



THE BAYOU  
**Messenger**



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



**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 16, 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 FEBRUARY 16, 2020**

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13  
 Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a; 14-15, 18-19  
 Mk 8:14-21  
 Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-26  
 Thursday: Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33  
 Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34 — 9:1  
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19  
 Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13;  
 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

**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	

**Ash Wednesday Holy Mass Schedule**

Wednesday, February 26, 2020  
 Immaculate Heart of Mary at 8:30am  
 St. Frances Cabini at 12:00 Noon  
 Immaculate Heart of Mary  
 5:00pm –5:50pm Confession  
 6:00 Mass & Imposition of Ashes  
 Station of the Cross following Mass

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of February 16, 2020**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** in loving memory of Beulah Bartley  
**St. Joseph:** in loving memory of Julie Angeloz  
**St. Frances:** in loving memory of Bernice Sanders  
**St. Catherine:** in loving memory of Anthony Pizzolato

**Your Stewardship for February 9, 2020**

Immaculate Heart of Mary	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$1,501.00
Church in Latin America	\$231.00
St. Joseph	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$1,823.15
Church in Latin America	\$235.00
St. Frances	
Offertory Collection December 22, 2019	\$2,123.00
Church in Latin America	\$411.00

**THE PAROCHIAL VICAR'S VIEW**

**FR. AMRIT RAJ, IMS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's readings challenge us to choose freely and wisely to observe the laws given by a loving and caring God. He revealed His laws to His Chosen People through Moses and the prophets in the Old Testament, and through His own Son, Jesus, in the New Testament. For the Israelites, the Torah was not a set of laws, but the instruction or *teaching* intended to promote the holiness and wholeness of each believer. It was the revealed will of a caring God, for the people with whom had He made His covenant.

In the selection from the Sermon on the Mount in today's Gospel, while challenging his disciples to live a life of justice and righteousness which should exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus, as the new lawgiver, sets forth his own position with regard to the Law given through Moses, by providing new interpretation and meaning for the old laws. In today's Gospel passage, Jesus explains the real meaning of three Mosaic laws concerning murder, adultery and false oaths.

We need to obey God's Law, appreciating its basic principles: In obeying God's law and Church law, let us remember the two basic principles on which these laws are based, namely, the principle of reverence and the principle of respect. In the first four of the Ten Commandments, we are asked to reverence God, reverence His holy Name, reverence His holy day and reverence our father and mother. The next set of commandments instructs us to respect life, one's personal integrity and good name, the legal system, another's property and another's spouse. Our obedience to these laws must be prompted by love of God and gratitude to God for His blessings.

The Greek philosopher, Plato, four hundred years before Christ, wrote of two horses in the human heart, Passion and Reason. Passion is the wild untamed horse with boundless strength and energy, but very hard to control and direct. Reason is the tamed horse, accustomed to the reins, disciplined in stride and responding to directions. A chariot hitched to a pair of Passions might go anywhere but would surely crash or overturn before long. However, a charioteer who selects a pair of Reasons will be too cautious and fearful to go anywhere worthwhile. But if Passion and Reason can be paired, then the powerful energy is harnessed, and the journey of life can be enjoyed. – The teaching of Jesus strongly affirms the need of rules, but rules are to be understood as a means to the end, which is a life of spiritual strength and commitment. (Sylvester O'Flynn in The Good News of Mathew's Year).

We need to *be true* to God, to ourselves and to others. Let us allow God's word of truth to penetrate our minds and hearts and to form our consciences, making us men and women of integrity.

Prayerful wishes!

*Fr. Amrit Raj '17*

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

**Tri-Parish School of Religion Schedule**

**St. Frances**

**Jr/Sr High** on Monday, **February 17th**, from 6:00pm—7:15pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

**Elementary** on Tuesday, **February 18th**, from 5:00pm—6:30pm at St. Frances Parish Hall.

**St. Joseph/Immaculate Heart of Mary**

**K—10th grade Sunday, March 15th**, starting with 9:00am Mass

**K—10th grade Sunday, March 29th**, starting with 9:00am Mass

**Confirmation Classes**

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 Saturday, **March 7th, from 9:00am—5:00pm** at Immaculate Heart of Mary.

**Catholic High School of Pointe Coupee  
New Roads, LA**

Catholic High School of Pointe Coupee School (CHSPC), founded in 1904 and currently serving 300 students in Grades 7 - 12, seeks an Interim Principal to serve from July 1—June 30. The Interim Principal is welcome to apply during the administrative search process, which will begin in December. All administrators are expected to demonstrate a commitment to growth, collaborative spirit, and strategic vision. CHSPC has a strong community committed to providing a religious, academic, and disciplined Catholic education whereby students develop their talents in service to school, church and society.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Practicing Catholic able to fulfill the Requirements of the Contract
2. Master's Degree, able to meet State Requirements as a Non-Public Administrator
3. Five Years Minimum Experience in Education, Catholic Schools Preferred
4. Demonstrated Leadership Ability, Catholic Education Preferred
5. Must be Available on or before July 1, 2019

Send letter of interest, resume, and unofficial copies of all college transcripts to:

Via Mail: Interim Principal Search for Catholic High of Pointe Coupee DBR Catholic Schools Office, P.O. Box 2028, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-2028  
FAX: 225-336-8711 Email: [secretary@csobr.org](mailto:secretary@csobr.org)

Applicant's Required Information Must be Received by May 15, 2019

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

**UPCOMING LENTEN EVENTS**

**Eucharistic Adoration and Lenten Series**

On March 3, 2020 and the 4 following Tuesdays of Lent, join Fr. Chris and your fellow parishioners in an exploration of **No Greater Love**, a new book by Dr. Edward Sri. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is also a five-part video series that reveals Christ's amazing love for us.

You'll discover The Biblical background to each scene in Christ's passion as well as the answer to these questions: What was Jesus going through at each moment? How did the Old Testament foretell of Christ's death? Why did Christ die for us? What did it accomplish? What was the meaning behind the tearing of the temple veil, the crowning with thorns, and other events during Christ's Passion?

Begin each evening with a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration at 5:30pm, with the session to follow at 6:30pm in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Hall. You can register online at [triparishes.org/lenten-series](http://triparishes.org/lenten-series). Registration is \$25 and includes a book and workbook.

**Knights of Peter Claver Men's Annual Fish Fry Dinner**

Friday, March 6th starting at 11:00am

**St. Joseph Altar**

Anyone wishing to help with the St. Joseph Altar in Grosse Tete please contact Tricia Hurdle at 225-776-1794.

**St. Joseph Altars in Neighboring Parishes**

Holy Family's St. Joseph' Altar will be on Sunday, March 14, 2020 held in the Church Parish Hall. Fr. David Allen will bless the altar at 2:30pm,

St. Ann will have their St. Joseph Altar on Sunday, March 15, 2020, at 11:00am

**Youth Lenten Play**

The youth will be performing "The Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus" on Friday, March 20th, at 7:00pm and Sunday, March 22nd, at 1:00pm. There will be a Pot Luck after the Sunday performance. Come out and support our youth. Entrance is free but donations are always appreciated.

**Preschool Registration 2020-2021 School Year**

St. Frances Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Applications can be found at the entrance of all Churches or call the Parish Office.

**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.