

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Don Fontenot, Sox Gordon, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Keith LeJeune, Kyle Vidrine, Bryan Frederick, Sonja Billodeaux, Fr. Fred Russi, Samuel & Melinda Popillion, Clinton & Clarence Frank, Harrison Harmon

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 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, Joey Fontenot, Dickie Davis Fly., Liv. & Dec., Lude & Lena Vizena, Mark Foreman, Jr., Fly.

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019

NO MASS

TUESDAY JUNE 25, 2019

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019

12:05 A.M. MASS – Shelton Reed

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019

NO MASS

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2019

5:30 P.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Bryan Frederick, Sonja Billodeaux, Savannah & Curley Gradney, Sr., Dawayne, Adam & Wallace Meaux, Jr., Lester, Eula & Elmer Chatman, Sr., Harrison Harmon, Ophelia Frank, Martin Goodly

SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Joey Fontenot, Mark Foreman, Jr. Fly., Fr. Fred Russi, Hadley Fontenot

Last Weekend Collection	\$2,644.46
Maintenance Fund to Date	\$24,842.95
2ND Collection Sisters of Divine Providence	\$1,121.70
2nd Collection Next Weekend – Peter's Pence	

Vocations Candle and Cross – Phielomone Goodly

PRAYER LIST

Mickey & Monique Abshire, 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, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Belle Carrier, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, Vivian Cole, Florence Comeaux, JoAnn Cormier, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Carolyn Denison, Herman Deshotel, Donna Dunneho, Lonnie Duplechain, Elizabeth Enloe, Lois Evans, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Agess Frank, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Mary Ann Goodly, Phielomone Goodly, Becky Gorman, Dixie Granger, Vergie Granger, Juanita Guidry, Bob Haas, Paula Davis Hargrove, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Jackie Hebert, Dolores Holden, Gwen Holder, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, LaNan James, Gina Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Emily Johnson, Agnes Joubert, Essie Langley, Jessica Lindsey, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Larry Marcantel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Edgar Miller, Josh Miller, Patrica Mikas, Marvin Monceaux, Natalie Montou, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton

& Carolyn Morgan, Paula Odom, Debbie Owen, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Jane Craft Ray, Anne Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Linda Reed, Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Eugene Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Pat Abshire Savant, Lois Singleton, Tommy Smith, Yvonne Smith, David & Delmar Sonnier, Elden Bada Sonnier, Fynlee Squier, Doris Stanley, Donald Taylor, Ken & Wylene Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine Family, Gene Vizena, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Mary LaFleur Ware, Dwayne Warren, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Summer Sewing Adventure

SJoA Ladies Altar Society invites all ladies to sew altar linens from 8:00 to 11:00 A.M. every Wednesday and Friday morning in June in the parish hall. Bring a portable sewing machine, if possible, white thread, scissors, and notions.

Cursillo Schedule

The next Men's Cursillo is the weekend of July 11-14. To make a Cursillo, candidates and their sponsors must attend Ultreya together.

Women's Cursillo Renewal

Ladies, in December the Cursillo center will sponsor a renewal for all ladies who have already made a Cursillo and would like to strengthen their bond with Christ. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested please let Mary Donaldson know at Ultreya. Applications are taken on a first come first served basis. If it has been longer than 5 years since you made your Cursillo, consider it! Decolores!

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

If you 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: August 16-18, 2019, at the Saint Charles Retreat Center in Moss Bluff. The weekend retreat is sponsored by the Diocese of Lake Charles and will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, 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 \$225.00 for meals, private room with private bath, and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available. For more information or to register contact RV of SWLA 337-439-7400 ext. 317 or e-mail rachels.vineyard@lcdioocese.org.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ **Sunday, June 23rd** – No Holy Hour
- ❖ **Wednesday, June 26th** – Adoration 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.; Holy League at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Thursday, June 27th** – Youth Group Swim Party for grades 6 – 12 from 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Friday, June 28th** – Mass at 5:30 P.M., followed by Adoration until 9:00 P.M.

FROM FATHER CONNER

Something to Consider for CCD

For some time now, I have considered making a change to the parish religious education program (aka, CCD). Before altering the program, I want to lay the idea before you the parishioners. **First**, I'd ask that you give it some consideration. Think about it for a while. **Secondly**, after reflecting on it seriously, please let me know your thoughts. What benefits do you see from making a change? Are there any serious difficulties that might result from making this change? We have a few months to consider things. This works in our favor.

What is being proposed?

- I would like to move CCD grades 1-8 **from** Wednesday afternoon **to** Sunday morning.
- The time for CCD classes for **grades 1-8 would be 9:00 – 10:15 am.**
- This would necessitate moving the 10:00 am Sunday Mass to 10:30 am.
- The CCD Year would remain from September to March.

What about grades 9-12?

- The high school grades would continue meeting Wednesday ... **but** ...
- Rather than meeting at 6:00 pm, the high school grades would begin CCD class approximately 30 minutes after being dismissed from school. (This would give them a brief period to relax and/or grab a snack before heading over to CCD.)
- Thus, **grades 9-12 would be 3:30 – 4:45 pm on various Wednesdays.**
- The CCD Year would remain from September to March.

Why make this change?

That's a good question. As I see it, here's the merit of moving the lower grades to Sunday morning and moving the high school grades to earlier in the afternoon.

1. **Sunday was made (by God) for religious education.** The Church has always taught that Sunday is an ideal day for things such as religious education (cf. CCC 2184).
2. **Reduces waiting time and multiple trips for parents.** Presently, grades 1-5 meet on Wednesdays ... 4:00 – 5:15 pm. Grades 6-8 meet that same day, but later ... from 6:00 – 7:15 pm. This means that some parents have to make two trips to SJoA for CCD each Wednesday or wait for 3 plus hours for both sessions of CCD to end. What I am proposing would effectively eliminate those hardships.
3. **Promotes greater Mass attendance.** Sadly, some parents enroll their children in CCD but do not bring them to holy Mass on Sunday. Having CCD on Sunday mornings would act as an encouragement to these parents. Hopefully they would stick around for holy Mass after CCD. This would be great!
4. **Promotes more family time.** In general, families are very busy. Freeing up Wednesday afternoons/evenings for **family time** would be very beneficial to the health of the family. (This is *very* important these days!)
5. **Saves fatigued children.** After a full day of school, I find that the children (especially the younger ones) are mentally exhausted. Having CCD immediately after school makes it very difficult for the students to absorb religious instruction. They would be fresher in the morning time. This, I think, is very important.
6. **Promotes fellowship among parishioners and prayer.** During the period of instruction (see time below), coffee, juice, donuts, etc would be provided. Parents, parishioners, etc could socialize or make a holy hour.

Here's how the Sunday Schedule would look with a revised CCD schedule:

- 6:30 am Confessions
- 7:30 am Holy Mass
- 8:30 am Coffee, juice, donuts, etc in the Parish Hall (***These refreshments are for all!***)
- 9:00 – 10:15 am .. CCD Grades 1-8
- 9:30 am Confessions
- 10:30 am Holy Mass

What We Believe...



Why We Believe It...

How God Answers Prayer **by Joe Sixpack**

Jill, a young woman of about twenty, worked in an office building in New York City. She was supporting her chronically ill mother, but her salary wasn't large enough to pay for all the poor woman's treatments. She made one novena after another for a raise in her salary, but God didn't seem to want to answer her prayers.

In her frustration, Jill made up her mind that if God didn't give her a raise after the novena she was currently praying, she'd never pray again. On the ninth day of the novena, Jill went to work bright and happy, believing that God was certain to answer her prayer this time and give her the raise. Her boss called her into his office, but instead of giving her a raise, he fired her. He explained that his niece had come to town, and he was replacing Jill with his niece.

Jill was discouraged and angry. She left for home immediately. She was so angry that she didn't want to talk to God at all.

That evening after dinner, she was reading the evening edition of the newspaper when she read a horrifying headline: "Twelve People Die in Explosion." She read that a package bomb that had come in the mail exploded in the very building where she worked...on the very same floor. Listed among the dead were her boss and his niece.

Tears came to Jill's eyes as she fell to her knees and cried out, "Oh God, please forgive me. I am sorry! From the bottom of my heart I thank you for not answering my prayer."

The following week Jill found a better job that enabled her to give her mother all the help she needed.

Here's another story.

On a summer morning in 1903, a boy fell and skinned his knee. By nightfall the scrape started to hurt, but not enough to really bother a thirteen year old boy. Two days later, the pain was intense and someone ran to fetch old Dr. Conklin.

"It's not likely we can save the leg," the doctor said after an examination. "If it gets worse, we'll certainly have to amputate."

The boy hearing, what the doctor said, called for his brother Ed and begged him not to let anyone cut off his leg. Ed promised to protect his brother and stood vigil outside the boy's room to stop anyone from going in to amputate. But the fever mounted and Dr. Conklin said that nothing short of a miracle could save the boy's life.

The family turned to prayer. The mother, father, and Ed prayed together, rising from their knees only to do the absolutely necessary farm work in turn. They prayed constantly, night and day. On the third day, four other brothers joined the group.

The next morning when the doctor came, he was amazed to find the swelling down and, for the first time, the boy sleeping normally. In three weeks Dwight David Eisenhower, who would be the general responsible for winning World War II and elected President of the United States in 1952, walked again.

We don't pray in order to get God to change His plans, but rather to fulfill them, and to obtain what He has decided to grant in prayer. Jesus said, "Ask, and you shall receive" (John 16:24) If we neglect to ask, then we can't expect to receive, since we don't use the means God has appointed for our salvation. One of the important means besides receiving the sacraments is prayer. Pray with confidence and humility, but above all with resignation to the holy will of God. He always knows best. Jill was taught this in our first story.

When we don't get the answers we want from our prayers, we have to stop and realize that God always has something greater in mind for us. What tends to get us in trouble is, when we don't get the answers we want to our prayers we often do things on our own that actually interfere with God's plan. It could be many years later before we realize how God did indeed answer our prayers for the better, with the benefit of 20/20 hindsight. We may not ever see it in this life, but it will be made crystal clear in the next.

We must always pray with the confidence a child has in his parent, but neither should we just sit and wait when we can contribute to what we're asking for. St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order, had a famous maxim that said, "Work as if everything depends on you; pray as if everything depends on God." God gives us many wonderful mental and physical abilities, and He expects us to use them, even while He expects us to depend on Him.

Getting answers to our prayers is also conditional. In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Ask and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8). This is a huge promise made by Our Lord, but if we take it in context to His entire sermon we can see the promise is conditional.

Jesus made this promise near the end of His sermon. Along with making this promise, though, He gave us the beatitudes to live by (Matthew 5:3-10), told us we have to be the salt of the earth and light of the world (vs. 13-16), told us to avoid the sin of anger (vs. 21-26), demanded our chastity of mind and body (vs. 27-29), told us not to divorce and remarry lest we be guilty of adultery (vs. 31-32), told us we have to love our enemies (vs. 38-41), insisted we have to work toward becoming saints (v. 48), said that we are to give alms and pray with purity of intention (6:1-6), insisted that we are to fast and do penance (vs. 16-18), insisted that we have complete trust in God (vs. 25-34), and demanded that we live the Golden rule while avoiding the obstacles to the practice of virtue (7:12-23).

Are you not getting answers to your prayers? Then ask yourself if you are doing all that Jesus asked of us in His Sermon on the Mount. At this writing, I've been asking God for some pretty substantial things for a while now, and they aren't things I *want* nearly so much as they are things I *need*...my family needs. I don't seem to be getting my answers, so the first thing I do when the answers don't come is to check myself regarding the conditions He placed on us in the Sermon on the Mount. I try very hard to do all those things, but I most certainly don't do them perfectly. Of course, it could be that God has something much greater in mind than what I'm asking for in the first place. Either way, I have complete trust in God that He will be my help and my shield. I must confess, however, that from time to time I'm tempted to doubt. When I do have doubts, I pray the scriptural aspirational prayer, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24) This is how I pray—although with great flaws—and this is how He expects us all to pray, because this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Do you have questions about prayer or other aspects of our Catholic faith? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com to get your questions answered.

SAVE THE DATES

SJoA Youth Group Pool Party

Thursday, June 27th from 3:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

High Mass & Adoration at SJoA

Friday, June 28th at 5:30 P.M.; Adoration until 10:00 P.M.

Diocesan Ordinations at the Cathedral

Saturday, June 29th at 10:00 A.M.

SJoA Vocation Bible School

Monday, July 22nd – Thursday, July 25th; 9:30 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

Pontifical Mass at the Cathedral

Thursday, August 1st at 5:30 P.M.