

25th Sunday – Season of the Year

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

5:30 P.M. MASS – Mr. & Mrs. John C. Durio, Elmo Smith, Jeremy Rider, David Dugas, Fran Meaux, Mr. & Mrs. Arlington Manuel & Fly., Dwayne, Adam & Wallace Meaux, Jr., Lester, Eula & Elmer Chatman, Sr., Keith LeJeune

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Gene & Velma Brakel, Marvin Banks, Sox Gordon, Edward Maddox, Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Deacon Norris & Sandra Chapman, Douglas Briscoe, Arlington Manuel, Matthew Guillory

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – Curley Victorian, Sr.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – James Smith

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – Annette Harmon

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

12:05 P.M. MASS John C. Durio

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

5:30 P.M. MASS – Jeremy Rider, Fran Meaux, Bernard Aguilard, John C. Durio, Mr. & Mrs. Arlington Manuel & Fly., Bish LeJeune, Keith LeJeune

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Juan H. Lucero Castellano, Juan H. Lucero Ruiz, Milagros Castellano Perez, Guihermo Consuegra Garicia, Manuela Travieso Rodriguez, Members of St. Martha's Guild, Martin Goodly, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Jeanette Hornsby, Marvin Banks, Angelle LeJeune Durio, Doughty, Margaret, Nancy & Peter Broussard, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Carol Deshotel, Edward Maddox, Clegg & Tootie Chaumont

Last Week's Collection **\$3,269.10**

Sisters from the Alliance of the Holy Family International \$506.33

2nd Collection Last Weekend – Hurricane Harvey Relief \$150.00

2nd Collection This Weekend – Hurricane Irma Relief

PRAYER LIST

Mr./Mrs. Robert Andrews, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Jack Berlinger, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Pauline Boudreaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Brandon Bridgwel, Douglas Briscoe, Lincoln & Louise Briscoe, Margaret Briscoe, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Helen Bushnell, Roxane Campbell, Kristin Carlton, David & Natalie Carrier, Rosabelle Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazzes, Ailene Chapman, Vivian Cole Fly., Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Virginia Cottogin, Jay Crittle, Aiden Darbonne, Rynree Darbonne, Shaun Darbonne, Jackie Deville, Cindy Dowies, Jabe Doyle, Amy Duplechain, Bryker Fontenot, David Fontenot, Don Fontenot, Mary O. Fontenot, Paul Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Tim Germany, Daniel Goodley & Fly., Mary Ann Goodley, Phielomone Goodly, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Bruce Granger, Jr., Jennifer Granger, Linda Green, Victoria Guillory, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Shai Hebert, Sunni Hurst, Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Grady Johnson, Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Rudolph & Joyce Johnson, Paul LaFleur, Kristen Labauve, Charles Lacey, Essie Langley, Grayce LaRacca, Deanne LeBlanc, Dwain LeBleu, Tina Lantier, Craig LeJeune, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joseph, & Adam LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Doc Lowe, Benny Manuel, Brian Manuel, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Pat Manuel & Fly., Reed McIver, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Ray Marcantel, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Ronald Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Frank Mougeot, Andrew Norwood, Nicholas Odum, Debbie & Phil Owen & Fly., Joey Owen, Martel & Gabriella Papillion, Howard Patin, Devin Pelt, Sally Pitre, Hannah Popillion, Linda & Don Potier, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Erin Ramos, Renaldo & Kathy Ramos, Ashton Read, Reid Redlich, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Dora Reed, Gary Reed, Lynda Reed, Irving Reed, Sandra Reed, Octavia Reeves & Fly., Will Reid, Sharon, Richard, Jonathan, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skylië, Jackson, Rusty, and Patsy

Rider, Janice Rider, Salis Rider, Michael Roger, Ann Rooney, Vera Ross, Fr. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Quentin Savoie, Sister Ann Margaret Savant, Tucker Scimemi, Jona Sharp, Helen Shreeman, Lois Singleton, Max Smith, C. Sonnier, Remy Spring, Kolton & Leah Squier, Barbara Strickland, Kelly Strother, Carl Tarver, Celeman Thomas, Matthew Truman, Katelyn Tunks, Dollyanna Victorian, Dana Vidrine, Steve Vidrine, Joseph K. Vizena, Linda Voeller, JoAnn Welch, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Daryl & Kimberly Worthy, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Divine Intimacy Reading Guide

Sept. 24 th – October 1 st	Entry Number
Sunday	301
Monday	302
Tuesday	303
Wednesday	304
Thursday	305
Friday	306
Saturday	307
Sunday	308

Vocations Candle and Cross – Deacon Norris & Sandra Chapman
Vocation Candle sponsors needed - \$5.00 per candle.

BAZAAR MEAL TICKETS

Meal Tickets for BBQ Pork or Chicken dinners are now being sold after each Mass and at the rectory during office hours. The price for each dinner is \$8.00 and includes meat, rice dressing, beans and bread.

BAZAAR SWEET SHOP

LADIES OF ST. JOAN OF ARC please get your baking skills together and buy your baking supplies so you can make lots of goodies. Donations of cases of water are also needed for the sweet shop. Water may be dropped off at the church rectory.

Diocesan Middle School Retreat

A Middle School Retreat for Teens in Grades 6 – 8 will be held Saturday, October 14-15 at the St. Charles Retreat Center. The cost is \$60.00 which includes registration, lodging, T-shirt and food. Please register by Wednesday, October 4th with Mrs. Corinne.

Thank You

We would like to thank Father Conner, the Ladies Altar Society, and the parishioners of St. Joan of Arc for all the kind words, thoughts & prayers during this difficult time of our loss. - Arlington Manuel Family

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, September 24th – **BAZAAR MEETING** at 5:00 P.M
- ❖ **Wednesday, September 27th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.**; CCD and Youth Group

SAVE THE DATES

Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser Delivery

Tuesday, October 3rd at 4:30 P.M.

5th Grade Big Communion

Sunday, October 8th at 10:00 Mass

BAZAAR SHOWER

Sunday, October 8th after 7:30 and 10:00 Masses

BAZAAR WEEKEND

October 21 & 22, 2017

Blessing of Cemeteries

Saturday, November 4th & Sunday, November 5th

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

MARY, THE SAINTS & SACRED IMAGES

Two things we Catholics are often criticized about are our honoring of the Blessed Virgin Mary & the saints, and our use of images. Non-Catholic Christians say that what we do is a pagan violation of the first commandment. They say that honoring Mary and the saints is tantamount to divination because we are praying to people who are dead.

The first commandment most certainly permits us to honor Mary and the saints, and Sacred Scripture even encourages us to do so. In speaking of the just who have passed from this mortal life, Sirach writes: "Their bodies were buried in peace, and their names live to all generations. Peoples will declare their wisdom, and the congregation proclaims their praise."¹ (Sirach 44:14-15)

In her Magnificat, Mary makes this prophetic statement: "For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed".² (Luke 1:48)

What Protestants fail to understand is that there are three types of honor that can be given: *latria*, *dulia*, and *hyperdulia*. *Latria* is adoration and must be given to God alone. *Dulia* is the honor we give to the saints on all three planes: in the Church Suffering, in the Church Victorious, and in the Church Militant. In other words, this is the honor due to all Christians in this life and the next, but it is commonly thought of as the honor (also called veneration) given to the saints in heaven.

Finally there is *hyperdulia*, that veneration reserved to the Blessed Virgin Mary alone. *Hyperdulia* is reserved to Mary because she is the most special saint of human history. The Catholic Church has always paid special honor to the Blessed Virgin Mary, because God honored her above all creatures by granting her the highest dignity He could confer—the divine maternity.

The Church honors the Mother of God in the liturgy and various devotions. She encourages the faithful to know, imitate, love and pray to the Blessed Virgin in a special way. After all, from the beginning of her Son's public ministry until today she has been His chief evangelist, as she proved when she first spoke the words, "Do whatever he tells you."³ (John 2:5)

We also honor the saints because they are God's special friends who, through His grace, led holy lives and reflected his virtues to a heroic degree. By honoring the saints we honor God Himself. And this should not seem unusual to non-Catholics, as honoring people has always been common practice. We call ministers *Reverend*, judges *Your Honor*, and refer to politicians as *The Honorable*. Furthermore, God Himself commands us to *honor* our mother and father. And in compliance with God's law, traditional wedding vows call upon the wife to love, *honor* and obey her husband.

Karl Keating says that "if there can be nothing wrong with honoring the living, who still have an opportunity to ruin their lives through sin, or the uncanonized dead, about whose state of spiritual health we can only guess, certainly there can

be no argument against giving honor to saints whose lives are done and who ended them in sanctity. If merit deserves to be honored wherever it is found, it surely should be honored among God's special friends."⁴ (Karl Keating, *Catholicism and Fundamentalism*, 260-261)

We also get a hard way to go about our use of sacred images, such as holy cards, statues and crucifixes. The claim is that we are illicitly using "graven images", a violation of the first commandment. Yet God's law certainly allows for the use of images, provided they don't become objects of false worship. God forbade the Jews to make graven images because they lived among pagans, and that influence made them inclined to worship images.

Those who accuse Catholics of violating the first commandment because of our use of images fail to properly interpret this commandment. We know that the Jews didn't interpret this commandment as an absolute prohibition against images. There are many examples in Sacred Scripture to prove this. God forbade images in the first commandment, yet He ordered the brazen serpent, and the golden cherubim atop the ark of the covenant.⁵ (Cf Numbers 21:8-9; Exodus 25:18-20) Then there were also the carved garlands of flowers, fruit and trees, and the carved lions that supported the king's throne.⁶ (Cf Numbers 8:4; 1 Kings 7:27-37)

To criticize Catholics for the use of images isn't honest. In order for these critics to be honest they would have to forbid themselves the use of coinage, currency, photographs, sculptures, paintings, and even television.

We are also accused of praying *to* the images of Christ and the saints when we pray before statues and crucifixes. They again fail to realize that we aren't praying to them, but rather to the person whom they represent. Many of us carry photographs of our wife or children, but we never mistake the photo for the wife herself, and neither do our detractors.

Because the images we use are sacred images, they must be treated with respect. Indeed, they should be treated with even greater care than we would treat pictures of our loved ones. Abuse of any sacred person, place, or thing is a sacrilege, as you learned last week.

Next week we will look at the second commandment: "You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain." We'll be learning, among other things, the differences between cursing, profanity and vulgar language, because this is all about What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Got a question? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com.