

Nativity B.V.M. JULY 19, 2020
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FAREWELL TO DEACON TOMASZ
POWROZNIK

Although Deacon Tomasz's original deaconate internship assignment was scheduled to end in October 2020, we have learned that he needs to return to the seminary in August to complete several theological courses. This is due to his transfer from SS Cyril and Methodius Seminary to Notre Dame Seminary. The curriculum varies between the two seminaries. Deacon Tomasz will leave Nativity Cathedral on July 20th to take a few days of vacation. Let us join in bidding our Deacon farewell and wishing him all success in the coming year. We look forward, by the grace of God, to his upcoming ordination to the priesthood.



GOD IS PATIENT AND KIND

Growing in faith is like striving to grow as wheat in a field mixed with weeds. We are faced with temptations, we do not pray as we ought, we are weak and in need of forgiveness. But God is just and kind; He judges with leniency, sends His Spirit to our aid, lovingly nurtures us, and patiently awaits our growth.

*You, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in kindness to all who call upon you.
Hearken, O LORD, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my pleading.
All the nations you have made shall come
and worship you, O Lord,
and glorify your name.
For you are great, and you do wondrous deeds;
you alone are God.
But you, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God,
slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity.
Turn to me, have pity on me;
give your strength to your servant.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon Jul 20	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8, Mt 12:38-42
Tues Jul 21	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20, Mt 12:46-50
Wed Jul 22	Sg 3:1-4a or 2 Cor 5:14-17, Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thu Jul 23	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13, Mt 13:10-17
Fri Jul 24	Jer 3:14-17, Jer 31:10-13, Mt 13:18-23
Sat Jul 25	2 Cor 4:7-15, Mt 20:20-28
Sun Jul 26	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46



YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Regular Collections	\$	11,488.00
Maintenance	\$	402.00
Capital Improvement	\$	503.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	285.00

TOTAL COLLECTION \$ 12,678.00

Thank you for your generous contributions

NATIVITY CATHEDRAL GUIDELINES

Because of the increasing number of Covid-10 cases in Mississippi...specifically in Harrison County...we sincerely ask everyone to wear a mask while attending Mass at Nativity Cathedral. The masks are free and available at the front door. Many restaurants will not allow smoking and everyone complies. Because our Nativity Community is primarily older, we again ask everyone to wear a mask while in our church and comply with our request. Again, if you do not have a mask on right now, they are located at the front door. Thank you.



PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS

Tom Mason, Rocky Long, Harry Kostmayer, Sr., Peter Skrmetta, Kay Semski, Kevin Kavanagh, Carolyn Urbanoto, Phil Beining, Mable Viator, Buck O'Gea, Nick Pass, Sue and Gene Daudelin, Lesa Walker-Kirkman, Rose Collins, Lehwmon Skrmetti, Annette Luther, Macklyn Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Mickey Bradley, Gwen Gollott, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Michael Zorich and our Homebound Parishioners.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Jul 25 4:00 pm 1. Kalin Lloyd	Jul 25 4:00 pm Jim Compton	
Jul 26 7:00 am 1. Linda Stewart	Jul 26 7:00 am Jim Shugart	
9:00 am 1. Sharon Tash	9:00 am Michael Kessler	
11:00 am 1. Sarah Barhonovich	11:00 am Sondra Williams	
5:30 pm 1. Tricia Creel	5:30 pm Mary Townsend	
	CANTORS	
	Jul 25 4:00 pm KC Arnold	
	Jul 26 9:00 am John Welter	
	11:00 am Phil Frisby	

6:30 AM	8:00 AM
Mon Jul 20 Collins-Sims Fly.	Hang Nguyen
Tue Jul 21 Homebound (S.I.)	Robert Lyons, Jr.
Wed Jul 22 Carol Andrews	Walker & Irene Tucei
Thu Jul 23 Hang Nguyen	Stanley Dellinger
Fri Jul 24 Laura Ann Creel	Hebert/Bertha McDonnell
Sat Jul 25 8 Jeanne Harbison	4 Doris/Gabe Kasovich
Sun Jul 26 7 Dolores/Jerry Ellis	9 F.T.P.
11:00 – Jacinto/Norine Baltar	5:30 Walker/Irene Tucei.

FROM THE MUSIC & FINE ARTS MINISTRY:

REMEMBER: A complete Mass Order for each weekend's Mass is posted on the Nativity BVM Cathedral website. This will not only include the lyrics to the hymns/sacred songs but also the holy scriptures for the weekend. This way folks at home who wish to stream the Mass and those who attend in person can utilize the Liturgy Sheet/Aid. For those who attend in person, you will be able to read/sing/pray along in the service using your cell phone or tablet device.

Hymns/Sacred Songs for:

16TH Sunday of Ordinary Time – July 18th & 19th:

Opening: "Morning Has Broken"
 Offertory: "How Great Thou Art"
 Communion: "Christ, Be Our Light"
 Sending: "Blest Be the Lord"

CANTORS: Saturday – 4:00 p.m. - Elizabeth Cobb
 Sunday - 9:00 a.m. - Dennis Burke
 11:00 a.m. – Phil Frisby

SPECIAL MASS CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEKEND!

"New Wine Graduation Mass" – Nativity BVM Cathedral
 2:00 p.m., Saturday, July 18th, 2020.
 Cantor: John Welter

5:00 pm: "Confirmation Mass" – St. Michael's Catholic Church, Saturday, July 18th, 2020.

"Faith!" – Especially in the time of COVID-19: To have faith is to defy logic. It takes faith to think positively. It takes faith to believe that there is a loving God who cares deeply about our pain. To believe in life, the universe, or yourself after numerous failures is to have courage. Faith is an act of courage. It is choosing to get up in the morning and face our fears and believe that God will help us. Faith is choosing to believe that even though we may have failed one hundred times before, that we can succeed the next time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 20 Women of Mary, 5:30 pm

July 22 Cleaning Team C

A NOTE TO OUR CATHEDRAL CLEANING TEAMS

Please be vigilant in helping us to keep our Cathedral cleaned. It is important we stay on top of it. We are holding both 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Masses in the Cathedral on weekdays and all weekend Masses in the Cathedral. Your service to our parish is appreciated.

A PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS

*O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Mary,
 We, your children of every nation,
 Turn to you in this pandemic.
 Our troubles are numerous; our fears are great.
 Grant that we might deposit them at your feet,
 Take refuge in your Immaculate Heart,
 And obtain peace, healing, rescue,
 And timely help in all our needs.
 You are our Mother.
 Pray for us to your Son.
 Amen.*

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM HURRICANES

Father, may all the elements of nature obey Your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of Your power into praise of Your goodness. Grant this, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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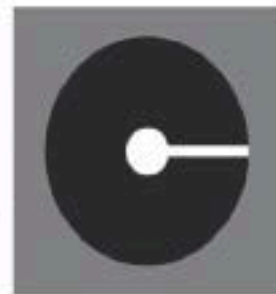


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	LEVEL 1 Standard Precautions	LEVEL 2 Elevated Precautions	LEVEL 3 Grade Level Grouping	LEVEL 4 Blended/Hybrid Learning	LEVEL 5 Virtual Learning
CRITERIA	Normal/low risk of infection	Moderate risk of infection/ Flu season/ Small number of outbreaks	Heightened risk of infection/ Flu season/Multiple outbreaks	Government-mandated capacity limits	Government-mandated school closure
ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL	Proceed as usual	Temperature checks at the cars. Masks encouraged but not mandatory.	Level 2 plus masks may be required in hallways	Same as Level 3	School is temporarily closed
CLASSROOM PROCEDURES	Classroom/bathroom hard surfaces sanitized multiple times a day/Hand sanitizer in classrooms and common areas	Increased sanitation/ Seating distanced as space allows/ Water fountains turned off, but bottle fillers may be used/ No shared supplies/Frequent hand sanitation	Level 2 plus grade levels act as a “family” in order to avoid transmission	Level 3 plus maximum sanitation throughout school and between staggered group schedules	School is temporarily closed Teachers at school in classrooms teaching virtually (Social distancing practiced among faculty/staff)
SPECIAL CLASSES PE/Art/Music/Library/ Computer Lab	Classes proceed as usual/Hard surfaces sanitized between classes	Classes proceed with increased sanitation between classes	Teachers of special classes go to the individual classrooms or hold class outside and teachers may be required to wear masks	Classes will be available on Distance Learning Platform with video lessons and activities for students	School is temporarily closed Teachers at school in classrooms teaching virtually (Social distancing practiced among faculty/staff)
CAFETERIA	Hands sanitized upon entry and exit. Hard surfaces sanitized between lunch periods	Level 1 plus increased sanitation/Grade levels eat together apart from other classes	Classes will eat in their classrooms or outside away from other classes	Alternate schedule will be developed based upon capacity limits	School is temporarily closed
RECESS	Hand sanitation required upon entry and exit/Equipment will be disinfected between classes	Level 1 plus all sports equipment will be sanitized/Limited number of classes on playground at one time	Level 2 plus designated play areas and equipment for each grade level	Short brain breaks and recess breaks will be incorporated	School is temporarily closed
MULTI-GRADE ASSEMBLIES/MASSES	Proceed as usual with hand sanitization required upon entry and exit	Level 1 plus a rotating schedule for masses and assemblies to allow for maximum social distance	No multi-age assemblies/Mass is live streamed and grade levels will rotate in-person attendance	Mass live streamed as scheduled	Live stream morning prayer and pledge/Mass live streamed as scheduled
VOLUNTEERS/VISITORS/ CONTRACTED PERSONNEL	Allowed with normal office check-in	Only contracted personnel allowed/Temperature checks required	Only contracted personnel allowed with temperature checks and masks/shields required	Same as Level 3	School is temporarily closed

*School Administration will have the discretion of alternating between levels as needed for the safety of our children.



The Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

1790 Poppo Ferry Road
Biloxi, MS 39532

•
Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman, III
Bishop of Biloxi



The Catholic Diocese of Jackson

237 East Amite Street
Jackson, MS 39201

•
Most Reverend Joseph R. Kopacz, D.D.
Bishop of Jackson

A Joint Statement of the Catholic Bishops of Mississippi
Against the Evils of Racism
July 4, 2020

We join our voices to vehemently denounce racism, a plague among us. It is an evil and a force of destruction that eats away at the soul of our nation. Ultimately, it is a moral problem that requires a moral remedy—a transformation of the human heart—and compels us to act. “The evil of racism festers in part because in our nation there has been very limited formal acknowledgement of the harm done to so many, no moment of atonement, no national process of reconciliation and all too often a neglect of our history.” (Open Wide Our Hearts)

“Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love - a pastoral letter against racism” was officially endorsed in November, 2018 at the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops Annual Conference in Baltimore. Following upon this near unanimous endorsement, the Cause for Canonization of Sister Thea Bowman, the granddaughter of slaves, the only African American member of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, a woman who transcended racism to leave a lasting mark on Catholic life in the late 20th century, was introduced and overwhelmingly approved by the bishops. A prophetic document and a prophetic life combined to show our nation a better way, the path to greater justice and peace, whose beginning and end is the dignity of the human person.

As the Church seeks to be a leaven in society for solidarity, liberty and justice for all, we must recognize our participation in the chains of racism. “Therefore, we the Catholic bishops of the United States acknowledge the many times when the Church has failed to live as Christ taught, to love our brothers and sisters. Acts of racism have been committed by leaders and members of the Catholic Church, by bishops, clergy, religious and laity, and her institutions. We express deep sorrow and regret for them.” (Open Wide Our Hearts)

Significant numbers of African Americans are born into economic and social disparity. We must recognize that generations of African Americans were disadvantaged by slavery, wage theft, “Jim Crow” laws, and the systematic denial of access to numerous wealth-building opportunities reserved for others. Racism can be institutional, when practices or traditions are upheld that treat

certain groups of people unjustly. The cumulative effects of personal sins of racism have led to social structures of injustice and violence. (Open Wide Our Hearts)

The heartless killing of George Floyd sparked a national outcry against the tyranny of racism. The actions and inactions of the officers involved are symptomatic of a pattern that has reached critical mass and has exploded across our nation and beyond. That brutal assault violates the fundamental truth lamented in “Open Wide our Hearts” that all people are created in the image and likeness of God. When this truth is ignored, the consequence is prejudice and fear of the other, and all too often, hatred. In the Gospel of John 3:16 we hear the foundation of the Christian faith that “God so loved the world he sent his only Son.” Not surprisingly, in the first letter of John 3:15 we hear “Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer.”

Despite the great blessings of liberty that this country offers, especially our freedoms afforded in the First Amendment, which includes both the freedom of religion and to peaceful protest, we must admit the plain truth that for many of our fellow citizens, interactions with the police are often fraught with fear and even danger. At the same time, we reject harsh rhetoric that belittles and dehumanizes our law enforcement personnel as a whole, most of whom labor to keep our communities safe, and we condemn attacks against police and the rioting and violence taking place across our country.

Sister Thea addressed the toxic reality of racism on many occasions and spoke on behalf of her people. “When I was growing up, many of the old women who had undergone the ignominy of slavery were around, and they told us about slavery because we had to know about freedom. They told us about misery. The black woman has a task when the world says to her children, when the world says to her husband, when the world says to her mamma and to her, ‘there is something wrong with you. Your skin is too black. Your nose is too flat. Your hair is too nappy and too short. And you’re slow. And you’re ignorant. And you can’t learn like white folks. And you’re immoral.’ That’s what the racist society told us and told our children about themselves. The result was one of the great problems of the black community, the problem of low self-esteem, and it kills us.” (Mercy College of Detroit 1989). A poster at one of the peaceful protests in our nation illuminates this lament. “We said black lives matter. Never said: only black lives matter. We know: all lives matter. We just need your help ... black lives are in danger.”

The enduring call to love is the heart of the matter and the antidote to this toxin. Love is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. For many in Mississippi who strive to live by the Word of God, we cannot ignore the prophets. “You have been told, o mortal, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice, to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8), and from the prophet Amos, “Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” (Amos 5:2)

Sister Thea’s life is a living legacy and testimony to the sacrifice and commitment of many in the Catholic Church for generations across Mississippi in the quest to overcome racism. Sister Thea was born in Yazoo City, Mississippi, December 29, 1937, and grew up in Canton. Her mother was

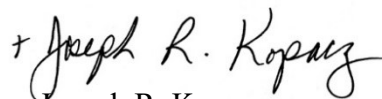
a teacher and her father was the only African American physician in Canton. Her parents sent her to Holy Child Jesus School. Thea was reared as a Protestant, until at age nine when she asked her parents if she could become Catholic. “I was drawn to examine and accept the Catholic faith because of the day-to-day witness of Catholic Christians who first loved me, then shared with me their story, their values, their beliefs; who first loved me, then invited me to share with them in community, prayer and mission. As a child I did not recognize evangelization at work in my life. I did recognize love, service, community, prayer and faith.” (The non-Catholic in the Catholic School)

Gifted with a brilliant mind, beautiful voice and a dynamic personality, Sister Thea shared the message of God’s love through a teaching career. After 16 years of teaching at the elementary, secondary school and university level, the bishop of Jackson, Mississippi invited her to become the consultant for intercultural awareness. In her role as consultant Sister Thea gave presentations across the country; lively gatherings that combined singing, gospel teaching, prayer and storytelling. Her programs were directed to break down racial and cultural barriers. She encouraged people to communicate with one another so that they could understand other cultures and races. In 1984, Sister Thea was diagnosed with breast cancer. She prayed ‘to live until I die.’ Her prayer was answered, and Sister Thea continued her gatherings seated on a wheel chair. In 1989, the U. S. Bishops invited her to be a key speaker at their conference on Black Catholics. At the end of the meeting, Sister Thea’s invitation, the bishops stood and sang “We Shall Overcome” with gusto. Sister Thea lived a full Life. She fought evil, especially prejudice, suspicion, hatred, and things that drive people apart. She fought for God and God’s people until her death in 1990. (Cause for Canonization)

As bishops in our time in Mississippi, we recommit ourselves to continue to liberate the Church from the evil of racism that severely compromises our mission to make disciples of all nations in the name of Jesus Christ. With the ordained priests and deacons, religious and laity in our diocese we pledge ourselves to strengthen our Catholic tradition to educate, to serve, and to empower all who are on the margins in our communities, especially those who are oppressed by the yoke of racism. We are not powerless and the witness of Sister Thea’s life is an icon of hope that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)



Louis F. Kihneman, III
Bishop of Biloxi



Joseph R. Kopacz
Bishop of Jackson

Practical suggestions and goals for the Catholic Dioceses of Mississippi

This list is not comprehensive, but meant to provide a practical starting place for clergy and the faithful on engaging effectively in combating racism, that begins in the human heart.

As a parish:

- Read or re-read “Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love – A Pastoral Letter Against Racism” using the accompanying Study Guide. Visit <http://uscgb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/index.cfm>
- Priests and Deacons to preach against racism and our personal responsibility to eradicate it and encourage dialog in the parish and community
- At Mass and prayer services, include prayer to end racism and the injustice it causes
- Engage Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council members in the discussion on racism
- Hold listening seminars for parishioners and community members to reflect on life experiences - encourage reflection on upbringing and how it has influenced perceptions of ‘the other person’
- Provide and attend intergenerational and interracial discussion or seminar on racism
- Provide opportunity for chaplains and police departments to join seminars and discussions on racism

As individuals:

- Acquaint yourself with Catholic Social Teaching and the pastoral letter against racism “Open Wide Our Hearts”
- Educate yourself on the history and causes of racism in our Country
- Exercise your right to vote
- Speak out whenever you see injustice, racism or discrimination
- Do not take part in racial or discriminatory humor
- Support efforts to help strengthen family life
- Share your time and treasure by involving yourself in diocesan and parish outreach to those in need
- Talk to your children about the pain and injustice caused by racism
- As a family, pray for justice, peace, and love of neighbor