

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018

4:30 P.M. MASS – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Lloyd Taylor, David Dugas, Evelyn Sandell, Benton Smith, Martin Goodly, Madeleine McNulty, Jack Johnson, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Helin McCauley Fly., Liv. & Dec., Seth & Jackie Chandler, Aurlene Guillory, Shirley Papillion, John & Virginia Spears Fly., Keith LeJeune, Nakia (Nick) Ware

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Ryan Rozas Fly., Taylor/Remy Fly., Liv. & Dec., Matt Taylor, Joan Bertrand, Bon, Gladys & Marsha Manuel, Richard & Neva Davis

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Maryland Reed

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Joan Bertrand

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Claiborne Durio

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018

4:30 P.M. MASS – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Lloyd Taylor, Evelyn Sandell, Benton Smith, Sox Gordon, Cecilia Sonnier, Willie Mae LeJeune, Lou Anna McGee

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Ryan Rozas Fly., Angelle L. Durio, Linda LeJeune, Matt Taylor, Gene & Velma Brakel, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Jerry & Polly Chaumont, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, LeRoy Fontenot

Last Week's Collection	\$5,590.00
BSA Total to Date (Quota - \$11,609.00)	\$4,843.00
2ND Collection - Maintenance Fund	

PRAYER LIST

Tyler Alexander, M/M Robert Andrews, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Georgia Bell Baggett, Tyler Bellow, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, M/M Lincoln Briscoe, Deanne LeBlanc Broussard, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, JoAnn Cormier, Gordon Cotton, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Judy Davis, Donna Dunnehoo, Pam McDaniel Elliott, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Mary O. Fontenot, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Phielomone Goodly, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Dixie Granger, Rachael Granger, Vergie Granger, Charlene Guidry, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Jackie Hebert, Gwen Holder, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, Paul LaFleur, Cindy Langley, Essie Langley, Jessica Lindsey, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Leroy Meaux, Josh Miller, Patricia Mikas, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Glen Morgan, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Ann Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Linda Green Reed, Don & Debra Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Pat Abshire Savant, Helen Sheeman, Lois Singleton, Yvonne Smith, Donald Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Hannah Voeller, Linda Voeller, Linda Weldon, Odelia Wilson, Nicole Young

Vocations Candle and Cross – Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Rozas & Fly.

Rosary Rally

SJoA invites you to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Sat., Oct. 13, at noon at the Farmers Market.

Bazaar Items Accepted Sunday

Drop off items at the hall for bingo, silent and live auctions this Sunday, October 14th after 7:30 & 10:00 A.M. Masses. Items will still be taken at the rectory until Friday, October 26th during regular business hours.

Bake Sale This Weekend for Isabelle Foreman

A bake sale will be held after 10:00 A.M. Mass to help Isabelle Foreman raise money for her to return next year to the Morning Star Catholic girl's summer camp in New Hampshire. This includes the cost of camp as well her flights to and from camp. At Morning Star, Catholic girls learn to love and appreciate their Faith and develop the strength to live it in a pagan world.

Confirmation Afternoon of Reflection

Confirmation students and their sponsors are to attend the Confirmation afternoon of Reflection this Sunday, October 14th beginning at 2:00 P.M. at the Rosa Hart Theatre in the Lake Charles Civic Center.

New Hours for St. Vincent de Paul's Closet

The St. Vincent de Paul's Closet is now open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 – 11 A.M., with a special sale day on **Wednesday, October 17th from 5 – 7 P.M.** Come shop for the whole family. Volunteers have worked tirelessly to make shopping a much more enjoyable experience with very reasonable prices. Items are \$2 and below.

SJoA Trunk or Treat

St. Joan of Arc will have a Trunk or Treat in front of the hall Wednesday, October 31st from 5 – 7 P.M. Children ages 12 or under are invited to enjoy Safe Trick or Treating with Friends and Neighbors. Parishioners are encouraged to bring your decorated vehicle to the hall to hand our candy and trinkets to the children. You can even dress up to match your decorations. Sponsored by SJoA Youth Group.

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This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, October 14th – Bazaar Meeting at 3:30 P.M.; No Holy League; Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M. followed by Compline
- ❖ **Wednesday, October 17th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD and Youth Group**
- ❖ Saturday, October 20th – Finance Council Meeting at 9:00 A.M.; Parish Council Meeting at 10:00 A.M.

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STANDARD OF ATTIRE FOR ENTERING THIS CHURCH



- No shorts.
- No dresses or skirts above the knee.
- No sleeveless shirts or dresses.
- No form-fitting clothes.
- Shoulders, front, and back must be covered.
- ***In other words ...***

“Worship the Lord in holy attire.”

St. Joan of Arc 30th Annual Bazaar 2018

OCTOBER 27TH & OCTOBER 28TH

Donations of Cases of Water & 12 pks. of Cold Drinks are being accepted at the rectory.

RAFFLE TICKETS AND MEAL TICKETS ARE ON SALE

Saturday, October 27th

4th Annual Gumbo Cook-Off

Registration Fee \$25 – Deadline to enter is October 22ND
GUMBO SUPPER for \$5 per bowl & BINGO Begin at 5:30 PM

Sunday, October 28th

Tickets for BBQ Pork or Chicken Dinners are \$10.00.

**\$1 Raffle: 1st Prize – Cajun Microwave
2nd Prize – 55” HDTV**

Live & Silent Auctions / Bingo / BBQ / Sweet Shop / Kid Zone / Live Music

Donations for Bingo, Silent Auction and Live Auction will be taken in the hall after either Masses Sunday, October 14th or bring donations to the rectory anytime during regular office hours. For questions, please contact Ryan Rozas @ 337-302-0274, Kenny Berry @ 337-534-9515 or the rectory during regular business hours.

Financial Success of the Bazaar Depends on Attendance. Invite your Family and Friends to join us!!

FROM FATHER CONNER

MARRIAGE AND “ANNULMENT” INFORMATION

What is marriage?

The *Code of Canon Law* defines marriage thusly:

“The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life and which is ordered by its nature to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring, has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament between the baptized.” (Can. 1055 §1)

The Marital Bond is Indissoluble

The *Code of Canon Law* also states very clearly that a marriage, once ratified and consummated, cannot be dissolved by any human power (Can. 1141). The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* elaborates further on this life-long bond between spouses:

“The love of the spouses requires, of its very nature, the unity and indissolubility of the spouses' community of persons, which embraces their entire life: ‘so they are no longer two, but one flesh.’ They ‘are called to grow continually in their communion through day-to-day fidelity to their marriage promise of total mutual self-giving.’ This human communion is confirmed, purified, and completed by communion in Jesus Christ, given through the sacrament of Matrimony. It is deepened by lives of the common faith and by the Eucharist received together.” (CCC 1644)

What is an “annulment”?

To begin, “annulment” is an incorrect term. The marital bond can be dissolved only by death. When someone says: “The Church *gave* me an annulment.”, it gives the impression that the Church decided to dissolve a marriage bond that was in place. This sloppy and incorrect language leads people to think that an “annulment” is essentially nothing other than the Catholic version of divorce. But this is about the farthest thing there is from the truth. Catholics should **not** use the word “annulment.” It's incorrect and causes confusion.

The proper term is “**declaration of nullity**.” For a sacrament to be valid, certain things are necessary. For example, in order to have a valid baptism things like an unbaptized person, water, a minister to perform the baptism, etc. are necessary. If there's no water, there's no baptism. It's that simple. Regarding marriage, there are non-negotiables as well. If one of the necessary elements for marriage is absent (freedom, serious lack of discretion, etc), then a real marriage doesn't take place. But who determines the validity?

When a person applies for a declaration of nullity, the Church has competent authorities that are trained to investigate whether the marriage actually took place or not. If this authority, usually referred to as the Tribunal, judges that a real marriage took place, then the parties to that marriage are bound by their vows for life. If the Tribunal judges that any of the non-negotiables were absent, then the marriage is declared to have been **null and void from the beginning**. This means that the marriage bond never actually took place even though the man and woman made the vows before the Church's minister. The result is that the parties involved in the “putative marriage” are no longer bound by the vows they made. Here's how the *Catechism* explains it:

“The Church, after an examination of the situation by the competent ecclesiastical tribunal, can declare the nullity of a marriage, i.e., **that the marriage never existed**. In this case the contracting parties are free to marry, provided the natural obligations of a previous union are discharged.” (CCC 1629)

Is there any hope for a Catholic who has divorced and attempted remarriage outside the Church to practice the sacraments if his first marriage has been declared valid by the Tribunal?

It's not uncommon for Catholics to believe that if they are in a situation as described above that they have no hope of practicing the sacraments. This is not true, however. We always have hope. We always have options, and there's always a way forward. We just have to be willing to take the necessary path.

There's talk these days about whether the Pope might allow divorced & "remarried" Catholics go back to confession and Communion without amendment of life. This question, which is not new by the way, presumes at least two things: first, that there's not already a way for such Catholics to practice the sacraments, and secondly, that divine truth can change. Regarding the second, doctrine cannot be changed from one thing to its contrary. Objectively speaking, adultery is a serious sin, a sin that renders a person unworthy to receive Holy Communion. This will **never** change, and people must stop hoping for something contrary to God's will.

Regarding the first, I find that divorced and "remarried" Catholics don't realize that there are certain protocols already in place that permit divorced and "remarried" Catholics to resume practicing the sacraments, that is, **if** they are willing to do what is necessary. And what is necessary? First, they have to make their lives worthy of the sacraments by ceasing to commit acts of adultery. Second, they have to do everything in their power not to confuse their fellow Catholics once they resume practicing the sacraments.

With respect to the first of these, the Church has what's called a **Brother-Sister Agreement**. When a Catholic who is divorced and "remarried" consents to live by this agreement, he enters into a formal declaration with the Diocesan Bishop to live chastely with his (civilly recognized) spouse. This means that they will refrain from all sexual relations ... that is, they will live as brother and sister. Such a relationship allows them to live under the same roof (e.g., so that they can raise their children), but since the couple is no longer engaging in sexual intercourse, the adultery aspect has been corrected.

The next thing that has to happen is that the Parish Priest has to determine the best way for the divorced and "remarried" Catholic to practice the sacraments so that others who know he is divorced and "remarried," but not of the brother-sister agreement, will not become confused ("scandalized") by seeing him practice the sacraments. To avoid scandal the Parish Priest must determine the best way for the divorced/"remarried" Catholic living in a brother-sister agreement to practice the sacraments. Sometimes this means that he must go to confession and receive Holy Communion only when others are not present. Please note that secrecy in this regard does **not** infer that the practice is shady. What it does, rather, is preserve others who do not know the particular circumstances from becoming confused. Both Our Lord (Mt. 18:5-9) and St. Paul (Romans 14:1-23) remind us that charity forces us to be concerned with how our actions might be perceived by others.

To conclude, I want to extend an invitation to any Catholic who may find himself in a situation like what's described above to contact me. If a Catholic has a sincere desire to practice the sacraments, there's always a way forward. We simply have to be willing to adopt the means necessary to reach the goal. It's time for Catholics in such a situation to stop thinking that they are incapable of living chastely. That's nonsense. God has created every human being to live virtuously. *Every ... one ... of ... us*. There are no exceptions. So don't give into the lie that your situation can't be virtuously ordered. It can with God's grace and your prayer and penance. The Evil One tempts you to think that you can't live without sexual intercourse. That's a lie. **No human being *must* have sex to keep from dying. What's actually true, however, is that a person *must not* engage in adultery in order to live in communion with God.** So don't listen to the devil. His only concern for your soul is to drag it down to hell. But God wants you to have friendship with Him.

I invite you to call me so that we can speak about the things I've described above. Given the space of this page, I have had to limit what I write. The Brother/Sister Agreement needs more explanation, and I am happy to do that. It truly is a viable path for you to resume practicing the sacraments, but it can't happen without us getting started. So give me a call. I am here to assist you. Moreover, I have a strong desire to get you practicing again, but we must proceed along God's path. And **don't forget that the sacraments are necessary for your salvation**. Any delay in amending your life so that you can practice them is extremely foolish. Don't delay. Give me a call. We can get you going again ... **if** you're willing to walk the path of God.