

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2020

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,
and what has not entered the human heart,
what God has prepared for those who love him,
this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

— 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

CHOICE

“If you choose you can keep the commandments,” Sirach tells us. God “has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand” (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but we can choose our way within those boundaries. In today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

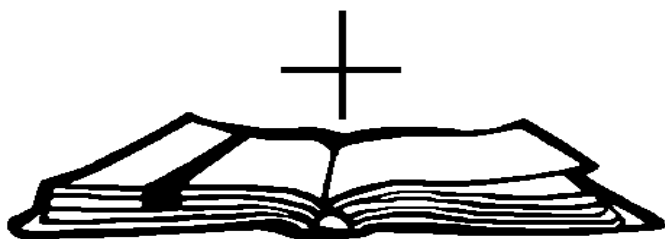
SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order; Presidents’ Day
Friday: St. Peter Damian
Saturday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington’s Birthday

PRAYER LIST

James Michael Cole	Korey James Harris
Scott St. Romaine	Freddie Addotto
Fred Kopfler	Louise Cashmere
Florence Hoffman	Sylvia Callahan
Leland Rodriguez	Richard Atkins
Roy M. Piazza	Ruthi Olson
Pam Addotto	Joseph Hadad
Nita Addotto	Caminita Family
David R. LeBlanc	Wilma Ferran
Margaret Jones	Dot Willie

Mass Intentions



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Weekly Collections

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Envelopes	\$ 2,449.00
Loose	\$ 1,807.05
Building and Preservation Fund	\$ 1,486.25
2 Coll. Catholic Charities	\$ 192.00

Sat., Feb. 15, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Randy Cooper, Marie Lowe, Lorraine A. Campbell, Louis Perschall Sr., Karge Family, Special Intention (L), Wilma Ferran (L)

Sun., Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m. Margaret Mary Mulé, Carol Pieri, Gloria Fabre, Al Satches, Louis Contion, Larry Kass Sr., David Tucker, Edward John Anderson, Pat Taylor (L), Caminita Family (L), Patty Johnson (L), Jon Craig (L), Rev. Michael Dobbins (L), Donald Veuleman (L), Joyce Veuleman (L)

Sun., Feb. 16, 9:15 a.m. Parishioners

Sun., Feb. 16, 11:00 a.m. Marie Duhon

Mon., Feb. 17, 8:00 a.m. David Smith

Tues., Feb. 18 NO MASS

Wed., Feb. 19, 8:00 a.m., WWC (L)

Thurs., Feb. 20, 8:00 a.m. Nick Sita

Fri., Feb. 21, 8:00 a.m. Mary Ann Miller

THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

Sanctuary	Priscilla Stahel (L)
Blessed Mother	Mulé Family (L)
St. Joseph	Mulé Family (L)
St. Ann	Louis Barbazon

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7 day candle please call 796-3806.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers on the Altar are in memory of

Paul and Beverly Foret

CATCH FIRE YOUTH

Catch Fire meets SUNDAY 2/16 @ 6:00 p.m. in Odilo Hall. Join other youths ages 6th grade through senior for fun, fellowship and King Cake! Can't wait to see everyone!

The office will be closed on February 24th and 25th for Mardi Gras. We will re-open on Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday Masses and distribution of ashes are at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The Stations of the Cross will be every Friday in Lent at 5:00 p.m. and will conclude on Good Friday.



The Knights of Columbus are holding their Lenten Fish Fries every Friday during Lent (except good Friday) beginning Friday, February 28th from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in Jonathan Hall. They will be serving your choice of fried or baked fish, cole slaw, potatoes and hush puppies. Eat in or take out. Everyone is invited to attend.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS MEN'S CONFERENCE

On March 7, 2020, the Archdiocese of New Orleans is hosting a life-changing Archdiocesan Men's Conference from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Catherine Sienna in Metairie. All men ages 18 and over are highly encouraged to make plans to attend and bring all of their closest friends, teammates, brothers, fathers, men's groups, etc. We are expecting over 1000 men! Meet fellow men seeking holiness and hear inspiring talks from Focus CEO Curtis Martin, Catholic evangelist Peter Herbeck and former Saints player and current NFL coach Jack Del Rio. **Please go to www.nolacatholicmen.com to view the flyer, for more information and most important, to REGISTER.**

REDISCOVER THE SAINTS

We are capable of so much more than we think. You have no idea what you are capable of. None of us do. God is constantly trying to open our eyes to the amazing possibilities that he has enfolded in our being. The saints continue this work, encouraging us to explore all our God-given potential, not with speeches but with the example of their lives. St. John's will have a table outside of Church this weekend. These books are complimentary. We ask that you accept one copy per family. It is encouraged that you read this book in preparation of a presentation from Fr. Damien coming in March on the book Rediscover the Saints and a display of Relics.

FOOD DRIVE

For Lent our parish will be participating in a food drive that will benefit our neighbors who are living in poverty. The non-perishable food items we collect will be sent to the Northshore Food Bank which serves families in St. Tammany, Washington and Tangipahoa Parishes. St. John's will have bags available for you to fill in the coming weeks.

ENCOUNTER LENT

We are called to Join our faith community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl at all masses on February 22nd and 23rd. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the challenge of global hunger and how it affects our human family.

PIVOTAL PLAYERS

Our program continues on Sunday, February 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Jonathan Hall library. We will study and discuss the influential Catholic writer, Flannery O'Connor. O'Connor had a profound influence on contemporary culture, particularly literature and film. Her novels and short stories have been described as shocking, convoluted, funny, and violent. They are filled with unforgettably strange characters. But the stories are haunted by Christ and awaken us to the need for salvation. Subsequent Pivotal Players will be explored on the third Sunday of every month.

REMINDERS!

The next Knights of Columbus monthly meeting is on Thursday, Mar. 12th at 7:30 p.m. in Odilo Hall.
First Saturday mass at 8:00 a.m. every month
Monday Bible Study, 7:30 p.m. in the Library
Men's group, Thurs., 7:00 p.m. in Library, except second Thurs.
PSR classes grades K – 8th, Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. in J H.
9th and 10th grade PSR classes, Sun., noon – 1:30 p.m. in Library
James Adult Bible Study, Thursdays or Fridays at 9:00 a.m. in the Library in Jonathan Hall
100th Anniversary Committee Meeting, March 20th 9:30 a.m. in office

THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE February 22

In brushing up for "Catholic Jeopardy," it might help to know that there is only one feast on the calendar for a thing, rather than a person or mystery. It's for a chair: Saint Peter's chair in fact. After the Resurrection, there can be no doubt that the disciples reserved a special place for Simon Peter in the upper room. Later, Peter became the bishop of Antioch in today's Syria, the place where we were first called Christians. From there, he went to Rome, the center of the Empire, where it is said that Peter sat in a chair in the house of Priscilla and Aquila to instruct his flock. Jesus, in entrusting the keys of the Kingdom to Peter and his successors, entrusted his compassion and mercy to them, and charged them with pointing to the Kingdom of God. Compassion and mercy are to resonate through their teaching. Since the ancient sign of a teacher is the chair ("disciple" literally means one who sits at the feet of a teacher), Peter's chair has long been treasured. Today there is a symbolic shrine of Peter's chair above the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. This monument is the last work of Bernini, a huge bronze throne supported by four doctors of the Church: Augustine and Ambrose from the Western Church, and Chrysostom and Athanasius from the East. High above it is the alabaster window of the descent of the Holy Spirit.—Rev. James Field