

July 5, 2020

FOCUS:

It is in Christ that we find perfect freedom and the fullness of hope.

The image of a yoke is often lost on us in our modern culture; it's that wooden crosspiece that harnesses oxen and other beasts of burden and keeps them together as they plough a field or haul goods. In today's Gospel, it is the central image Jesus uses to invite us into union not just with him, but with the Father and thus with the Holy Spirit.

No one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. These words from Jesus indicate two things. First, only in Jesus do we find the fullness of all revelation of God. As the catechism states: "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son. "Christ, the Son of God made man, is the Father's one, perfect and unsurpassable Word. In him he has said everything; there will be no other word than this one" (CCC 65).

Second, Christ chooses to reveal the Father to us, and to mediate that experience and relationship by shining a light for our feet to follow and by walking beside us in our journey. Therefore, his instruction to all of us who are burdened and who labor – to come to him and to take his yoke upon ourselves – is meant to alert us to our being literally bound to him, coupled to him, so that he may help us pull and plough our way through the fields we walk. We can rest when we allow him to manage that yoke and do the heavy work.

This is not another way of him saying, "take up our cross and follow him" While it is true that we must do that, in this case the message is that when we yoke ourselves to Christ – in baptism and through our life of faith and in the sacraments - grace abounds and there is more room for Christ to lead the way and fewer opportunities for us to stumble over rocks in our path.

Jesus does not say we will no longer have struggles, but that we will find recourse in him. His strength will be our strength, infusing us with trust and helping us place all our difficulties before him. And when we commit ourselves to him, we become one with him, with the Father whom he has revealed to us, and with the Holy Spirit who gives us the gift of faith, marked by the sign of the cross by which Christ claims us as his own.

We can look about this world and know that there are many who continue to walk alone. Bereft of hope, they mistakenly believe that to take Christ's yoke upon them means that they are somehow limiting their freedom. But it is just the opposite. Christ tells us ***his yoke is easy and his burden light***. It is in him, and the life of faith bound up with him, that we find perfect freedom and fullness of hope.

This is God's gracious will – that we may one day know the freedom of trusting him completely and return to him in his everlasting glory. In Jesus, he has given us the way, and this way is freely and humbly given.

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PLEASE NOTE

MASS ATTENDANCE – At this time, Mass attendance will be on a first-come, first-seated basis. Please be reminded that once the Church reaches capacity for that Mass, you will be asked to attend the next Mass.

This is very important to stay within the guidelines of the state regarding places of worship.

- You must wear a mask.
- Remain 6 feet apart (social distancing)
- No physical contact outside your household.

~ The 10:30am Mass will be live-streamed on our website and FB page. ~

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK****Mon, 7/6**

6:30am – Liturgy of the Word

Tue, 7/7

6:30am – Fernando Sr., Lilia & Grandparents

Wed, 7/8

6:30am – Dale Lirette

Thu, 7/9

6:30am – Mary & Marcella Bourgeois

Fri, 7/10

6:30am – Ray & Betty Waguespack

Sat, 7/11

4:00pm – Wayne Riche', Myra Blanchard

Sun, 7/12

8:00am – Charlie Barrett (B)

Sun, 7/12

10:30am – Donald Burnett, Rachel & Lula Chiasson

**PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM HURRICANES**

Our Father in Heaven, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us from all harm during this hurricane season and protect us and our homes from all disasters. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. Amen!

JESUS IS CALLING

WILL YOU COME?

(Matthew 11:25-30)

WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sat, 7/4 – Isaiah 57:15-29; Phil 4:6-9; John 14:23-29

Sun, 7/5 – **14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9,11-13;
Matthew 11:25-30

Mon, 7/6 – Hosea 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Matthew 9:18-26

Tue, 7/7 – Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:32-38

Wed, 7/8 – Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Matthew 10:1-7

Thu, 7/9 – Hosea 11:1-4, 8e-9; Matthew 10:7-15

Fri, 7/10 – Hosea 14:2-10; Matthew 10:16-23

Sat, 7/11 – Isaiah 6:1-8, Matthew 10:24-33

Sun, 7/12 – **15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23;
Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9



First Holy Communion will be celebrated for our candidates on Sunday, July 19, 2020 at a special Mass at 5:30pm. Attendance will be limited to immediate family members. There are two preparation sessions, July 6th and 13th from 5:30 to 6:30pm. Please keep all of our candidates in prayer, as they participate in the fullness of the celebration of the Mass, along with the rest of the Body of Christ, the Church!

Normal office hours of operation resumed on Wednesday, July 1st. Hours are from 8am to 3pm Monday thru Thursdays and 8am to 12noon on Fridays; closed for lunch from 12pm to 1pm. Due to safety concerns, please email or call the office whenever possible; if you need to come by, please call in advance to let us know you are coming.

STEWARSHIP REPORT

Weekly Goal to meet annual needs: \$6,500.00

June 21st 2020 Collections Report

Envelope Offortory:	\$3,691.00
Loose Offortory:	\$1,290.00
Online Offortory:	\$ 265.00
Total Offortory:	\$5,246.00

Please note: contributions received as a result of the Pandemic Offortory letter are included here; thank you for your generous support!

AIR CONDITONING/HEATING REPAIRS—we have already replaced one AC unit and are having to replace a second AC/Heating unit. Cost for both of these projects is \$15,700.00. If you would like to make a donation to help us, please call the office or speak with Father after Mass. All assistance is sincerely appreciated!

ONLINE GIVING – If you are interested in making your donations online, instead of using the offertory baskets available in the church, please go to our online giving website at stanthonybayoublack.weshareonline.org (do not put in www at the beginning)

- You can make a single donation, or set up an account to make the donations reoccur, to your specifications; just click on a red box with “make a donation” to get started.
- In addition to the weekly offertory, all of the second collections and special purpose collections, such as Holy Days and for Mass requests as well as flowers at Easter and Christmas are available.
- Please call the office if you have any questions.

7-DAY CANDLES (located by the front entrance to the church) are available for a donation. Our cost is approximately \$2.25 each. We appreciate your contributions that enable us to continue providing these sacramental items.

SANCTUARY CANDLES burn this week *IN LOVING MEMORY* **John, Della, Warren, Eula, Will, Ronald and Emmett Rodrigue, Arthur and Marie Hebert** by Rodrigue Family ♥ **Logan Naquin, Trey Marmande, Gerald & Judith Duplantis** by the Chafin Family ♥ **Begue & Hebert Families, Ellen Monterio, Cody Antill & Dale Bergeron** by Ann & Gary Hebert ♥ **Beau Tedesco & Tedesco and Boudreaux Families** by Victor & Madelyn Tedesco ♥ **Davis, Jr. & Michael Arceneaux, Iris Gaston Talbot, Vicki & Christopher Steib & Rena Hebert** by Shelia Arceneaux ♥ **BeBe Breaux, Stanley, Sr., Eva, S.P., Jr., Betty Hebert & Sons, Breaux, Trahan, Giroir, Blanchard & Hebert Families** by Virdie and Bubba Breaux ♥ **Neal, Linda, Theresa & Reynold Hebert; Giroir, Fauchaux & Hebert Family** by Janis Hebert & Hebert Family ♥ **Bonnie, Rene & Marguerite Guidry, Ernest, Ertell & Emil Joller** by Ulysse & Miriam Guidry ♥ **Pierre LeBlanc, Ann Gill, Terri Lambert, Nell Kay & Curtis Marcello, Sr., Tenny Moore, Bubba McNeal, Aull & LeBlanc Families** by Kaye LeBlanc ♥ **M/M Joseph Dufour, M/M George Darsey, M/M Harold Favret, Sr., Harold Favret, Jr., Charles Favret & Marie Hyland** by Linda D. Favret ♥ **Ryan & Marc Pitre, Viella & Nolan Rogers** by Carol Antill ♥ **Logan Naquin, Trey Marmande, Gerald & Judith Duplantis** by the Chafin Family ♥ **Ted & Violet DeYeide Borowski, John Ford Sr., Borowski, DeYeide, Dison and Ford family** by James & Stefanie Ford ♥ **Ed & Dolly Richard, Lucy Porche, Louis & Lois Authement, June Fischer, Sylvia & Reed Folse, Dot & Junel Marcel** by Ed & Elaine Richard ♥

BIBLE STUDY – Bible Study is coming back with the first session beginning on **Tuesday, July 14th at 9:30am** in the Rev. Gerard Hayes Center. There are a few rules that have to be followed by everyone in order to meet the state requirements for meeting in a place of worship:

- Everyone must wear a mask
- Maintain distancing when and where possible
- Tables and chairs must be sanitized when the session ends (we have the needed supplies)

A slightly new normal, but how nice to be able to resume!

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THE WEEK**

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