

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF
AUGUST 31- SEPTEMBER 06, 2020

Monday - 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5; LK 4:16-30 - St. Joseph
 Tuesday - 1CORINTHIANS 2:10B-16; LK 4:31-37 - St. Egidio
 Wednesday - 1CORINTHIANS 3:1-9; LK 4:38-44 - St. Zenon
 Thursday - 1CORINTHIANS 3:18-23; LK 5:1-11 - St. Gregory
 Friday - 1CORINTHIANS 4:1-5; LK 5:33-39 - St. Rosalia
 Saturday - 1CORINTHIANS 4:6B-15; LK 6:1-5
 - St. Mother Theresa
 Sunday - EZEKIEL 33:7-9; ROM 13:8-10 MT 18:15-20
 - St. Zachary
 The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

AFTERTHOUGHTS

Jesus does not promise to eliminate hardships or take away life's burdens. In fact, he promises the Cross. You in?

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, Judy Melancon, Christian Olden, Melanie Ougel, Monica Guidroz, Mark Voisin, Clayton Lovell, Sybil Trahan, Howard "Buck" Oubre, 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.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT
Sunday – August 25, 2020

Envelopes (123)..... \$ 7,651.00
 Loose \$ 883.00
 Total \$ 8,534.00

GOSPEL COMMENTARY

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

It is unlikely that Jesus could get elected to public office in the United States, or anywhere else. Denying ourselves and being concerned about the needs of others to the point of some inconvenience or risk are attitudes uncommon in our western culture of instant gratification and self-fulfillment. Peter, out of sincere concern for Jesus, tried to dissuade him from going to Jerusalem to fulfill his mission. Jesus calls him "Satan" and says he is thinking like men, not God. Jesus responds to Peter, not in anger, but in disappointment. Despite all Jesus had taught them, all they had seen, his disciples, including the "Rock," did not understand that loving our neighbor as ourselves requires that we discern God's will for us, whatever the inconvenience or risk, and use God's great gift to us of free will to choose to do God's will. Peter eventually discerns God's will for him and does it. So must we.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

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

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.

CATHOLIC KORNER

Last week we learned The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Understanding. 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 Counsel. It is said that the gift of Counsel is the perfection of the cardinal virtue of prudence. In order to help us understand Counsel, let's first review the virtue of prudence.



The Catholic Church says, "Prudence is the virtue that disposes practical reason to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it".

Since prudence is a virtue, it can be practiced and grown. Counsel, on the other hand, is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it takes on a supernatural dimension. The person gifted with Counsel is more directed by the Holy Spirit. They are given a supernatural enlightenment that directs their path.

Jesus is the embodiment of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In making judgements for the right and the good, He was always guided by the Holy Spirit, through the gift of Counsel. Let us pray that we may be gifted with Counsel as well.

... A Minute In The Church by Gus Lloyd

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

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Gardening Angels

This group of volunteers takes care of the Blessed Mother Rosary Garden. Contact the Cathedral Office at 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

Conversion of All

"As St. Paul proclaimed, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these, I am the foremost. But for that reason, I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life" (1 Tm 1:15-16). St. Paul's own conversion is a powerful reminder of how God's grace can transform even the hardest of hearts. Prayer and working toward conversion must be our first response in the face of evil actions. "I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance" (Lk 15:7). Therefore, we must never limit our understanding of God's power to bring about the conversion of even those whose hearts appear completely frozen by the sin of racism. Our communities must never cease to invite and encourage them in love to abandon these sinful thoughts and destructive ways.

"Conversion is an essential aspect of evangelization, which "is a question not only of preaching the Gospel in ever wider geographic areas or to ever greater numbers of people, but also of affecting and as it were upsetting, through the power of the Gospel, mankind's criteria of judgment." Like St. Paul, this requires us to examine our most deeply held "values, [our] points of interest, lines of thought, sources of inspiration and models of life" – all that may be "in contrast with the Word of God and the plan of salvation."

Our Commitment to Life

"The injustice and harm racism causes are an attack on human life. The Church in the United States has spoken out consistently and forcefully against abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, and other forms of violence that threaten human life. It is not a secret that these attacks on human life have severely affected people of color, who are disproportionately affected by poverty, targeted for abortion, have less access to healthcare, have the greatest numbers on death row, and are most likely to feel pressure to end their lives when facing serious illness. As bishops, we unequivocally state that racism is a life issue. Accordingly, we will not cease to speak forcefully against and work toward ending racism. Racism directly places brother and sister against each other, violating the dignity inherent in each person. The Apostle James commands the Christian: "show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ" (Jas 2:1).

... 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).

**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

Today, we hear Jesus say to us, “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” The challenge is to let go so God can lead us.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul enabled the poor to experience Jesus’ presence by assisting families, providing _____ in food, _____ for utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!

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>

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

Houma Life Chain

The annual Houma Life Chain will be held on Respect Life Sunday, October 4th, 2020 from 2-3 P.M. (Rain or shine). Those participating will line up along the median of Tunnel Boulevard in Houma and stand prayerfully, silently holding Life Chain signs. Pick up signs at Mr. Ronnie’s Donuts. Join with other pro-life Christians to make a statement to our community that **“ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN”**



Diocesan Marriage Anniversary

Liturgy of the Word for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50 and 60+ years of the sacrament of Holy Matrimony

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux is inviting all couples married in the Catholic church who are celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, or 60th (and beyond) anniversary during 2020 to one of two Diocesan Liturgies of the Word, which will be celebrated Sunday, November 8, 2020 or Sunday November 22, 2020 respectively at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, both at 3:00 PM. The celebration will not be a Mass, but a Liturgy of the Word. If you wish to participate in this program, contact your church parish before September 18, 2020 to register. All registered anniversary couples will receive an inscribed diocesan certificate in their own church parish during their scheduled parish celebration.

Looking forward to celebrating with our anniversary couples



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

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>

Catholic Social Teaching:

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God’s creation.

The prophet Jeremiah tries to be faithful to God’s message and then discovers that everyone mocks him. However, despite the difficulty, divine strength comes to Jeremiah and he continues to speak God’s word even at great personal cost.

Jesus anticipates the opposition that will face in Jerusalem from various authorities. The disciples discourage him from going forward. However, Jesus dismisses their opposition. Jesus is not afraid of speaking truth to power. Jesus goes forth on his mission.

Doesn’t the word of God and the social teaching of the church call us today to the same thing? Are we not called to open our eyes to the concerns of those who are in need in our world and those who have no voice? Are we not called to speak up for what is just and right in our world? Are we not called to be faithful to what we believe even when we foresee opposition?

In Catholic Social Teaching we hear a call to speak up for the rights of workers, for justice for the poor and the powerless, for care for refugees and immigrants, for a revolution in the values of our consumer society, for leaders whose first concern is the common good, for an end to war and violence, and for the dignity of all human persons.

The power of our culture and the power of our institutions may oppose the message that we try to share. We may become afraid or confused. We may experience opposition and persecution. However, Jesus was not afraid of speaking truth to power. Jesus says: “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?”

We must not be afraid to address the challenge of income inequality and work for justice for all people in our society.

Pastoral Thoughts

As we enter into another election cycle, Catholics throughout the United States share an important opportunity to shape a nation ever more faithful to the mind and heart of Jesus Christ ... particularly as we experience his presence in the lessons of Scripture and the values embodied in Catholic Social Teaching. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has issued a 44-page document entitled: *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*. Through a series of excerpts over the coming weeks, I hope to provide you with a summary of the Bishops’ call.

Fr. Jay

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

“Our nation faces political challenges that demand urgent moral choices. We are a nation at war, with all of its human costs; a country often divided by race and ethnicity; a nation of immigrants struggling with immigration. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty; part of a global community confronting terrorism and facing urgent threats to our environment; a culture built on families, where some now question the value of marriage and family life. We pride ourselves on supporting human rights, but we fail even to protect the fundamental right to life, especially for unborn children. We bishops seek to help Catholics form their consciences in accordance with the truth, so they can make sound moral choices in addressing these challenges. **We do not tell Catholics how to vote.** The responsibility to make political choices rests with each person and his or her properly formed conscience.

“Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?” The Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. Faith helps us see more clearly the truth about human life and dignity that we also understand through human reason. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ’s commandment to ‘love one another.’ According to Pope Benedict XVI, “charity must animate the entire lives of the lay faithful and therefore also their political activity, lived as ‘social charity.’” (Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).”

(to be continued ...)

SAINTS



25-Aug St Genesius
actors, attorneys, clowns, comedians, converts, dancers, musicians

28-Aug St Augustine
sore eyes, brewers, printers, theologians

29-Aug St John the Baptist
epilepsy, hailstorms, baptism, bird dealers, converts

01-Sep St Joshua
reading, literature, intelligence professionals