

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Benton Smith, Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, LeRoy & Ophelia Fontenot, Freddy Gorman, Elmo Smith, Lloyd Taylor, Sonja Billodeaux, Angelle L. Durio, Linda LeJeune, Don Fontenot, Liv. & Dec. members of Vizona and Carrier Families, Marcelene Ceaser

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Teovic & Joyce Fontenot, Juan A. Lucero Castellano, Juan A. Lucero Ruiz, Milagros Castellano Perez, Guillermo Consuegra Garcia, Manuela Travieso Rodriguez

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – John C. Durio

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019

12:05 P.M. MASS – Bobby Jean Manuel (1st Anniversary)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Benton Smith, Evelyn Sandell, David Dugas, Elaine Dugas, Freddy Gorman, Elmo Smith, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Lloyd Taylor, Sonja Billodeaux, Helin McCauley Fly., Liv. & Dec., Sox Gordon, Paul & Rose Frank, Marcelene Ceaser, Rogel & Elizabeth Goodly, Martin, Dosey & Augustine Goodly, Liv. & Dec. members of Vizona & Carrier Families

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Edward & Ora Peloquin, Ryan Rozas Fly., Foster & Allie Manuel, Augustine Goodly

Last Weekend Collection

\$3,960.82

Building Fund to Date

\$14,706.15

Next weekend 2nd Collection – Building Fund

PRAYER LIST

Tyler Alexander, Robert Andrews, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Georgia Bell Baggett, Tyler Bellow, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Alvin Billodeaux, M/M Lincoln Briscoe, Margaret Briscoe, Deanne LeBlanc Broussard, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Belle Carrier, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, JoAnn Cormier, Gordon Cotton, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Donna Dunneho, Lonnie Duplechain, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Phielomone Goodly, Becky Gorman, Dixie Granger, Vergie Granger, Charlene Guidry, Juanita Guidry, Paula Davis Hargrove, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Jackie Hebert, Dolores Holden, Gwen Holder, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, Essie Langley, Jessica Lindsey, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Larry Marcantel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Josh Miller, Patrica Mikas, Marvin Monceaux, Natalie Mongou, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Paula Odom, Debbie Owen, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Ann Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Linda Reed, Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney,

Fr. Fred Russi, Pat Abshire Savant, Helen Sheeman, Lois Singleton, Tommy Smith, Yvonne Smith, Donald Taylor, Ken & Wylene Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Gene Vizona, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Vocations Candle and Cross – Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Brandon

Contribution Statements Available

If you are in need of a contribution statement from SJoA for tax purposes, please call the rectory and one will be prepared.

Missals Available in the Office

SJoA now has the Extraordinary Form and the Ordinary Form Missals in the church office for \$40.00. They retail for approximately \$70.00.

Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard, A retreat for healing after abortion with Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and Diocesan team takes place Friday, March 1st – Sunday, March 3rd at Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff. Participation is strictly confidential. The cost is \$225.00 for meals, private room with private bath and all retreat materials. If you have a financial burden, assistance is available. For more information or registration contact: RV of SWLA 337-439-7400 ext. 317 or E-mail rachels.vineyard@lcdioocese.org.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, February 3rd – KC Jambalaya for \$5 per bowl to benefit the Maintenance Fund after both Masses; NO HOLY LEAGUE; NO HOLY HOUR
- ❖ Tuesday, February 5th – Ladies Altar Society at 5:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, February 6th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD and Youth Group**
- ❖ Friday, February 8th – Mass at 12:05 P.M.
- ❖ Saturday, February 9th – Bible Study at 10:00 A.M.

PLEASE READ "SAVE THE DATE" ON THE BACK COVER OF THE BULLETIN.

G.K. Chesterton's Rule on Drinking

"Drink because you are happy, but never because you are miserable. Never drink when you are wretched without it, or you will be like the grey-faced gin-drinker in the slum; but drink when you would be happy without it, and you will be like the laughing peasant of Italy. Never drink because you need it, for this is rational drinking, and the way to death and hell. But drink because you do not need it, for this is irrational drinking, and the ancient health of the world."

Fulton Sheen's Prescription True for Reform

"We need a Christ today Who will make cords and drive the buyers and sellers from our new temples; Who will blast the unfruitful fig-trees; Who will talk of crosses and sacrifices and Whose voice will be like the voice of the raging sea. But He will not allow us to pick and choose among His words, discarding the hard ones, and accepting the ones that please our fancy. We need a Christ Who will restore moral indignation, Who will make us hate evil with a passionate intensity, and love goodness to a point where we can drink death like water." (*Life of Christ*)

FROM FATHER CONNER

Time Out! How are you doing with??? ...

1.) YOUR WEEKLY HOLY HOUR

Are you making a visit to this (or some other) church once per week for a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament? If not, **why not???** There's no excuse not to. It's possible for all of us, permitting a few exceptions of course, to find one hour per week to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. (Add up all the time you spend on the computer, phone, TV, or social media. *How many hours is that?*) The Church Militant is in desperate need of graces, but they will not be given unless we draw them down from Heaven by our prayers (cf. Mt. 7:7-8). The dreadful state of the Church ... the immoral lives of far too many of her clergy; so many Bishops and priests who both espouse and teach heterodoxy (i.e., teachings unfaithful to the deposit of faith); the sloppy, informal, and highly-protestantized way holy Mass is offered; Christian families have nearly contracepted themselves out of existence. The list is nearly endless. Hopefully we want to be part of the solution. Who among us doesn't want to "right the ship," as they say, regarding the Church? **For the past several decades a lot of lip service has been paid to the so-called reforms that took place after Vatican II. In reality, however, the Church has not experienced reform in the intervening years of the Council. She has become exceedingly decadent. The Church, in her hierarchy and within the laity, has become worldly.** Many, rightly, are exasperated by what they see and hear, and they complain bitterly about those things afflicting holy Mother Church. **But, we must do more than complain.** In fact, we should not complain at all. We should act, and the first act is that we must find a greater level of conversion for ourselves! To some degree, all of our lives, mine included, need some rearranging. **Greater priority must be given to Christ.** Please, I'm begging you, especially in light of Bishop Provost's Decree, to do whatever it takes to make at least one holy hour per week before the Blessed Sacrament. Moreover, if you have children still living at home, bring them with you if at all possible. Do this for two reasons: **First**, Jesus said: "Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them." (Mt. 19:14). Our Blessed Lord desires the company of His "little ones." We must not "hinder" this encounter. **Secondly**, God has established parents as the primary teachers of the faith. The example you set in praying with your children in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament will be one of the most powerful examples of faith you can give them. If we but trust in God, I assure you, there's no limit to the miracles He will do in our lives.

2.) YOUR FRIDAY PENANCE & ABSTINENCE

Have you stopped eating meat on Fridays yet (i.e., on every Friday of the year)? If not, **why not???** Your Bishop has made his intention known: namely, that he wants us to obey the universal law of the Church (which is Friday abstinence). He wants us to stop taking advantage of the (regrettable) exception of substituting abstinence from meat with some other form of penance in this country. Look, it's simple: Catholics need to stop eating meat on Fridays. Period. If we don't become **bold in living our faith** and **re-rooted in our identity**, the faith will continue to decline in our lives and families, as well as in society. **It's time to embrace Friday abstinence.** Additionally, for those who have not begun abstaining from meat on Fridays, are you observing a suitable form of penance in some other way? The *Code of Canon Law* **mandates** penance on a typical Friday (cf. CIC, 1250). This is one of the Precepts of the Church. **Willfully disobeying a Precept of the Church is a mortal sin.** We need to realize the seriousness of our obligations before God and His Church. Matters such as this should not be taken lightly.

BLESSING OF THROATS

February 3rd is the Feast of St. Blasé, a martyr of the early 4th century. Typically throats are blessed on St. Blasé's feast with specially blessed candles. While the feast of St. Blasé will not be observed liturgically this year (because it falls on Sunday), Deacon and I will offer the blessing of throats **after** the two Masses Sunday morning. If you are interested in receiving the throat blessing, stick around after we pray the St. Michael prayer. After the St. Michael Prayer, I will remain in the sanctuary but remove my Mass vestments and then begin the blessings. If you wish to have your throat blessed, please come forward and kneel (or line up to kneel) at the rail. After the blessing, you are free to leave the church or to remain praying for a time of thanksgiving after Mass. In other words, the blessing of throats will take the place of the recessional. Furthermore, **it is customary to kneel when receive a blessing**, any blessing (e.g., at the end of Mass). As such, you are asked to kneel at the rail for the throat blessing.

What We Believe...



Our Lady of Fatima **by Joe Sixpack**

We have all heard of Our Lady of Fatima, but it seems few actually know the story of her appearances at Fatima, Portugal in 1917. It's not possible to do the story justice on just these two pages, but I'd still like to give you as much of the story as I can for your edification.

Three shepherd children—Lucia Santos, and her cousins Francesco and Jacinta Marto—were chosen by Our Lady for the privilege of visits from heaven. She appeared to the children once a month in the Cova da Iria on the thirteenth day, from May through October.

The first apparition was just before the children, but as word got out across the countryside, people came from all over to see the children being visited. Many of the people came because they were seeking miracles for themselves or loved ones, especially healing miracles. Others came to scoff at the children and the “superstition” of the peasants.

A great deal happened during the course of those six months, but the highlight of the apparitions occurred on October 13th with what has come to be known as the Miracle of the Sun. This miracle was granted, according to Our Lady, so that all would believe. Her message was so important to mankind that heaven was pleased to grant this most extraordinary miracle to defeat our cynicism and pay attention to the message. The Miracle of the Sun was the only miracle in all of history where the exact date, time and place of its occurrence were announced in advance. But before I tell about the miracle, there are a few things of historical significance I'd like to mention that deal directly with Our Lady's message.

As Our Lady appeared to the children, World War I was raging across Europe. Our Lady told the children the war would end soon, but that if the world didn't heed her message, return to her Son and do penance for themselves and the sins of the world, a worse and greater war would plague the world as a punishment for our sinfulness. She said the sign that the next war was about to begin would be a great light in the sky.

On January 28, 1938, there was a great aurora borealis seen over every nation involved in World War II. The great light was called an aurora borealis, but many scientists admitted they called the light an aurora because they didn't know what else to call it, as it didn't really meet the criteria for an aurora. Fifty-six days later, Hitler marched on Austria to mark the beginning of the Second World War in Europe.

Our Lady also told the children, “I shall come to ask for the Consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church.”

The mention of Russia spreading her errors throughout the world puzzled everyone, because Russia was known to be a devoutly Christian nation. However, communication wasn't as instantaneous then as it is today. It would often take months for news to spread about world events. What no one could have known when Our Lady told about Russian errors being spread throughout the world was that at that very moment the Bolshevik Revolution was taking place, which gave us Lenin and his new Communist State. Of course, we know that Russia did indeed spread the errors of Communism around the globe, just as Our Lady had predicted.

There were several other messages Our Lady gave us that were of global significance, all of which continue to be warnings to us today, but we lack the space to cover them here. Instead, we'll move on to the Miracle of the Sun—the great miracle granted “so that all will believe.”

It was October 13, 1917. Despite that it had been raining for three days, 70,000 pilgrims trudged through the mud and foul weather to be present for the miracle. Shortly after the children arrived at the Cova, Our Lady appeared to them with her final message. When she finished, Our Lady pointed to the sky as the clouds parted. The children looked to the sun and Lucia pointed and shouted, "Look!"

What the children saw was altogether different from what the 70,000 onlookers observed. The children saw several apparitions in the disc of the sun: Mary as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel holding her Infant Son, Our Lord exposing His Sacred Heart, the Two Hearts, and St. Joseph holding the Christ Child. But what the other people saw did much more to drive home Our Lady's warnings.

At first the sun began to spin. As it spun, the sun threw off every color of the spectrum. Then it began to dance across the sky while spinning and tossing off the colors. The people were in awe of what they saw... then things became frightening.

As the 70,000 observers looked on in terror, the sun began to plummet to earth. People began to scream and run, many shouting out their sins as they saw impending death hurling at them from the sky. All present were convinced the world was about to end, and many of them were far from prepared. Judgement had come!

Then, as suddenly as it began, the sun returned to its place in the sky, motionless. The people cried out in relief and thanksgiving. As they began to collect themselves from the horror they'd just experienced, that's when they realized yet another miracle had occurred. Despite that it had rained for three days, the ground was perfectly dry. In addition to that, there was no longer mud on anyone's clothing or shoes.

It would be easy for us to scoff and say these people were the victims of mass hysteria, except for several proofs of what had happened that can't be explained away.

Portugal at the time was governed by an oppressive Communist regime. Reporters from the weekly Lisbon Communist newspaper *O Seculo* were present for the miracle and reported it in the next issue, exactly as it happened. The government forced the newspaper to write a retraction the following week, but copies of that original newspaper are available today from the World Apostolate of Fatima.

There was also a government observatory forty miles away from Fatima that recorded the Miracle of the Sun as it was observed by scientists there. So there is scientific proof of the miracle as well. While the miracle was taking place in Fatima, Pope Benedict XV was also granted a vision of the Miracle of the Sun at the Vatican.

All of this tells us Our Lady's messages at Fatima were of the utmost importance, and they continue to be important to us today. Unfortunately, the cynicism of an atheistic world has obscured her message and left us all in grave danger. I would urge everyone to read the captivating book by William Thomas Walsh titled *Our Lady of Fatima*. As the best supplement to that short book I'd recommend a documentary narrated by Ricardo Montalban simply titled *Fatima*, which is available from Ignatius Press. The documentary includes expert commentary by Malcolm Muggeridge, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, James Hitchcock of St. Louis University, and Warren Carroll of Chistendom College.

The reason I decided to tell you about Our Lady of Fatima is, so many people today are what have been called apparition chasers—they chase after any purported apparition, thinking it's the latest message from heaven, but most of them turn out to be either tricks of the devil or scams run by unscrupulous people. This is a practice that is dangerous to one's faith, and it should be wholeheartedly discouraged. There are already many legitimate apparitions that have the weight of full approval from the Church. Among them are: Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Akita, the Virgin of the Poor, and the personal revelations of Our Lord as the Divine Mercy to St. Faustina. And these contain all we need to bolster our faith and lead us to the practice of our faith which will get us to heaven.

It's okay to learn about those apparitions that do not yet enjoy Church approval, but we should be very cautious. Failure to be cautious can lead us to be disobedient to the Church, such as is the case of Medjugorje, where formal pilgrimages have been forbidden by the Church for over twenty years, and the Franciscans there have blatantly disobeyed the Church in welcoming pilgrimages and promoting the events at Medjugorje. Anything that promotes such dissent from the Church, as a rule of thumb, should be considered as never from heaven. And that's What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Got questions? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com.

SAVE THE DATES

KC Jambalaya to benefit the Maintenance Fund

Sunday, February 3rd for \$5.00 per bowl

OF High Mass

Monday, February 11th at 5:30 P.M.

Women's Cursillo Weekend

February 7th – 10th, 2019

EF High Mass

Friday, February 22nd at 5:30 P.M.

EF High Requiem Mass

Thursday, February 28th at 5:30 P.M.

Studies of Holy Week

Saturdays in March at 10 A.M.

SJoA Confirmation

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7 P.M. at St. Joan of Arc