

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 17, 2019

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Benton Smith, Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Freddy Gorman, Elmo, Elie, Theolite Smith, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Sonja Billodeaux, Natalie Bertrand, Jerome & Blanche Haas, Don Fontenot, Hillary Victorian, Shirley Papillion Fly., Sarah Goodly, Marcelene Ceaser, Lloyd Taylor, Samuel & Melinda Papillion, Wendell & Florence Vidrine Fly., Ashley Vidrine & Fly.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Edward Maddox, Joan Bertrand, Geri Garcille, Kyle Vidrine, Grace Remy

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019

7:00 P.M. CONFIRMATION MASS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Frank Mougeot

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

6:30 A.M. MASS – Kersler Granger

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019

4:30 P.M. MASS – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Freddy Gorman, Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Rhonda Granger Fly., Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Mildred P. Guillory, Hosey Joseph Guillory, Martin Goodly, M/M Oliver Victorian, Marcelene Ceaser, Lloyd Taylor, M/M Togeal Goodly

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Edward Maddox, Douglas & Jeane Daigle, Joan Bertrand, Jessie Naquin, Deacon Glenn Viau, Derek Yeagley, Corinne & Ken Granger, Kyle Vidrine

Last Weekend Collection	\$3,880.85
Building Fund to Date	\$16,602.90
2 nd Collection – Building Fund	\$1,790.75

Vocations Candle and Cross – Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Rozas

Ladies Altar Society

SJoA Ladies Altar Society would like to recruit new members. Our lovely group of ladies is dwindling down. We are asking for your help. Our meetings are usually on the first Tuesday of each month at 5 pm in the hall. Annual dues are \$20. You may pay dues at the church office. We assist with Mercy Meals for families of the deceased and receptions for feast days and the Holy Sacraments. We also help work the bazaar. Please take this to prayer and consider joining the Ladies Altar Society. It is an opportunity for fellowship and bountiful graces!

PRAYER LIST

Mickey & Monique Abshire, 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,

Herman Deshotel, Donna Dunneho, Lonnie Duplechain, Noah Ferry, David Fontenot, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, James & Jill Gilbert & Fly., Elaine Giles, Tim Giles, Mary Ann Goodly, Phielomone Goodly, Becky Gorman, Dixie 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, Essie Langley, Jessica Lindsey, Brian Manuel, Jennifer L. Manuel, Kevin Manuel, Marlin Manuel, Wilson Manuel, Larry Marcantel, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Josh Miller, Patrica Mikas, Marvin Monceaux, Natalie Montou, Janice Moreau, Brad Morgan, Clifton & Carolyn Morgan, Paula Odom, Debbie Owen, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Ena Prudhomme & Fly., Jimmy Prudhomme, Jane Craft Ray, 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, Tommy Smith, Yvonne Smith, Elden Bada Sonnier, Fynlee Squier, Donald Taylor, Ken & Wylene Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine Family, Gene Vizena, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

BAZAAR MEETING – SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST AT 4:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, March 17th – St. Joseph's Altar after 10:00 A.M. Mass; Confirmation Practice for Confirmandi and Sponsors at 3:00 P.M.; Holy League at 4:45 P.M.; Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, March 18th – Confirmation Mass at 7:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, March 19th** – Adoration 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD (4 P.M. & 6 P.M.) and Youth Group (5 P.M.)
- ❖ **Friday, March 22nd** – Stations of the Cross at 5:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Saturday, March 23rd** – Rosary Rally for Traditional Marriage at 12:00 P.M. at the Farmer's Market

The Abrazando Cristo Mission Fundraiser

The Abrazando Cristo Mission Program is having its annual Big Cash Giveaway Fundraiser. Only 750 Tickets will be sold at \$100 a ticket. First Prize is \$5000; Second Prize is \$1000; and Third Prize is \$500. Proceeds will benefit the ongoing work of the missions in Nicaragua and Puerto Rico. To purchase a ticket, please mail your check payable to Abrazando Cristo Mission Program at 617 West Claude Street, Lake Charles, LA, 70605. A ticket stub will be mailed to you. For more information please contact Felicia Borel at 337-477-1236. Drawing will be Sunday, June 16th at Our Lady Queen of Heaven church office.

The Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament

The annual Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, May 18, 2019, at Mallard Cove in Lake Charles. Proceeds from this tournament will benefit several of the projects of the Abrazando Cristo Mission Program to Nicaragua and Puerto Rico. For more information please contact Johnnie an Susan Thibodeaux at 337-478-4095 or Will Fruge at 337-540-0410.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

The Deceptive Lion

There was once a lion that had grown too old to be able to hunt for his food, so he decided instead to acquire his prey by trickery. He would lay in his den and pretend to be very sick. He made certain everyone knew the king of beasts was ill so they would all come and pay him homage. Each animal of nature would come to visit the lion to honor the old king, but the lion took advantage of their trust and naivety and would devour them.

After many of the animals had disappeared, the sly fox figured out what had happened. He, too, went to visit the lion to pay homage, but remained outside the cave. "How are you?" asked the fox. "I'm very ill," replied the lion. "Won't you please come in and sit with me a while?" "No, thank you," said the fox. "A lot of my friends are missing, and I can't help but notice that there are many footprints entering your cave, but I see none coming out again."

In 1 Peter 5:8-9, our first pontiff wrote: "Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world."

The lion in our story is like the devil. Satan is a trickster, and he always has been. Jesus said, "He was a murderer from the beginning, and he has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44). Satan is a deceiver, and his favorite deception is to convince mankind he doesn't exist—that he is merely a boogeyman, a myth made up to frighten children into behaving themselves. The world no longer believes in Satan, but his evil is evident all around us.

The devil tempts us with great subtlety. Examples in modern times are found in the legalization of abortion and same sex unions. Playing on our sympathies, the devil told us that surely it would be cruel for a woman to have to carry the "product" of rape or incest, or that the life of the mother is certainly more important than a life that hasn't yet seen the light of day. The play on our sympathies about rape or incest seemed reasonable at first glance, but as Catholics who obey God's commands we know that compounding one mortal sin with another of taking a human life is wrong and a crime worthy of eternal punishment. We learned that the threat to the life of a mother who is pregnant is defined as her emotional health, which tells us the devil tricked us from the beginning. Notice how the devil leads people to change our language: a woman isn't carrying a baby in her womb, but rather a *product of conception*—dehumanizing the pre-born child so it becomes easier to abort, like excising a tumor.

The devil used the homosexual lobby to lie to us. Homosexuals first told us they only wanted to live out who they were free from the fear of being discriminated against. They told us they would never ask for special rights, that they only wanted to feel safe in society. That was a lie. They next began to demand special rights on the basis of how they chose to pervert themselves in their sexual activities, telling us we *must* accept how they live. Then they demanded the right to be "married", something that is not possible either theologically or philosophically. And the devil uses his deceptions to make us feel like bigots if we oppose the destructive force of homosexuality as something normal. It's not normal. Sodomy is one of the three mortal sins that cry out to God from the earth for justice, which is why God destroyed two cities for this perversion. They changed the language, just like the abortion lobby. They high jacked the word gay to mean homosexual, but that isn't at all what it means. Until the 1970s, gay meant lighthearted,

carefree, and happy. I've worked with many homosexual men over the last thirty years, leading some of them to a chaste life as Catholics. I have never met a practicing homosexual who is happy. Many put on a good front of happiness, but it doesn't take long in listening to them to realize they aren't at all happy. Indeed, no one living in a state of chronic mortal sin is happy, whether homosexual or heterosexual.

Not only does Satan tempt us as a society, but he very subtly tempts us individually. It's easy to justify what we want to do so as to avoid what we ought to do. The man who says to himself that he works hard all week, so there is nothing wrong with getting hammered after work on Friday night is justifying doing what he wants, despite the fact that God's law tells us drunkenness is a sin. The woman who tells herself the summer weather is hot and nobody any longer believes exposing bare flesh is wrong dresses in grave violation of the sixth commandment, tempting men...and sometimes other women...by dressing in ways that would have landed them in jail fifty years ago and labeled them as loose women. It doesn't matter what modern society thinks, but rather only the unchangeable laws of an unchangeable God. We Catholics have bought into the modern culture's lies, which are the devil's lies. We have accepted the moral errors of situation ethics and fundamental option.

Situation ethics is an error that contends moral decisions shouldn't be based on moral laws, but on the specific particular situation in which a person finds himself. Since this situation is unique and unrepeatable, the person's conscience alone is to determine the right moral decision, apart from any principle or law. The fundamental error of situation ethics is that it is incompatible with the fact that God gave us an objective moral norm to judge what is right and wrong: the Ten Commandments. The Church has always taught there are some acts which are intrinsically good and some which are intrinsically evil, apart from any circumstances. A good example of situation ethics would be for a newlywed couple who use contraception because they are not yet financially capable of caring for children. Yet contraception is always morally evil, *no matter the circumstances*.

Fundamental option is the theory of those who hold that a person commits mortal sin only when he has the intention of rejecting God. An example of this would be when a couple engages in premarital sex, believing themselves to be expressing love rather than rejecting God. However the Church teaches that when a person knowingly and willfully does anything which is seriously against God's law, a mortal sin is *always* committed, *no matter the sinner's intention*.

As Catholics, it's our responsibility to have a positive impact on culture and society, to change it however we can in a way that leads mankind to God. Our individual acts that seem insignificant work in a conglomerate way to change the world. But for us to do that, we must first work to change and improve ourselves. It is our responsibility to form a right conscience in accordance with Christ's teachings, as passed on to us through His Holy Catholic Church. We have to stop justifying what we want and begin doing as we ought, and have frequent recourse to the Sacrament of Penance. The counter culture has become the prevailing culture, and it's our responsibility to become the new counter culture to bring the return of a Christian culture. Our modern culture is the devil, and we must "resist him, firm in our faith" in order to stop him. It's time to stop caring about what is politically correct or about what society thinks and care more about what God thinks, because this is What We Believe...Why We Believe It.

SAVE THE DATES

St. Joseph's Altar at SJoA

Sunday, March 17th after 10:00 Mass

Confirmation Rehearsal at SJoA

Sunday, March 17th at 3:00 P.M.

SJoA Confirmation Mass

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7 P.M. at SJoA

Rosary Rally for Traditional Marriage

Saturday, March 23rd at 12:00 P.M. Farmer's Market

Eucharistic Procession for the Annunciation

Monday, March 25th after 5:30 P.M. Mass

SJoA Lenten Mission by Fr. Ted Broussard

Thursday, March 28th and Friday, March 29th at 6:00 P.M.

SJoA Reflections on Holy Week

Saturday, April 6th and Saturday, April 13th at 10:00 A.M.

Lenten Penance Night (West and South Deaneries)

Tuesday, April 9th from 5 – 7 P.M.

Lenten Penance Night (Central Deanery)

Wednesday, April 10th from 5-7 P.M.

Lenten Penance Night (East Deanery)

Thursday, April 11th from 5-7 P.M.

Lenten Presentation by Monsignor Calkins

Friday, April 12th after Stations of the Cross

First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday, May 12th at 10:00 A.M.