



THE BAYOU
Messenger



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



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 26, 2020

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
 Fardoche, 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
Office Hours are Monday—Thursday
8:30am—3:30pm

THE MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 2020

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30
 Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
 Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
 Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25
 Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
 Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
 Sunday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

DEVOTIONAL LIFE IN THE TRIPARISHES

MON	Post-Mass	Prayer for the Gifts of The Holy Spirit	
TUE	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
WED	Post-Mass	Devotion to St. Joseph	
	6:00pm	The Holy Rosary	St. Catherine of Siena Mission
THU	Post-Mass	Litany of Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim / Vocations	
FRI	Post-Mass	Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of January 26, 2020

Immaculate Heart of Mary: in loving memory of Billie Devona
St. Joseph: in loving memory Cleo Chauvin
St. Frances: in loving memory of Sue Gruidroz
St. Catherine: in loving memory of Paul Ransome, Jr.

VOCATIONS

Jesus proclaimed this theme: "Reform you lives!" Are you bold enough to reform your life and proclaim the Good News—perhaps as a priest, sister or brother? If so, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at (225) 336-8778, amerrick@diobr.org.

Your Stewardship for January 19, 2020

Immaculate Heart of Mary	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$779.00
St. Joseph	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$1,444.00
St. Frances	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$1,585.00

THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY

FR. CHRISTOPHER DECKER

Greetings!

This past week, two important observances occurred on the calendar within days of each other. Both are deeply concerned with crying out for dignity for each human person. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a man who courageously stepped into the public square to proclaim Jesus Christ. As a Baptist minister, this was central to his calling. That he did so at a time when racial discrimination literally divided our country showed the face of Jesus in the suffering of the Black community. While the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 outlawed slavery, an ideological discrimination persisted whereby people of one color asserted superiority over those whose skin color didn't match their own. Dr. King cried out for the founding tenets of The United States of America to be lived out: namely "liberty and justice for all". And in so doing, he called for an end to segregation which at its core was a cry for all to be seen with equal dignity as members of a common human race, judged "not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." It is a struggle that is still not ended today, though progress has been made.

Long before Pope St. John Paul II would deliver his audience addresses throughout the 1980s outlining a Theology of the Body, Dr. King posited that we are all subjects of an Almighty God, a human family, with an inherent shared dignity. This dignity as children of God makes us all free persons and gives us a responsibility to be "our brother's keeper" in regard to that dignity. Also observed this past week was the bleak anniversary of the landmark 1973 Supreme Court decision to allow for killing a child growing in the womb of his or her mother by invalidating all 50 states laws against abortion. While this has long been termed a political issue, making it an inconvenient subject to hear from the pulpit, abortion is in fact a moral issue. Our Christian Faith teaches that unborn child, at the moment of conception, receives a soul from Our Loving God who desires life for every being that humans choose to co-create with Him. No matter the circumstance, the ability to generate life is God's greatest gift to us. (This is why we are called to exercise this gift responsibly within marriage, the holy union that allows for that new life to flourish and not simply exist!).

There are some who might say that Dr. King's message has nothing to do with the Pro-Life movement. But, as Alveda King, the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would attest, nothing could be farther from the truth. After two abortions and a host of resulting psychological and spiritual consequences, she came to know Jesus Christ who entered into her life and taught her that her uncle's dream extended past civil rights and into the lives of all people, especially the unborn. "I join the voices of thousands across America, who are SILENT NO MORE. We can no longer sit idly by and allow this horrible spirit of murder to cut down, yes cut out and cut away our unborn, and destroy the lives of our mothers," she said. We must continue to pray that Christ Jesus transform the hearts of still more to bring an end to those evil spirits that seek to divide so that we may be conquered by evil.

And we must also work to be beacons within our community that love for one another really matters. Recognizing the human dignity of another is at the center of why Jesus took on flesh, and if we come to know Him, we can then see with His eyes of love and mercy for others. If you ever need to talk about any of these things or seek healing, we're here for you. You can email me or call the office at any time. You can even text or call the emergency line listed on the front of the bulletin. You can also find information about choosing life and healing after an abortion at www.womansnewlife.com. St. Paul reminds us well of this dignity God wishes for all of us: "For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!'" (Romans 8:15) Be not afraid!

Pax Christi,

Fr. Andrew

Made for Greatness!
Youth and Young Adults in our TriParishes

Tri-Parish School of Religion Schedule

St. Frances

Jr/Sr High on Monday, **January 27th**, from 6:00pm—7:15pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

Elementary on Tuesday, **January 28th**, from 5:00pm—6:30pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

St. Joseph/Immaculate Heart of Mary

K—10th grade Sunday, **February 2th**, starting with 9:00am Mass

Confirmation Classes

Sunday, **January 19th**, starting with 11:00am Mass

Sunday, **February 2nd**, starting with 11:00am Mass

Sunday, **February 16th**, practice after the 9:00am Mass at St. Joseph in Grosse Tete.

Thursday, **February 20th**, Confirmation at 7:00pm at St. Joseph in Grosse Tete.

TRIPARISH 9TH/10TH GRADE RETREAT

This is mandatory for all Public, Private and Catholic School Students in our TriParish. It will be March 7th from 9:00am—5:00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary.

St. Frances – St. Catherine Taste Fair & Live Auction
February 15, 2020
At The Livonia Community Center
starting at 5:30pm

If you would like to help us during the planning stages, please contact the office @ 225- 625-2438. You can also contact Lycia Doucet @ 225-317-1319 or Chris David.

If you are interested in entering your favorite entrée or appetizer in the taste fair, please contact Jerome Doucet @ 225-202-0428 or Lycia Doucet so they can register you in the competition.

Tickets can be purchased after 11:00am Mass or call the Office. If you would like to help with ticket sales, please contact Lycia or Chris.

Due to current regulations, only those who are 21 years or older can be admitted.

For more information please refer to the flyer that was inserted in last week's bulletin, go to our web site www.triparishes.org or The Triparishes face book page.

CLERGY, STAFF & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Rev. Christopher J. Decker
Pastor
cdecker@triparishes.org

Margie Spina
Bookkeeper
mospina@triparishes.org

Peggy Champagne
Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry
pchampagne@triparishes.org

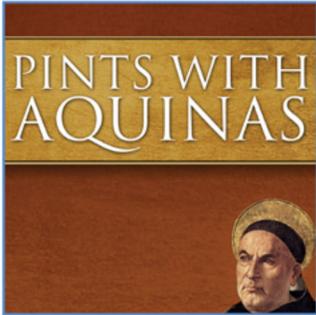
Rev. Amrit Raj, I.M.S.
Parochial Vicar
araj@triparishes.org

Elsie Mae Thompson
Executive Secretary
ethompson@triparishes.org

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Pints with Aquinas
12 Stories about Aquinas



January 28 is the feast day of Saint Thomas Aquinas. In celebration, Matt Fradd sits down with Peter Kreeft as he shares 12 quick stories about Aquinas.

LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG

POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



Adult Angola Trip
Anyone 18 years of age or older who wishes to go to Angola on March 14th must call Peggy at the Parish Office (625-2438) or her cell (225-456-0595) no later than February 17th. Also, if you need more information call Peggy.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Today's reading from the Gospel of John offers a compelling meditation about the importance of Christ for the activities of the Church. Christians are meant to be fishers of men, but when we operate according to our own agendas and efforts we will catch nothing. We must act under the Lord's direction. If we follow Christ we will do great good indeed.

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 3rd 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.

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Parochial Vicar
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