

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Today's readings tell us how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus' memory alive by remaining a dynamic Christian community, bearing witness to Christ by their unity, fidelity in worship and spirit of loving and humble service. Today's Gospel introduces Jesus as the Way to God, the Truth to be accepted and the Life to be shared and lived.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from Acts, shows us the early Church as a loving, serving and worshipping community (Acts 6: 1-7). Hence, it easily solved a problem of discrimination by instituting the diaconate for the service of the community. In the second reading, St. Peter advises the early Christians to renew the memory of Jesus by making their community a spiritual edifice built from the "living stones" of believers upon the "Living Cornerstone of Christ" (I Pt 2: 4-5). Peter praises Christians, Gentiles and Jewish, as "*a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's own people.*" In today's Gospel, Jesus consoles his apostles who are sad and disheartened at the prospect of his arrest and crucifixion by assuring them that he is going to prepare an everlasting accommodation for them in his Father's house in heaven. He gives them the assurance that he will come back to take them to their heavenly abodes. It is then that Thomas asks Jesus where he is going and the way to reach him. Jesus answers Thomas' question with, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.*" The basic doctrine of Judaism is that Yahweh is the Way the Truth and the Life. Hence, Jesus is making a revolutionary claim that he is equivalent to Yahweh. Jesus declares that he is the safest and surest way to God, discrediting the notions that all religions are equally sure ways to reach God, or that no organized religion but only living a good life of sharing love is necessary to reach God. But Jesus the Way is narrow because it is the way of loving, humble and sacrificial service. Jesus is the Truth who taught revealed truths about God and God's relation to man. Jesus also taught moral truths by demonstrating them in his life. Jesus is the Life because as God he possesses the eternal life of God and shares his divine life with his disciples through the Word of God and the sacraments.

The context of today's Gospel: The disciples are gathered together with Jesus on the last Thursday night of his life in the Upper Room for the Last Supper. The departing Jesus instructs them about how they may preserve his memory and carry on his mission. As his final hours on earth approach, Jesus prepares his disciples by explaining to them the full significance of what will happen. He will return to his Father and send them the gift of the Holy Spirit. And after dedicating their lives to leading others to faith through the power of that Holy Spirit, they will be reunited with him in his Father's house. "*I am going to prepare a living space for you, a mansion, a place for you for all eternity... I will come again and take you to that place.*"

Let us find personal meaning of today's readings : 1) We need to know Jesus the Truth and walk Jesus the Way: Jesus asked Philip: "*Have I been with you all this time and you still do not know me?*" He is asking us the same question: "Have I been with you all this time – in the Mass, in the Sacraments, in the Bible in the worshipping community – and you still do not know me?" If we really believe that Jesus is the Way and the Truth and the Life, then we will find fresh and creative ways to keep alive his memory. Jesus asks us to keep alive his memory by reading and praying the Scriptures, by gathering in Jesus' name and celebrating the Eucharist "in memory" of him, by handing on the great tradition of Christian faith and by living according to his wise teachings.

2) We need to possess Jesus the Life. We share the divine life of God by making use of the means Jesus established in his Church: a) By actively participating in the Eucharistic celebration and properly receiving the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. b) By the worthy reception of the other Sacraments. c) By the meditative and daily reading of the Word of God. d) By following the guidance of the life-giving Spirit of God, living within us. e) By communicating with God, the source of life, in personal and family prayers.

Welcome to

May 9 & 10, 2020

St. Joseph Catholic Church- Zwolle

St. Ann Chapel- Noble

Father Joseph C. Ampatt,
Pastoral Administrator

Parish Staff

Sandy Lovelady
645-6845/ 315-5092 for after hours &
weekends ONLY
Secretary

Luci Jo Parrie
Religious Education Coordinator

Diamond R. Adair
Bulletin Editor

Thelma Small
Matrimonial Tribunal Lay
Advocate

Gary Sepulvado
Maintenance

Parish Volunteers

Anna Garcie
Lee McCann
Parish Trustees– Finance Council

Cindy Ezernack
Pastoral Council Chairperson

Gatha Martinez
Ione Durr
St. Vincent de Paul Society

Colleen Britt
Council of Catholic Women

Andie Sepulvado
Candace Wilson
Altar Server Directors

Kelli Boydston
Liturgy Coordinator

MASSES are suspended until further notice.

Anticipated Mass: Saturday 4:00 PM (St. Joseph)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (St. Joseph)
11:00 AM (St. Joseph)
5:00 PM (St. Ann)
Tuesday-Friday: 7:30 AM (St. Joseph)
3rd Thursday: 10:00 AM at Toledo Nursing Center

Baptism: Children should be baptized within the first few months after birth. Baptism should take place in one's proper parish. Registered parishioners should contact the Office for information about scheduling a baptism class, regarding the selection of Godparents, any required preparations, and the date and time of Baptism.

Reconciliation: Confessions are normally heard on Saturdays before the mass from 3:15–3:40 PM. Other opportunities are possible by appointment by calling Father Ampatt.

Eucharistic Adoration: Spend a refreshing hour before the Lord in prayer in our daily chapel, from the conclusion of morning Mass until 3:00 PM on Thursdays.

Marriages: Either the bride or the groom must be a registered parishioner of St. Joseph/ St. Ann Parish. At least six months of preparation time is required in our Diocese. Weddings are never booked by phone or by third-parties; a **personal interview is required**. Call the office for an appointment.

Funerals: Contact the office to make necessary arrangements for the funeral liturgy.

New Parishioners: Welcome! To register, fill out one of the blue forms located at the church office or in the church foyer and return it to the church office or drop it in the weekly collection basket. Change of address or phone number? Please provide your updated information to the church office as soon as possible.

Parish Office Information

Hours: Monday 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Tuesday-Friday 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM,
Lunch 12:00-1:00 PM

P.O. Box 8/ 307 Hammond St. (Physical)

Zwolle, Louisiana 71486

Phone: 318-645-6155

Fax: 318-645-9852

Rectory: 318-645-9198

st_joseph_zwolle@bellsouth.net

Website: www.St.JosephZwolle.org

Diocesan Web Site: www.dioshpt.org

May 9 & 10, 2020

****During the mandatory suspension of masses, Fr. Ampatt is continuing to say the mass intentions.**

Mass Intentions:

May 9, Saturday

St. Joseph
For the Parishioners

May 10, Sunday

St. Joseph
Thomas J. Sepulvado, Sr. †

St. Ann
For All Mothers

May 11, Monday

May 12, Tuesday
Melva G. Ebarb †

May 13, Wednesday

Tyne, Martha, and Howard Laroux †
Pat and Mark Ebarb †

May 14, Thursday

Fr. Cal Cuccia †

May 15, Friday

Donald Henderson †

May 16, Saturday

St. Joseph
John Earl Rivers †
Kevin Holden †
Jack Parrie and Dorothy Boudreaux †
Adam Jeter †

May 17, Sunday

St. Joseph
James and Helen Bebee and
Billy Wayne Sepeda †

St. Ann
For our Parishioners

Readings for this week:

- † Monday: Easter Weekday
Acts 14:5-18/ Jn 14:21-26
- † Tuesday: Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19-28/ Jn 14:27-31a
- † Wednesday: Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1-6/ Jn 15:1-8
- † Thursday: St. Matthias, Apostle
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/ Jn 15:9-17
- † Friday: Easter Weekday
Acts 15:22-31/ Jn 15:12-17
- † Saturday: Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1-10/ Jn 15:18-21
- † Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/ 1 Pt 3:15-18/ Jn 14:15-21



Please take a moment each day to read and reflect on these passages from Sacred Scripture. It is a wonderful way to join our personal prayer to the public prayer of the church.

We pray for:

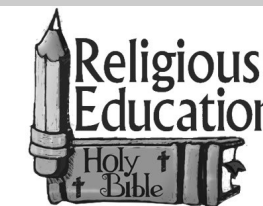


Jackie Craig; K.C. Sepulvado; Lula Mae Sepulvado; Thomas "Tin Man" Foster; Maurice Martinez; Annie Rivers; Amanda David; Raymond L. Ebarb; Juanita Manshack; Delma Rivers; Linda Sepulvado; Paul L. Rivers; Martin Crooks; Greg Crooks; Kathy Ebarb; Boyd Miles; Priscilla Walraven; JoAnna Presseau; Carolyn Cwright; Helen Laroux; Staci Anderson; Catherine Hammon; Marilyn Laroux; Mary Martinez; Benny Remedies; Frances Sepulvado; Gary Bozzell; John D. Ebarb; Elaine Henderson; Pedro Ebarb; Abra Lachaussee; Van Martinez; Elaine Henderson; Wanda J. Rivers; David Louis Moore; Joe Garcia; Doyle Hagieh; Linda Meshell; Draven T. Ebarb; Sue Ellen Remedies; Gerald L. Sepulvado, Jr.; Monica E. McManus; Pedro Ebarb; Derrick Jordan; Allen Ray Garcia; Fr. Williams; Jeanette Garcia; Dagel Ebarb; Mattie B. Sepulvado; Kenneth McCormick; Billy Wayne Procell; Sammy Procell; Elsie Ezernack; Robbie Meshell; Tina L. Sepulvado; Phillip & Laura Jones; Vernon & Doris Ebarb; Cheryl Ebarb; Chandler Ebarb; Ann Rivers; Rose Meshell; Yvonne Maskai; Anne Bryant; Laurie & Reinardo Montero; Jimmy Brown; Ace Bowling; Richard Doggett; Ashlie & Eli Nolan; David Nichols; Kevin Leone; Norman & Jeannie Arbuckle; Celena Rivers; Rosella Sepulvado; Michael Dewayne Ebarb; Felicia Whitlow; Jackie Rivers; John Douglas Malmay; Felicia Whitlow; Maggie Manshack; Ronnie Brummerloh; Debbie Rutherford; Judy Ebarb; Tommy Leone; David Meshell; Robert Hersberger; Ricky Cryer; Jacob Wooley; Lucy Burns; Judy Ebarb; Joseph C. Sepulvado; Mark Austin; Benny Ray Sepulvado; Edward Pastureau; Howard Rivers; John LeRoy Meshell; Hosea Meshell; Eddie Remedies; Lula Mae Sepulvado; Anna Sistrunk

(The names on the prayer list go through a cycle. Once they make it to the top they are removed as new names are added, to keep the prayer list current. Contact the office to add, re-add, or remove names from the list. Thank you.)

Fifth Sunday of Easter

All classes are suspended until further notice.



- In the near future there will be ad space on the back of the bulletin. If you are interested in advertising your business please leave a name and contact number with the office. Ray from the company has been making calls to some of the local businesses and leaving messages to those he was not able to speak to.

- We will post information as we receive it on our Facebook page and website.
- Although we can not have an actual mass we are leaving the church open from 7 AM until 5 PM at St. Joseph for those to have private Adoration and prayer.
- Thank you to those who have continued to respond with contribution envelopes.
- **Anyone in need of spiritual help during this time, Fr. Ampatt can be reached at 318-426-0142.**

Week of: May 10

Sanctuary Candle

In Memory of
Nannie Brandon

St. Joseph Candle

In Memory of
Ruth Loupe

Blessed Mother Candle

For the
Toledo Nursing Home
Residents

St. Ann's Candle

Please remember as you pray...

The family of:
Joseph C. Procell

Reminder: Fr wants 100% of our Parishioners to give something to the Diocesan Appeal no matter how large or small. We would surpass our goals with 100% pledging.

Diocesan Stewardship Appeal 2020 (4/30/2020)	Fam.	Donors	% Fam. Pledged	Goal	Pledged	% Goal Pledged	Pledge Paid	% Pledge Paid
St. Joseph, Zwolle	750	143	19%	\$62,500	\$51,800	82.88%	\$30,886	59.63%
St. Ann, Ebarb	125	36	29%	\$17,000	\$11,195	65.85%	\$5,280	47.16%

Prayer in Time of Sickness. Jesus, You suffered and died for us; You understand suffering; Teach me to understand my suffering as You do; To bear it in union with You; To offer it with You to atone for my sins And to bring Your grace to souls in need. Calm my fears; increase my trust. May I gladly accept Your holy will and become more like You in trial. If it be Your will, restore me to health so that I may work for Your honor and glory and the salvation of all men. Amen.