

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK
OF AUGUST 17-23, 2020

- Monday** - EZEKIEL 24:15-23; MATTHEW 19:16-22
St. Clare
- Tuesday** - EZEKIEL 28:1-10; MATTHEW 19:23-30
St. Helena
- Wednesday** - EZEKIEL 34:1-11; MATTHEW 20:1-16
St. John Eudes
- Thursday** - EZEKIEL 36:23-28; MATTHEW 22:1-14
St. Samuel
- Friday** - EZEKIEL 37:1-14; MATTHEW 22:34-40
St. Pius X
- Saturday** - ISAIAH 9:1-6; LUKE 1:26-38
St. Timotheus
- Sunday** - ISAIAH 22:19-23; ROMANS 11:33-36
MATTHEW 16:13-20
Sts. Zachary And Elizabeth
The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



AFTERTHOUGHTS

When was the last time that – like the Canaanite woman – your persistence was rewarded?

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), Allen Trahan, Judy Melancon, Christian Olden, Melanie Ougel, Monica Guidroz, Howard Buck Oubre, Mark Voisin 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

“O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish.”

Jesus speaks to the Canaanite (gentile) woman who approached Him for help in a way we might consider harsh, She was not deterred by His initial rebuff. She persisted because she wanted help for her daughter. Jesus noted that He was sent to the house of Israel that failed to recognize Him as the Messiah because of unfounded expectations. He sees in a non-Israelite woman the faith that was lacking in the house of Israel. The woman had no such expectations. She had a personal encounter with Jesus; she saw what he did and believed what he said. She knew she could turn to Him and He could help her daughter. Jesus proclaims that she is a person of great faith and her wish will be fulfilled. What is the nature of our faith in Jesus, unfounded expectations that are an obstacle to true belief in Him or a personal relationship with Him as Messiah and Lord? Will Jesus tell us “Great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you wish.”

ALTAR FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers on the Altar were donated in loving memory of The Hazlip and Dagate Families by Dr. John Dagate

STEWARDSHIP REPORT
Sunday – August 9, 2020

Envelopes (136).....	\$10,599.00
Loose	\$ 517.00
Total	\$11,116.00

PARISH NEWS

BAPTISM - THE CATHEDRAL OF
ST. FRANCIS WELCOMES
OUR NEWEST MEMBERS
JANUARY- JULY 2020



Thomas Platt, Luke Boudreaux, Leah Duplantis, Madilyn Roddy, Lawrence Roddy, Amelie Duplantis, Brynn LeBlanc, Jacob Lyons, Bennett Boudreaux, Peter Corte, Adele Henry, Andi Thompson, Isabella Moratay, Braden Acosta, Noah Niette, Nylah Bergeron, Estelle Means, Russell Todd, IV, Ashley Grabert, Abbie Todd, Josh Trahan, Sophie Cehan, Ella Rivera, June Clifton, Kyla King, Louis Haydel, Nevaeh Martinez, and Gabriel Martinez – Welcome!

PRAY THE 54-DAY MIRACLE NOVENA
AUGUST 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 7, 2020

Pray one rosary from August 15-September 10, 2020 asking the Lord for the intention of peace and blessings around the November election. Then from September 11 – October 7 pray the rosary thanking the Lord in faith, believing the favor has already been granted. For more information, visit www.queenofpeacemedia.com

SAINTS



- 18-Aug St Helen**
archeologists, converts,
difficult marriages, divorced people
- 19-Aug St Sarah**
laughter, music,
- 20-Aug St Bernard**
beekeepers, bee, candlemakers,
- 23-Aug St Rose**
against vanity, embroiderers, florist, gardeners,

CATHOLIC KORNER

Last week we learned **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit**. **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit** are wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord. They are properly termed “gifts of the Holy Spirit” because the Holy Spirit bestows them. This week we talk about **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom**. Some people are very smart, but not very wise. That’s because wisdom and “smarts” are two different things. Being smart has to do with knowledge of the things of the world. But the gift of wisdom reaches beyond the temporal to the eternal. It is seeing through the eyes of or being more in tune with the mind of God. *A Minute In The Church by Gus Lloyd*



Find out more next week when we talk about the **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Understanding**.

Do you have a particular question you want answered? Send in your questions to rvowell@htdiocese.org to have answered here!

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCCUS COUPLES
- MARRIAGE PREPARATION

This ministry is for married couples who are willing to serve those who are engaged to be married. Members of this ministry are first trained to become facilitators, then work directly with the priests to ensure that the engaged couple enters the sacrament of matrimony with honesty and open communication. Married couples who are interested in meeting and helping others through the engagement process are asked to share their knowledge and experience of the sacrament. Meetings take place in the home, so that all feel welcome and free to discuss marriage at a time that is convenient for everyone involved. This ministry is a necessary aspect of the journey towards the sacrament of matrimony. Contact the rectory office at 985-876-6904 for more information.

STAY INFORMED

Please visit the Church website for 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>

Open Wide Our Hearts:
The Enduring Call to Love
...continued

Educating Ourselves

“As bishops, we encourage our leadership to make formal visits to institutions of culture and learning, to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the Holocaust Museum – all in Washington, D.C. – and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Atlanta, for example. Similar opportunities should be encouraged in our local communities. Parishes, for instance, could use the National Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities, which falls on the feast of St. Peter Claver (September 9), to organize activities that foster community, dialogue, and reconciliation. These encounters will help open our minds and hearts more fully and continue the healing needed in our communities and our nation. By listening to one another’s experiences, we can come to understand and to empathize, which leads to those right relationships that unite us as brothers and sisters. This justice finds its source and strength in the love of Christ who laid down his life for his friends (see Jn 15:13).

“A change of heart,” the Pontifical Commission on Justice and Peace points out, “cannot occur without strengthening spiritual convictions regarding respect for other races and ethnic groups.” We must, therefore, form the consciences of our people, especially the young, “by clearly presenting the entire Christian doctrine on this subject. [We] particularly [ask] pastors, preachers, teachers and catechists to explain the true teaching of Scripture and Tradition about the origin of all people in God, their final common destiny in the Kingdom of God, the value of the precept of fraternal love, and the total incompatibility between racist exclusivism and the universal calling of all to the same salvation in Jesus Christ.”

“Here we call on our religious education programs, Catholic schools, and Catholic publishing companies to develop curricula relating to racism and reconciliation. Our campus ministers should plan young adult reflections and discussions that strive to build pathways toward racial equality and healing. We can also learn from the example of those young people who rise above racist attitudes and model respect. We also charge our seminaries, deacon formation programs, houses of formation, and all our educational institutions to break any silence around the issue of racism, to find new and creative ways to raise awareness, analyze curricula, and to teach the virtues of fraternal charity.

“Our individual efforts to encounter, grow, and witness, to change our hearts about racism, must also find their way into our families. We urge each person to consider the dignity of others in the face of jokes, conversations, and complaints motivated by racial prejudice. We can provide experiences for children that expose them to different cultures and peoples. We can also draw upon the incredible diversity of the Church worldwide in providing education within the family and make it clear that God dwells in the equal dignity of each person. We ask all the faithful to consider ways in which they and their families can encounter, grow, and witness through an understanding and commitment to these values today. In turn, we pledge to provide tools and resources to facilitate those efforts.” ... 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).

ADULT CONFIRMATION SESSION – FALL 2020

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.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS – SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 (RCIA)

St. Francis de Sales will begin RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) sessions on September 1, 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.

THE TIE-IN – ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Gospel today announces that the kingdom and salvation are for all people. It is our persistent calling out to Jesus and our faith that count, for Jesus always responds.

With love for your neighbors who have nothing, look around your house to see what furniture, household items, and clothing you no longer use...and give it to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

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?

St. Francis de sales - ParishSOFT On-Line Giving

Look for this button on our church website.

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

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:

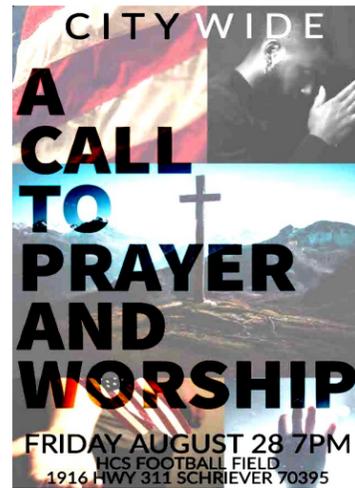
Paul Maclean – Mobile: 985-856-5345 - macleanland@bellsouth.net

COMMUNITY NEWS

CITYWIDE NIGHT - A CALL TO PRAYER AND WORSHIP - TAKING A STAND ON OUR KNEES AUGUST 28, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Come join a Citywide Call to Prayer and Worship on Friday, August 28th at 7:00pm at the HCS Football Field on Hwy 311 in Schriever. This is an outdoor gathering where believers all over our region are invited to come together to "Take A Stand On Our Knees". Outdoors, there will plenty of room to social distance for those wishing to do so. Believers' hearts are bursting to unite, take a stand and cry out to God. There will be worship, a choir, special guests and prayer.

Please feel free to call Vicki Cloutier at (985) 804-0182, or email Takingastandonourknees@gmail.com. Visit us on facebook @Takingastandonourknees



ASSISTANCE

Catholic Charities can assist those with rent and/or utilities if they have been affected by COVID shutdowns, loss of hours at work, or suffered some sort of injury or other illness that has prevented them from going to their places of employment and has set them back financially. If you or someone you know needs assistance you can access the online application here: <https://www.htdiocese.org/individual-and-family-assistance>

LOUISIANA BISHOPS SUPPORT THE LOVE LIFE AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION On the Ballot November 3rd

The Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops strongly supports the Love Life Amendment, which would successfully amend the Louisiana constitution and thereby continue to strengthen our commitment to end abortion in our state. Citizens of our state will have the opportunity to affirmatively state that they "Love Life" on November 3—the same day as the United States presidential election—by favoring this amendment.

As Catholics, we are called to ensure that life is indeed valued and that the dignity of all is upheld. This is the foundational principle of our social teaching and must be intentionally considered in all that we do.

Passage of the Love Life Amendment would have a dual effect. Primarily, it will ensure that the state of Louisiana cannot establish a right to abortion at present or if Roe v. Wade is overturned in the future. Secondly, it will prohibit the funding of abortion through taxpayer dollars within our constitution. Without such an amendment, the invalidation of the many antiabortion laws we have all advocated so strongly for in Louisiana remains a possibility.

The Louisiana Conference of Catholic bishops therefore enthusiastically supports the Love Life Amendment, and encourages all to approach this initiative with a formed conscience and a commitment to defend the sanctity of human life and uphold the dignity of all people.



YOU'RE INVITED TO LEAD THE WAY ON HUNGER, MIGRATION, AND COVID-19

A 2-part virtual educational session to:

- Learn about Catholic Relief Services' current campaigns to address the issues of hunger and migration.
- Hear about the Catholic Church's response to COVID-19 around the world.
- Question, "How can we live in solidarity with our global neighbors to create a world where all of God's children thrive, not just survive?"

Please RSVP to this free event by emailing Amelie Desormeaux at amelie.desormeaux@crs.org

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux

True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from membership in the community, from service, from reconciliation with others. The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to the revolution of tenderness.—Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 88

In today's gospel, the Canaanite woman dares to approach Jesus. She is a woman and a gentile. She has a sick daughter. By the custom and practice of the time, she should dare to approach Jesus. Culturally, she has no right to expect to share in the ministry of Jesus. She should "remain invisible and say nothing."

On one level, the Canaanite woman is like many people in our world today. She is like all the women who are denied an equal place at the table. She represents those who are struggling to care for others (children, family, parents, etc.) and do not have the means to do so as they would like. She is like all parents who cannot get good health care for their children. She represents those who are left out because of their national or ethnic background. She reminds us of those of us who are intimidated by religious, political, or economic authority.

On another level, the Canaanite woman reminds us of those who take the courage to speak up despite all the cultural messages to keep quiet and just accept their suffering. She models a woman who is willing to speak up to authority. She represents those who keep on speaking out for justice and basic human rights. She represents those who do not give up.

Jesus is touched by this amazing encounter. He praises her faith. Her daughter is cured. The experience of Jesus seems to point to the possibility of conversion and the possibility of help coming to those who are in need.

The Gospel inspires people to have the freedom and courage to speak up and take action for their rights. The Gospel is about liberation and transformation. The woman speaks up. Her daughter is healed. Both she and Jesus are changed. The prophecy of Isaiah comes true. On God's mountain there is a gathering of folks from all the nations who enjoy justice and peace.

HELP NEEDED

FOOD BAGS NEEDED

We are looking for help in providing bag lunches for our homeless that come to the church office seeking food. If you are willing to provide a sack lunch, please make the bags with the following items and drop them off at the Church Office. Suggested items: Vienna sausages or bag or easy open can of tuna or chicken, or canned meal (make sure it does not need a can opener or microwave), pack or bag of crackers, granola bar or breakfast bar or poptarts, etc., bottle of water, snack (such as a bag or pack of cookies)

MINISTERS SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 22-23, 2020

Commentators

4:00 PM Becky Boudloche
7:00 AM Rebecca Vowell
9:00 AM Mona Prejean
11:00 AM David Haddad
5:30 PM Ann Bates

Lectors

4:00 PM Yvonne Fanguy
7:00 AM Jody Duet
9:00 AM Scott Hebert
11:00 AM Tommy Tabor
5:30 PM Bubba Watkins

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Judith Archila, Mary Ann Rodrigue, Jude Fanguy
7:00 AM Cathy Duet, Mark Spence, Gail LeCompet
9:00 AM Murke Trahan, Michael Boudreaux, Gail Guillot
11:00 AM Rene Rhodes, Julie Rhodes, Carol Domangue
5:30 PM Randy Bethancourt, Adrienne Bethancourt, Gia Holekamp

