

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK
OF JULY 27-AUGUST 2, 2020



- Monday - JER 13:1-11; MT 13:31-35
Sts. Celestin I, Simeon, and Pantaleon
- Tuesday - JER 14:17-22; MT 13:36-43
Sts. Urban II, Nazario, Celso, and Victor I
- Wednesday - JER 15:10, 16-21; JN 11:19-27
Sts. Beatrice and Martha
- Thursday - JER 18:1-6; JER 18:1-6
Sts. Peter Chrysologus, Abdon, and Sennon
- Friday - JER 26:1-9; MT 13:54-58
Sts. Ignatius of Loyola and Justin De Jabobis
- Saturday - JER 26:11-16, 24; MT 14:1-12
**Sts. Alphonsus, Peter Faber,
and Seven Brothers Maccabei**
- Sunday - IS 55:1-3; ROM 8:35, 37-39; MT 14:13-21
Sts. Peter Eymard, Eusebius, and Stephen I
The EIGHTEENTH Sunday in Ordinary Time

AFTERTHOUGHTS

The 7 parables of the Kingdom each teach us something unexpected about God. When is the last time God's Kingdom surprised you?



PRAY FOR: Ray Duthu, Linda Lee, Shirley Walsh, J.A. Foret, Jason Chaisson, Christina Sparks, Ursula M. Breaux, Barbara Toups 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), Allen Trahan, and for all prayer shawl recipients.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all who have died.

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.



GOSPEL COMMENTARY

"The kingdom of God is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Would we sell all of our possessions to go buy a "treasure" we found in a field? Would we sell some of them, and which ones would we sell? Such a treasure would have to be more valuable than the possessions we sell. What treasure could possibly be worth more than billions of dollars? It is something we all want. It is something we all can have. It is something that will last forever: eternal life in an intimate relationship with the Almighty and Eternal God who created us. That is the Greatest Treasure. Jesus has already secured it for us. We must be careful not to lose it. If we are aware that everything we have comes from and belongs to God, and He wants us to use it for our own benefit and enjoyment, but not get so attached to anything that we cannot let it go or use it for the benefit and enjoyment of others, we will gain the Greatest Treasure. Do we want it? What are we doing to make sure we do not lose it?

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Church

In Loving Memory of Frank Porretto, Sr by The Cenac Family.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers on the altar were donated in memory of **Jace Prejean** by Carolyn Prejean.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday – July 19, 2020

Envelopes (152).....	\$ 9,512.00
Loose	\$ 601.00
Total	\$10,113.00

PARISH NEWS

ADULT CONFIRMATION SESSION

The Adult Confirmation Course is gearing up to begin in the fall of 2020! This course is offered to those who are at least 18 years of age and have received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Holy Communion, but have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation. There will be seven (7) sessions, each 1-1/2 hours on Thursday evenings in the Convent, beginning at 6:30pm. For more information, or to register, please contact Cathy in the Cathedral office at 985-876-6904.



Open Wide Our Hearts:

The Enduring Call to Lovecontinued

The Urgent Call of Love "Love compels each of us to resist racism courageously. It requires us to reach out generously to the victims of this evil, to assist the conversion needed in those who still harbor racism, and to begin to change policies and structures that allow racism to persist. Overcoming racism is a demand of justice, but because Christian love transcends justice, the end of racism will mean that our community will bear fruit beyond simply the fair treatment of all. After all, "Within [the human] family," as St. John Paul II said, "each people preserves and expresses its own identity and enriches others with its gifts of culture."

"Our faith gives us a treasury of inspiring holy men and women who courageously worked toward racial reconciliation, showing us the way forward. There is, for example, the Servant of God Augustus Tolton, who was born into slavery and escaped to the free state of Illinois. Despite a strong calling to the priesthood supported by clergy who knew his faith, all the seminaries in the United States rejected him. Having eventually made it to a seminary in Rome, he was ordained, and returned to serve as the first black priest born in the United States, where, again, he faced much discrimination and racism.

"Once home and ministering to the People of God, Fr. Tolton was tormented by others, especially by a brother priest who was white. This priest made public and ugly statements urging the white people of the city not to go to Fr. Tolton's parish. Through this long persecution, Fr. Tolton exhibited the love of Christ, forgiving what was done to him and continuing to serve others. Things got so bad, however, that Fr. Tolton accepted an invitation from Archbishop Feehan to move north to Chicago, where he served the faithful until his death in 1897. Fr. Tolton often spoke of how the Church had taught him to always "pray and forgive my persecutors."

"During his ministry, Fr. Tolton corresponded with Mother (now Saint) Katharine Drexel, who helped support his parish work in Chicago. She is another example of people working for racial reconciliation. Following a directive from Pope Leo XIII in 1887, St. Katharine dedicated her life to working closely with Native Americans and African Americans, exhibiting genuine respect and concern. By the time of her death in 1955, St. Katharine had more than 500 sisters working in 63 schools and had established 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 states. She also founded 50 schools for African American students, including Xavier University of Louisiana, the first and only Catholic university in the United States established specifically for African Americans. Her motivation was clear. As she said, "If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to Him and them. Let us open wide our hearts. It is joy which invites us. Press forward and fear nothing."

Walk Humbly with God "To press forward without fear means "to walk humbly with God" in rebuilding our relationships, healing our communities, and working to shape our policies and institutions toward the good of all, as missionary disciples. Evangelization, which is the work of the Church, "means not only preaching but witnessing; not only conversion but renewal; not only entry into the community but the building up of the community." Racism is a moral problem that requires a moral remedy — a transformation of the human heart — that impels us to act. The power of this type of transformation will be a strong catalyst in eliminating those injustices that impinge on human dignity. As Christians, we know this to be true, for with "God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26)."

... 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).

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF
HOLY COMMUNION -
HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**

The members of this group are lay people, 18 years of age or older, who assist in distributing Holy Communion to the homebound parishioners of the Cathedral Parish. Contact the rectory office at 985-876-6904 for information.



**AUGUST 2020
MASS INTENTIONS**



In Memory/In Honor

Dick Barker, Jr	August 1, 2020	Sat.	4pm
Olin & Billie Mott	August 1, 2020	Sat.	4pm
A.J. Dagate	August 1, 2020	Daily	8:30am
Leslie Van Osdale	August 2, 2020	Sun	9am
Rose Addine Bourgeois	August 3, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
William P. Walsh	August 3, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
William V. Walsh	August 3, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Melva Duplantis	August 4, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
John H. Blanchard	August 5, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Gerald & Alberta Laffitte	August 6, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Rose Addine Bourgeois	August 6, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Kenneth Watkins	August 7, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Shirley S. Walsh	August 7, 2020	Daily	12:05am
William P. Walsh	August 7, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Sue Barker	August 8, 2020	Sat.	4pm
Leslie Van Osdale	August 9, 2020	Sun	9am
Gladys, Lloyd Sr., Lloyd, Jr. and Amedee	August 9, 2020	Sun	11am
Rose Addine Bourgeois	August 10, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Barbara Cipolla	August 14, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Clark Dugas, Sr.	August 14, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Kenneth Watkins	August 14, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Mary Agnes Pizzolatto	August 15, 2020	Sat.	4pm
Gloria Prejean	August 16, 2020	Sun	9am
Joseph Haddad, Jr.	August 16, 2020	Sun	9am
Leslie Van Osdale	August 16, 2020	Sun	9am
C.G. Keplinger	August 19, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Msgr. John Newfield	August 19, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Robert C Baisden	August 19, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Kenneth Watkins	August 21, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Julio & Lucy Archila	August 22, 2020	Sat.	4pm
Leslie Van Osdale	August 23, 2020	Sun	9am
Delaney Walsh	August 25, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Lauren Walsh	August 26, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Oron "Buck" Stutzman	August 26, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Ray Marcello, Sr.	August 26, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Rhoda Rau	August 26, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Sue Barker	August 27, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
Kenneth Watkins	August 28, 2020	Daily	12:05am
Elma Lyons	August 29, 2020	Sat.	4pm
Leslie Van Osdale	August 30, 2020	Sun	9am
Rita Miranda	August 30, 2020	Sun	7am
William P. Walsh	August 31, 2020	Daily	5:30pm
William V. Walsh	August 31, 2020	Daily	5:30pm

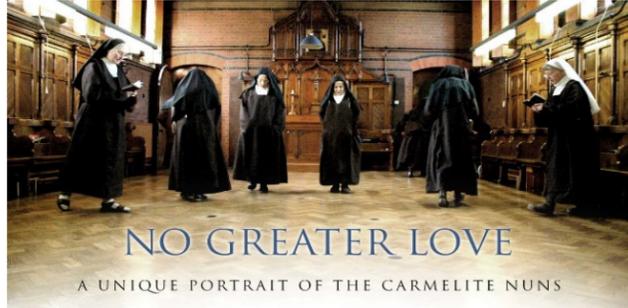
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

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.



NO GREATER LOVE:

A UNIQUE PORTRAIT OF THE CARMELITE NUNS

After ten years of correspondence, filmmaker Michael Whyte was given unprecedented access to the monastery of the Most Holy Trinity, in London's Notting Hill. The monastery, founded in 1878, is home to the nuns of the Discalced Order of Carmelites, who lead a cloistered life dedicated to prayer, work, and contemplation, rarely leaving the monastery except to visit a doctor or dentist. Silence is maintained throughout the day with the exception of two periods of recreation.

A highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning documentary, No Greater Love follows in the wake of the great success of a similar film, Into Great Silence, as it gives a unique insight into this closed world of these nuns where the modern world's materialism is rejected; they have no television, radio, or newspapers. The film interweaves a year in the life of the monastery with the daily rhythms of Divine Office and work. Centered on Holy Week, it follows a year in which a novice is professed and one of the older nuns dies. Though mainly a meditational film, there are several interviews with the nuns, which offer insights into their lives, faith, moments of doubt, and their belief in the power of prayer in the heart of the community. A beautifully filmed and deeply inspiring production.

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THE TIE-IN – ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel, we find that the demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God.

This week by putting a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that together they will produce fruit a hundred fold.

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 FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux

We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

What would you ask for if you were Solomon?

Solomon in today's first reading seems to be free enough not to ask for a long life, or riches, or the life of his enemies. We hear this prayer of King Solomon, asking for wisdom, compassion, a discerning heart, and good judgment. He asked for all of this because he desires to be a wise king, loyal to the Commandments of God. When he does this, God responds and grants his request. The teachings of Jesus are meant to lead us to liberation from greed, selfishness, and violence. They are to be a source of life and liberation for the whole world, especially the poor. The parables of Jesus invite us to focus on what is really most important and not get distracted by all the other desires and confusions.

As Christians we realize that God has given us great gifts, and we are called to use them. In using those gifts, we also understand that God will respond with even more gifts. Eventually, working together, God giving and our acceptance, we are led to a place prepared for us.

In his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul wrote to the community in order to encourage them to ensure that their lives were examples of the gifts that they had received. The members of the community, surrounded by the paganism of Rome, realized the difficulty up against which they struggled. At the same time, they must have also realized that the words preached to them brought real power.

In the gospel parable today the merchant gets excited about finding the perfect pearl. The finder of the lost treasure does everything to buy the field.

Do we get excited about the social teaching of the church?

Some have referred to Catholic Social Teaching as the Church's "best kept secret."

We could call it a "pearl of great price" and a "found treasure."

—Education for Justice Lectionary Reflections Fr. John Bucki, S.J.

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://htdiocese.org/coronavirus>

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

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- RCIA Coordinators
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- DREs
- Youth Ministers
- Clergy and religious
- Every Catholic who wants to grow in their faith

Free trial available.

MINISTERS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 1-2, 2020

Commentators

4:00 PM Jude Fanguy
7:00 AM Jody Duet
9:00 AM Mona Prejean
11:00 AM David Haddad
5:30 PM Ann Bates

Lectors

4:00 PM Yvonne Fanguy
7:00 AM John Breaux
9:00 AM Tommy Chauvin
11:00 AM Tommy Tabor
5:30 PM Bubba Watkins



Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Judith Archila, Robert Strada, Mary Ann Rodrigue
7:00 AM C.J. Stoufflet, Kay Stoufflet, Cathy Duet
9:00 AM Dale Norred, Nellie Chemin, Tammy Blanchard
11:00 AM Rene Rhodes, Julie Rhodes, Carol Domangue
5:30 PM Gina Danos, Randy Bethancourt, Adrienne Bethancourt

SAINTS

29-Jul **ST MARTHA**
(butlers, cooks, housewives, maids, servants, servers, travelers)



The Gospels speak of Martha as a dutiful housekeeper, serving the Lord hospitably when He visited: "but Martha was busy about much serving..." (Luke 10:40)

When her brother, Lazarus, fell ill, she sent for the Lord, but He delayed and when He arrived, Lazarus had been four days in the tomb. She complained to Jesus about His delay, but He assured her: "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live." (John 11:25) And he proceeded to call Lazarus forth from the tomb before a crowd of astonished witnesses.

After the martyrdom of St. James in Jerusalem, as persecution intensified, tradition says that Lazarus and his two sisters, along with others, were placed in a boat and set out to sea. This boat landed on the southern shore of France. While Lazarus and Martha went on to evangelize Provence, a fact recorded in French history, Mary retired to a cave in a mountain, to do penance for the rest of her life.

Martha is said to have died about the year 84. Her tomb is located in the crypt of the Collegiate Church of Tarrascon, France.

CATHOLIC KORNER

Last week we learned **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)



The Fourth Precept is you shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church. The Catechism says, "The fourth precept ensures the times of asceticism and penance which prepares us for the liturgical feasts and helps us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart." (CCC 2043) There are only two days each year where fasting is required – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are bound to observe the fast. Fasting is simply part of the practice of self-denial. Abstinence from meat is observed by all Catholics over 14 years of age on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. Fasting and abstinence are meant to bring our hearts and minds closer to God. We are reminded the hunger in our heart can only be filled by Christ. *A Minute in the Church* by Gus Lloyd

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

Do you have a particular question you want answered?

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