

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 2018

7:30 A.M. MASS – Sr. Zélie Thérèse of the Redeemer

4:30 P.M. MASS – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Elmo Smith, Keith LeJeune, Paul & Rose Frank, Ladies Altar Society, J.C. & Bertha Smith, Hubert Bertrand, Emily Adams, Evelyn Sandell, Benton Smith, Frank Mougeot, Lillian Fontenot, Paul, Celeman, Norbert, & Lawrence Thomas, Alphonse Ardoin, Dec. Fly. Paul & Celeman Thomas, Joseph Carrier

SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2018

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Matt Taylor, Henry, Lula & Betty Fontenot, Noah Ferry, Augustine Goodly, Ray & Gloria Fontenot, Jessie Fontenot

MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Thelma Bartlett

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Leonard Beaubouef

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

4:30 P.M. MASS – Catherine Papillion (**1st Anniversary**), Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Benton Smith, Frank Mougeot, Paul, Celeman, Norbert, & Lawrence Thomas, Alphonse Ardoin, Dec. members of Horton & Berlinger Fly., Adelaide Keamey, Jack Johnson, Sox Gordon, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, LeRoy Fontenot, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, Alice Manuel, Ricky Duplechain, Jr.

SUNDAY, JULY 15, 2018

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Matt Taylor, Henry, Lula & Betty Fontenot, Bernard & Felecia Fontenot

Last Week's Collection **\$5,297.10**

2nd Collection – Holy Father (Peters Pence) **\$375.00**

PRAYER LIST

(Call the rectory to add names to the Prayer List)

Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, JoAnn Cormier, Lucas Cortez, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, Phielomone Goodly, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Rachael Granger, Vergie Granger, Jackie Hebert, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Paul LaFleur, Essie Langley, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Patrica Mikas, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Yvonne Smith, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Hannah Voeller, Linda Voeller, Nicole Young

Vocations Candle and Cross – Mrs. Mary Ann Goodly

Safe Environment

All parish personnel, including volunteers, CCD teachers, VBS and youth group volunteers who have on-going, unsupervised contact with minors, will need to update their Safe Environment Training beginning July 1, 2018. It is available on the diocesan safe environment website at safeandsacred-lcdiocese.org. If you have any questions please call the rectory.

EF Missals Available

EF Missals are available for purchase in the rectory. The cost is \$40 per missal.

“Discovery Mission” Vocation Bible School

VBS registration forms are at the entrances of the church. Fill it out and drop it by the church office by Friday, July 13th. Participants entering 1st – 5th grades are welcome to attend. Volunteers also need to fill out a registration form in order to receive a t-shirt. All VBS t-shirts will be pre-ordered for participants and volunteers that are pre-registered. On Sunday, July 22nd beginning at 4:00 P.M. volunteers for VBS will meet and begin setting up / decorating the hall. Vocation Bible School is from Monday, July 23 – Thursday, July 26 from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

If you are able to donate any of these items for VBS please bring them to the hall by 9:00 A.M. on the first day of VBS.

Juice Boxes, Graham crackers, canned icing, M & M's, chips, salsa, grapes, strawberries, oranges, yogurt, sliced roast beef, small flour tortillas, Swedish fish, chocolate covered almonds, raisins, skittles, pretzel sticks, corn & rice Chex cereal, vanilla ice cream, chocolate & strawberry syrup, whip cream, small bowls, ziplock bags, paper towels, paper plates.

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This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, July 8th – Solemn Holy Hour followed by Compline at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, July 9th – Knights of Columbus meeting at 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Friday, July 13th – Adoration 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

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***** CCD NEWS *****

Wednesday, August 22nd ... CCD REGISTRATION

- 6:00 PM ... at the Parish Hall ... for all grades
- Students not required to attend registration
- **Registration & textbook pick up happens this night**
- **Cost of Registration: \$15.00 per child**
- *No child will be turned away because of money*
- **No charge for Youth Group**

Wednesday, August 29th ... CCD 1st DAY OF CLASS

- 4:00 – 5:20 PM ... Grades 1-5
- 5:00 – 6:00 PM ... Youth Group (Grades 7-12)
- 6:00 – 7:15 PM ... Grades 6-12

***** CCD NEWS *****

From the Homily at St. Maria Goretti's Mass of Canonization

Why does this story move you even to tears? Why has Maria Goretti so quickly conquered your hearts, and taken first place in your affections?

The reason is because there is still in this world, apparently sunk and immersed in the worship of pleasure, not only a meager little band of chosen souls who thirst for heaven and its pure air - but a crowd, nay, an immense multitude on whom the supernatural fragrance of Christian purity exercise an irresistible and reassuring fascination.

During the past fifty years, coupled with what was often a **weak reaction** on the part of decent people, there **has been a conspiracy of evil practices, propagating themselves in books and illustrations, in theaters and radio programs, in styles and clubs and on the beaches, trying to work their way into the hearts of the family and society, and doing their worst damage among the youth, even among those of the tenderest years in whom the possession of virtue is a natural inheritance.**

Dearly beloved youth, young men and women, who are the special object of the love of Jesus and of us, tell me, are you resolved to resist firmly, with the help of divine grace, against every attempt made to violate your chastity? ...

... Finally, all of you who are intently listening to our words, know that above the unhealthy marshes and filth of the world, stretches an immense heaven of beauty. It is the heaven which fascinated little Maria; the heaven to which she longed to ascend by the only road that leads there, which is, religion, the love of Christ, and the heroic observance of his Commandments.

We greet you, O beautiful and lovable saint! Martyr on earth and angel in heaven, look down from your glory on this people, which loves you, which venerates, glorifies and exalts you. On your forehead you bear the full brilliant and victorious name of Christ. **In your virginal countenance may be read the strength of your love and the constancy of your fidelity to your Divine Spouse. As his bride espoused in blood, you have traced in yourself His own image. To you, therefore, powerful intercessor with the Lamb of God, we entrust these our sons and daughters who are present here, and those countless others who are united with us in spirit. For while they admire your heroism, they are even more desirous of imitating your strength of faith and your inviolate purity of conduct.** Fathers and mothers have recourse to you, asking you to help them in their task of education. In you, through our hand, the children and the young people will find a safe refuge, trusting that they shall be protected from every contamination, and be able to walk the highways of life with that serenity of spirit and deep joy which is the heritage of those who are pure of heart. Amen. (*Pope Pius XII, June 24, 1950*)

For the 100th Anniversary of St. Maria Goretti's Martyrdom

St. Maria Goretti is an example for the younger generations, threatened by a mentality of lack of commitment, which finds it hard to understand the importance of values on which it is never licit to descend to compromises.

Although she was poor and lacking in school education, Maria, who was not yet twelve years old, had a strong and mature personality, formed by the religious education she received in the family. This enabled her not only to defend her own person with heroic chastity, but even to forgive her murderer.

Her martyrdom reminds us that the human being is not fulfilled by following pleasurable impulses, but by living his life in love and responsibility. I know well how much you, dear young people, are sensitive to these ideals. In the hope of meeting you in two weeks in Toronto, today I wish to repeat to you: **Do not let the culture of possessions and pleasure dull your consciences! Be vigilant and alert sentinels, in order to be genuine protagonists of a new humanity.** (*Pope St. John Paul II*)

What We Believe...



Why We Believe It...

Old Pictures and Nuns Who Get It by Joe Sixpack

When I was a kid, I used to laugh at old pictures of my grandfather and how his mother dressed him when he was a kid. Boy, those sure were some funny looking clothes mothers put their sons in back in those days. I remember thinking how my grandfather and his little friends looked like sissies in those clothes.

Fast forward fifty years.

The other day, I was looking at some old family photos from when I was a little boy. It struck me how my mother dressed me when I was little. I had to smile at the memory of what I thought about my grandfather's dress when he was the same age I was in those pictures. What goes around comes around, because I was thinking how much *I* looked like a sissy in those pictures.

Fact is, my grandfather was no sissy. He was every bit a man, and I'm certain he was all boy when he was a kid. In fact, I'm certain of it, because I remember stories he told me of his own childhood. The boy who looked like a sissy in those old photographs was anything but a sissy, as he was doing a man's work by the time he was ten—learning his father's trade as a blacksmith.

Neither was I a sissy, despite how my mother dressed me. I, too, was all boy. I recall seeing my mother on laundry day going through my pockets before washing my clothes. She would get a look on her face like she was about to get her hand cut off and held my pants at arm's length as she stuck that hand in my pants pockets. I asked her when I was older why she did that. She told me it was because she never knew what she might find in my pockets. She said it could be a dead snake or a frog or some other creature she couldn't identify. Yeah, I was all boy...despite the clothing of the time.

But something has happened since those days, and I really can't put my finger on what it is. When my grandfather got older, he began choosing his own clothes and dressed like a man. The same thing happened to me. When I was twelve and had to begin buying my own clothes with the money I earned for myself, I began dressing like a man. That doesn't seem to be the case these days, though.

Time was when a man took pride in how he looked and was perceived by others...especially other men. His face was clean shaven, his shoes polished, his clothes unwrinkled and clean, his hair combed. Men tried to look like, well, men. Today, however, men aren't that way. There's nothing wrong with a beard, but many men don't grow beards. They simply go days at a time without dragging the razor across their whiskers, so they go around looking like they've been on a four day drunk or are homeless. Men who work with their hands have never necessarily worn polished shoes and worn unwrinkled clothes, but they did at least comb their hair and looked neat—even if their work made them dirty.

I guess what I'm trying to say is, men these days never bother to grow up, and it shows in their personal appearances. How a man dresses and his personal appearance demonstrates self-respect and that he respects the opinions of others. A man's personal appearance also shows how much he respects others...especially how he respects Our Lord at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. When I see men coming to Mass wearing teeshirts and cargo shorts with sandals, I wonder why they are still letting their mommies dress them. After all, they're not there to visit mommy. They're there to spend time in the worship and adoration of the Creator of the Universe who is coming to them under the appearances of bread and wine. A man who dresses like he's going to a picnic isn't showing any respect at all toward his Creator.

Does how we dress for Mass really matter? Well, in and of itself dressing is morally neutral, as long as it's modest. But it really does matter, because how we dress for Mass demonstrates a man's attitude. When a man dresses sloppily for Mass he's telling everyone his focus is on his own comfort and not at all on the Incarnate Word of God who reposes in the tabernacle and will soon be on the altar and received in Holy Communion.

I hear both men and women say they dress the way they do because it's more comfortable, or that it's cooler in the warm weather. Comfort. That seems to be what we're all about these days, and that priority is the very antithesis of Catholic spirituality.

I recall a group of the Little Sisters of the Poor living in a very hot climate of the country where the humidity always made it feel like it was 10-20 degrees hotter than it really was. They cared for the elderly and the dying who couldn't afford to take care of themselves. Where their charges lived was air-conditioned and comfortable, as one would expect for those who were being cared for by these remarkable sisters. But the sisters' living area had no air-conditioning, and they wore their traditional wool habits.

The chaplain for the sisters thought the reason they didn't have air-conditioning was because they couldn't afford it, so he purchased a central air unit to be delivered and installed as a surprise for the sisters. When the workmen showed up to install the unit, Mother Superior sent them back to town... with the unit. When Father called Mother Superior to ask why she refused his gift, Mother said, "I don't think Jesus had air-conditioning on the cross. I don't think Jesus was comfortable on the cross." Hmm. Lots to think about in her words, isn't there?

I'm not advocating doing away with air-conditioning or going out of your way to be uncomfortable. I'm merely trying to drive home two principles of Catholic spirituality. One principle is, comfort isn't a priority. Being uncomfortable once in a while can be offered up to God as a gift in reparation for your sins and the sins of the world. It makes you a better Catholic, a better man, and a step closer to becoming a saint...which is our primary purpose in this life.

The other principle I'm trying to drive home is, we men must set the example for our families and the community, and we owe Jesus Christ all the respect and love we can show Him for His sacrifice on the cross. If you've ever seen Mel Gibson's *Passion of the Christ*, then you've seen a pretty good depiction of what Our Lord went through...for you. And no makeup artist in the world could show the Christ in that movie how He really looked, as one saint described Jesus on the cross as "one open, gaping wound". We owe Him our best!

Men, we need to keep in mind that our rightful role, *demanding by Almighty God*, is that we are the spiritual head of our household. It is our responsibility to set the example for our children, our wives, and those outside the fold of the Catholic Church. Mommy doesn't dress you anymore. It's time to put on your big-boy pants. It's time to grow up and be a man!

Men, how can you expect your children to be the sort of adults you want them to be if you don't set the example? You can't merely do the minimums and expect them to do the same, because human nature doesn't work that way. Those you want to set the example for will never do as much as you, so whatever you do they'll do even less. You have to go above and beyond what is comfortable for you. If you won't do it for Christ, then at least do it for the sake of your children. Take charge in your household, as God has ordained (cf. Ephesians 5-6, *et alia*). After you clean up your act, insist that your sons dress like they're going to visit God...because they are. Insist that your daughters dress in a way appealing to God rather than appealing to men—that they dress as they would at the foot of the cross while Jesus hangs there dying for our sins. Not only will you and your family be showing Jesus the proper respect, but you'll also be going a long way to keeping your children mindful of their duties under the sixth and ninth commandments...those commandments that deal with sexual purity. I'd be willing to wager that if you could listen in to your teenage children's conversations with their friends, pay attention to the shows and movies they watch, check out what they do on the Internet, and review what it is they read, you'd find they don't have a huge priority in their lives for those two commandments.

Don't worry. I'm nowhere near done with the topic of being a Catholic parent, because this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Got questions or comments...good or bad? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com.