

Fifth Sunday of Lent / First Sunday of the Passion

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, April 1, 2017

7:00 A.M. MASS – Sr. Zélie Thérèse of the Redeemer

5:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Semonia Harmon & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Ourdlene Guillory & Family, Jeremy Rider, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Living & Deceased members of Helin McCauley Family, Blanche & Jerome Haas, Enola Bellard, Charles Mancil, Janet & Greg Meaux

SUNDAY, April 2, 2017

7:30 A.M. MASS – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

10:00 A.M. MASS – Edward Maddox, Members of St. Martha's Guild, Gene & Velma Brakel, Jeanette Hornsby, Charles Mancil, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Juan A. Lucero Castellano, Juan A. Lucero Ruiz, Milagros Castellano Perez, Guihermo Consuegra Garcia, Manuela Travieso Rodriguez

MONDAY, April 3, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – Laura & Darius Reed, Sr.

TUESDAY, April 4, 2017

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, April 5, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – John C. Durio

THURSDAY, April 6, 2017

6:30 A.M. MASS – Elmo Smith

FRIDAY, April 7, 2017

5:30 P.M. MASS – Roland & Verlie Chaumont

SATURDAY, April 8, 2017

5:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Jeremy Rider, Helen Lofton, Henry, Lula & Betty Fontenot, Preston Bertrand, Keith LeJeune, Marvin & Sheryl Banks, Freddy & Becky Gorman

SUNDAY, April 9, 2017

7:30 A.M. MASS – *Pro Populo* (For the People)

10:00 A.M. MASS – Edward Maddox, Living & Deceased members of Taylor & Remy Fly., Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Jennifer Sonnier

Last Week's Collection

\$2,857.90

PRAYER LIST

Bernard Aguillard, Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Joan Bertrand, Preston Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Corey Briscoe, Douglas Briscoe, Luke Burnham, Bernice Bushnell, Helen Bushnell, Kristin Carlton, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, David & Natalie Carrier, Ailene Chapman, Vivian Cole Fly., Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Virginia Cottogin, Aiden Darbonne, Rynree Darbonne, Carol Deshotel, Jackie Deville, Cindy Doise, Jabe Doyle, Poochie Duplechain, David Fontenot, Donald Fontenot, Justin Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Tim Germany, Elaine Giles, Daniel Goodly & Fly., Freddy & Becky Gorman, Jennifer Granger, Rachael Granger, Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Todd Guillory, Victoria Lynn Guillory, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Shirley Hebert, Jan Horton, Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Grady Johnson, Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Rudolph & Joyce Johnson, Paul LaFleur, Kristen Labauve, Essie Langley, Grayce LaRacca, Dwain LeBleu, Tina Morgan Lantier, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joseph, & Adam LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Brian Manuel, Chip Manuel, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Nolton Manuel, Shirley Manuel, Trista Marler, Reed McIver, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Joy Mancil, Ray Marcantel, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Ronald Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Nicholas Odum, Joey Owen, Gabriella & Martel Papillion, Howard Patin, Devin Pelt, Sally Pitre, Linda & Don Potier, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Erin Ramos, Ronnie Ramos, Ashton Read, Reid Redlich, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Sarah Reed & Fly., Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Will Reid, Leonard Richard, Donald Rider, Sharon, Richard, Jonathan, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skylie, Jackson, Martha, Rusty, and Patsy Rider, Salis Rider, Michael Roger, Ann Rooney, Vera Ross, Fr. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Quentin Savoie, Sister Ann Margaret Savant, Tucker Scimemi, Helen Shreeman, C. Sonnier, Remy Spring, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Margie Smith, Donald P. Sonnier, Barbara Strickland, Kelly Strother, Lucille Strother, Carl Tarver, Celeman Thomas, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Steve Vidrine, Zachary Villereal, Linda Voeller, JoAnn Welch, Robbie Willis, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Divine Intimacy Reading Guide

April 2 nd – April 9 th	Entry Number
Sunday	126
Monday	127
Tuesday	128
Wednesday	129
Thursday	130
Friday	131
Saturday	132
Sunday	133

Vocations Candle – Bobby & Lucy Brandon

Vocations Cross – Bobby & Lucy Brandon

Easter Lily Donations

Donations for Easter Lilies are being accepted. The cost per Lily is \$20.00. You may put your donation in the collection or bring it to the church office.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, April 2nd – Lenten Mission at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Monday, April 3rd – Lenten Mission at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 4th – Ladies Altar Society Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, April 5th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD and Youth Group**
- ❖ Thursday, April 6th – **East Deanery Penance Night 5 – 7 P.M.**; The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during the Penance night; This will also suffice the Holy Hour for Holy League
- ❖ Friday, April 7th – Stations after 5:30 P.M. Mass
- ❖ Saturday, April 8th – St. Joseph's Work Day 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.; First Holy Communion Retreat 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

FROM FATHER CONNER

Parish Lenten Mission

Father Martin Laird, of the Diocese of Alexandria, will offer our parish Lenten mission this year on **Sunday, April 2nd** and **Monday, April 3rd**. The mission will begin at **6:00 pm** each night. Father Laird's mission is entitled "**The Message of Fatima**." All are invited.

Next Sunday ... It Begins!

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning Holy Week. If you have not made your annual confession, time is running out to do this before Easter. **Remember: all Catholics must make a confession at least once per year. We are bound by this precept under pain of sin. Confession is not optional** (Cf. CCC 2042). (**Note:** a Catholic who is divorced and has attempted remarriage cannot go to confession, just as he cannot receive Holy Communion. If anyone has questions about this, he should contact me for further explanation.) **Additionally**, on Palm Sunday we will have the **blissing of the palms** before the 10:00 am Mass. This takes place at the parish hall, unless the weather is inclement. **I will exit the confessional around 9:40 am next Sunday** in order for Mass to begin on time. **Also**, it is a custom from time immemorial to kneel when receiving the palm from the hand of Priest and to kiss the palm. It is also of the same custom to kiss the hand

of the Priest. A kneeler will be set up to make kneeling easier. I highly recommend that you kneel to receive the palm and that you kiss the palm (because it is blessed). I will not begrudge you, however, if you omit kissing my hand. At the same time, let it be known that, if we correctly understand the significance of the consecrated hands of a Priest, we would *not* freak out about reverencing those sacred hands on occasion. In the end, do as you please. It makes little difference to me. I offer this brief explanation not so that you will kneel for a palm and kiss a blessed palm and a consecrated hand, but so that you will know a little bit more about our awesome Catholic faith and its practices, in other words, I offer this explanation for *your* benefit, to strengthen *your* Catholic identity.

“Why veil the cross and other images during Passion-tide?”

(excerpted from www.newtheologicalmovement.blogspot.com)

It has been the custom of the Roman Church, at least in modern times (we mean from the 17th Century forward), to veil the crosses and the images of the saints from the 5th Sunday of Lent until Easter. This has been, and ought to continue to be, one of the defining characteristics of the season of Passiontide – a season which, if after the postconciliar liturgical reforms lost in name, need not be lost in spirit.

Still in many churches throughout the West, crosses and statues are veiled now and will remain veiled for two full weeks. The Catholic Encyclopedia describes this custom as follows: “Before Vespers of Saturday preceding Passion Sunday [i.e. the 5th Sunday of Lent] the crosses, statues, and pictures of Our Lord and of the saints on the altar and throughout the church, with the sole exception of the crosses and pictures of the Way of the Cross, are to be covered with a violet veil, not translucent, nor in any way ornamented. The crosses remain covered until after the solemn denudation of the principal crucifix on Good Friday. The statues and pictures retain their covering, no matter what feast may occur, until the *Gloria in Excelsis* of Holy Saturday.” However, it is noted that the statue of St. Joseph may remain uncovered, if outside the sanctuary, during the month of March, which is dedicated to his honor.

Of course, this practice is no longer mandatory in the *Novus Ordo* [i.e., the Ordinary Form], but it is certainly permitted. However, if the custom is to return to popularity, it will be necessary to come to some understanding of the meaning behind the veiling. Why does the Church veil the cross in these final days of Lent, a time when she is most intent on meditating upon the Lord's dolorous passion?

The Mystical Interpretation

Abbot Gueranger enlightens us with a mystical interpretation of the Gospel which, in former times [i.e. the EF Mass], was

read on this Sunday: As Christ hid Himself from the rage of the Jewish authorities (John 8:59), so now He is hidden from the world in preparation for the mysteries of His Passion.

“The presentiment of that awful hour [of our Savior's Passion] leads the afflicted mother [the Church] to veil the image of her Jesus: the cross is hidden from the eyes of the faithful. The statues of the saints, too, are covered; for it is but just that, if the glory of the Master be eclipsed, the servant should not appear ... The interpreters of the liturgy tell us that this ceremony of veiling the crucifix during Passiontide, expresses the humiliation to which our Savior subjected Himself, of hiding Himself when the Jews threatened to stone Him, as is related in the Gospel of Passion Sunday [John 8:46-59, *They took up stones therefore to cast at him. But Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple* (John 8:59)]. The Church begins this solemn rite with the Vespers of the Saturday before Passion Sunday.”

The Spiritual Interpretation

Dom Gueranger continues and directs us to acts of devotion for the Cross: “Twice during the course of the year, that is, on the feasts of its Invention and Exaltation, this sacred Wood will be offered to us that we may honour it as the trophy of our Jesus' victory; but now, it speaks to us but of His sufferings, it brings with it no other idea but that of His humiliation.”

Considering that, in the season of Our Lord's Passion, all the strength of our devotion should be directed to the Cross of Christ, we may be surprised that the images of the Cross are to be covered in these days. However, when we recognize that we now venerate the Cross not so much as an emblem of victory (as in the Triumph of the Cross) but as an instrument of humiliation and suffering, we will soon understand the spiritual realities which are conveyed through the covering of the crosses.

In His Passion, Our Savior's divinity was almost totally eclipsed, so great was his suffering. Likewise, even His humanity was obscured – so much so that He could say through his prophet: *I am a worm and no man* (Psalm 21:7). His face and whole body were so disfigured by the blows and scourges that Our Jesus was scarcely recognizable! Thus, the wounds He endured hid both His divinity and His humanity. For this reason we veil the crosses in these final days of Lent – hiding Our Savior under the sad purple cloth.

Latin Truth

“The Latin language can be called truly ‘catholic.’ It has been consecrated through constant use by the Apostolic See, the mother and teacher of all Churches, and must be esteemed ‘a treasure ... of incomparable worth’.”