

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Angelle L. Durio, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Sonja Billodeaux, Jennifer L. Manuel, Harrison Harmon, Lou LeJeune, Joseph Bergeron Fly., Liv. & Dec., Charles Klein Fly., Liv. & Dec., Kyle Vidrine, Louise Frank

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2019

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

10:30 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Fr. Fred Russi, Clifford “Nookie”, Dorothy & Bryant Montou, Curley Victorian, Sr., LeRoy & Ophelia Fontenot, Joey Fontenot, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, Fr. Conner, Kellie & Todd Manuel, Shannon & Kristen Mancil, Ryan Rozas Fly.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019

NO MASS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Joan Bertrand (1st Anniversary)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – D. C. Reed, Jr.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Rodney & Jerry Bushnell

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Don Fontenot, Sonja Billodeaux, Jennifer L. Manuel, M/M Alex Victorian, M/M Aldes Frank, Dolyanna & Anna Victorian, Lou LeJeune, Joseph Bergeron Fly., Liv. & Dec., Charles Klein Fly., Liv. & Dec., Michael Bertrand, Liz Goodly & Fly., Hillary Victorian & Fly., Lula Greadney & Fly., Helen Sibley & Fly., Harrison J. Harmon

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

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

10:30 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Fr. Fred Russi, Clifford “Nookie”, Dorothy & Bryant Montou, Kyle Vidrine, Fr. Conner, Bon & Gladys Manuel Fly., Liv. & Dec., Ryan Rozas Fly.

Last Weekend Collection **\$3,841.40**

Maintenance Fund to Date **\$29,499.50**

2nd Collection This Weekend – Religious Education

Vocations Candle and Cross – Ryan Rozas Fly.

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, Teresa & Jackie Cary, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, Vivian Cole, Florence Comeaux, Albert Cooley, 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, Theresa Langley, Fly., 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, Natalie Montou, Beckie Moreaux, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Leah Morgan, Phylis Naquin, 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, Octavia Reeves & Fly., Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Eugene Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, 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 Vizena, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Mary LaFleur Ware, Dwayne Warren, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Youth Group Registration and Social

The first meeting of the youth group is Wednesday, September 4th from 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. in the meeting room in the hall. Grades 7th – 12th are invited to be in the youth group. Refreshments will be served.

SJoA BAZAAR NEWS

The 31st Annual SJoA Bazaar is October 26th & 27th at the parish hall. This year we will be accepting homemade arts and crafts to sell. More information about the bazaar will be announced soon. SAVE THE DATE!!

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ **Sunday, August 25** – CCD 9-10 A.M. Mass; Holy Hour from 9:15 to 10:15 A.M.; Bazaar meeting at 4:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Thursday, August 29** – **NO ADORATION**; Begins Sept. 5th

IMPORTANT PARISH INFORMATION

RCIA ... Instruction in the Holy Faith

Several people have expressed interest in either becoming Catholic or are presently Catholic but in need of instruction to prepare for sacraments such as Confirmation, Confession, Holy Communion, and Holy Matrimony. Do you fit in either of these categories? If so, contact Father Conner by phone at the Rectory. And don't be afraid to invite your family and friends to become Catholic or to pursue those sacraments missed in their earlier years.

Weekly Adoration for the “Catechism Year”

Beginning Thursday, September 5th, SJoA will have 4 hours of Eucharistic adoration each week. Adoration will begin at 3:00 pm and conclude at 7:00 pm. With the change of schedule for CCD, SJoA is shifting its weekly adoration from Wednesday to Thursday. The reasons for this change are twofold: first, the Church dedicates each Thursday to devotion to the sacred priesthood and the Most Holy Eucharist; second, having adoration on Thursday will allow adults who wish to attend Father's high school CCD class each Wednesday evening to participate in adoration the following afternoon/evening. A sign-up sheet is in the church. We need 3 adorers for each hour. The commitment to the weekly holy hour will run from September through December. In January, another sign-up sheet will be set out that runs through March.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

Twenty-six Miles

In the early part of the twentieth century, a missionary priest in Jamaica was riding his horse drawn carriage to the next place where he was to celebrate Mass. With several miles yet to go on this hot, sultry day, he encountered a youth who stopped him to ask, “Father, what time is Holy Mass?”

The missionary stopped his carriage. The native youth was about eighteen years old, a lad he’d recalled seeing at various times in his little church. “Are you going to Holy Mass?” the priest asked.

“Yes, Father. Am I too late?”

“Are you going to Montego Bay?”

“Yes, Father.”

“How far have you walked already?”

“From over the mountain, eight miles back.”

“You are walking thirteen miles to Holy Mass?”

“Yes, Father, and I’m fasting for Holy Communion.”

“Do you intend to walk back home today?”

“Yes, Father.”

The missionary invited the boy to climb into the seat beside him, and they rode together on to the mission church five miles away.

We could learn a lot from that Jamaican lad. The boy had walked twenty-six miles in the hot and humid tropical environment of Jamaica, going from home and back, just to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to meet his Sunday Mass obligation. He could have been excused from the Mass obligation because of the hardship in getting there. Yet, not only did he put forth the heroic effort to attend Mass, but he was also fasting for Communion—a fast required in those days from midnight the night before. Would that we all had such love and devotion to Our Lord and the sacrifices He made!

We think we are good and devout Catholics if we attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass a couple of times a month. We grumble and feel inconvenienced that we have to interrupt our weekend activities to attend Mass. Many of us also ignore the simple one hour fast required for receiving Holy Communion.

Perhaps some of you grow weary of my frequent articles about devotion to the Mass and respect for the Holy Eucharist, but this is something we have to focus on. As Pope Pius XII said after the Second World War, we have lost our sense of sin...and many of us—perhaps even most of us—commit sin every week through our carelessness when it comes to Mass and Communion. So let’s spend a moment looking at some of the ways we sin or disrespect the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Communion, and Our Lord’s redeeming sacrifices.

It is indeed an obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation under pain of mortal sin. If we commit mortal sin by our failure to attend Mass, we can’t go to Communion again the next time we attend Mass unless we first go to

confession. Otherwise, we are committing the additional mortal sin of sacrilege, and we need to recall that to die in a state of mortal sin is to condemn ourselves to eternal punishment.

Although the Church requires Mass attendance under pain of mortal sin, one may be excused from attendance for some grave reasons. For example, if you’re too sick to get out of bed, you’re certainly too sick to go to Mass. Another example of a grave reason that would excuse you from the Mass obligation would be to care for someone else who is too ill to attend Mass—perhaps your child or an elderly person.

Back in the days when our Jamaican lad was fasting for Communion, the fast was from midnight the night before. Since Vatican II, the Church has reduced that fast to only one hour prior to receiving Communion, but still required under pain of sin. The only things allowed that don’t violate the fast are water and *prescription* medication. So forget about your breath mints, chewing gum, or any sort of snack. I see parents all the time bringing “finger food” for their children to occupy them during Mass. It’s bad enough that they do that rather than beginning the discipline of teaching their children about participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, but from time to time I see them sharing in their children’s finger food before they themselves receive Communion. Oops! That’s a no-no.

Another mortal sin observed in parishes regularly is when people leave immediately after receiving Holy Communion; that is, leaving before Mass is over. Mass isn’t over until the priest gives the final blessing. To leave immediately after Communion on a week day Mass is terribly disrespectful to Our Lord and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, but to leave immediately after Communion on a Sunday or Holy Day is a mortal sin. Why? Well, if you leave before the final blessing, you have failed to meet your Sunday or Holy Day obligation because you have not attended Mass...only part of It. And whether it be a Sunday Mass or week day Mass, it’s like saying, “Okay, Lord, I realize You’re representing Your sacrifice on the cross and all, but I’ve really got this other thing I have to do, so adios.” Can you imagine John walking away from the cross and Mary at the crucifixion because he had something else he wanted to do? Or because he wanted to beat the traffic in the parking lot? Really? How much difference can it make to wait another five minutes? For the sake of propriety and respect, we really shouldn’t exit the church before the priest, but to leave before the Mass has ended with the final blessing on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is sinful because, in effect, we haven’t been to Mass at all.

The abuses heaped against the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass are often done by people who really don’t know any better. Others are simply careless. This comes from the lack of proper catechesis. Bishop Sheridan of Colorado Springs points out in an August 2015 article in his diocesan paper that “there are many reasons why the Gospel of Jesus Christ is still dismissed by the majority of those who call themselves Catholic. Not least among those reasons is the failure of catechists in the post-Vatican II years to announce the Good News in all its power and fullness.”

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday Adoration

Beginning September 5th from 3 - 7 P.M.

Ultreya

Every 2nd Sunday at 5:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall

Youth Group Begins for Grades 7-12

Wednesday, September 4th from 5 – 6 P.M.

Eucharistic Procession at SJoA

Saturday, September 14th following 8:00 A.M. Mass

Ember Days

September 18th, 20th & 21st

Eucharistic Procession at SJoA

Friday, September 20th following 6:00 P.M. Mass

Diocesan Ember Day Mass at Prompt Succor (Sulphur)

Saturday, September 21st at 9:00 A.M.

SJoA Church Bazaar

October 26th & 27th at the Parish Hall