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THE BAYOU  
**Messenger**



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



**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 9, 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 AUGUST 9, 2020

Monday:	2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Ps 113:1-6; Mt 18:15-20
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 [59-63]; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28
Day:	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
Sunday:	Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

### DEVOTIONAL LIFE IN THE TRIPARISHES

	Post-Mass	Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help	
TUE	9:00am	The Holy Rosary	Home of Ruby Hafford
	4:00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	St. Joseph Parish Hall
WED	6:00pm	The Holy Rosary	St. Joseph Church
THU	Post-Mass	Litany of Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim / Vocations	
FRI	First Friday	Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	

### Mass Schedule and Procedures

#### Weekend Mass Schedule is as follows:

**Saturdays** 4:00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Sundays** 9:00am and 11:00am at St. Frances.

**Sundays** 9:00am at St. Joseph.

You need to register by going to [triparishes.org](http://triparishes.org), click on home and then Mass Sign up. If you do not have a computer or need help please call the office. Right now we are at 50% capacity. So Immaculate Heart of Mary can have 80 people, St. Joseph can have 60 people and St. Frances can have 65 people.

When attending Mass we will sanitize your hands before you enter the church and while in church you must wear a mask at all times except when receiving communion.

#### Week day Mass schedule:

At Immaculate Heart of Mary at 8:30am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and First Friday.

#### BY: Fr. Mike Lagrimas

Three men, a Catholic, a Protestant and a Muslim, were discussing the best positions for prayer. "Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the Catholic said. "No," said the Protestant. "I think standing with my hands outstretched to heaven is more effective." "I disagree," the Muslim said. "The most effective prayer position is bending the whole body and with the head touching the floor." An electrician happened to be passing by and overheard their discussion. He butted in. "Hey, guys! The most effective praying position I ever had was when I was hanging upside down from an electric post with a live wire right above me."

Peter cried: "Lord, save me!" That was a real and serious prayer. And he meant it. This is a very important lesson. Many times, we do not really mean what we say. In our daily conversation we hear people say, "See you later!" But they do not really intend to see each other later in the day. The word later could mean next month or some time next year or never. The word "sorry" is spoken so very often, but it comes out only as an expression, devoid of sincere repentance. Unfortunately, a similar thing happens with the name of God. How many times in a day do we hear the expres-

sion, "Oh, my God"? Young people nowadays use the euphemistic acronym for this: "OMG!" This is using the name of God in vain! It is definitely a violation of the second commandment! We, therefore, begin to wonder: Do we really mean the words we use in our prayers? When we pray the "Our Father", do we understand what it means? St. Edmund reminds us, "It is better to say one Our Father fervently and devoutly than a thousand with no devotion and full of distraction."

This Sunday, let us reflect on the need for sincere and genuine prayer. Nowadays, people find it harder and harder to pray. The world we are living in makes us all busy with so many things and activities, mostly unnecessary ones. And when we are busy, the first activity that we drop is prayer. "I'm too busy, Lord! I have no time to pray or to go to church. I will talk to you later when I'm done."

The example of Jesus will undoubtedly put us all to shame. Who can be busier than Jesus? His ordinary day is spent moving around, teaching, curing the sick, expelling demons and helping the needy. The Gospels would say that he was too busy that he had no time even to eat (Mk 3:20). But did he ever drop prayer from his schedule? In the Gospel this Sunday, he has just finished another grueling day, capped with the stressful event of feeding the five thousand from five loaves and two fish. But instead of taking a much-needed rest, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. He did not excuse himself of being tired. In fact, he was on the mountain for six hours, appearing back on the scene at about 3 o'clock in the morning. Who among us will spend six hours in prayer after such a long day? His example clearly shows us that prayer is not just an activity, but is a way of life. As the Catechism tells us, "Man was created to live in communion with God, in whom he finds happiness" (CCC, #45). And since, according to St. John Vianney, "Prayer is union with God," there can be no communion with God without a life of prayer.

However, an atmosphere conducive to prayer is necessary – silence. Jesus had to leave behind his disciples and go up the mountain by himself. Elijah went up the mountain of Horeb (Mt. Sinai) to talk to God. He waited at the entrance of a cave. First there came a hurricane wind, but God was not in the wind. Next came an earthquake, followed by a blazing fire, but God was not in them. Finally came a gentle, soothing breeze. Elijah covered his face with his cloak, for he knew God was in that tiny whispering sound. God's voice is clearly heard in the silence of our surroundings that brings silence in our hearts. The lack of silence is what makes prayer life more difficult in our time. The world is full of noise. Like the disciples in the boat, we are battered by the big waves of confusion and troubles, our ears are deafened by the strong winds of conflicting doctrines and opinions, deceptions and lies and we are distracted by the relentless advertisements in mass media, competing for our attention and consumerist appetites. It is said that the average person is exposed to over two thousand advertisements every day – in television, radio, newspapers and billboards, and even on taxicabs, subway and buses. For an ordinary person, it is almost impossible to have any clear focus on the Lord. We cannot hear His voice, nor feel His presence. We are, therefore, invited to go to our inner core: "When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret" (Mt 6:6). In the silence and stillness of the innermost chamber of our soul, which is the spirit, God resides there. St. Teresa of Avila said, "The soul remains all the time in the center with its God...It never moves from its center nor loses its peace, which is Christ-within...The center of the soul which is the spirit is not touched nor disturbed; there the King dwells."

In the midst of life's troubles, noise and confusion, we need not be overwhelmed and confused. Jesus bids us, "Come!" In prayer, we come to Him, and we personally encounter Him especially in the Mass, for we receive the real Body and Blood of Jesus in Holy Communion. He truly resides in us. This realization led St. Padre Pio to conclude: "It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass." Let me close with this little quote: "Prayer is not a 'spare wheel' that you pull out when in trouble; it is a 'steering wheel' that directs us in the right path throughout our life."

## Your Stewardship for August 2, 2020

### Immaculate Heart of Mary

Offertory Collection	\$3,000.00
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On-Line Giving	
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### St. Joseph

Offertory Collection	\$1,861.00
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On-Line Giving	
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### St. Frances

Offertory Collection	\$2,641.00
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On-Line Giving	
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## In Memoriam

Eugene Andre, Sr., died on July 31, 2020 and was interred at Immaculate Heart of Mary Cemetery.

*Eternal Rest Grant unto him O Lord,  
And Let the Perpetual Light Shine upon him.*

## The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for These Intentions the Week of August 9, 2020

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** in loving memory of Charlie Gougisha

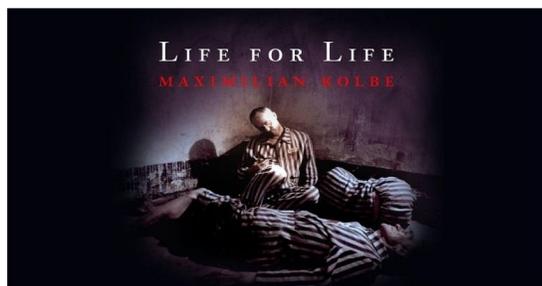
**St. Joseph:** in loving memory of Emily Lou Martin Walsh.

**St. Frances:** in loving memory of Eugene Andre, Sr. by the Lades Altar Society.

**St. Catherine:** in loving memory of Kathy Aucoin.

# FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK



## Life for Life

Auschwitz, 1941. One of the prisoners, Jan, escapes from the German concentration camp while working at a gravel pit. Thanks to the help of kind-hearted people, he finds shelter. There Jan hears tragic news about ten random inmates sentenced by the Nazis to death by starvation as a punishment for his escape. One among the convicts is Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, a Franciscan priest who volunteered to die in place of one of the inmates.

[SIGN UP FREE AT FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](https://formed.org/signup)

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The planning start date of the TriParish PSR classes will be around Advent. When a final decision had been made parents will be notified.



## 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.

## VOCATIONS

“Do not be afraid!”, Jesus said. Have faith, and trust in the Lord’s call. Consider being a priest, brother or sister. Call Fr. Andrew Merrick at (225) 336-8778, [amerrick@diobr.org](mailto:amerrick@diobr.org).

## CLERGY, STAFF & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Rev. Christopher J. Decker**

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**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.