

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS:
April 14-15, 2018

SOMETHING NEW: We have been having some improvements in and around our church since my arrival here. Every now and then, I'll share some of these improvements with all of you.

Y'all probably have noticed the "new" Scriptures' Stand located in front of the Ambo (where the Word of God is proclaimed). Though it may appear brand new, actually only the top part (book -rest) of the stand is new, the lower metal base (stand) is old since it used to be one of the steel lecterns that we seldom use. When looking for a dignified stand to keep the Sacred Books after the proclamation, I discovered the small lectern (which happened to be almost the same height as the Ambo) and decided to give it a new purpose. Rog and I designed the book-rest depicting the silhouette of the Rose Window of our Co-Cathedral Church (front of the church & above the choir-loft), and the "two lilies" used in our diocesan Coat of Arms symbolizing the cities of Houma (*fleur-de-lis* & St. Francis de Sales Cathedral) and Thibodaux (*Easter lily* & St. Joseph Co-Cathedral). Painted bronze to compliment our church interior, the new Scripture Stand befits the dignity of the Books it shall display! I've already mentioned to all of you before that the two Books of the Scriptures are now placed side-by-side in front of the Ambo since it is proper that the books are together in the place where the Word of God is proclaimed. Stay tuned for some more new improvements coming soon.

Many, many thanks to all ALL our dedicated volunteers (Jacob's Ladder, Heaven's Handymen & some "hidden helpers") for all your help in cleaning & decorating our church for Lent and Easter. Watching y'all maintain the Church of God reminds me that this church (the Co-Cathedral) and our Church (the Universal Church) are maintained and built by faithful and generous human hands. Your service to God, our Church and Community are silently paving our ways to the Kingdom! I have prayed for you and will pray for you always for as long as there are reminders of you and your works in our Church community. Thanks be to God!

I am so delighted to see how many people donated flowers for our Easter décor this year. The flowers are our ways of celebrating the Easter Season and also reminder to us all that we are surrounded by LOVE: 1st of Jesus who died and rose to life for us, 2^{ndly} of people

that was redeemed by Christ in death and 3^{rdly}, by those who loved them. The Lenten Season was truly a Season of Love!

The Risen Christ's greeting this Easter Season should be our spirit and attitude for the rest of our lives. Jesus said, "**Peace be with you,**" not once, but a few times. Peace is Christ's gift to us. Peace is the result of Easter. Peace is the beginning of our faith and belief. Peace is who and what we are.

One of the great signs of faith that tells people that we believe in a God who is alive and present is **PEACE**. But don't get me wrong: peace is not the absence of anything bad (e.g. war, famine, conflicts, problems, fears, worries, violence, etc.). Rather, it is the **presence of God in everything** [period!]. As believers of the Risen Christ, we are all called to find and experience the presence of God even in the most painful, fearful, unsettling, agonizing events and moments in our lives. The lessons we've learned from Jesus during His last three days (Latin, "*triduum*") must find their effects and meaning in our lives and faith! And if they do, just like before the 1st Easter, we too can rise with Him after our every "Good Fridays" to start all over again -- but only IF we have **PEACE**, i.e., the presence of God!

Peace be with all of you!

Father Vic+

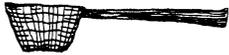


Third Sunday of Easter
April 15, 2018

You alone, O LORD,
bring security to my dwelling.
— *Psalm 4:9*

March 31st/ April 1st

Weekly Offering



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Weekly Collection	\$ 4,852.33
Easter Quota	16,525.00
ACH Weekly	335.00
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	\$ 21,712.33

Holy Land \$1,783.12

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Thank you for your generosity !

ROSARY

Mondays & Thursdays
9:30 AM
in the Church.
All are welcome.



In response to the **Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People** from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has made the following provision for anyone who has been hurt or sexually abused by anyone who works for the church. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has set up an Outreach Line for all victims/survivors of sexual abuse. In continuing our commitment to support and healing, we invite and encourage people who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, to call our outreach line. The Outreach Line operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily Monday through Friday. A trained mental health professional responds to the line.

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line telephone number is 985-873-0026.



"The Men of St. Joseph is an association of Christian men, united under the Catholic Church, who meet weekly to pray together and encourage each other to be the spiritual leaders of their families. The purpose of the Men of St. Joseph is to instill holiness in men and facilitate spiritual leadership in family and community life."

Meeting are held in the Life Center at 6AM on Tuesday mornings. Please feel free to join us.

Wedding Banns

- Katherine Jones & Philip Lyons (1-3)*
- Mary Davis & Matthew Marcello (1-3)*
- Rosalyn Fauchaux & James Stieb (2)*
- Victoria Roy & Kade Stieb (1)*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The religious education department is in need of a 6th grade teacher for the 2018-2019 school year.

If you are interested, please contact Sue at 985-446-1387.



Please remember **Virgie Gros and Earl Savoie** who passed on into the Kingdom of our Father recently. Please pray also that their families may find comfort and consolation through their faith.

The following were Baptized into the family of Christ recently:

Aaron Daniel
 Child of Juan & Ashley

Nicholas Ly
 Child of Thanh & Phuong

