

## MASSES & INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Benton Smith, Elmo Smith, Paul, Celemán, Norbert, & Lawrence Thomas, Alphonse Ardoin, Lloyd Taylor, Dec., Sox Gordon, Cecilia Sonnier, Evelyn Sandell, Seth & Jackie Chandler, Ernest & Bernice Moore, David Dugas, Martin Goodly, Olivier & Armoza Victorian, Savannah & Curley Gradney, Sr.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Matt Taylor

### MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2018

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – D.C. Reed, Jr.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018

**NO MASS**

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2018

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Claiborne & Ada Durio

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Virginia Bowles

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Frank Mougeot

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 2018

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Benton Smith, Angelle L. Durio, Lloyd Taylor, Evelyn Sandell, Seth & Jackie Chandler, Baylee Simoneaux, Gabriel Briscoe

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2018

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Matt Taylor, Sarah Chapman, Garrett Howard, Gene & Velma Brakel, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Jerry & Polly Chaumont, Curley Victorian, Sr.

### Last Week's Collection

**\$3,644.16**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Weekend – SJoA CCD Expenses**

## PRAYER LIST

M/M Robert Andrews, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Tyler Bellow, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, M/M Lincoln Briscoe, Deanne LeBlanc Broussard, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Belle Carrier, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, JoAnn Cormier, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Donna Dunneho, Pam McDaniel Elliott, Noah Ferry, Mary O. Fontenot, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Phielomone Goodly, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Rachael Granger, Vergie Granger, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Jackie Hebert, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, Paul LaFleur, Cindy Langley, Essie Langley, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Leroy Meaux, Patrica Mikas, Glen Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Ann Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Linda Green Reed, Don & Debra Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Pay Abshire Savant, Helen Sheeman, Lois Singleton, Yvonne Smith, Donald Taylor, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Hannah Voeller, Linda Weldon, Linda Voeller, Odelia Wilson, Nicole Young

**Vocations Candle and Cross** – Mrs. Phielomone Goodly

### Safe Environment

CCD teachers and youth volunteers, who have on-going, unsupervised contact with minors, need to update their Safe Environment Training. It is available on the diocesan safe environment website at [safeandsacred-lcdiocese.org](http://safeandsacred-lcdiocese.org).

## “Relics of the Passion Tour” at SJoA

The Relics of the Passion will be at SJoA Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The time will be announced soon. There will be a presentation organized into a meditative program with supporting musical pieces that serve as a guide to help accompany Jesus through His suffering during the Passion. The program ends with an opportunity for personal veneration of the relics. Exposition of the Holy Eucharist is a part of the meditative portion of the presentation, to underscore that time-transcending gift that connects us from His Passion to His Presence with us today. As a tribute to Our Lady of Sorrows, the program highlights a perspective on Mary as she accompanied Jesus on the path to Calvary. The collection includes 8 rare holy relics that would only be seen in collections generally found in Rome or the Holy Land. Relics included are:

- The relic of the True Cross
- A piece of stone from the table or room where the Last Supper was held
- A piece of the Column of Flagellation
- A piece of the Crown of Thorns
- The effigy of the Veil of Veronica (touched to the original veil)
- A replica of the holy nail which contains filings taken from the true nails that were imbedded in copies to make relics of a lower class
- A piece of bone from St. Longinus, the centurion that pierced the side of Jesus
- A thread from the cloth used as the wrapping from the Burial Shroud

### Beer Tasting Party

SJoA will have a Beer Tasting Party on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in the parish hall. Food paired with each beer will be served. Tickets are \$20.00 and are being sold at the rectory. You must be at least 21 years old to attend.

### Legal Protection of Human Life

Each Friday until September 28, answer the U.S. bishops' call to pray and fast that a change in the U.S. Supreme Court will move our nation closer to the day when every human is being protected in law and welcomed in life. Join at [www.usccb.org/pray](http://www.usccb.org/pray).

### Rosary Rally

SJoA invites you to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 13, at 12:00 noon at the Farmers Market. This Public Square Rosary, sponsored by *America Needs Fatima*, will be one of over 23,000 rallies that will take place all across the United States on that day. Please join in offering reparation for the sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to fervently pray for the conversion of the United States.

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### Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> ... CCD REGISTRATION

- **6:00 PM ... at the Parish Hall ... for all grades**
- **Students not required to attend registration**
- **Registration & textbook pick up happens this night**
- **Cost of Registration: \$15.00 per child**
- **No child will be turned away because of money**
- **No charge for Youth Group**

### Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> ... CCD 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF CLASS

- **4:00 – 5:20 PM ... Grades 1-5**
- **5:00 – 6:00 PM ... Youth Group (Grades 7-12)**
- **6:00 – 7:15 PM ... Grades 6-12**

## FROM FATHER CONNER

### COMMITTING TO ADORATION

Have you committed to an hour of adoration each Wednesday yet? Yes, you're busy. I know, I feel your pain, truly I do. Look, in today's world, we're all busy, but we still somehow manage to find time for any number of trivial things. We need to sober up and eliminate "too busy" as an excuse from keeping us from this important parish effort of renewal. (See **Luke 9:24**.) Scripture clearly teaches us that when we generously, and *cheerfully* (cf., **2 Corinthians 9:7**), offer ourselves to God, our sacrifices will be well received and become very effective in obtaining the graces we need. Accordingly, I am making a sincere appeal to all parishioners: Let's commit to Wednesday adoration if at all possible. Don't be afraid of commitment or sacrifice. Let's do this for love of God; for love of souls; for the conversion and transformation of our families, parish, and the universal Church. The saints have taught us how profitable adoration is. Please, consider your children, your grandchildren, and your nephews and nieces. Consider your family. Consider your own soul. I also want to make a special appeal to those who are retired, unemployed, or employed part-time. Time is a treasure. We must guard it and use it well; because, as we know, it eventually runs out. If Providence has mysteriously granted you a generous amount of "free" time, why not use at least one hour of it a week in adoration during our Wednesday parish effort?

### **\*\*\* CCD INFORMATION \*\*\***

Registration for CCD is **this** Wednesday, at 6:00 pm, for all grades ... that is, for grades 1-12 ... in the Parish Hall.

The fee is \$15.00 per child. There's no charge for Youth Group (grades 7-12).

**Except for an emergency, registration should occur on Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. We want to avoid registering students on August 29<sup>th</sup>,** because that's the first day of class. Registering the week before will enable students to pick up textbooks and come to class *prepared*.

**Reminder # 1:** No child will be turned away from our program because of an inability to pay the fees. Please make sure to let people know this if you hear someone say he can't afford to send his children to catechism.

**Reminder # 2:** Adults may attend the high school CCD class each Wednesday at 6:00 pm. This year we will drill into the Mass and sacraments. We can never learn too much about these, since they form the heart of the holy Faith. *You* are invited to join us! There's no charge for adults, but you may want to purchase a textbook. Simply contact the rectory for more information.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY MASS ... FOLLOWED BY CLASS, COFFEE & DONUTS

We have a morning Mass, usually for Our Lady, on the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 am. Offering a Marian Mass each first Saturday for the past five years has been a blessing for me personally. I have heard the same is true for those who regularly attend the Mass. I truly hope that Catholics can get to the point where they realize how important devotion to Our Lady is and freely choose devotion to her on Saturdays, rather than their own personal convenience. (*I'm speaking here of the abuse of the Church's intention for the anticipated Mass on Saturday evenings.*) At any rate, I want to announce that I will begin teaching a class each first Saturday morning immediately after the Saturday morning Mass. Once Mass has concluded, and we've made a proper thanksgiving after Mass, we'll move to the parish hall for **coffee, donuts**, and a **teaching** on a particular aspect of the Faith. There will also be time for Q & A. The topic in September will be: **"What does it mean to participate in Mass?"** The topic of **authentic participation** is very important. Genuine participation at holy Mass enables us to dive ever deeper into the treasury of divine grace. For God has enriched the Church with an endless supply of grace, and the Mass is its greatest vehicle. Once we learn how to access this grace through *authentic* participation, we set off on our way to becoming a saint! The catch, however, is that our participation must be correct (i.e., real, genuine). For the past 50 plus years, there has been nearly a universal misunderstanding in regard to "participating" at Mass. For example, today many believe that things like Latin, silence, & *ad orientem* prevent a person's ability to participate. *That* is an error. If you happen to disagree, rather than simply murmuring, perhaps it might be more constructive to consider actual Church teaching on this topic, which we'll do at class. Maybe, just maybe, there's more to "participation" than what you presently know. As such, I invite you to join us next first Saturday (Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 am).

### SILENCE AND THE MYSTERY OF THE MASS

Since the choirs are on break during the month of August, our Sunday Masses for the past two weekends have had less singing than usual. For this weekend, and for the next, there will be no vocal or instrumental accompaniment. While I would never diminish the importance of a sung Mass, these increased periods of silence are opportune. God has created the human person for appropriate periods of silence, but our modern world flees from it. As a consequence, we suffer grievously. With this in mind, I am including a few quotes on silence. They will assist our reflection today at holy Mass.

1. "It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." (Lamentation 3:26)
2. "Words often bring with them the illusion of transparency, as though they allowed us to understand everything, control everything, put everything in order. Modernity is talkative because it is proud, unless the converse is true. Is our incessant talking perhaps what makes us proud?" (Cardinal Sarah, *The Power of Silence*. See also Hab 2:20; Rev 8:1)
3. "Through silence, we return to our heavenly origin, where there is nothing but calm, peace, repose, silent contemplation, and adoration of the radiant face of God." (*Power of Silence*)



## **One In Seven by Joe Sixpack**

John was spending the summer on his uncle's farm. As is the case with young boys, John found a lot of things he liked to do on the farm. On Sunday, though, he grumbled that he had to go so far with his uncle to Holy Mass.

His uncle said nothing of John's grumbling, but on market day he brought home seven large, juicy peaches from his own orchard and gave them to his nephew. Tom thanked him warmly, because he loved those juicy peaches. Later, when the uncle asked John if he could spare one of the seven peaches, the boy replied, "Sure, Uncle. Take as many as you want. After all, they came from your own orchard." He handed the bag to his uncle so he could help himself.

"I see you're more generous to me than you are to the good God who gave us these peaches," said the uncle.

"What do you mean?" John asked.

*"You don't begrudge me a share of the fruit I've given you, yet when God has given you seven days in the week, you grumble at sparing a part of one day in seven which God gave you to worship and thank Him."*

John never complained again.

Time is one of the many things God gives most of us in abundance. There are one hundred twenty-eight hours in a week that He gives us, and that is time most of us enjoy and prosper in. I wonder, though, just how much we appreciate all those hours each week. If you are forty years old, God has given you over 266,000 hours to live, love and enjoy life. How many of those hours have been given back to Him? Assuming you have attended Mass every Sunday of your life, you have only given back to Him 2,000 hours. Seems a bit disproportionate, doesn't it? Despite the seeming disproportion, God still only asks for one of those hours each week for Holy Mass...and the several extra hours throughout the year for Holy Days of Obligation.

How is that hour each week spent? Are we like John and grumble at the obligation of giving God that hour for Mass, or do we offer it to him freely and joyfully? When at church for Mass, do we spend the time before Mass preparing for the Holy Sacrifice by being silent before the Tabernacle, contrite for our sins and thanking Him for His sacrifice and all the good He has given us, or do we allow ourselves to be distracted and think about just about everything except Him and His sacrifice?

We Catholics have all the motions down pat, but I wonder whether we even know what the motions are all about. I see the people coming into church and at least make an attempt to genuflect before going into a pew, but I think most don't even know why they genuflect. I've been to many a parish church where the Tabernacle has been moved off to the side, yet when people enter the church they genuflect toward the altar. That tells me they don't know why they're genuflecting, because we are supposed to be genuflecting to His Majesty the King of Creation in the Tabernacle as a sign of homage, love and respect.

Then I observe most Catholics kneeling before sitting in the pew. Why are they doing that? Well, they're supposed to be praying in preparation for Holy Mass, as they are about to witness a representation of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. But what they're supposed to be doing and what many of them actually do appear to be two different things. I see them looking around, or giving a short wave and smile to someone else, or fidgeting with their hair... And when I see these things I realize I, too, am being guilty of not giving myself entirely to God as I should be or I wouldn't be noticing these things.

I'm afraid most of us have come to see going to Mass as one of our social events of the week instead of what it is—the worship of our Creator in the way He demands to be worshipped. I don't go to the vigil Mass on Saturday evening, as I don't need to use that privilege because I'm able to attend Sunday Mass, but I do go before Mass to confession. As I sit there in the pew making my final preparation for a good confession, I'm usually distracted by all the talking on the part of others who are there for the vigil Mass. Folks, we don't go to Mass to socialize; we go to Mass to worship God... and no other reason. There's nothing wrong with socializing, but if you want to socialize, do so outside before or after Mass—not when you're supposed to be preparing for Mass and Communion. If you won't maintain silence for the sake of your own soul, at least be courteous enough to do so for those others who do want to make a good preparation for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

During the Sign of Peace, everyone seems to want to take even that brief few seconds to socialize. Why? Are we that starved for the attention of others? Have we so forgotten or perverted our notion of what the Mass is all about that we treat it like it's just another social event? **During the Sign of Peace, Jesus is already on the altar! *Our focus is supposed to be on Him!*** That's why we are supposed to only greet the person on each side of us with a blessing of peace. It's an abuse of our participation in the Mass and a terribly disrespectful act toward Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist on the altar to hug, kiss, wave, and otherwise take our attention away from Jesus who is present on the altar in His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the consecrated Host and Blood in the chalice. These abuses are precisely why many priests use their legitimate option to not allow the Sign of Peace at all.

The worst abuse, though, is people leaving immediately after Communion. If you're attending a weekday Mass, it only takes another five minutes before Mass is over. For Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, there are only another ten minutes required of us before the Mass ends. Are we so selfish, thoughtless and disrespectful that we can't afford to give God another ten minutes? This is what He demands, but we still choose to offend Him by leaving early.

Did you know that it is a mortal sin to not attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation without a sufficient reason?<sup>1</sup> And going on a weekend trip to visit relatives or vacation or picnic or go fishing are not sufficient reasons. And did you know that *to leave before the final blessing means you have not fulfilled your Mass obligation?* It's true! So not only is it gravely disrespectful to the our Eucharistic Lord, but it is a mortal sin to leave Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation before Mass has ended. This not only means a mortal sin is committed by leaving Mass early, because you fail to fulfill your obligation to participate in the Mass, but all subsequent Communions add the *mortal sin of sacrilege!*

Friends, it's time to get serious about our faith...especially when it comes to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Holy Communion. We've had it too good for too long in America, and it's caused us to become lax in the practice of our holy and ancient faith. Attending the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass isn't a social event. Assisting at Mass is a moral obligation that means the difference between eternity in heaven and eternity in hell. Jesus is Mercy, but He is also Justice and Truth, so don't make the mistake of making Him the Warm Fuzzy who will overlook the laxity we commonly practice. Let's remember that our laxity—our lukewarmness—was condemned by Jesus: “So because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, ***I will spew you out of my mouth***” (Revelation 3:16). We must serve Him as He demands, because this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

Got questions or comments? Go to [JoeSixpackAnswers.com](http://JoeSixpackAnswers.com) to ask, comment or vent.

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<sup>1</sup> Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2181