

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Benton Smith, Evelyn Sandell, David Dugas, Elaine Dugas, Paul LaFleur, Freddy Gorman, Elmo Smith, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Lloyd Taylor, Sonja Billodeaux, Jerome & Blanche Haas, Jack Johnson, Helin McCauley Fly., Liv. & Dec., Martin Goodly

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Juan A. Lucero Castellano, Juan A. Lucero Ruiz, Milagros Castellano Perez, Guillermo Consuegra Garcia, Manuela Travieso Rodriguez, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, LeRoy Fontenot, Joan Bertrand, Ryan Rozas Fly., Fr. Jacob S. Conner, Joseph & Susanna Beaubouef Fly., Shannon & Kristin Mancil

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Rodney & Jerry Bushnell

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Aguillard Fly., Living & Deceased

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019

6:00 P.M. MASS – Todd & Kellie Manuel Fly.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Benton Smith, Bruce & Rhonda Granger & Fly., Evelyn Sandell, David Dugas, Paul LaFleur, Freddy Gorman, Lloyd Taylor, Sonja Billodeaux, Edora Frank, Don Fontenot

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Timothy Childers, Joe & Susanna Beaubouef & Fly., Todd & Kellie Manuel Fly.

Last Week's Collection

\$4,069.51

Building Fund to Date

\$12,685.15

2nd Collection This Weekend for Building Fund

PRAYER LIST

Tyler Alexander, Robert Andrews, Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Georgia Bell Baggett, Tyler Bellow, Jocie Bergeron, John O'Neal Bergeron, Alvin Billodeaux, M/M Lincoln Briscoe, Margaret Briscoe, Deanne LeBlanc Broussard, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Belle Carrier, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, JoAnn Cormier, Gordon Cotton, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Donna Dunneho, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Phielomone Goodly, Becky Gorman, Dixie Granger, Rachael Granger, Vergie Granger, Charlene Guidry, Juanita Guidry, Paula Davis Hargrove, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Jackie Hebert, Dolores Holden, Gwen Holder, Bob & Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Joey James, Cindy Langley, Essie Langley, Jessica Lindsey, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Larry Marcantel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Josh Miller, Patricia Mikas, Janice Moreau, Brad 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 Reed, Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Salis & Janice Rider, Ann Rooney, Fr. Fred Russi, Pat Abshire Savant, Helen Sheeman, Lois Singleton, Yvonne Smith, Donald Taylor, Ken Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

Vocations Candle and Cross – Shannon and Kristin Mancil

Missals Available in the Office

SJoA now has the Extraordinary Form and the Ordinary Form Missals in the church office for \$40.00. The regular price to purchase one elsewhere is at least \$60 or more.

Mrs. Corinne Out of the Office

Mrs. Corinne is attending the March for Life Pilgrimage and will not be in the office beginning January 14 through January 18. A substitute will be in the office each day. Please pray for all attending the March for Life; especially those teens and adults from the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Women's Prayer Luncheon Invitation

Bishop Glen John Provost invites the ladies of the Diocese of Lake Charles to the Women's Prayer Luncheon, Wed, Feb 13, at 11:30 AM at the CHANCERY, 414 Iris Street. The scripture covers 2 Corinthians. Please read 2 Corinthians 1-4. \$15.00 per person. Make checks to Diocese of Lake Charles. Mail to Victoria Walter, Diocese of Lake Charles, 411 Iris Street, LC, La. 70601. Deadline to register Feb 8. Please enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope for your ticket. The schedule for the series is Feb 13, Mar 13, April 10 and May 1.

Cursillo News

If you would like to make a women's or men's Cursillo, please attend Ultreya so that we can get you a sponsor and prepare you. You may attend the next Ultreya on Sunday, January 13th at 5:00 P.M. in SJoA church hall. You must be able to receive the sacraments to attend Cursillo. The next Women's Cursillo is February 7-10, 2019.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, January 13th – Ultreya at 5:00 P.M.; **Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M.**
- ❖ Monday, January 14th – Knights of Columbus at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, January 16th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD; NO YOUTH GROUP**

FROM FATHER CONNER

BISHOP'S SERVICES APPEAL INFO

To date we have collected **\$7,787.88** toward the BSA. Our parish quota is **\$11,609.00**. As you can see, we are below the quota. If you have not contributed to the BSA yet, you may still do so by sending a tithe to the rectory by mail or by putting it in the collection basket. Please be sure to identify it as "BSA". At the end of the fiscal year, SJoA will pay the balance of what is owed to the diocese from its general fund. I thank you for your generosity toward both the parish and diocese.

TIPS FOR CONFESSION

Show up when confession begins, not a few minutes before it's scheduled to end. One of the last things a priest wants to do is exit the confessional and strand a line of penitents. But, as a general rule, a priest must leave the confessional approximately 10 minutes **prior** to the start time of holy Mass in order to begin on time. This means that penitents should not wait until the last few minutes of confession to arrive at church and expect to make a confession. Arrive **early** so that you can pray for a while and make a serious examination of conscience. This is the formula for a *good* confession.

Additionally, *parents: have you reviewed the Confession Guide with your children yet?* Don't assume they know how to make a confession properly. It's primarily *your* responsibility to teach your children the faith.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

St. Joseph

The ninth article of the Creed states two things we believe in: first the Catholic Church and second the communion of saints. It's sad to me that so many modern Catholics neglect the saints, who love us and want to help us. The number of true stories showing the power of the intercession of the saints is innumerable, and perhaps one of the most powerful saints is St. Joseph...the forgotten saint of the Gospels. I'd like to tell you a couple of true stories about him.

A great musician of seventeenth century Austria was a man named Paul Merten. He and his teenage daughter, Josephine, suffered greatly because of a depression that was brought on by continued war with the Turks. Often the two would retire at night cold and hungry.

One day, feeling pity for her father's suffering, Josephine asked the celebrated musician, "Father, will you let me go find work? Then I'll be able to help you. I'll ask my patron, St. Joseph, to help me find a job." "Do you really believe the poor carpenter has such power in heaven as to get you a job in times as hard as these?" With all the confidence in the world, Josephine replied, "I'll write him a letter, tie it to my dove's neck and let him deliver it to St. Joseph."

Amused by his daughter's confidence in St. Joseph, he watched as she sat at his desk and penned the letter. It read: "O dear St. Joseph, have pity on us in our great need. We have neither work nor anything to eat. Beg Jesus to help me find work, because my father is suffering from hunger. Your faithful child, Josephine Merten, daughter of the musician of Laimgrube." Josephine folded the letter, tied it to the neck of her dove, and then sent it on its way from the window.

The following day there was a knock at the door. The stranger there asked Paul Merten if Josephine Merten lived there. "Yes, sir, she does. I'm her father."

When the man was invited into the house, he explained his visit. "My name is Joseph Hirte. I'm a jeweler and live just a few blocks from here. I have a special devotion to St. Joseph, and this morning I received a message from him telling me to answer in his name the letter sent to him by your daughter. I'm inclined to believe that my patron, St. Joseph, would be pleased if I could be of some help, so I came to see you."

Surprised by this turn of events, Paul Merten explained the letter his daughter had written. He was even more surprised when Mr. Hirte offered Josephine a job in his store and Paul Merten to be his instructor in voice, since he sang in the cathedral choir. He even paid Paul in advance.

Then Hirte explained how the dove had flown into his open window, where he took and read the letter. He was moved by Josephine's confidence in their mutual patron and decided to reward it at once. Some years later, Hirte took Josephine as his wife. In gratitude to her patron, Josephine had a remarkably beautiful image of St. Joseph placed over the door of the house where she and her father had lived in poverty.

This next story takes place in St. Louis, Missouri. During a bitter winter of the Great Depression in the '30s, a convent of nuns had run out of coal for their furnace. It was already below freezing outside, and the temperature threatened to plummet as a colder front moved in. They had no money for coal, and the coal man told Mother Superior he couldn't extend credit—that he'd extended more credit to people than he could really afford to do already.

Mother Superior gathered the other Sisters and explained the situation. They together knelt before the statue of St. Joseph and began praying. "Dear St. Joseph, we are without coal and heat, and it's getting colder by the minute. Some of our Sisters are already ill. We need your powerful help and intercession. You protected and provided for the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus without fail. We beg you now to provide for us."

Within the hour there was a knock at the door. It was the coal man. He told Mother Superior a bearded stranger came to him and bought a truck load of coal, telling him to deliver it to the convent. While the coal man delivered the coal, Mother Superior and the Sisters returned to the statue of their great patron and joyfully offered prayers of thanksgiving.

There are so many documented miracles of St. Joseph that entire books have been written containing nothing but stories of his powerful intercession. Of course, countless miraculous events have occurred through the intercession of all the saints, and God continues to work miracles through their intercession today. Contrary to the cynical assertions of many Christians, this is still the age of miracles, no less today than ever, and the saints are our most powerful allies when we need help. Even I have been the beneficiary of the saints' intercession a few times in my life, and you can experience their help too.

Asking the saints for protection and help is really no different from asking a trusted friend or relative. The only difference between your friends or relatives and the saints is that the saints have been freed from their earthly bodies and now live with God...and the saints have the added advantage of being perfected and praying their perfect prayers directly before the throne of the King of Heaven.

My patrons and favorite saints are St. Lawrence, St. Bartholomew, St. John Bosco, St. Anthony, and a certain priest I knew who went to be with Jesus and Mary way back in 1992. I speak to them each and every day. When I talk to them, it is one of the times when I don't use formulated prayers, but rather speak to them as if they are seated right next to me...which they are!

The communion of saints also includes your guardian angel, whom I also converse with daily. Actually, I speak to my guardian angel frequently throughout the day. He never fails to help me when I need him. Indeed, none of the saints fail me. They don't necessarily help me at the time when I think they should answer, but they always answer on time...in God's good timing.

When was the last time you spoke to your guardian angel or your patron or favorite saints? Don't ignore them. They are as present to you as the person sitting next to you right now. They want nothing more than to be asked for their help. Even when you don't need help solving a problem, you can still ask for their aid. Every day I ask my guardian angel to remind me of things I need to do in the overall plan God has for me each day. Being a typical ungrateful earth bound human, I often forget to thank God for some of the good things He does for me, so I've begun daily to ask my angel to remind me to thank Him. I also ask all my patron and favorite saints to help me with this work every day, and you can believe me when I tell you this work is much more than simply writing these articles for you. In fact, it's a full time job.

SAVE THE DATES

SJoA Confirmation Day of Reflection (Mandatory for all Confirmation Students)

Monday, January 21st (Martin Luther King Holiday) at the Cursillo Center in Prairie Ronde.

SJoA Day of Prayer and Penance for the Protection of the Unborn

Tuesday, January 22nd Adoration from 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

SJoA Confirmation

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at St. Joan of Arc