

## MASSES & INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2019

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Sonja Billodeaux, Don Fontenot, John & Virginia Spears Fly., Keith LeJeune, Harrison Harmon, Freddy Gorman, Roselyn Victorian, Arsan & Agnes Victorian, Rayford Papillion, Jennifer L. Manuel

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2019

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Jacqueline Chandler (**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**), Fr. Fred Russi, Ryan Rozas Fly., Clifford “Nookie”, Dorothy & Bryant Montou, Daryl & Renee Granger, Fr. Conner

### MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019

**NO MASS**

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019

**5:30 P.M. MASS** – D.C. Reed, Jr.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Frank Mougeot

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – John C. Durio

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Lou Wilda Manuel (**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Jack Johnson, George & Pat Schneider, Angelle L. Durio, Linda LeJeune, Sox Gordon, Tush Strother, Helin McCauley Fly., Liv. & Dec., Sonja Billodeaux, Harrison Harmon, Deloise Harmon & Fly., Roselyn Victorian, Jennifer L. Manuel, Aguilard Fly., Liv. & Dec.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Roy Frank (**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**), Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Edward & Ora Peloquin, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Remy & Taylor Fly., Liv & Dec., Fr. Fred Russi, Clifford “Nookie”, Dorothy, & Bryant Montou, Daryl & Renee Granger

**Last Weekend Collection**

**\$3,906.40**

**Maintenance Fund to Date**

**\$28,234.95**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Weekend**

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

## PRAYER LIST

Mickey & Monique Abshire, Tyler Alexander, Robert Andrews, Glenn Baggett, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Georgia Bell Baggett, Tyler Bellow, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Michael Bertrand, 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, Jennifer Guidry, 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, Debbie Kershner, 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, Beckie Moreaux, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Phylis NaquinPaula 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, Octavia Reeves & Fly., Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Eugene Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Pat Abshire Savant, Jona Sharp, Lois Singleton, 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, George Vihm, Myrtis Vihm, Gene Vizona, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Mary LaFleur Ware, Dwayne Warren, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

### This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ **Sunday, August 4** – NO Holy Hour
- ❖ **Tuesday, August 6** – Solemn High Mass at 5:30 P.M.; Ladies Altar Society moved to Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **Sunday, August 11** – Ultreya at 5:00 P.M.

### CCD Info – Grades 1-8

1. CCD Registration will be **Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**... beginning at **8:30 am**, that is, just after the 7:30 am Mass. There will be a brief period of registration after the 10:30 am Sunday Mass as well ... **but you are encouraged to register before the 10:30 am Mass.**
2. CCD classes begin for grades 1-8 on **Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 – 10:00 am.**

### CCD Info – Grades 9-12

1. CCD Registration will be **Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**... beginning at **8:30 am**, that is, just after the 7:30 am Mass. There will be a brief period of registration after the 10:30 am Sunday Mass as well ... **but you are encouraged to register before the 10:30 am Mass.**
2. High School (grades 9-12) CCD remains on Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:30 pm.
3. CCD classes begin for high school on **Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.**
4. **Parents: SJoA has a 4 year High School CCD curriculum. The youngsters are not sufficiently instructed simply because they have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. You, as a parent, should insist that your children attend CCD all 4 years of high school. Please get your son or daughter registered even if he or she has been confirmed.**

### **Commissioning a Solemn High Red Vestment Set!**

Now that we've received the solemn set of black vestments, we need to fill in the next vestment “gap”. SJoA needs a solemn set of red vestments. I have already received a substantial donation toward this. Now I'd like to ask you to consider making a donation for a new solemn set of red vestments. Donations of any size will be accepted. Please be sure to put “Red Vestments” in the memo line of your check. Thank you!

# WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

## The Crash

One day, about half a lifetime ago, my five year old son was “helping” me perform regular maintenance on the fishing boat motor in the garage. He was handing daddy tools and asking tons of questions, as five year old boys do. Preparing to put in new spark plugs, I took the old ones out of the motor and dropped them into a pan on the floor. He asked, “Daddy, what are those things?” “They’re spark plugs.” “What do they do?”

How on earth do you explain the workings of an internal combustion engine to a five year old? So for the sake of simplicity, I replied, “They make the motor go.”

He picked up one of the old spark plugs and stood looking at it for a while, deep in thought. Then he suddenly said, “Thanks, Dad. See you later!” And off he went, anxious to embark on some new adventure with a used spark plug in his hand. I had no idea what he had in mind, but I was certain I’d find out soon enough.

Later, as I washed my hands at the kitchen sink, I looked out the window into the back yard to see a funny but potentially disastrous event unfolding. My son had taken a very large box out of the basement and managed to somehow put wings on its sides and a propeller on its front—something I’d assumed was a labor that had taken him days to make. But now he had his “airplane” on top of the slide on the boys’ swing set. Using a contortionist’s agility, he somehow managed to get into the “airplane” and sit down. Then he took the spark plug and pushed it into a hole he’d made in the box. Finally, my son began to rock the box to make it go down the slide. But rather than go forward down the slide, the box tumbled over sideways my son and his homemade airplane fell to the ground, ending the inaugural flight with a crash.

I darted for the back door to get to my son as quickly as I could, fearful that he had badly hurt himself. By the time I got outside, my son was standing next to his crashed airplane and crying. Recognizing he wasn’t hurt, I walked more slowly to check on him, because I could tell his tears were the kind shed from anger and frustration rather than pain. As I walked up behind him, my son kicked his homemade airplane. Coming up behind him without him realizing it, he was startled when I asked, “What’s the matter, Son?” “I couldn’t get my airplane to fly!” “Well, what made you think you could make it fly in the first place?”

Picking up the old spark plug, he said, “You said this makes the boat go, so I thought it would make my airplane fly just a little bit.”

Suppressing my laughter, I then tried to explain in the best five-year-old language I could muster just how the spark plug works and why it couldn’t make his plane fly. Then, with a look of stubborn determination, he said, “I’m going to make this plane fly, Dad. You just watch and see!”

I both admired and respected my son’s dogged determination and willingness to be undaunted by failure. All my sons’ lives have been marked by this sort of determination, learning from their failures rather than letting those failures immobilize them. We all face failure in life, and some of us pick ourselves up and keep right on plugging ahead in an attempt to achieve our goals. Unfortunately, most of us give up in the face of failure. We tell ourselves we’re not capable of achieving that particular thing.

When we give up, we not only sell ourselves short but we also sell God short.

An old maxim, one I adopted as a very young man, says: Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe he can achieve. God gave you your mind, a mind capable of conceiving great things. If you believe you can do a thing, then you can...with God’s help. To give up is to say to yourself that you are somehow inferior, as well as to tell God that He made you so. Therefore, it’s our responsibility to do whatever it takes to achieve what we believe.

In no place is this more true and important than our holy and ancient faith. Do we believe in God? Most certainly we do. If we believe in God, then we must also by extension believe in what He tells us to do and how to live.

When you bring a child into the world, you start that child off in life by teaching him the difference between right and wrong, and what to do to perform and live as you expect him to. He faces difficulties in learning these things, and you sometimes have to help him believe what you are teaching him with discipline and hard learned lessons. Then, as he grows into adolescence, on the precipice of adulthood, you help him to perfect his forming maturity so he can become the adult he should be.

God treats us the same way. After all, we are His children. He begins by telling us not to sin. Do we believe God when He tells us not to sin? Well, yes and no. We believe in the consequences He has laid out for us if we sin, but we tend to think He’s expecting the impossible from us. But avoiding sin isn’t impossible. Indeed, it’s very possible! We know this because He gives us a clear picture of how we are to become as we reach spiritual adolescence on the precipice of spiritual adulthood by telling us we *must* become saints (Matthew 5:48).

Just as your child can’t make it into a productive adulthood without your help, neither can you obey God in avoiding sin and becoming a saint without His help. He doesn’t set the bar too high—after all, He created us and knows *exactly* what we are capable of accomplishing. *We* set the bar too low. My son was determined to make his airplane fly, and he proved it by risking injury to make it happen...then informed me with that same spirit of determination that he would indeed eventually fly that plane.

Likewise, you must commit yourself to taking God at His word and believing you can avoid sin. It takes a lifetime to do this, because spiritual adulthood is only achieved at death. So commit yourself to avoiding sin, both mortal and venial. Learn to have a horror of sin, because failure means being forever doomed to remaining a spiritually recalcitrant child. Work hard at becoming a saint; believing the bar God has set for you isn’t too high. When you fail, stand up and keep moving forward. Tell God you’re sorry for failure (especially in the confessional), then resolve to do better the next time. Remember that you can’t do this alone—it requires help from Abba, which is to say Daddy. You *can* avoid sin. You *can* become a saint. We know this because God said so, and this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **Solemn High Mass**

Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.

### **Mass Times for the Assumption of the BVM**

Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 A.M.; 12:05 P.M.; 6:00 P.M.

### **Sunday Mass Time Change**

Mass moves from 10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. beginning Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

### **Adoration on Sunday Mornings**

Sunday Adoration from 9:15 until 10:15 A.M. beginning Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

### **Marian Procession**

Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> following 5:30 P.M. Mass

### **Diocese of Lake Charles Fall Middle School Retreat**

Saturday, September 7 – Sunday, September 8 (register with Mrs. Corinne)