

Twenty-eighth Sunday in the Season of the Year

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, October 8, 2016

6:00 P.M. MASS – Evelyn Manuel, Elie, Theolite & Elmo Smith, Roland & Verlie Chaumont, Tony McIntire, Taylor McMahon, Harrison Harmon, Nakia “Nick” Ware

SUNDAY, October 9, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Stacey Beaubouef, Leonard Beaubouef, Tush Strother, D.C. Reed, Jr., Edward Maddox, Jeanette Hornsby, Cathy Marcantel, Health of Quinten Savoie, Darrell, Eloise & Greg Reed, Deonne Manuel, Diane Strother

MONDAY, October 10, 2016

6:30 A.M. Mass – E.J. & Mary Hance

TUESDAY, October 11, 2016

NO Mass

WEDNESDAY, October 12, 2016

6:30 A.M. – D.C. Reed, Jr.

THURSDAY, October 13, 2016

5:30 P.M. MASS – Eve Smith Guilbeau

FRIDAY, October 14, 2016

6:30 A.M. – Claiborne Durio

SATURDAY, October 15, 2016

6:00 P.M. MASS – Hubert Bertrand, J.C. & Bertha Smith, Emily Adams, Sox Gordon, Enola Bellard, Stephun Charles Smith, Joseph Gobert, Aurdlene Guillory, Juliana Ross & Fly.

SUNDAY, October 16, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Margaret Karam, Linda LeJeune, Stacey Beaubouef, Leonard Beaubouef, Tush Strother, Paul Thomas, Sr. & Deceased Fly., Edward Maddox, Dorothy Cloud, Health of Quinten Savoie, Taylor McMahon, Nicholas Cezar

Last Week's Collection **\$5,314.94**

2nd Collection – Bishop's Service Appeal **\$857.18**

2nd Collection This Weekend – World Mission Sunday

PRAYER LIST FOR JULY, AUGUST, & SEPTEMBER

Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Gerry Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Corey Briscoe, Douglas Briscoe, Bernice Bushnell, Helen Bushnell, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, David & Natalie Carrier, Beatrice Cezar Family, Vivian Cole Family, Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Virginia Cottongin, Aiden Darbonne, Carol Deshotel, Jackie Deville, Susan Duplantis, David Fontenot, Donald Fontenot, Justin Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Paul Fontenot, Rodney Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Jeri Garcille, Tim Germany, Rita Gordon, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Daniel Goodly & Fly., Keith Granger, Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Victoria Lynn Guillory, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Shirley Hebert, Jan Horton, Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson. Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Rudolph & Joyce Johnson, Paul LaFleur, Essie Langley, Grayce LaRacca, Tina Morgan Lantier, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joseph, & Adam LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Shirley Manuel, Trista Marler, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Charles Mancil, Joy Mancil, Ray Marcantel, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Sam & Rochelle McMahon, Christina McNutt, Fran & Ronnie Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Janice Moreau, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Nicholas Odum, Gabriella & Martel Papillion, Howard Patin, Devin Pelt, Sally Pitre, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Erin Ramos, Ashton Read, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Sara Reed & Fly., Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Leonard Richard, Don Rider, Ann Rooney, Vera Ross, Rev. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Quentin Savoie, Sister Ann Margaret Savant, Tucker Scimemi, Helen Shreeman, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Margie Smith, Donald Paul Sonnier, Carl Tarver, Celeman Thomas, Maynard Topping, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Zachary Villereal, JoAnn Welch, Robbie Willis, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, 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 – Mrs. Clara Smith

Vocations Cross – Mary Dubriel

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BSA Collection

Our BSA donations are at \$5,862.18. Our quota is \$9,671.00. BSA donations may also be made any time. Simply put BSA on your check or envelope. You may put these in the collection basket or bring them to the rectory.

America Needs Fatima Public Square Rosary

SJoA will host an America Needs Fatima Public Square Prayer Service on Saturday, October 15th from 11 A.M. – 12 P.M., on Main Street on the Farmer's Market Property. The intention is to beg God and Our Lady to save America from today's immorality and secularism. Bring the whole family.

SJoA Trunk or Treat

SJoA youth group will sponsor a “Trunk or Treat” Monday, October 31st from 5 – 7 P.M. Children ages 12 and under are invited to enjoy Safe Trick or Treating with Friends and Neighbors. Trunks are needed. Parishioners are encouraged to bring your decorated vehicle to the church parking lot between 4:00 – 4:30 P.M. to hand out candy and trinkets to the children. You could even dress up to match your decorations. Candy donations can be dropped off at the church office if you choose not to bring your vehicle.

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This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Saturday, October 8th – Youth Movie Night at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Sunday, October 9th – **Big Communion** at 10:00 Mass; Bake Sale after morning Masses; R.C.I.A. at 5:00 P.M.; Ultreya at 5:00 P.M.; Solemn Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M.
- ❖ Monday, October 10th – K.C. Meeting at 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ Tuesday, October 11th – Bazaar Meeting at 5:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, October 12th – ADORATION 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.; CCD and Youth Group beginning at 4:00 P.M.**
- ❖ Thursday, October 6th – Holy League: Holy Hour at 6:30 P.M.

RETURN TO THE LORD

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

How will the *Return to the Lord* Campaign invest in our parish?

Our parishes are the cornerstones and gathering places for our faith community. As part of this campaign, 20% of the funds raised by the parish will be returned for specific needs such as reducing parish debt, completing capital improvement projects or growing parish endowments. In our parish, campaign funds will specifically fund:

- St. Joseph Mission Repairs
- St. Joan of Arc Improvements

Bishop Provost is calling on the entire diocese to make the *Return to the Lord* Capital Campaign. Your support to this capital campaign will impact the future of the Diocese of Lake Charles for years to come. Everyone should have received an invitation from the Bishop to participate in this landmark effort in last week's mail. You can also make your gift online at campaign.lcdiocese.org or by contacting the parish office. To date, our parish has raised \$142,766 or 58% of our goal of \$246,444

SAVE THE DATES

Weekend of November 12th & 13th

SJoA Parish Bazaar – Meal tickets go on sale this weekend!!

“YOU SHALL NOT KILL.” *(Exodus 20:13)*

Ten Non-negotiable Church Teachings on Abortion

By Father Jacob S. Conner

As mentioned the Sunday previous to this, in October we will consider the Church’s teachings regarding the dignity of human life. We begin with abortion.

1. Life begins at conception and must be respected from conception to natural death:

“Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life.” (CCC 2270)

2. In every age, the Church has vigorously promoted life and condemned the evil of abortion:

“You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish.” (*Didache 2,2.*) *The Didache is a first century document and is thought to have been composed by the Twelve Apostles themselves.*

“Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.” (CCC 2271)

“Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law.” (CCC 2271)

3. The Second Vatican Council affirmed the evil of abortion, calling it an “abominable crime”.

“God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life, and men must carry it out in a manner worthy of themselves. Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception: abortion and infanticide are abominable crimes.” (*Gaudium et Spes, 51.3*)

4. Abortion is a mortal sin.

“Formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense.” (CCC 2272)

5. Any Catholic who procures an abortion is automatically excommunicated.

“The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human life.” (CCC 2272)

“A person who procures a completed abortion incurs excommunication *latae sententiae*.” (CIC, 1398)

6. By issuing the penalty of excommunication for procured abortion, the Church affirms the dignity of human life and thereby acts with true mercy.

“The Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy. Rather, she makes clear the gravity of the crime committed, the irreparable harm done to the innocent who is put to death, as well as to the parents and the whole of society.” (CCC 2272)

7. Pope St. John Paul II taught that abortion is one of most serious offenses against human life.

“Among all the crimes which can be committed against life, procured abortion has characteristics making it particularly serious and deplorable.” (St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, 58)

8. At the same time, St. John Paul II made it clear that forgiveness is always possible, even for those guilty of abortion, if they will sincerely repent, go to confession, and live a converted life.

“I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The

Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and His mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child. With the friendly and expert help and advice of other people, and as a result of your own painful experience, you can be among the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life. Through your commitment to life, whether by accepting the birth of other children or by welcoming and caring for those most in need of someone to be close to them, you will become promoters of a new way of looking at human life." (St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, 99)

9. The State must ensure that the rule of law protects life at every stage, especially innocent human life.

"The inalienable rights of the person must be recognized and respected by civil society and the political authority. These human rights depend neither on single individuals nor on parents; nor do they represent a concession made by society and the state; they belong to human nature and are inherent in the person by virtue of the creative act from which the person took his origin. Among such fundamental rights, one should mention in this regard every human being's right to life and physical integrity from the moment of conception until death." (*Donum Vitae*, III)

10. Abortion laws must be opposed.

"Abortion and euthanasia are crimes which no human law can claim to legitimize. There is no obligation in conscience to obey such laws; instead there is a grave and clear obligation to oppose them by conscientious objection." (*Evangelium Vitae*, 73)

The St. Joan of Arc Parish Bazaar

Save the Dates ... it's about one month away!

HERE'S WHAT'S ON TAP:

Saturday, November 12th

- † Gumbo Cook Off ...
 - Teams begin cooking at **10:00 am**
 - Any one (non-parishioners, non-Catholics, etc) may enter
- † Holy Mass at **4:30 pm** (*Get ready for that 30 second homily!*)
- † Live Music after holy Mass
- † BINGO ... begins at **6:00 pm**
- † Gumbo dinners for sale
- † Sweetshop open
- † Country Store will be open
- † Train rides, fun jumps, etc. ... for the kids

Sunday, November 13th

- † BBQ dinners will be go on sale as early as **8:00 am**
- † Sweetshop opened at **8:00 am**, too
- † Holy Mass at **8:30 am** (*another 30 second homily!*)
- † BINGO in Hall after holy Mass
- † Silent auction begins after holy Mass
- † BBQ Dinners will be on sale again after holy Mass
- † Auction begins at **12:30 pm**
- † Cash Raffles during the auction
- † Games, train rides, pony rides, fun jumps, etc. ... for the kids!

Make plans to attend the Bazaar, and bring your family and friends!

What *YOU* can do to help to make the Bazaar a success!

- We need folks to attend planning meetings so that all the bases are covered. (We benefit from each other's creativity, so come, share your ideas!)
- We need folks to volunteer to help with various tasks and to commit to working at the Bazaar. (*Super important!!!*)
- We need folks to donate items for the auction. (Items can be brought to the rectory.)
- We need parishioners to solicit items for the auction from businesses & people.
- We need folks to buy BBQ dinner tickets sooner rather than later ... if at all possible.

2016 BLESSING OF THE CEMETERIES

Saturday, November 5th

- 8:00 am** First Saturday Mass (at SJoA)
- 10:00 am** Bless Soileau Cemetery
- 10:35 am** Bless Manuel Cemetery
- 11:00 am** Bless Duplechain Cemetery
- 11:30 am** Bless Sonnier Cemetery
- 11:45 am** Bless Goodly Cemetery
- 3:00 pm** Bless Oberlin Cemetery

Sunday, November 6th

- 2:30 pm** Bless Oaklin Springs Cemetery
- 3:30 pm** Bless Reed Cemetery
- 3:40 pm** Bless Durio Cemetery
- 4:00 pm** Bless Hammie Duplechain Cemetery
- 6:00 pm** Solemn Holy Hour for the Poor Souls (at SJoA)

* These times are approximate. Please be ready for the prayers a little before or a little after the advertised times.



To Be a Soldier of Christ by Joe Sixpack

I fully expect non-Catholics to be void of any understanding regarding the sacrament of Confirmation, but when my fellow Catholics are at a loss to explain what it is and what it does, I'm just a wee bit perplexed. Unfortunately, that seems to be the case, so we'll focus this week on what is, to my way of thinking, one of the most exciting aspects of Catholicism.

Confirmation is the sacrament instituted by Christ that makes baptized persons "more perfectly bound to the Church and...enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence [baptized persons] are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed."¹

Confirmation increases sanctifying grace, thus making us more holy. It also increases the supernatural virtues and gives us an increase of the gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord). Confirmation also imprints on our soul an indelible spiritual character, and for this reason cannot be repeated. Best of all, it enables us to courageously profess our faith, even under the threat of death. Indeed, without Confirmation there would be far fewer martyrs in the Church's glorious history.

At the time of Emperor Gallienus (AD 264), a Roman soldier named Marinus was about to be promoted to a high rank when some jealous fellow soldiers denounced him as a Christian. The emperor asked him if the charge was true. Marius admitted that he was a Christian so the emperor promised that his promotion would stand if he gave up the Christian faith; otherwise, he must die. He gave Marinus three hours to decide.

Marinus went to the bishop who had only recently baptized him. The bishop then and there laid his hands on Marinus in the sacrament of Confirmation to strengthen him with the Holy Spirit. Afterward he put before him a sword and a book of the Gospels, and said, "Make your choice." Without hesitation Marinus chose the Gospels...then went back to meet his martyrdom and heavenly reward.

This true story aptly demonstrates the power of Confirmation, but many non-Catholics claim it's an invention of the Catholic Church because it's not mentioned in the Bible. Well, actually it is. Although it's not called Confirmation in the Bible, we clearly see it in use by the apostles in the historical books of the New Testament. Christ promised that those who believed in Him would receive the Holy Spirit (Jn 7:37-39; 14:16; 15:26; 16:7). The apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2:4), and St. Peter declared that the Pentecostal gift was intended for all Christians (Acts 2:38). The apostles imparted the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands, a sacramental rite distinct from Baptism, as the Samaritans whom Peter and John confirmed had already been baptized by Philip (Acts 7:14,18). Saints Paul and John make frequent references to Confirmation (cf. 2 Cor. 1:21-22; Eph. 1:13; Tit. 3:5; 1 Jn. 2:20,27). The apostles certainly wouldn't have confirmed the faithful by a distinct rite after Baptism unless they had received it from Christ.

¹ *Lumen Gentium*, 11

The ordinary minister of Confirmation is the local bishop, but priests may also confirm (when duly authorized by the bishop) under certain circumstances. For example, in case of an emergency, such as impending death, or in institutional situations (prisons, hospitals).

Confirmation must be received only by baptized persons and only when in a state of grace. To not be in a state of grace when confirmed is the grave sin of sacrilege.

The sacrament of Confirmation gives us several serious but delightful obligations. Many people believe that once they're confirmed they've done all they need to do and learned all they need to learn. That couldn't be further from the truth. The fact is, we are obliged to study the faith for our confirmation, be confirmed, then *continue our studies for the rest of our lives*. That doesn't mean you have to become some sort of Catholic scholar, but continued study is required. I'm one who prefers to advance my studies by reading books, but others do perfectly well by reading good Catholic periodicals...or even things like *What We Believe...Why We Believe It*.

You may have noticed in recent years that our bishops have been making a strong effort in implementing the New Evangelization called for by St. John Paul II. There is a reason for that. One of the biggest obligations we have as recipients of Confirmation is that we are to evangelize non-Catholics. Prior to Vatican II, evangelization was left largely to the efforts of priests and religious sisters. Vatican II reminded us that *all* Catholics are obligated to evangelize. It was a real eye-opener for the laity, and the bishops are helping even more to open our eyes to that fact.

Evangelization doesn't mean we have to stand on street corners and preach to passersby. Neither does it mean we have to corner folks we know and hammer away at them. Indeed, most folks feel that we should stay away from controversial subjects, and I fully agree. That's why I never discuss organized sports and soap operas, but religion and politics are wide open for discussion. Why? Because these topics deal with elements of truth, and truth is never controversial. Truth can bring out emotion in a lot of people, but that isn't because it is controversial, rather because some people don't want to accept truth.

Blessed Fulton Sheen defined truth as conformity of the mind to reality. In other words, subjective opinion does not determine truth, but rather it is determined by objective reality. When someone says to me that what is true for one person is not necessarily true for another person, I'm tempted to hand him a Bill Engval sign, because that statement doesn't even make any sense.

Let's say you're standing on top of a forty story building and shout, "I don't believe in gravity!". Then you jump off the roof. Your subjective opinion that gravity doesn't work in no way changes the objective reality that it does work, and your mind will conform to reality sometime between the time you jump and the time you land.

Is gravity a controversial subject? No, but I suspect for the guy falling it is indeed an emotional one. So truth isn't controversial, but it can be emotional. Therefore, when talking about religion, the way to keep the conversation calm is to be calm yourself. It has been my experience that when people aren't calm it is because they aren't sure of their subject. The best way to remain calm and collected during such a discussion is to know what you're talking about, and that is done by obeying the Church's conformational mandate to study our faith. Of course, that is the purpose of this column—to know *What We Believe...Why We Believe It*.

Got a question? Go to JoeSixpackAnswers.com.