

Ministers of the Liturgy January 16 & 17, 2016

Saturday - 4 P.M.

Intention: Karen Hebert (L), George Spaulding, Madeline Gohres Grunewald, Irvin Dares, Merle & Charles Dittmer, Patrick C. McKinney, Marie O'Malley, Flora Maria Be, Rose Marie Greco Federico, Augustine Borrás, Joseph Segari, Hubert LaBorde

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

J. Rodosta, L. Segari

Cantor: Trish Foti

Sunday - 9 A.M.

Intention: Parishioners

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

C. & R. Ayers, D. Childers, B. O'Hara

Song Leaders: Traditional Choir

Sunday - 11 A.M.

Intention: Bosvely Pinzon, Joseph Donald Bernard, Special Intention (L), Colgan Family, Ebling Family

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

J. Hutchinson, R. Oleksik, K. robertson, R. Meece

Song Leaders: Contemporary Choir

Sunday - 6 P.M.

Intention: Cori Sudderth (L)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

M. Drawe, D. Powers

Cantor: Lauren Gisclair

Pianist: Beth Kettenring

Weekday Masses (1/18-22)

Monday	7:00 a.m.	Maria Mercedes Cabrera
	5:30 p.m.	Ray Dunn
Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	In Honor of St. Joseph
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	Daniel Rivolo
	8:20 a.m.	Unborn Children
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Scuddy Fontenelle, Sr.
	5:30 p.m.	Mary & Jules Haydel
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Paul LaRocca, Sr.



BIG EVENT

Night at the Races

The St. Benilde Holy Name Society and the Home and School Association will be hosting their annual "Night at the Races" on Saturday, January 23, in the cafeteria. Admission to the Clubhouse is \$3 per individual and \$5 per couple. The Gate to the Clubhouse will open at 7 p.m. with racing to begin at 7:30 p.m. Must be 21 years old to enter. There will be plenty of food and fun for everyone that night. Come out and join us! If you would like to volunteer to be a jockey, please contact the Home and School Association by email at stbenildehomeandschool@gmail.com.

Married Couple's Retreat

A married couple's retreat will be held February 5-7 at St. Mary of the Pines Retreat Center in Chatawa, MS. Experience the peace and beauty of the pine woods in a weekend of learning to know God, self and each other better. The theme is "Finding God in All things—Encountering the Living God in Marriage." Robin and Easton Hebert, spiritual directors and retreat leaders from Lafayette, LA, will be your guides as you grow in your spirituality as a couple. For more information and reservations, contact Sister Helen Roper at 601-341-9447 or e-mail her at hroper@ssndcp.org.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Jan. 23/24

4 p.m.	R. Aucoin, C. Casente
9 a.m.	J. & G. Rojas, C. Rispoli, B. Soletto
11 a.m.	K. & M. Sorensen, S. Gordon, L. Peters
6 p.m.	J. Zeringue, T. Kettenring



Adoration Chapel Sanctuary
Light in memory of
Stuart and Gloria Fourroux



Altar Ladies

Week of January 17
M. Surcouf, L. Hart, Y. Morise

Linens

Large - M. Thibodeaux *Small* - J. Rojas

Last Week's Collection

Envelopes	\$2,892.00
Loose	3,052.62
Clarion	370.00
Msgr. Richaud Endowment Fund.....	72.00
Repairs and Maintenance.....	564.00
Totaling	\$6,950.62

Fr. Cooper's Corner

Living on God's Will

It would be hard to believe that one could become a competent doctor or nurse without expert familiarity with human anatomy, a good lawyer or judge without mastering law, or a great athlete or referee without grasping a sport's rulebook. Similarly it would be shocking that one could become an excellent English teacher without knowing literature and grammar, a skilled engineer without mastering math and physics, or a talented tour guide without grasping the history and geography of places to be visited.

By analogy, how likely is it, then, that one could become a good Christian without a profound comprehension of Sacred Scripture? As we have just welcomed the Word that has become flesh and made His dwelling among us during the festivities of the Christmas Season, it's a good time to return to our series of articles on a Catholic Plan of Life, the spiritual game plan to help us to achieve the purpose of human existence: communion with God which is meant to begin in this world and last forever. One thing that should be part of our spiritual plan for life is a profound immersion in Sacred Scripture.

St. Jerome, the great Father of the Church who translated the Bible from Greek and Hebrew into Latin, the common language of his fourth century contemporaries, famously stressed, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." To know Christ, we need to know Sacred Scripture: what He said and did, what was foretold about Him, how the Church and the apostles put His words into practice. How can we know the Word-made-flesh unless we know the words He incarnated, fulfilled and proclaimed?

It's a scandal that so few Catholics truly know Sacred Scripture. In an extensive 2010 Religious Knowledge Survey by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, only 42 percent of American Catholics could name Genesis as the first book of the Bible, 33 percent the four Gospels, and 54 percent Bethlehem as Jesus' native place. Those results paled in comparison to Protestants', Jews' and even atheists' knowledge of the same Biblical facts.

Pope Francis is actively trying to get Catholics to become more familiar with the treasure trove of God's Word. Repeatedly he has appealed to Catholics to carry a tiny copy of the Gospels with them and read a part of it every day. "It is important," he exclaimed. "It's a good thing to have a small book of the gospels, a small one, to carry around with us, in the pocket, in the purse, and to read a small passage from it at any hour of the day." As volunteers passed out copies of the Gospel in St. Peter's Square, he said, "Take it, carry it with you and read it every day. It's Jesus Himself who speaks to you in the Gospel. It's the Word of Jesus, this is the Word of Jesus." There can't be a missionary transformation of the Church — something Pope Francis trying to catalyze — unless Catholics know Sacred Scripture well enough to live

it and share it with others. There can't be a missionary metamorphosis unless Catholics really know Christ.

Seven years ago, I had a big conversion after meeting a New York priest at the Newark Airport. Seeing each other in the security lane, we decided to grab lunch. When the cashier at Sbarro's asked if there would be one bill or two, I said one and gave my credit card. Fr. Mike replied, "Sirach says we should go dutch!" I quickly retorted, "The Last Supper wasn't dutch and Jesus calls us to love as he loves!" When we got to the table, however, with a certain amazed intrigue I asked whether he was making up the quotation from Sirach. "Not at all," he said, as he pulled out a very worn Bible where Sirach said not to be ashamed to "share the expenses of a business or journey" (Sir 42:3).

I asked him how he got to know Sacred Scripture so well. He said he had made a promise the day of his ordination to read the entire Bible once a year and that he had been faithful to that promise. "After 24 years," he said with a smile, "You get to know what Sirach says about restaurant bills!"

He told me that it takes only 12-15 minutes a day to read the whole Bible each year. Since that encounter, I've been following his good example with the help of the *Logos* app on my iPad that splits up all of the passages for me. There are many other similar programs and little booklets that break down the passages of Sacred Scripture intelligently to make reading the entire Bible in a given span of time easier. This is something every Catholic who takes the faith seriously can and ought to do. The average American Catholic spends 42 hours a week watching television or surfing the web. Wouldn't it be a beautiful thing if each of us would spend 12 minutes a day getting to know the Lord through Sacred Scripture? *(Full article on frcooper.info)*

Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 19, at 9 a.m.

Annulment Writing Workshop

The Archdiocese of New Orleans will offer a writing workshop for persons seeking an annulment in the Catholic Church or for persons responding to an annulment. The workshop will be held in St. Christopher the Martyr's Parish Center. The series will be for five (5) Tuesdays, Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 1, March 8, and March 15, 2016. Hours are 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. The materials for the series cost \$25.00. To register or for more information, call Cathy at 504-861-6243.

Junior Confirmation Candidates

The **mandatory** retreat for Junior candidates for Confirmation is scheduled for Saturday, January 30, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the cafeteria. We will finish with Mass. A pizza lunch will be provided. Please contact Confirmation Coordinator Cecilia Wilson if more information is needed.