

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Sonja Billodeaux, Fran Meaux, Jennifer L. Manuel, Catherine Papillion, Sox Gordon, Harrison Harmon, Delmer, Helen & Glenn Sonnier, Matthew Truman, Linus & Mary Manuel, Egbert McGee, Preston Manuel, Martin Goodly, Curley Sr. & Savannah Gradney, Togeal & Elizabeth Goodly, Martel & Alberta Ceazar

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020

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

10:30 A.M. MASS – Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Dallas & Billy Bertrand, LeRoy & Rodney Fontenot Fly., Liv. & Dec., Mark & Chelsea Foreman Fly., Jeane Daigle, Peggy & Bea Monk, Irving Reed

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020

NO MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020

12:05 P.M. MASS – Kyle Vidrine

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

NO MASS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2020

NO MASS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020

4:30 P.M. MASS – Sonja Billodeaux, Fran Meaux, Jennifer L. Manuel, Ursin & Lillie Carrier Fly., Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Catherine Papillion, Deceased members of J.D. & Esther Marcangel Fly., Don Fontenot, George, Clara & John Schneider, Clarence, Elda & Phillip Courville, Harrison Harmon, Martin Goodly, Curley Sr. & Savannah Gradney, Gerald & Pat Klein Fly., Liv. & Dec.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

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

10:30 A.M. MASS – Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Jeane Daigle, Peggy & Bea Monk, Remy & Taylor Fly., Liv. & Dec.

Last Weekend Collection	\$3,993.80
Maintenance Fund to Date	\$35,645.38
2ND Collection Maintenance Fund	\$563.93

Vocations Candle and Cross – Enola Gradney

Please call the rectory if you would like to sponsor the Vocations Cross and green candle. The cost of the green vocation candle is \$5.

PRAYER LIST

Tyler Alexander, Robert Andrews, Glenn Baggett, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Georgia Baggett, Tyler Bellow, Bob & Jane Bennett, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Michael Bertrand, George Bihm, Myrtis Bihm, Alvin Billodeaux, M/M Lincoln Briscoe, Margaret Briscoe, Ann Burgess, 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, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Carolyn Denison, Herman Deshotel, Francis Dugas, Donna Dunnehoo, Lonnie Duplechain, Jeff Durio, Jim Earlene, Elizabeth Enloe, Lois Evans, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Sandy Ford, Agess Frank, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Church Glasco, Mary Ann Goodly, Phielomone Goodly, Becky & Tracy Gorman, Dixie Granger, Vergie Granger, Jennifer Guidry,

Juanita Guidry, Bob Haas, Paula Davis Hargrove, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Bridgitte Harper, Jacque Hebert, Collin Henry, Dolores Holden, Elle Iguess, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, LaNan James, Norma Jane, Gina Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Emily Johnson, Agnes Joubert, Debbie Kershner, Barbara Landreneau, Rod Landry, Essie Langley, Theresa Langley, Fly., Cooper Law, Johnny Lee, Jessica Lindsey, C.J. LeJeune, Brian Manuel, Kermit Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Edgar Miller, Josh Miller, Louise Miller, Beckie Moreaux, Carla D. Moreau, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Leah Morgan, Willie Moses, Phylis D. Naquin, Paula Odom, Palmer Ortego, Debbie Owen, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Dawn Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Jane Craft Ray, Anne Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Julia Reed, Linda Reed, Octavia Reeves & Fly., Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Eugene Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Cathy Rock, Ann Rooney, Pat Abshire Savant, Lois Singleton, Elle Smith, Yvonne Smith, Elden Bada Sonnier, Fynlee Squier, Ken & Wylene Taylor, Patrick Thomas, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Gene Vizena, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Mary LaFleur Ware, Dwayne Warren, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young, and for those in the nursing homes and confined in their own home. **Please call the rectory to add or remove names as needed.**

Blessed Palms

Please bring your blessed palms and place them in the container at the entrance of the church. They will be used to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Come, Lord Jesus Group for Lent

A Come, Lord Jesus group will meet during Lent at 6:00 on Wednesdays at St. Joan of Arc. This is a Bible study created by Father Conley Bertrand from Lafayette. We will meet during Lent to study the gospel readings from the Sunday masses. If you have attended Father Conner's classes, this is a good way to extend your study of the Catholic faith. If there is interest, other groups can be formed. A signup sheet is in the back of the church. For more information please contact Lynne Boggs at 225-362-2503.

SJOA ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

- 6:30 A.M. Mass (OF)
- 5:30 P.M. Mass (EF)

This Week @ SJoA

- **Sunday, February 16th** – CCD for Grades 1-8 at 9:00 A.M.; Holy Hour from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.
- **Wednesday, February 19th** – Youth Group at 5:00 P.M.; High School CCD at 6:00 P.M.
- **Thursday, February 20th** – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 3 – 7 P.M.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

On Becoming a Saint

Jesus told us in Mathew 5:48, "You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." You'll notice by the language He used that this is not a suggestion, but a command by His use of the word must. He didn't say it's a goal to shoot for. He didn't tell us to give it that old college try. He said we *must* become perfect. How perfect? As perfect as God the Father. And how perfect is God the Father? *Infinitely perfect!*

Is it possible to become perfect? You bet! Perfection is the very definition of sainthood. All of the saints were perfect by the time they died. They perhaps didn't achieve absolute perfection until they went through their final passion just prior to death, but they did get there.

Achieving sainthood is more than possible, but we can't do it on our own. While we become true men and women (one who does always and only the holy will of God), we simply have to develop

a prayer life relationship with God and continually ask Him for the graces to advance in holiness. Will you mess up? Sure you will. You might even commit mortal sin from time to time on your journey to sainthood. The key is to take Christ's example. The Church teaches that every time He fell under the burden of the cross (a metaphor for our sin), He got right back up again.

That's what we have to do every time we fail. In other words, say an immediate act of contrition and plod forward with a fresh resolve to do as you ought, rather than doing as you want. It goes with saying that you also need to go to confession at the earliest possible moment.

And I would strongly recommend you get a good spiritual director. Be careful about whom you chose to direct your soul. Just because a man is a priest doesn't necessarily mean he'd make a good spiritual director. There are plenty of priests in the world who aren't faithful to the Church's teachings or their sacerdotal vows—obviously not something you have to worry about, or you wouldn't even have access to this. That's not to say most are that way, so don't misunderstand me. Indeed, most priests are good, holy men who take seriously the teachings of the Church and their priestly vows. But you still have to be careful.

Another reason not just any priest will do is because not all of them are even equipped to be spiritual directors. Most aren't trained for it, and among those who are, they haven't been trained in classical spiritual direction. Priests who are not trained, or have been trained in the modern psychologically based mumbo-jumbo that passes for spiritual direction, might possibly end up having the opposite of the desired effect and cost you your immortal soul. That's not the intention of the priest, though. Doggone it; some priests just aren't equipped for spiritual direction.

In addition to avoiding the sort of priests mentioned in the previous paragraph, I whole heartedly recommend you avoid asking a nun or lay person to direct you. There may be some

very good nuns and lay people out there, but your best bet is always a priest. Thanks to the sacramental graces of Holy Orders, a priest has a great special advantage when it comes to spiritual direction, because he can get to know your soul in a very intimate way. The age of the priest doesn't matter; only the degree of apparent holiness.

And under no circumstances let anyone get away with telling you the "old ways" of spiritual direction don't work anymore, that mankind and the Church have advanced beyond those archaic ways. *Baloney!* Times may change, but man is the very same as he was when our First Parents committed original sin, and the Church is a mere 2,000 years young. Besides, how many saints do we produce today with the so-called new ways? When classical spirituality and direction were at their peak, hundreds (perhaps thousands) of saints came flowing out of the heart of the Church! If classical spirituality was good enough for the likes of St. Teresa of Avila, St. Anthony of Padua, St. John Bosco, and countless others, it should certainly be good enough for you.

You can't leave everything up to your spiritual director if you want to advance in the spiritual life, though. You have to read, too. There are hundreds and hundreds of good books out there (many written by saints) that will put you on the road to perfection. Off hand, the first two that come to mind are *Introduction to the Devout Life*, by Saint Francis de Sales, and *Interior Castle*, by Teresa of Ávila. Just Google the titles, as I know they're sold in a lot of places. Come to think of it, in this modern age, I'm sure you can find these books available in both audio and video formats.

There is a lot more I could tell you about becoming a saint, especially on the mechanics of it, but half the fun for you will be in discovering it all on your own.

Did I just say fun? Yep, I sure did. One of the saddest things I've ever heard was in a Billy Joel song called *Only the Good Die Young*. The sad lyrics are, "I'd rather laugh with the sinners than cry with the sins." This is so untrue. Saints are all happy people with a great sense of humor. Sinners my laugh in this life, but they certainly won't in the next life. And I can tell you from experience that sinners who are given over to their passions and not committed to God are *not* happy—no matter how much they laugh. And that's What We Believe... Why We Believe It.

Do you want to become a saint in obedience to Jesus? Visit JoeSixpackAnswers.com and ask me more about it. In fact, ask me any Catholic question you want. While you're there, sign up for my free email course about the Catholic Church to learn things you never knew! This *free* email course will arrive in your inbox every three days, jam packed with things that will make your head spin and make you proud to be a Catholic.

SAVE THE DATES

40 HOURS DEVOTIONS AT SJoA

March 1st – March 4th (times to be announced)

St. Joseph's Altar

TBA

CONFIRMATION MASS

Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 P.M. at Sacred Heart of Jesus in Oakdale

LENTEN MISSION WITH FR. MICHAEL CHAMPAGNE

Monday, March 23rd & Tuesday, March 24th from 7 – 8 P.M.