

## MASSES & INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Sonja Billodeaux, Rodney & Jerry Bushnell, Clement Granger, Kyle Vidrine, Berlinger, Horton & Marcantel Fly., Liv. & Dec., Bryan Frederick, Eldridge, Mary & Ann Louise Hance

### SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Evelyn Sandell (**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**), Carol & Keith Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Shelton Reed, Clara Roy Courville, High School & College Graduates, First Communion students

### MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019

**6:30 A.M.** – D.C. Reed, Jr.

### TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019

**NO MASS**

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Della Papillion

### THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Frank Mougeot

### FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Willie Dubriel

### SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Fran Meaux, Evelyn Sandell, Don Fontenet, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Cecilia Sonnier, Elle Mae & Andrus Joseph Frilot, LeRoy & Ophelia Fontenet, Keith LeJeune, Bryan Frederick, Alfin Caesar, Sonja Billodeaux, Houston & Gladys Ardoin, Rose Mae Ardoin, Joseph Fontenet

### SUNDAY, MAY 26, 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, Kyle Vidrine, Shelton Reed, Clara Roy Courville

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**Last Weekend Collection**

**\$4,020.00**

**Maintenance Fund to Date**

**\$22,525.75**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Maintenance Fund**

**\$881.00**

**Vocations Candle and Cross** – Mrs. Gerry Beaubouef

## 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, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Belle Carrier, David & Natalie Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, Vivian Cole, Florence Comeaux, JoAnn Cormier, Brittany Courville, Jeane Daigle, Aiden & Renlee' Darbonne, Louise Guidry Darbonne, Carolyn Denison, Herman Deshotel, Donna Dunneho, Lonnie Duplechain, Elizabeth Enloe, Lois Evans, Noah Ferry, David Fontenet, Steven Fontenet, Agess & Ophelia Frank, 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, Bob Haas, 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, LaNan James, Gina Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Emily Johnson, 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, Clifford Montou, 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, Anne Reed, Brenda Dodd Reed, Dara Reed, Gary Reed, Linda Reed, Leah Rexrode, Don & Debra Rider, Eugene 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, Doris Stanley, Donald Taylor, Ken & Wylene Taylor, Diana Tichy, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine Family, Gene Vizena, Hannah and Linda Voeller, Bruce Walker, Mary LaFleur Ware, Linda Weldon, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

### **Ladies Altar Society Covered Dish Social / Meeting**

The LAS will have a covered dish social at their next meeting on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. All current and honorary members are invited. Please bring a covered dish of your choice.

### **This Week @ SJoA**

❖ **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** – Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M.

## **SJoA FEAST DAY LUNCHEON**

On Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> after 10:00 A.M. Mass, SJoA will have a catered luncheon to celebrate the Feast Day of SJoA. All parishioners and their families are invited. The 2019 recipients of the annual SJoA awards are **Mrs. Phielomone Goodly** and **Mr. Delmar Sonnier**.

### **A Message from Bishop Provost**

The following are priests canonically ordained in the Catholic Church who serve with faculties to administer sacraments validly in the area of Beaugard and Allen civil parishes:

Father Jude Brunnert of St. Joseph Parish, DeRidder  
Father Jeffrey Starkovich of St. Pius X, Ragley  
Father Keith Pellerin of St. Philip Neri, Kinder  
Father Jacob Scott Conner of St. Joan of Arc, Oberlin  
Father Vijaya Peddoju of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Oakdale, and St. Frances of Rome Mission, Elizabeth

There are no religious sisters assigned to any of these parishes by the Bishop.

Anyone not on this list presenting himself as a priest or herself as a religious sister of the Catholic Church should be reported immediately to diocesan and civil authorities.

# **WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT**

## **The Will of God: Mary's Acceptance and Unity**

It's said that the rosary is the Gospel story through the eyes of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is especially true of the first set of mysteries, the joyful mysteries. Indeed, all five of them are taken from the Gospel According to Luke, which is often called the Gospel According to Mary. It's obvious that Luke, who as not present with Jesus during His public ministry but a later convert, had interviewed the Blessed Virgin Mary before he wrote his Gospel. Mary traveled with her Son during most of His public ministry, so she was present for most of the events Luke writes about. The first two chapters of Luke give us information not supplied by the other three Evangelists, because only Mary and Joseph were present for those events.

I especially love the joyful mysteries, because reading them in Luke's Gospel shows us how pure and in tuned Mary's heart was (is!) to the heart of her Son. She shows us how worthy she is of our love and devotion. Before we take a look at a part of those mysteries, let me hasten to point out one thing people seldom consider about Mary, but something the Doctors and Fathers of the Church have recognized since the beginning of Christianity. Mary was immaculately conceived; that is, this is "the doctrine which declares that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God, and therefore must be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful."(1) Ineffabilis Deus, Pope Pius IX, December 8, 1854.1. So by being immaculately conceived, Mary is the only mother in all of human history who was created by her own Son. Think about this: If you could have created your own mother, wouldn't you have made her absolutely perfect? That's what Jesus did. We all saw our mothers as perfect when we were little children, but as we grew older we began to see their flaws and imperfections. Jesus, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, never saw any imperfections in His mother, because He created her perfect in her mother's womb. And it is Mary's perfection that causes us to have such great love for and devotion to her as the Mother of God.

The Annunciation is an amazing event. Have you ever read and meditated on it? Picture Mary when Gabriel came to visit her: The angel greeted her by a title—Full of Grace! After the greeting, Luke tells us "she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be" (v 29). Then the angel told her not to be afraid. Most people think he told her not to fear because of his appearance, but the implication in Scripture is that she was made afraid by the greeting. No one before had ever been given such a celestial greeting, and Mary was rightly puzzled by this.

Mary knew and understood from the moment of her Son's conception exactly who He was. So it's only reasonable to expect that when He grew older, and Joseph had passed from this life to leave the two of them alone together, she would have asked Him about the things she didn't fully understand surrounding His entry into the world in His human nature. I believe she asked Jesus about the greeting, and that's why she told Luke of her apprehension over Gabriel's greeting, giving us a hint of her special privilege of the Immaculate Conception. I do know it was certainly believed by the apostles from the earliest times, which is why Pius IX was able to define the Immaculate Conception as being revealed by God.

Of the joyful mysteries, though, the thing I most love (and most of us think little about) is what Mary said in her Magnificat after Elizabeth responded to her greeting in the Visitation:

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in*

*God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. "From this day all generation will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. "He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. "He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. "He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. "He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. "He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever" (vs. 46-55).*

The immaculately conceived heart of Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit as she proclaimed the beauty of God's greatness in explaining to Elizabeth why "the mother of my Lord" (v. 43) had come to visit her. Elizabeth had just called Mary blessed (v. 42), and Mary made the prophecy that all generations would also call her blessed—something we do every time we pray the Hail Mary. The Blessed Virgin Mary clearly understood who she was and God's purpose for her.

When we pray the rosary, it's more than simply reciting the prayers. We're supposed to meditate on each mystery during the recitation. It is evident from Scripture that Mary herself meditated on these mysteries. Regarding the Nativity, Luke tells us that after the birth of Our Lord the shepherds came from the fields to worship the Christ Child. Then he writes, "But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (2:19).

Apparently Mary also meditated on the events of the Presentation at the Temple, because she was able to quote to Luke exactly what Simeon had said of her Son. I suspect what she most considered were the final prophetic words of the old rabbi: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (vs. 34-35).

Then there is the Finding of Jesus in the Temple. Returning to Nazareth from the Passover in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph had traveled three days before realizing Jesus wasn't with them (a foreshadowing of the separation from Him between His death and resurrection). They had assumed Jesus was with other families' children in the caravan playing, as all children do. Upon realizing He was missing, imagine Mary's frantic fear and concern for her lost Child. She had to wonder if successors of those who had sought His life had finally caught up with Him (Matthew 2:13). But when Mary and Joseph returned to Jerusalem, they were both relieved and amazed to find Jesus confounding and teaching the elders in the temple.

When the relieved Mother of God found Him, she asked, "Son, why have you treated us so?" (Luke 2:46) Jesus' reply was, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (v. 49) Again, "his mother kept all these things in her heart" (v. 51), telling us she meditated on the events of her divine Son throughout her life. From the moment Gabriel told Mary why he was visiting her, she was perfectly free to refuse the offer being made to become the Mother of God, as is evinced by the fact that he waited for her fiat before departing (Luke 1:38). This means that Mary fully understood what she was doing when she consented to God's plan, and she willingly participated in our redemption through the death of her Son. Mary's perfection, her willingness, her suffering for us makes her worthy of our devotion and love.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **SJoA Feast Day Catered Luncheon**

Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> after 10:00 A.M. Mass

### **SJoA Ladies Altar Society Covered Dish Social / Meeting**

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

### **SJoA Vocation Bible School**

Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>; 9:30 A.M. - Noon