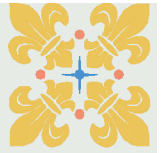


THE BAYOU  
**Messenger**



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



**The Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 15, 2019**

**ST. JOSEPH**

76950 Gum Street  
 Grosse Tete, LA 70740

**HOLY MASS:**

Sunday: 9:00am

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

11140 Highway 77  
 Maringouin, LA 70757

**HOLY MASS:**

Saturday: 4:00pm  
 Tuesday — Friday: 8:30am

**ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI**

3523 LA. Highway 78  
 Livonia, LA 70755-0128

**HOLY MASS:**

Sunday: 11:00am

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA MISSION**  
 4324 Railroad Avenue  
 Fordoche, LA 70732

**THE TRIPARISH PASTORAL CENTER**

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

**THE MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2019**

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7-9; Lk 7:1-10  
 Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6; Lk 7:11-17  
 Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 7:31-35  
 Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-10; Lk 7:36-50  
 Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3  
 Saturday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13  
 Sunday: Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13 [10-13]

**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	

Mark your calendar for the following dates for the Holy Mass at **St. Catherine**. Please note that rosary will be at 5:30pm and Holy Mass to follow at 6:00pm. Dates are: Wednesday, September 18th, Tuesday, October 29th, Tuesday, November 26th, and Tuesday, December 10th.

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of September 15, 2019**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** in loving memory of Mary Webre  
**St. Joseph:** in loving memory of Richard David  
**St. Frances:** in loving memory of Mary Cynthia "Pookie" Bush by Verna LaCombe  
**St. Catherine:** in loving memory of Vercy Giordano

**YOUR STEWARDSHIP TO OUR PARISHES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Offertory Collection \$2,322.00  
 Maintenance Fund \$346.00

**St. Joseph**

Offertory Collection \$2,086.00  
 Maintenance Fund \$1,628.00

**St. Frances**

Offertory Collection \$2,021.00  
 Maintenance Fund \$1,072.00

**THE PAROCHIAL VICAR'S VIEW**

FR. AMRIT RAJ, IMS

Dear Friends:

In today's first reading Moses intercedes for his people who have gone astray from the love of God and God listened to his plea! Hence the importance of intercessory prayers. Our loving Father in heaven certainly hears our prayers when we pray for others because there is no selfishness involved. Therefore it becomes very powerful.

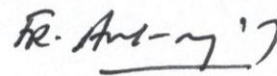
St. Paul in today's second reading gives the testimony of great mercy and unconditional love of Christ.

The three parables in today's Gospel speak of the intrinsic nature of our God as a loving and merciful Father. God's love towards His children is unconditional, non-calculating, benevolent and infinitely merciful. He is concerned when someone strays from His love. He searches for the lost one until He finds him. And then, "He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities" (Psalm 103: 10).

The prodigal son comes to his senses and chooses to retrace his steps to his father's house. He decides to ask his father for forgiveness and mercy: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." This is the model of true repentance and conversion. God has blessed us with the gift of freedom to stray away from His love and also the freedom to stay in or return to His love. The choice is ours.

As soon as the father saw his prodigal son from far away, he took the step forward and embraced and kissed his son without uttering a word, explanation or without any condition. If the earthly father were to be so gracious and loving, much more would be the Heavenly Father's forgiving love and mercy! Similarly God welcomes us back without any condition, when we decide to return. He rejoices and celebrates the return of His prodigal children.

Have a Blessed Week!



**A VOCATION VIEW**

God is the Father with open arms. Who will preach this Good News of reconciliation? Consider service as a priest or deacon, brother or sister. If God is calling you, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

**Made for Greatness!**  
**Youth and Young Adults in our TriParishes**

**TRI-PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION SCHEDULE**

**ST. FRANCES**

**Jr/Sr High** on Monday, **September 16th**, from 6:00pm—7:15pm in St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Elementary** on Tuesday, **September 17th**, from 5:00pm—6:30pm in St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Jr/Sr High** on Monday, **September 30th**, from 6:00pm—7:15pm in St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Elementary** on Tuesday, **October 1**, from 5:00pm—6:30pm in St. Frances Parish Hall.

**ST. JOSEPH/IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

**K-10TH GRADES**

Sunday, **September 29th**, starting with 9:00am Mass & ending at 11:30am

**TRIPARISH CONFIRMATION ANGOLA TRIP**

Please note new date **September 28, 2019** from 7:00am to 4:30pm. This is mandatory for all Confirmation candidates.

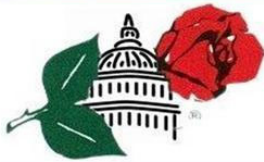
**TriParish Jr/Sr Youth Gathering**

**September 27th and December 20th** from 6:00pm—9:00pm at St. Frances Parish Hall for Youth in grades 6th—12th.

**Service Projects**

**October 19th**—clean St. Frances cemetery from 8:00am—Noon

**Week of Thanksgiving** we will clean the 3 churches. Dates to be announced later.



**March for Life**  
*Washington D.C.*

Any youth in grades 9th—12th who would be interested in attending March for Life contact Peggy at the Parish Office for more information. Registration begins October 10th.

**SATURDAY NIGHT CATECHISM**

**A Journey to the Heart of the Faith**

Video series by Bishop Robert Barron

Facilitator: Fr. Chris Decker

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall at 5:15 pm following the 4:00pm Mass.

Sessions are September 21,28, October 5, 12, 26. Suggested donation \$25 for discussion materials. Come as you are! All are invited!

A clean heart create for me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.  
— *Psalm 51:12*



**FORMED**

PICK OF THE WEEK

**Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows**

by Kimberly Hahn



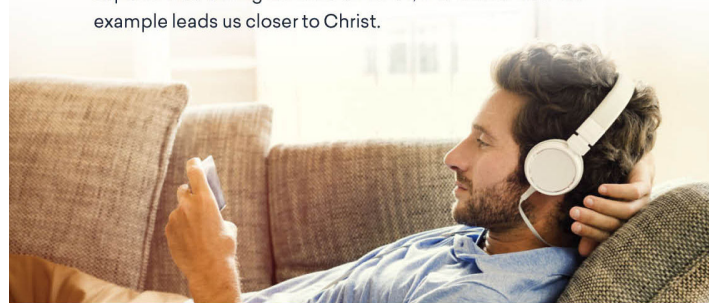
*"Speechless ... I have cried so many tears hearing this."*

—Charity L., Anderson, SC

[LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG](https://www.formed.org)

**Walk with Mary**

Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.



POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

**CLERGY, STAFF, & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**

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

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

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

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

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