



THE BAYOU  
**Messenger**



THE NEWS-BULLETIN FOR THE TRIPARISHES OF ST. JOSEPH, IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI



**Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 19, 2019**

<p><b>ST. JOSEPH</b>          76950 Gum Street          Grosse Tete, LA 70740  <b>HOLY MASS:</b>          Sunday: 9:00am</p>	<p><b>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY</b>          11140 Highway 77          Maringouin, LA 70757  <b>HOLY MASS:</b>          Saturday: 4:00pm          Tuesday — Friday: 8:30am</p>	<p><b>ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI</b>          3523 LA. Highway 78          Livonia, LA 70755-0128  <b>HOLY MASS:</b>          Sunday: 11:00am  <b>ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA MISSION</b>          4324 Railroad Avenue          Fardoche, LA 70732</p>	<p><b>THE TRIPARISH PASTORAL CENTER</b>          Located at Immaculate Heart of Mary          225.625.2438 : phone          225.625.3513 : fax          225.308.9726 : emergency          pastoralcenter@triparishes.org : email          www.triparishes.org : web</p>
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**THE MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 19, 2019**

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26  
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a  
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8  
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11  
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17  
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21  
 Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;  
 Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

**DEVOTIONAL LIFE IN THE TRIPARISHES**

<b>MON</b>	Post-Mass	Prayer for the Gifts of The Holy Spirit	
<b>TUE</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help	
	9:00am	The Holy Rosary	Home of Ruby Hafford
	4:00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	St. Joseph Parish Hall
<b>WED</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to St. Joseph	
	6:00pm	The Holy Rosary	St. Catherine of Siena Mission
<b>THU</b>	Post-Mass	Litany of Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim / Vocations	
<b>FRI</b>	Post-Mass	Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of May 19, 2019**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** in loving memory of Laura Neal Williams  
**St. Joseph:** in loving memory of Travis Daigne by Mary Frances Jarreau  
**St. Frances:** in loving memory of Douglas Talbot by St. Frances Ladies Altar Society  
**St. Catherine:** in loving memory of Willie Roubique, Jr. by Imogene Giordano



“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.”  
 — *Revelation 21:3*

**A VOCATION VIEW**

The new commandment of love is required of every one who follows the risen Lord. How do you fulfill the command? If God is calling you, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).

**YOUR STEWARDSHIP TO OUR PARISHES FOR MAY 12, 2019**

<b>Immaculate Heart of Mary</b>	
Offertory Collection	\$1,583.00
<b>St. Joseph</b>	
Offertory Collection	\$1,652.00
<b>St. Frances Xavier Cabrini</b>	
Offertory Collection	\$2,589.00

**THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY**

FR. CHRISTOPHER DECKER

Hello!

As we drift ever so close to the start of summer vacation, I’ve been getting several interesting emails and post cards from companies involved with stewardship. The headlines read something like “Are you ready for the summer slump?”. Turning over the card, there is then a sales pitch for services that help get a parish through what is usually an estimated 15% drop in charitable giving to churches during the months of July – September. There’s truth to this, of course, and folks can sometimes divert monies to summer excursions and vacations or simply suspend dropping their envelope in the collection, and in some cases suspend themselves from attending Mass, thinking church attendance to be like a baseball or football season: “off in the summer”. These emails and postcards gave me a moment to pause and consider something a little deeper than not receiving a tithe on Sunday for the continued working of our churches.

What of the summer spiritual slump? It’s true that a healthy spirituality involves both times of consolation— where we know the Lord to be present and it is relatively easy to pray, and desolation — where God seems far away and prayer is difficult. But no matter the “phase” of our prayer life we find ourselves, we’re never called to take a vacation from the practice of our faith. Indeed, it’s Mass attendance, intentional private prayer, and communal prayer as a family—these things that can seem so trivial— that are in fact the oxygen for our relationship with God whether it is easy or hard to reach out to Him. Imagine if we didn’t speak to someone we love for the length of a summer vacation, or only texted them when we needed a favor. There would be no relationship; only a kind of manipulation of the other for my own needs would exist. So it is with God. He never ignores us so it’s important not to place Him in the box marked “open again in August” like we tend to do with school supplies and extracurricular activities that cease with the close of the school year. Make God a part of your summer and He will bring even more quality to the time you spend together with the ones you love (including Him!).

As far as the summer slump goes in parishes fiscally speaking, it’s true. Offertory collections do tend to drop off during the summer months, so I renew my request that you keep us between the electric bill and the internet bill. Our parishes continue to run throughout the year and need your financial gift to do so. Did you know you can make your offertory gift online at [www.triparishes.org/give](http://www.triparishes.org/give) ? Just surf over there, select your parish, and register. From there, you can make sure that your gift to your parish continues even while you’re enjoying some much needed rest and attending Mass out of town. As always, I’m grateful for your support of your parishes both financially and most importantly with your prayer!

Pax Christi,

## Made for Greatness!

Youth and Young Adults in our TriParishes



### Inspirational Service Camp

This is a week long camp from Tuesday, June 25th, through Saturday, June 29th. This is a week of prayer, sacrifice and service. For more information or if interested call Peggy at the Parish Office. Deadline to register is June 13th.

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE—JULY 13, 2019

Women's retreat is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th, at St. Helena in Amite starting at 9:00am and ending with Mass at 4:00pm. The topic is the Holy Mass. Cost is \$35 plus cost of food. Call the Parish Office for more information or to register.

### WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

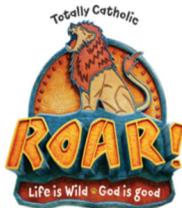
SAVE THE DATE—JULY 27, 2019



**WINE**—Women in the New Evangelization. Ignite your Spirit! Join joyful women for a day of inspiration, faith, fellowship & fun. Speakers: Kelly Wahlquist, Teresa Tomeo & Gloria Purvis. Conference will be held at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in St. Amant, LA on Saturday, July 27, 2019.

The winner for the St. Frances Ladies Altar Society Mother's Day Basket is Dana Bouy. Thank you everyone for your support.

### TRIPARISH VBS—SAVE THE DATES



This year our VBS programs will be at St. Frances from July 8th—12th and at Immaculate Heart of Mary from July 15th—19th. You can register online at [www.triparishes.org/vbs](http://www.triparishes.org/vbs). Cost is \$10 per child. We are also looking for volunteers, who can also register online.

### CLERGY, STAFF, & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Rev. Christopher J. Decker**  
Pastor  
[cdecker@triparishes.org](mailto:cdecker@triparishes.org)

**Margie Spina**  
Bookkeeper  
[mospina@triparishes.org](mailto:mospina@triparishes.org)

**Peggy Champagne**  
Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry  
[pchampagne@triparishes.org](mailto:pchampagne@triparishes.org)

**Rev. Amrit Raj, I.M.S.**  
Parochial Vicar  
[araj@triparishes.org](mailto:araj@triparishes.org)

**Elsie Mae Thompson**  
Executive Secretary  
[ethompson@triparishes.org](mailto:ethompson@triparishes.org)

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



The Ladies Auxiliary Court 119 of Saint Peter Claver would like to acknowledge our Graduates of 2019. There will be a reception at Immaculate Heart of Mary in their honor after Mass on Saturday, June 8. Forms are at the entrances of each church.

Please fill one out and return as soon as possible.

### ST. FRANCES FOOD BANK NEEDS YOUR HELP



### Food Bank

We are currently looking for volunteers to help at the St. Frances Food Bank. It is only two days a month. Call if you can help be the hands and feet of Jesus.

## FORMED PICK

## The Story of Father Kapaun

### A True American Hero

Servant of God Emil Kapaun is the most decorated Chaplain in United States history, making a name for himself on battle fields and prison camps with his fearless attitude and undying commitment to his men.



"I can't recommend this film more highly!! His life is a true inspiration!"

—Amanda H., Westpoint, NY

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)



**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** is celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary on Saturday from 3:00—3:45pm. If you'd like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation outside the scheduled time, please call the office to arrange a time with the priest.

**MARRIAGE** Couples are asked to contact the priest at least six months before the desired date.

**BAPTISM** Celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of each month. A Baptismal Seminar is required before a baptism can be properly scheduled. Please contact the parish office during early months of pregnancy.

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK** Please call the parish office to arrange for Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick.