Catholic soldiers an opportunity to go to confession."

Grant replied rather directly, as was his manner, "I did that as a military measure, because *my soldiers fought better when they felt that their conscience was clear*. But I had no idea Your Holiness was aware of this custom."

"Ah, my friend," replied the Pope, "there is nothing which effects my children anywhere in the world that is not known to me, and every such benefit is cordially remembered."

Despite that he wasn't a Catholic, Grant understood the obvious benefit of confession, and so should we all. If well received, the sacrament of Penance restores or increases sanctifying grace, forgives our sins, obliterates eternal punishment due for mortal sins, helps us with additional strength to avoid future sins, and restores all the merits that have been lost by the commission of mortal sins.

There are five elements necessary for us to be able to make a good confession:

1. We must make a good examination of conscience;
2. We must be truly sorry for our sins;
3. We must resolve not to sin again (called a firm purpose of amendment);
4. We must confess our sins to a priest;
5. We must accept the penance the priest assigns us.

Now let's begin to look at these five elements individually, beginning with a good examination of conscience.

In order to make a ***good examination of conscience*** we must make a deliberate recalling of all the sins we have committed since our last good confession. This is done by going over in our mind all that is required of us by God's commandments and the Church's laws. The Church recommends that we do a brief examination of conscience each night before bedtime, which makes it much easier to do before confession.

There are a number of prayer books and leaflets available that have a *printed* examination to help guide us. They merely list God's commandments and the Church's laws in order. Under each commandment and law are questions we should ask ourselves. The two best printed forms of an examination of conscience I've seen are found in the *Queen of Apostles Prayerbook*, and the *Handbook of Prayers*.

Sorrow for our sins is called contrition. There are two types of contrition: perfect and imperfect. ***Perfect contrition*** is sorrow for our sins with the purest of motives; it is hatred for our sins solely for the love we have for God and the offense our sins cause Him.

"Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins *if it includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible*."³(Council of Trent (1551): DS 1677)

Imperfect contrition, on the other hand, is sorrow for our sins for less pure motives; e.g., fear of hell. Like perfect contrition, imperfect contrition is still a gift of God, a prompting of the Holy Spirit. We experience imperfect contrition when we are sorry for our sins because we fear hell, or because of the inherent evil of sin. Although perfect contrition is obviously the better of the two, it is rare. However, we may receive the sacrament well if we have at least imperfect contrition.

The rite of the sacrament of Penance allows for recital of the prayer called an ***act of contrition***, of which there are many, and we should be sincere in the recitation of this prayer. By *act* of contrition we mean an act of the will, causing our will to be sorry for the sins we commit. We should never confuse subjective emotion with an objective act. In other words, you may not *feel* sorrow for your sins, but you can *decide* to be sorry. We should be sorry for all our sins, including venial sins, because all sins offend God. Still, you must only be contrite for your mortal sins. If all you're confessing is venial sins and don't have sorrow for them, recall a past mortal sin and be contrite about it.

Next is the ***firm purpose of amendment***. This is the firm resolution that you will not sin again. In order to receive God's forgiveness, you must have this firm purpose of amendment. Being resolved not to sin again is not the same as living up to it. Yes, you should absolutely have your mind made up not to sin again and to avoid all the occasions of sin, but let's not forget that only one human person, the Blessed Virgin Mary, went a lifetime free of all actual sin. Even though all the saints were perfect by the time they died, all of them had sinned. Even St. John Paul II went to confession *every day*, and no one will deny he was a holy man. (By the way, as holy as he was, I've often wondered what it would be like to be a fly on the wall during one of his confessions. What could he possibly have had to confess?)

Next week we will conclude our examination of the sacrament of Penance with a look at the final two elements of those five necessary to make a good confession. Don't wait until reading next week's article if you need to go to confession, though! Your priest will happily help you through a good confession; because this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Got a question? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com.

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