

Seventeenth Sunday in the Season of the Year

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, July 23, 2016

6:00 P.M. MASS – Jeremy Rider, Hubert Bertrand, J.C. & Bertha Smith, Emily Adams, Eve Smith Guilbeau, Helin McCauley Living and Deceased family members, Joey James, Keith LeJeune, Melca Manuel

SUNDAY, July 24, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Leonard Beaubouef, Stacey Beaubouef, Tush Strother, James Sharp, John Essie Victorian, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Gene, Velma & Janice Brakel, D.C. Reed, Jr., Edward Maddox, Jennifer Sonnier, Caleb Smith, Abe Seal

MONDAY, July 25, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Angelle L. Durio

TUESDAY, July 26, 2016

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, July 27, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – E.J. & Mary Hance

THURSDAY, July 28, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Lawrence “Kirk” Bertrand (1st Anniversary)

FRIDAY, July 29, 2016

12:05 P.M. MASS – Claiborne Durio

SATURDAY, July 30, 2016

6:00 P.M. MASS – Jeremy Rider, Lucius Cezar, Jr. & Fly., Lucuis & Ruby Cezar, Donald & Jenny Fontenot, Dallas Courville, Daniel Deculus, Mr. & Mrs. Willard Slate, Police Officers & Firemen

SUNDAY, July 31, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Stacey Beaubouef, Lulia V. Frank, James Sharp, John Essie Victorian, D.C. Reed, Jr., Edward Maddox, Leonard Beaubouef, Tush Strother, Jennifer Sonnier, Jeanette Hornsby, Deacon Norris and Sandra Chapman, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Charlie & Caleb Smith, Gabe & Elena Briscoe

Last Week’s Collection

\$3,638.30

2nd Collection: Solidarity – Church in Africa

\$309.90

PRAYER LIST FOR JULY, AUGUST, & SEPTEMBER

Enola Ballard, Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Dianne Beaubouef, Charles Beaubouef, Gerry Beaubouef, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, Richard Cooper, Carol Deshotel, Susan Duplantis, David Fontenot, Donald Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Paul Fontenot, Rodney Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Tim Germany, Rita Gordon, Freddy Gorman, Rachael Granger, Daniel Goodly & Fly., Keith Granger, Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Victoria Lynn Guillory, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Shirley Hebert, Jan Horton, John, Sheenita & Perella Jackson. Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Paul LaFleur, Essie Langley, Kevin Manuel, Shirley Manuel, Trista Marler, Patricia Mikas, Dorothy Montou, Grayce LaRacca, Tina Morgan Lantier, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joseph, and Adam LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Charles Mancil, Joy Mancil, Ray Marcantel, Christina McNutt, Fran & Ronnie Meaux, Russell Meaux, Devin Pelt, Sally Pitre, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Ashton Read, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Sara Reed & Fly., Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Leonard Richard, Rev. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Tucker Scimemi, Helen Shreeman, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Margie Smith, Donald Paul Sonnier, Celeman Thomas, Maynard Topping, Dollyanna Victorian, Zachary Villereal, JoAnn Welch, Robbie Willis, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Robert Yeagley, Sr., Nicole Young

Leading the Rosary before Mass this Weekend

6:00 P.M. – Haddie Goodly 7:30 A.M. – Lucy Brandon

10:00 A.M. – Deacon Norris Chapman

Vocations Candle – Paul and Patsy Fontenot

Vocations Cross – Mr. & Mrs. Mark Foreman

[CONTINUED]

Business owners possess the keys to their business and the authority to run it. You have keys to your car, and no one else has the authority to drive it without those keys. It’s obvious, then, that Jesus is giving divine authority to Peter when He gives him the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

This is immediately followed by the power of binding and loosing. “Binding and loosing” among the rabbis of Our Lord’s time meant to declare something “prohibited” or “permitted”. Here it plainly means that St. Peter, the Steward of the Lord’s house, the Church, has all the rights and powers of a divinely appointed steward. He does not, like the Jewish rabbis, declare probable, speculative opinions, but he has the right to teach and govern authoritatively, with the certainty of God’s approval “in heaven”. A law giving power is certainly implied by these words. We will continue with this discussion in our next installment of “What We Believe...Why We Believe It”. #2

Suicide Prevention Workshop: Education/Healing/Recovery

SJoA will host a Suicide Prevention Workshop in the hall Saturday, July 30th from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. There is no charge to attend.

Knights of Columbus

The KC’s will have a Corporate Communion on Sunday, July 31st at 7:30 A.M. Mass. They will lead the rosary before Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul Donations Needed

St. Vincent de Paul is in need of donations of school supplies and school uniforms. They may be dropped off at the rectory.

This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, July 24th – Parish Picnic and Youth Fun 4 – 6 P.M.
- ❖ Monday, July 25th – VBS Begins today from 9 A.M. – 12 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, July 26th – Summer Short Course at 6 P.M.
- ❖ Thursday, July 28th – Summer Short Course at 6 P.M.; Holy League: Men’s Prayer Group 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Friday, July 29th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

RETURN TO THE LORD

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Payment Possibilities (\$)

Total 3 Year Gift	<u>Once a year</u>	<u>Twice a year</u>	<u>Four times a year</u>	<u>Once a Month</u>
\$45,000	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$1,250
\$36,000	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$3,000	\$1,000
\$27,000	\$9,000	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$750
\$18,000	\$6,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$500
\$12,000	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$333
\$9,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$750	\$250
\$7,200	\$2,400	\$1,200	\$600	\$200
\$5,400	\$1,800	\$900	\$450	\$150
\$3,600	\$1,200	\$600	\$300	\$100
\$2,700	\$900	\$450	\$225	\$75
\$1,800	\$600	\$300	\$150	\$50
\$900	\$300	\$150	\$75	\$25

WHAT WE BELIEVE, WHY WE BELIEVE IT THE ONE TRUE CHURCH, PART I

Last week, we began our examination of how Christ founded the Catholic Church. This week, we are going to take it a step farther...perhaps several steps farther.

The most telling point about the divine origins of the Church is the papacy. Non-Catholics—particularly those who are not exactly friends of the Catholic Church—all tell us there is nothing in the Bible about the papacy or St. Peter being the first pope. That could not be further from the truth.

Biblical evidence for the papacy is overwhelming. Following the logical presentation of Karl Keating in his modern classical work *Catholicism and Fundamentalism*, we find the evidence to be irrefutable.

Keating notes first that St. Peter was almost always named first in the Gospels' listings of the Apostles (Mt. 10:1-4; Mk. 3:16-19; Lk. 6:14-16; Ac. 1:13), and that sometimes the Apostles were referred to only as "Peter and those who were with him" (Lk. 9: 32). He points out that St. Peter was the first of the Apostles to preach, the first to perform a healing miracle, and the one to whom the revelation came that Christianity was for Gentiles as well as Jews (Ac. 2:14-40; 3:6;10:46-48).

Keating goes on to tell us that "Peter's preeminent position among the apostles was symbolized at the very beginning of his relationship to Christ, although the implications were only slowly unfolded. At their first meeting, Christ told Simon that his name would thereafter be Peter, which translates as Rock (John 1:42). The startling thing was that in the Old Testament only God was called a rock. The word was never used as a proper name for a man. If one were to turn to a companion and say, 'From now on your name is Asparagus', people would wonder. Why Asparagus? What is the meaning of it? Indeed, why Peter for Simon the fisherman? Why give him as a name a word only used for God before this moment?

"Christ was not given to meaningless gestures, and neither were the Jews as a whole when it came to names. Giving a new name meant that the status of the person was changed, as when Abram was changed to Abraham (Gn. 17:5); Jacob to Israel (Gn. 32:28); Elicit, to Joakim (2Kg. 23:34); and Daniel, Ananias, Misael, and Azarias to Baltassar, Sidrach, Misach, and Abdenago (Dn. 1:6-8). But no Jew had ever been called Rock because that was reserved for God. The Jews would give other names taken from nature, such as Barach (which means lightning; Jos 19:45), Deborah (bee; Gn. 29:16), and Rachel (ewe; Gn. 29:16), but not Rock. In the New Testament James and John were surnamed Boanerges, Sons of Thunder, by Christ (Mk. 3-17), but that was never regularly used in place of their original names. Simon's new name supplanted the old" (pgs. 205-206).

St. Peter's name has been firmly established by Christ as a name synonymous with God. Throughout Jesus and St. Peter's relationship the reason became gradually clearer, but it becomes crystal clear in Matthew. Immediately after St. Peter proclaims Christ's divinity, our Lord says, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (16:17-19).

This passage seems obvious to most readers. The verse could have been rewritten as: "You are Rock and on this rock I will build my church." It makes perfect sense that Jesus is here giving St. Peter supreme authority; however, those who desire to debunk the papacy, and the divine authority it possesses, prefer to claim the rock refers to Christ instead of Peter.

Grammatical rules tell us that the phrase "this rock" must relate to the closes noun. Peter's profession of faith that Jesus is the Christ is *two verses* earlier, while Peter's name is in the immediately proceeding *clause*. Analogously, consider this artificial sentence: "I have a shirt and a coat and it is blue." Which is blue? The coat, because that is the noun closest to the pronoun "it". Obviously, then, the word "rock" must mean Peter—"You are Peter (Rock) and on this rock I will build my church."

Not only is the reference to rock clear, but we see also that Jesus is giving St. Peter more authority than God had ever given any man, along with some specific promises. Immediately after stating that He will build the Church upon St. Peter, Jesus goes on to make an astounding promise, along with an even more astounding reason for doing so.

The promise is, the gates of hell will not defeat the Church built on St. Peter. This is a promise that the Church will not be destroyed by Christ's enemies, and that she will stand until the end of time. Only a divine institution could have such a promise as that. Think about it. There is not one single nation on the face of the planet existing today that existed then; all have either been overthrown and completely remade, or they are destroyed. Many antichrists have come and gone. The Roman Empire tried to destroy the Catholic Church. So did Atilla the Hun, Kahn, Napoleon, Hitler, Stalin, and even the United Nations tries today. Yet Holy Mother Church is still youthful and thriving, while all her enemies become dust and ashes.

Using the symbol of the keys, Jesus then gives Peter his authority. That symbol is not lost on us today. Dignitaries receive the keys to the city.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE ONE]