

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20-26, 2020

Monday - MI 6:1-4, 6-8; MT 12:38-42
Sts Apollinaris, Aurelius, Elijah

Tuesday - MI 7:14-15, 18-20; MT 12:46-50
Sts. Lawrence and Praxedes

Wednesday - SGS 3:1-4B, JN 20:1-2, 11-18
St. Mary Magdalene

Thursday - JER 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-1; MT 13:10-17
St. Bridget

Friday - JER 3:14-17; MT 13:18-23
Sts. Christine and Charbel Makhoul

Saturday - 2 COR 4:7-15; MT 20:20-28
Sts. Christopher and James

Sunday - 1 KGS 3:5, 7-12; ROM 8:28-30; MT 13:44-52 OR 13:44-46 – Sts. Joachim and Anne
The SEVENTEENTH Sunday in Ordinary Time



AFTERTHOUGHTS

How good are you at distinguishing the weeds from the wheat in your own life?

PRAY FOR: Ray Duthu, Linda Lee, Shirley Walsh, J.A. Foret, Jason Chaisson, Christina Sparks, Ursula M. Breaux, Barbara Touns Miller, Susan Laperouse, Deacon Lee Crochet, Selma Ferjani, Dee Belanger, Holden Sawyer, Lynn Paul Lirette, Sherman Brown, Mary Lee Boudreaux, Airman Wesley Speyrer, Nancy Rivere, Chelsea Ford, Gary Benoit, Sonny Lovell, Judy Porche, Vincent Trabona, Alicia Headrick, Scott Stoufflet, Curtis Briggs, Patty LeJune, Margaret Gaudet, Tracy LeBlanc, Kristen Watkins, Alex Schexnayder, Robert Cazayoux, Linda Musson, Rosabelle Prosperie, Kayla Dudek Breaux Percy Lee, Linda LeClair, Sadie Talbot. (Open heart surgery), Susie Degeneres, Barbara Gaidry, Wayne Duplantis, Joy Blanchard, Marie Williams, Buddy Marcello, Roy Reeves, Brenner Winston Babin (cancer), and for all prayer shawl recipients.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all who have died, especially Edward “Byron” Pearson.

Daily Prayers for Priests:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of the priesthood. We particularly thank you for the priests here in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. We ask that you draw them ever closer to the Sacred Heart of Your Son Jesus. May they experience the depth of communion with you that you long for. Grant them stillness Lord, that they might perceive your presence. Heighten their spiritual senses that they might see and hear you ever more clearly and feel you ever more deeply. Remind them of their call. Remind them of all that you have promised them and they promised you on the sacred day of their ordination. We ask for miracles of renewal in their priestly vocation, Lord. Renew them in your love and strengthen their resolve to love and serve you. Strengthen their priestly fraternity, Lord, and strengthen the bond between the priests and the Laity. That together Lord, we all might be ONE as you are One. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers on the altar were donated in memory of **The Deceased Family Members of Landon Lottinger and Claire Boudreaux** by Mr. and Mrs. Landon Lottinger.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY

“If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them.

Let them grow together until the harvest.”

Jesus knew his followers would live in a world that is full of temptations - to do evil, to take the easy way out, to take advantage of others to gain wealth and power. He knew we would be challenged to abandon our efforts to know Him and to imitate Him to the best of our ability. Jesus also knew that one of God’s greatest gifts to us is free will - the ability to choose between good and evil, to choose between doing right and doing wrong, to choose between being generous and being selfish. But Jesus taught us by word and deed that being his follower - a Christian - is not about feeling good, it is about doing good. It is not about how much we acquire for ourselves, it is about how much we share with others. God creates us in this world with many temptations so we could demonstrate our love for him by seeking to discern His will and choosing to do His will. Our God is an awesome God!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday – July 12, 2020

Envelopes (130).....	\$ 6,402.00
Loose	\$ 869.00
Total	\$ 7,271.00

PARISH NEWS

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

St. Francis de Sales is hoping to begin RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) sessions in the fall, August 2020. If you - or someone you know - is interested in becoming Catholic these sessions are for you!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process, a journey of faith, designed for adults who study the scriptures as well as the teachings of the Catholic Church. The sessions are designed to enable the participants to build community within the group and to introduce them to a deep and abiding faith in Christ, whereby they are consciously and freely initiated into the Catholic Christian community. This faith journey is for adults who

1. have been Baptized in another faith tradition,
2. have been Baptized Catholic but have not celebrated First Communion or Confirmation, and have never received religious instruction in the Catholic faith,
3. or have never been Baptized in any faith.

These sessions are discussion sessions and begin with a period of Inquiry – a time where you are free to inquire about the Catholic faith and have your questions answered. You are also welcome to bring your spouse or a friend to the sessions! For more information or to register, contact Cathy in the Cathedral office – 985-876-6904.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - MASS

This group of lay people assists in distributing Holy Communion at Mass. Ministers must be at least 18 years of age. Other divisions of this ministry include: Homebound Ministry, Hospital Ministry and Nursing Home Ministry. Contact the rectory office at 985-876-6904 for information.

STAY INFORMED

Please visit the Church website for daily posts, updates, and news. <https://stfrancisdesaleshouma.org/>

Please visit the Church Facebook page for posts, news, and videos. <https://www.facebook.com/Cathedral-of-St-Francis-DeSales-Church-Houma-121704657888318/>

Please visit the Diocese website for the latest news, stories from Bayou Catholic, prayers, videos, etc. <https://hdiocese.org/coronavirus>

Open Wide Our Hearts:

The Enduring Call to Lovecontinued

“These examples from the experiences of Native, African, and Hispanic Americans demonstrate how, as a nation, we have never sufficiently contended with the impact of overt racism. Nor have we spent the necessary time to examine where the racist attitudes of yesterday have become a permanent part of our perceptions, practices, and policies of today, or how they have been enshrined in our social, political, and economic structures. Much can be learned in hearing the stories of those who have lived through the effects of racism. In examining the generational effects of racism on families, communities, and our Church, each of us can begin to act in solidarity to change the prospects for future generations.

Love Goodness “Most people would not consider themselves to be racist. A person might admit to being prejudiced but certainly not racist. As Christians, we know it is our duty to love others. St. Paul reminds us that we live by the Spirit, and the *“fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control”* (Gal 5:22-23). We must be honest with ourselves. Each of us should examine our conscience and ask if these fruits are really present in our attitudes about race. Or, rather, do our attitudes reflect mistrust, impatience, anger, distress, discomfort, or rancor?

“When we begin to separate people in our thoughts for unjust reasons, when we start to see some people as “them” and others as “us,” we fail to love. Yet love is at the heart of the Christian life. When approached and asked what is the greatest commandment, Jesus answered: *“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself”* (Mt 22:37-39). This command of love can never be simply “live and let others be.” The command of love requires us to make room for others in our hearts. It means that we are indeed our brother’s keeper (see Gn 4:9).

“The sin of Cain finds its remedy in Christ, in his command to love and in the gift of his Holy Spirit that enables us to respond to his call. When Cain struck and killed his brother, the human family was further divided. But Christ heals all divisions, including those that are at the 18 core of racism. It is through his Cross that we learn the greatest lesson about love. On the Cross, Jesus died for the human race (see 2 Cor 5:15). “He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world” (1 Jn 2:2). Here is our hope! Here is the grace given to us to be healed of this sin of division! Here is the lesson of love.

“Once “we have come to the conviction that one died for all” — and not just for ourselves — then “the love of Christ impels us” to see others as our brothers and sisters (2 Cor 5:14). For, “if [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy” (1 Cor 12:26). It is the love of Christ that binds together the Church, and this love reaches out beyond the Church to all peoples. This love also requires justice. “If we love others with charity,” as Pope Benedict XVI reminds us, “then first of all we are just toward them.” In this way, love “is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” In doing so, we are also loving goodness.”

... to be continued.

from *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love – “A Pastoral Letter Against Racism”* developed by the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Thank you!

Your Lenten sacrifices helped families around the world overcome the challenges of hunger and poor nutrition.



crsricebowl.org/change-lives



THE TIE-IN – ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Hearing this Gospel, we can trust that God knows our love and good deeds, and that he will mercifully gather us into his kingdom.

This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call 985-872-2520. After the beep, clearly state your name, phone number, address, and nature of the request. One of our volunteers will call you back to arrange an appointment interview (caller id will not display the number).

Did you know that you can give online?

Look for this button on our church website.

St. Francis de sales - ParishSOFT On-Line Giving

<http://www.stfrancisdesaleshouma.org/on-line-giving.html>

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: CALL TO GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux
We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers... We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, and ideological differences. Learning to practice the virtue of solidarity means learning that "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.

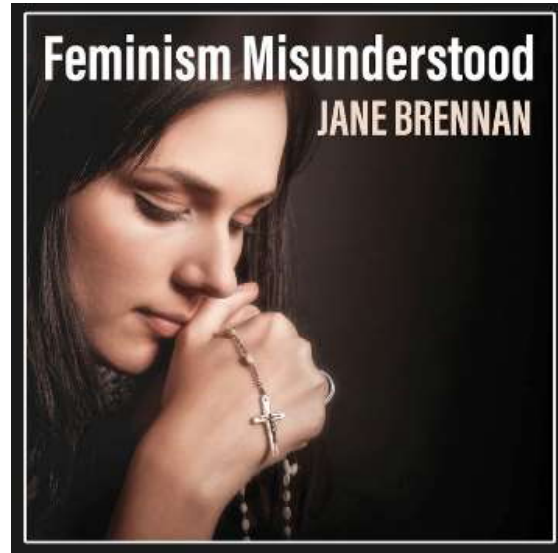
Today's scripture deals with the mystery of evil:

- Evil that shows up growing in the midst of all the good in the world
- Evil that can choke the good things that we would like to see grow and prosper
- Evil that can tempt any of us toward violence, greed, and selfishness
- Evil that can move us to be concerned about our group's good and not the common good

Today's scripture, especially the parable of the weeds and the wheat, reminds us that God looks on this world with all its problems with compassion, love, and patience, not panic, hatred, and violence. God invites us to look on the world in the same way and act accordingly.

- Jesus models reconciliation and healing.
- Welcoming the stranger and refugee is the way of Jesus.
- Active solidarity with the poor is the way of Jesus.
- Jesus believes that change, growth, conversion and reform are all possible.

People in the wealthier half of the world, can be tempted to look on the other half with an attitude of judgment and even condemnation – much like the servants who want to rip out what they think are weeds right away. People in one culture can look at people in a different culture with the same critical and rash judgment. We can condemn and destroy or we can work together toward understanding, reconciliation and peace. We are invited to discover and learn and grow as a community.



FEMINISM MISUNDERSTOOD: ONE WOMAN'S JOURNEY TO PEACE BY JANE BRENNAN

Jane Brennan, a former member of NOW and former Planned Parenthood volunteer, shares her heart-wrenching story of abortion and subsequent years of depression, resulting in her eventual conversion to the Catholic Church.

Find this and more on FORMED.

To sign up for FREE go to: go to our church website, <http://www.stfrancisdesaleshouma.org/>, click on FORMED, click on Register Now, enter the requested information including email and password (that you will create).

FORMED also has an app for Apple or Android mobile devices! Go to the App Store or the Google Play store to download the FORMED App.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Adoration Chapel remains open for adorers. We are still practicing new safety measures, so please wear a mask in the Adoration Chapel.

St. Francis' Adoration Chapel current hours are 7am-6pm daily (Key fobs allow 24 hours access). All are welcome to come by and spend a few minutes with our Lord.

Sunday – Donna Lapeyre – Home: 225-937-1861 - donnalapeyre@yahoo.com

Monday – Candy Archila – Home: 985-868-1792 – jarchila@bellsouth.net

Tuesday – Therese Oubre – Home: 985-226-2252 - Mobile: 225-329-6757 – tsoubre@att.net

Wednesday – Melanie – Mobile: 985-709-3754 - mbabin1@comcast.net

Thursday – Melva Fournier – Home: 985-873-7593 – Mobile: 985-226-7800 – melfour816@gmail.com

Friday – Ana Vice – Mobile: 985-852-8110 – abvice1@gmail.com

Saturday – Sue LeBlanc – Home: 985-879-2866 – Mobile: 985-688-9044 - leblancsss@yahoo.com

General Information: Paul Maclean – Mobile: 985-856-5345 – macleanland@bellsouth.net



CONTINUING EDUCATION

AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE - SHORT COURSES - CERTIFICATION AND ENRICHMENT FOR CATHOLICS

The Augustine Institute Short Courses bring you the faithful and engaging instruction that has been enjoyed by over a thousand students since 2005, but on a much smaller scale than full graduate courses in theology.

Each Short Course includes:

- Three to four hours of high-quality video instruction
 - Detailed companion presentation slides
 - Reading assignments that are modest in length but generous in depth and beauty
 - Quizzes
 - Related resources: books, video, audio and more
 - At the conclusion of the nine-course curriculum, a certificate in Core Theology, suitable for framing
- Ideal for those who want to deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith
- Catechists
 - Students of the Catholic faith
 - RCIA Coordinators
 - Catholic School Teachers
 - DREs
 - Youth Ministers
 - Clergy and religious
 - Every Catholic who wants to grow in their faith
- Free trial available.



MINISTERS SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF JULY 25-26, 2020

Commentators

- 4:00 PM Carlise Jukes
- 7:00 AM John Breaux
- 9:00 AM Melanie Shipp
- 11:00 AM Ernie Perry
- 5:30 PM Christa Duplantier Prather

Lectors

- 4:00 PM Lawrence Robinson
- 7:00 AM Evelyn Ruckstuhl
- 9:00 AM Jerome Zeringue
- 11:00 AM Earl Eues
- 5:30 PM Charles Sevin

Ministers of the Eucharist

- 4:00 PM Donna Lapeyre, Carl Soudelier, Anita Pearson
- 7:00 AM Bill Blanchard, Ellen Blanchard, Carla Exnicious
- 9:00 AM Murke Trahan, Michael Boudreaux, Gail Guillot
- 11:00 AM James Goodwin, Mary Anne Goodwin, Norman Simon
- 5:30 PM Kelli Cazayoux, Patricia Whipple, Gia Holekamp



SAINTS

26-Jul St Anne
(against poverty, carpenters, equestrians, pregnancy, miners, seamstresses, homemakers, grandparents)

Saint Anne was born in Bethlehem and married Joachim from Nazareth in Galilee. Joachim was a shepherd given the task of supplying the temple of Jerusalem with sheep for sacrifices.

After twenty years of marriage, Anne and Joachim had no children. Once, when Joachim overheard ridicule because of their childless state, he is said to have gone into the desert to plead with God to give them a child. After a time of fasting an angel appeared to assure Joachim, he and Anne would be given a child they were to name Mary and dedicate to God.

In the meantime, Saint Anne wondered where her husband had gone and in her despair at having been barren she prayed while she watched newborn birds in their nests in her garden. She cried out, "Why was I born, Lord?" That is when angel appeared to tell her she would soon give birth to a daughter she was to name Mary. The story continues with Anne and Joachim's joyous reunion at the golden gate of Jerusalem.

After her birth, Anne and Joachim dedicated Mary to God at the temple of Jerusalem and she spent much of her childhood there. When Mary was fourteen they betrothed her to Joseph of Nazareth and so Mary's story continues with the birth of her son, Jesus, and his life on earth.

CATHOLIC KORNER

Last week we learned **The Second Precept** is you shall confess your sins at least once a year. "The Second Precept ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness" (CCC 2042). **The Third Precept** is you shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season. The Catechism says, "The third precept guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy." (CCC 2042) We need to take as an example those who, down through the ages, traveled many miles and endured many hardships just for the opportunity to receive the Eucharist once a year. We must view it as the precious gift that it is and long for Jesus, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. The Church encourages frequent reception of the Eucharist. *A Minute in the Church by Gus Lloyd*



Find out more next week when we talk about the **The Fourth Precept.**

Do you have a particular question you want answered?

Send in your questions to rvowell@hdiocese.org to have answered here!