

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

Rom 8:12-17 / Lk 13:10-17

Donna Ackerman, Michelle Denning

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

Rom 8:18-25 / Lk 13:18-21

Ollie & Elmore Landry, Bishop Warren Boudreaux

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

Rom 8:26-30 / Lk 13:22-30

Liz Judice, Msgr. James Songy

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 6:30 a.m.

Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles

Eph 2:19-22 / Lk 6:12-16

Special Intention

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 12:10 p.m.

Weekday

Rom 9:1-5 / Lk 14:1-6

Ronald Ratcliff, Sr., AML

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 6:2-6 / Heb 7:23-28 / Mk 12:28b-34

4:00 p.m. Elaine M. Grant fly. (L&D), Miles Liner fly. (L&D), Anise & Richard Goodroe

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

7:00 a.m. Calvin LeLeux fly. (L&D), Chaille & Ray Rasberry, Freddie Orgeron, Jr.

10:00 a.m. Marguerite Clement Usey, Lee Nini, Jr.

6:30 p.m. Ronald Ratcliff, Sr.

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 Offertory (October 9/10) \$4867.00
 Offertory (October 16/17) \$3646.00
 Mission Appeal \$2108.00

Quelques paroles de Monsieur le Cure

Pope Francis has set the theme for the Synod of Bishops to be held in October 2023: Towards a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission. As established by Pope Francis, the diocesan phase of the process was scheduled to begin last Sunday. I do not know if that happened here in our diocese.

As mentioned, consultative processes and the instruments to achieve consultation have been a part of the Church for most of its history. Efforts to include the laity in these processes are somewhat novel, but not completely new.

The efforts have not always met with success. Despite the integrity of the Church's legal system, an understanding of these processes was not effectively communicated. Despite the well-articulated theology of the Church, due attention was not given to human nature.

Authority in the Church is given to the hierarchy: the Pope and the bishops in union with him. Certain authority is granted to others, including the laity, by the establishment of ecclesiastical office or by delegation in accord with the norm of Church law.

Without an adequate explanation of the above, parish councils and Catholic school boards were duly created by bishops. The laity who helped constitute these councils or school boards were not told of the nature of these consultative bodies in the tradition of the Church.

These people were intelligent and not without experience. On the basis of their education and experience, they turned to the secular understanding of a council and a school board. The city council governs the city: enacting ordinances, establishing policies, approving a budget, approving expenditures and other matters. It was both reasonable and logical for them to assume that the parish council functioned in the same way over the church parish. This was even easier to accept if the members of the council were elected by the entire parish, even more so when the parish was divided into districts. The members then were the duly elected representatives of the people, just like the people on the city council. At one time, most clerics would have concurred and followed the same secular model.

The same was true of school boards. Lacking a proper and accurate model, good intentioned people turned to the secular school boards as the model. The state school boards establish the budget, approve expenses, set policy, and hire the administrators and teachers. Many pastors, fatigued by the efforts needed to sponsor a school, all too happily abdicated all of their responsibility for the school and entrusted it to the school boards.

At this point, the other factor, human nature, is pertinent. The Church's teaching on original sin and its effects is not always appreciated, although it does reveal so much about us as people. Reduced to its most basic and fundamental description, we tend to be selfish, self-centered, and self-absorbed. This dynamic negatively impacted many a council and school board, leading to sinful behavior and subsequent division. Sometimes the situation became more toxic as some began to make efforts to control others. Priests are not immune to original sin and its effects. There is much evidence to support that.

The Diocese of Lafayette has dropped certain policies and modified practices to address the abuses and resolve the conflicts. This has not always been successful.

Is consultation possible in accord with the tradition of the Church?

Is the synodality to which Pope Francis is calling us possible?

If conversion of life, to borrow a concept from St. Benedict, is understood and embraced, the answer to both questions is in the affirmative.

Hopefully our diocese will take this challenge from Pope Francis to heart.

For us here, this is truly a moment of grace, a time for all of us to deepen our faith (our personal, intimate relationship with Christ Jesus), strengthen our community, and reach out to all around us with love and compassion.

(Msgr.) Courville

New Announcements

Blessing of the Cemetery: The blessing of the cemetery will follow the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 31.

DATE / TIME	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
October 30, 4:00 p.m.	Lisa Russo	Barbara LeLeux
October 31, 7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Prissy Davis Laura Dozar Monique Ratcliff	Briant Dozar

Repeat Announcements

Prayer for Hurricane Season: Bishop Schexnayder, the beloved second bishop of Lafayette, composed a prayer to be used during the hurricane season in 1957. This prayer has been reproduced on a card and is available in the vestibule of the church and near the side exits.

Newly Baptized

Ophelia Vail Burbante was baptized on October 17, 2021.
 Zachary Thomas Menard was baptized on October 17, 2021.

Rest In Peace

Frank L. Black, Sr. died on October 5, 2021.
 Clarence Peter Hebert, Jr. died on October 7, 2021.

Pray for the following priest each day: Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

October 25, Rev. Anthony Ostini, SJ
 October 26, Rev. Joseph Padinjarepeedika, CMI
 October 27, Rev. Arockia Doss Palthasar, HGN
 October 28, Rev. Paul Patin, SJ
 October 29, Rev. John Paul, SJ
 October 30, Rev. John Payne, SJ
 October 31, Rev. Rene Pellessier, LTJG