

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Sonja Billodeaux, Fran Meaux, Ursin & Lillie Carrier Fly., Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Jennifer L. Manuel, Catherine Papillion, Deceased members of J.D. & Esher Marcantel, 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, Dallas & Billy Bertrand, LeRoy & Rodney Fontenot Fly., Liv. & Dec., Mark & Chelsea Foreman Fly., Jeane Daigle, Peggy & Bea Monk, Irving Reed

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

NO MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020

6:00 P.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

5:30 P.M. MASS – Jeane Daigle

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

6:30 A.M. MASS – Pour Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020

6:30 A.M. MASS – Joe, Katherine, Ray & Louis Karam

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020

4:30 P.M. MASS – Sonja Billodeaux, Fran Meaux, Jennifer L. Manuel, Evelyn Sandell, Catherine Papillion, Elmo Smith, Harrison Harmon, Martin Goodly, Curley Sr. & Savannah Gradney, Eldridge Hance Fly., Liv. & Dec.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020

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

10:30 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Weston & Cecile Granger, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Mark & Chelsea Foreman Fly., Jeane Daigle, Peggy & Bea Monk, Gerald & Pat Klein Fly. Liv. & Dec. Teovic & Joyce Fontenot, Phylis D. Naquin, Carla D. Moreau

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| Last Weekend Collection | \$2,907.00 |
| Maintenance Fund to Date | \$35,745.38 |
| 2 nd Collection next weekend – Black & Indian Missions | |

Vocations Candle and Cross – Shannon and Kristen Mancil

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.***

Come, Lord Jesus Lenten Group

The Lenten prayer group for Come, Lord Jesus, will meet Wednesdays at 6:00 in the church hall. The exception is Ash Wednesday. That day we will meet Thursday, Feb. 27 at 6:00 in the hall. Booklets are available at the rectory. Call Corinne for details. For the first meeting prepare first lesson, the gospel reading for the first Sunday of Lent.

40 HOURS DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 1st – 9 am to 7 pm

Monday, March 2nd – 7 am to 7 pm

Tuesday, March 3rd – 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 4th – 7 am to 7 pm

This Week @ SJoA

- **Sunday, February 23rd** – NO CCD for Grades 1-8; Holy Hour from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.
- **Monday, February 24th** – Office Closed
- **Tuesday, February 25** – Office Closed
- **Wednesday, February 26th** – NO Youth Group or High School CCD
- **Thursday, February 27th** – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 3 – 7 P.M.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

On Evangelization

One of our two primary obligations is to share the faith. I get a real kick out of watching people's reaction when I tell them that. You'd think I just told them they have to go into a terrorist camp and take out all the camp occupants with a broken, rusty bladed pocket knife and no back-up. The idea of having to share the Catholic faith with other people is the stuff nightmares are made of for most folks.

Evangelization is really not that difficult. Even if you're a complete wallflower, you can still play a role in evangelization. I'll save the various means of evangelization for next week, but for now I want to talk about just who all we need to evangelize.

The very first classification of souls to evangelize is none other than your fellow Catholics. Yup, you read that right; your fellow Catholics. Firstly, we all need to have a genuine conversion of heart every day. You do, I do, and even the pope does. But this actually goes much deeper than that.

Did you know...

- one out of every 10 Americans is an ex-Catholic
- if they were a separate denomination, they would be the third largest denomination in the United States, after Catholics and Baptists
- one of three people who were raised Catholic no longer identifies as Catholic
- 6.5 people leave Catholicism for every one that joins
- 50% of young people who were raised Catholic are no longer Catholic today
- and 79% of former Catholics leave the Church before age 23

Do you know why that is? Read what Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke wrote in a letter to me in October 2015.

"A gravely defective catechesis which marked the life of the Church in the years following the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, though not because of the Council, contributed to the loss of faith, the lack of a devotional life and left the subsequent generations devoid of a concrete way to know the Catholic faith and live it."

His Eminence is absolutely correct. Most Catholics—perhaps as many as 95%—suffer from catechetical illiteracy. That's a kind way of saying they are completely ignorant of what the Catholic Church teaches. If they knew exactly what the Church teaches—I'm talking about unvarnished Catholic truth that isn't watered down milquetoast—most of those listed in the statistics above would still be Catholic. But the simple fact of the matter is that they don't.

That automatically means the next group of people to be evangelized is non-practicing and lapsed Catholics. You know lots of people in that category; we all do. Perhaps you have close friends or family who are non-practicing or lapsed Catholics. You're obligated to share the faith with them.

"But, Joe, doing that might soil or ruin my relationship with them." Tough! Who is your first obligation to: your friends & family, or Jesus? Before you answer that, you might want to stop here and read what Jesus said in Revelation 3:15-16.

The final group of people to reach out to is non-Catholics. Most of the non-Catholics I reach out to are cultivated one-on-one. They're the result of general conversations with people I meet—no one talks to me long before I turn the subject to religion—and these are folks God just places in my path. He places people in every Catholic's path all the time; we just have to make ourselves aware.

For the benefit of those of you who are among the faint of heart, I'd like to digress here for a moment to deal with the notion of avoiding controversial topics. **Let me state emphatically that I never talk about controversial subjects. Ever.** Therefore, I never talk about organized sports or soap operas, but religion is wide open for discussion. Why? Because religion deals with objective truth, and objective truth cannot possibly be controversial. $2+2=4$; is there anything controversial about that? Certainly not! That's not to say, however, that people don't get emotional about truth—especially when that truth threatens what they choose to believe. After all, there is still a Flat Earth Society. I'm not kidding; look it up.

It's been my experience that people only get emotional about religion when they're not confident in their knowledge of the topic. And the reason people aren't confident in their knowledge is because they really don't love God enough to bother to learn about Him—especially in our modern world. So the key to carrying on a conversation about religion is to know what you're talking about. Then you can remain calm, and that will almost always keep the person you're talking to calm.

Evangelization is every Catholic's obligation. It doesn't have to be the dreaded task most people think it is. In fact, if you're devoutly practicing your faith, it shouldn't be hard at all, because what matters most in your life is what you'll talk about the most; and if our holy and ancient faith doesn't mean more to you than anything else, you may want to re-examine your priorities.

SAVE THE DATES

40 HOURS DEVOTIONS AT SJoA

March 1st – March 4th (Sign up sheet in the church)

St. Joseph's Altar

TBA

CONFIRMATION MASS

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

TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE ROSARY RALLY

Saturday, March 21st at 12:00 noon at Oberlin Farmer's Market

LENTEN MISSION WITH FR. MICHAEL CHAMPAGNE

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