

# Third Sunday of Easter

## **MASSES & INTENTIONS**

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018**

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Jeremy Rider, Dec. members of Horton & Berlinger Fly., Benton Smith, Frank Mougeot, Adelaide Keamey, Jack Johnson, Ursin & Lillie Carrier, Alice Manuel, Alcide Harmon, Liv. & Dec. members of Semonia Harmon Fly., Lovenia Cooper, Trevor & Brianna West

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018**

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Marvin Banks, Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Helen & Glenn Sonnier, Megan Manuel, Willie Dubriel, Jr., Edward Maddox, Joel & Jude Brabham

### **MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018**

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Bruce Granger, Sr. (**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**)

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018**

**NO MASS**

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018**

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Celeste Laviolette

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018**

**5:30 P.M. MASS** – Lucinda Deshotel

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018**

**6:30 A.M. MASS** – Claiborne Durio

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018**

**4:30 P.M. MASS** – Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Jeremy Rider, Ricky Duplechain, Jr., LeRoy Fontenot, Rodney & Pereda Fontenot, Benton Smith, Herman & Annie Metoyer, Shirley Papillion

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018**

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

**10:00 A.M. MASS** – Marvin Banks, Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Juan A. Lucero Castellano, Edward Maddox, Angelle L. Durio, Linda LeJeune, Raoul Frank, Sr., Gracy Gradney, Roselyn Victorian, Agnes Victorian, Erin Manuel

<b>Last Week's Collection</b>	<b>\$5,395.61</b>
<b>Easter Collection</b>	<b>\$5,839.00</b>
<b>Good Friday – Holy Land</b>	<b>\$196.00</b>
<b>Holy Saturday &amp; Easter Sunday – Seminary (Quota \$521.00)</b>	<b>\$446.00</b>

## **PRAYER LIST**

Amy Bairnsfather, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Jocie Bergeron, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Brandon Bridgwel, Douglas Briscoe, Lincoln & Louise Briscoe, Margaret Briscoe, Ambrose Bushnell, Bernice Bushnell, Steve & Roxane Campbell, Kristin Carlton, Hunter Carmouche, David & Natalie Carrier, Rosabelle Carrier, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, Alene Chapman, Vivian Cole Fly., Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Larry Cormier, Virginia Cottogin, Brittany Courville, Jay Crittle, Aiden Darbonne, Rynree Darbonne, Shaun Darbonne, Jackie Deville, Cindy Dowies, Jabe Doyle, Donna Dunnahoo, Amy Duplechain, Donna "Blackie" Duplechain, Ken Durio, Bryker Fontenot, David Fontenot, Mary O. Fontenot, Paul Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Roy Frank, Zaylen Frank, Tim Germany, Daniel Goodley & Fly., Mary Ann Goodley, Phielomone Goodly, Freddy & Becky Gorman, Bruce Granger, Jr., Jennifer Granger, Rachael Granger, Vergie Granger, Linda Green, Victoria Guillory, Bob Haas, Harrison Harmon, Joseph Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Ester Harmon, Sunni Hurst, Charlene Ireland, John, Shenita & Perella Jackson, Grady Johnson, Joey James, Brayden Johnson, Joyce Johnson, Colt Laborde, Paul LaFleur, Kristen Labauve, Charles Lacey, Rene Lambert, Essie Langley, Grayce LaRacca, Dwain LeBleu, Tina Lantier, Lou, Joseph, & Adam LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Doc Lowe, Benny Manuel, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Pat Manuel & Fly., Louana McGee, Reed McIver, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Ronald Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Elnora Montou, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Andrew

Norwood, Nicholas Odum, Debbie & Phil Owen & Fly., Joey Owen, Martel & Gabriella Papillion, Brittany Pate, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Hannah Popillion, Linda & Don Potier, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ena Prudhomme Fly., Erin Ramos, Renaldo & Kathy Ramos, Ashton Read, Reid Redlich, Ann Reed, Cheryl Reed, Dora Reed, Gary Reed, Lynda Reed, Irving Reed, Sandra Reed, Octavia Reeves Fly., Will Reid, Don Rider, Sharon, Richard, Jonathan, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skylië, Jackson, Martha, Rusty, and Patsy Rider, Janice Rider, Salis Rider, Vera Ross, Fr. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Quentin Savoie, Sister Ann Margaret Savant, Tucker Scimemi, Yvonne Smith, Lonnie Stcy, Aerial Storer, Donald Taylor, Erin Taylor, Lory Taylor, Matt Taylor, Tiffany Taylor, Celeman Thomas, Matthew Truman, Ed & Jane Ulery, Dollyanna Victorian, Kyle Vidrine, Gene Vizena, Joseph Vizena, Linda Voeller, JoAnn Welch, Terri Willilord, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young, Theresa Young

## **Vocations Candle and Cross – Semonia Harmon**

### **Easter Lilies**

You may purchase an Easter lily plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one for \$25 per lily plant.

- In Memory of Douglas R. Daigle & In Honor of Jean Daigle
- In Memory of Russell Duplechain

### **Thank You**

We wish to thank Fr. Conner, the altar boys, the choir, parishioners of SJoA and the ladies altar society for their prayers, love and kindness shown to our family during our time of grief.

**-The Family of Frank Mougeot**

## **6<sup>th</sup> Annual SJoA Bazaar Bass Tournament**

Pre-Tournament and Weigh-In Site: Pirates Cove Marina on Toledo Bend Lake Saturday, May 5, 2018. Meet and pay at 6 am. Entry Fee is \$60 per boat or \$30 per person. Proceeds benefit the Church Bazaar Fund. Tournament Director is Steven Durio: 318-634-7162 (H) or 381-335-6021 (C). See the Flyer in the Church for more information.

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## **This Week @ SJoA**

- ❖ Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – R.C.I.A. at 4:30 P.M.; Bazaar Meeting at 4:30 P.M.; Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M. followed by Compline
- ❖ **Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Adoration 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

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## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **CCD CLOSING CEREMONIES**

Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 11: 00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

### **BACCALAUREATE MASS**

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. Mass

### **CONFIRMATION MASS**

Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at St. Joan of Arc

### **SJoA FEAST DAY**

Reception after the 10:00 A.M. Mass on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **GARAGE SALE / BAKE SALE BENEFITING SJOA BAZAAR**

Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. (Start saving your items now)

### **RELICS OF OUR LORD'S PASSION VISITING SJoA**

Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> (<http://www.relictour.com/relics-of-the-passion>)

### **SJOA BAZAAR**

October 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

## FROM FATHER CONNER

### **Chanted Gospel at the Principal Mass**

For some of the bigger feast days over these past 5 years we've taken to chanting some or all of the readings at our principal Mass in the Ordinary Form. Recently I located a fantastic resource with the Gospels for every Sunday throughout the year with the English text of the Gospels set to the Gregorian modes used for so many centuries. This resource will make it easy for us to have a chanted Gospel each Sunday at our 10:00 am Mass. This Sunday will be the third Sunday in a row that we will chant the Gospel. I fully expect that this will be a regular part of our Sunday observance going forward. ***The chanting of the Gospel each Sunday will be a marvelous blending of both the old and the new: old in the antiquity of the Gregorian mode ... new in that the chant mode has been applied to the English language.*** Since we're adopting this new practice, there is a need for you (the congregation) to learn the responses at the beginning and ending of the Gospel chant. This can be accomplished as easily as listening to the choir as they make the responses. At the same time, however, it will be better if you also have the notated text in front of you, at least for the time being, so that you can conceptualize what you are chanting. We've made print outs of the responses to assist you. Please take one and keep it with you.

### **Pope Francis' New Apostolic Exhortation**

The Vatican released a new Apostolic Exhortation of His Holiness this past Monday (April 9<sup>th</sup>). The title of the document is ***Gaudete et Exsultate*** ("Rejoice and be glad" ... a verse from the Sermon on the Mount – Mt. 5:12). The official English title is "On the Call to Holiness in Today's World". I've linked the Apostolic Exhortation to SJoA's homepage in case you are interested in downloading and reading it, which I encourage each of you to do. The document is 38 printed pages. While it is a little lengthy, it is certainly not impossible to read.

### **RCIA / Adult Education Class – Today's Topics**

We meet at 4:30 pm today. This Sunday we cover topics such as ... the office of the Roman Pontiff, the Church's teaching on the infallibility of the Roman Pontiff, the Precepts of the Church, and maybe the Church as the "Mystical Body of Christ" (chapters 17-22). If you have the book, ***This is the Faith***, you might review these chapters beforehand. If you don't have it, feel free to join us anyway.

### **Sunday Holy Hour & Compline**

In the interest of giving a fuller expression to the Third Commandment, we will continue having holy hours each Sunday evening at **6:00 pm** for the foreseeable future. We'll also continue concluding the holy hour by publically chanting Compline. We use the more ancient expression of Compline from the Roman Breviary. This enables us to chant the office just as it has been for nearly 2,000 years by priests and religious around the world. You don't have to know Latin in order to "get something out of it". You simply need a desire to pray, intentionally unite yourself to the prayers (or, "pay attention"), attempt to learn, be open to this beautiful expression of the Church in prayer, and then just give it time. When these are present in a person's life, the faith flourishes in his soul. I invite your participation each Sunday.

### **Youtube Channel**

Sometime back, and with the help of some tech savvy parishioners, we began loading content on a Youtube channel. The intention of the channel, named ***Ad Deum Productions***, is to evangelize / catechize. (*Ad Deum* is Latin for "Toward God".) Currently the content is limited, but, as time goes by, it will be expanded. Feel free to check in there from time to time for some good, Catholic content.

### **Feast of SJoA Parish Luncheon**

Please mark you calendar and plan on joining us for our annual patronal feast day luncheon. This year the luncheon will be **Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**, immediately after the 10:00 am Mass. Two parishioners will be presented the St. Joan of Arc Award at the luncheon. We will announce award recipients in a few weeks.

## Excerpts from Pope Francis' *Gaudete et Exsultate*

14. To be holy does not require being a bishop, a priest or a religious. We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by labouring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain.

16. This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures. Here is an example: a woman goes shopping, she meets a neighbour and they begin to speak, and the gossip starts. But she says in her heart: "No, I will not speak badly of anyone". This is a step forward in holiness. Later, at home, one of her children wants to talk to her about his hopes and dreams, and even though she is tired, she sits down and listens with patience and love. That is another sacrifice that brings holiness. Later she experiences some anxiety, but recalling the love of the Virgin Mary, she takes her rosary and prays with faith. Yet another path of holiness. Later still, she goes out onto the street, encounters a poor person and stops to say a kind word to him. One more step.

34. Do not be afraid to set your sights higher, to allow yourself to be loved and liberated by God. Do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit. Holiness does not make you less human, since it is an encounter between your weakness and the power of God's grace. For in the words of León Bloy, when all is said and done, "the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint".

63. The Beatitudes are like a Christian's identity card. So if anyone asks: "What must one do to be a good Christian?", the answer is clear. We have to do, each in our own way, what Jesus told us in the Sermon on the Mount. In the Beatitudes, we find a portrait of the Master, which we are called to reflect in our daily lives.

75. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." The world tells us exactly the opposite: entertainment, pleasure, diversion and escape make for the good life. The worldly person ignores problems of sickness or sorrow in the family or all around him; he averts his gaze. The world has no desire to mourn; it would rather disregard painful situations, cover them up or hide them. Much energy is expended on fleeing from situations of suffering in the belief that reality can be concealed. But the cross can never be absent.

81. "The measure you give will be the measure you get back" (6:38). The yardstick we use for understanding and forgiving others will measure the forgiveness we receive. The yardstick

we use for giving will measure what we receive. We should never forget this.

82. Jesus does not say, "Blessed are those who plot revenge". He calls "blessed" those who forgive and do so "seventy times seven" (Mt 18:22). We need to think of ourselves as an army of the forgiven. All of us have been looked upon with divine compassion. If we approach the Lord with sincerity and listen carefully, there may well be times

87. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." This Beatitude makes us think of the many endless situations of war in our world. Yet we ourselves are often a cause of conflict or at least of misunderstanding. For example, I may hear something about someone and I go off and repeat it. I may even embellish it the second time around and keep spreading it... And the more harm it does, the more satisfaction I seem to derive from it. The world of gossip, inhabited by negative and destructive people, does not bring peace. Such people are really the enemies of peace; in no way are they "blessed".

98. If I encounter a person sleeping outdoors on a cold night, I can view him or her as an annoyance, an idler, an obstacle in my path, a troubling sight, a problem for politicians to sort out, or even a piece of refuse cluttering a public space. Or I can respond with faith and charity, and see in this person a human being with a dignity identical to my own, a creature infinitely loved by the Father, an image of God, a brother or sister redeemed by Jesus Christ. That is what it is to be a Christian! Can holiness somehow be understood apart from this lively recognition of the dignity of each human being?

104. We may think that we give glory to God only by our worship and prayer, or simply by following certain ethical norms. It is true that the primacy belongs to our relationship with God, but we cannot forget that the ultimate criterion on which our lives will be judged is what we have done for others. Prayer is most precious, for it nourishes a daily commitment to love. Our worship becomes pleasing to God when we devote ourselves to living generously, and allow God's gift, granted in prayer, to be shown in our concern for our brothers and sisters.

107. Those who really wish to give glory to God by their lives, who truly long to grow in holiness, are called to be single-minded and tenacious in their practice of the works of mercy.

108. Hedonism and consumerism can prove our downfall, for when we are obsessed with our own pleasure, we end up being all too concerned about ourselves and our rights, and we feel a desperate need for free time to enjoy ourselves. We will find it hard to feel and show any real concern for those in need, unless we are able to cultivate a certain simplicity of life, resisting the feverish demands of a consumer society, which leave us impoverished and unsatisfied, anxious to have it all now. Similarly, when we allow ourselves to be caught up in superficial information, instant communication and virtual reality, we can waste precious time and become indifferent to

the suffering flesh of our brothers and sisters. Yet even amid this whirlwind of activity, the Gospel continues to resound, offering us the promise of a different life, a healthier and happier life.

113. Saint Paul bade the Romans not to repay evil for evil (cf. Rom 12:17), not to seek revenge (v. 19), and not to be overcome by evil, but instead to "overcome evil with good" (v. 21). This attitude is not a sign of weakness but of true strength, because God himself "is slow to anger but great in power" (Nah 1:3). The word of God exhorts us to "put away all bitterness and wrath and wrangling and slander, together with all malice" (Eph 4:31).

118. Humility can only take root in the heart through humiliations. Without them, there is no humility or holiness. If you are unable to suffer and offer up a few humiliations, you are not humble and you are not on the path to holiness. The holiness that God bestows on his Church comes through the humiliation of his Son. He is the way. Humiliation makes you resemble Jesus; it is an unavoidable aspect of the imitation of Christ.

119. Here I am not speaking only about stark situations of martyrdom, but about the daily humiliations of those who keep silent to save their families, who prefer to praise others rather than boast about themselves, or who choose the less welcome tasks, at times even choosing to bear an injustice so as to offer it to the Lord.

151. We need to remember that "contemplation of the face of Jesus, died and risen, restores our humanity, even when it has been broken by the troubles of this life or marred by sin. We must not domesticate the power of the face of Christ". So let me ask you: Are there moments when you place yourself quietly in the Lord's presence, when you calmly spend time with him, when you bask in his gaze? Do you let his fire inflame your heart? Unless you let him warm you more and more with his love and tenderness, you will not catch fire. How will you then be able to set the hearts of others on fire by your words and witness? If, gazing on the face of Christ, you feel unable to let yourself be healed and transformed, then enter into the Lord's heart, into his wounds, for that is the abode of divine mercy.

161. Hence, we should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea. This mistake would lead us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable. The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy and vice. When we let down our guard, he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families and our communities. "Like a roaring lion, he prowls around, looking for someone to devour" (1 Pet 5:8).

162. God's word invites us clearly to "stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph 6:11) and to "quench all the flaming darts of the evil one" (Eph 6:16). These expressions are not melodramatic, precisely because our path towards holiness is a constant battle. Those who do not realize this will be prey to failure or mediocrity. For this spiritual combat, we can count

on the powerful weapons that the Lord has given us: faith-filled prayer, meditation on the word of God, the celebration of Mass, Eucharistic adoration, sacramental Reconciliation, works of charity, community life, missionary outreach. If we become careless, the false promises of evil will easily seduce us. As the sainted Cura Brochero observed: "What good is it when Lucifer promises you freedom and showers you with all his benefits, if those benefits are false, deceptive and poisonous?"

164. The path of holiness is a source of peace and joy, given to us by the Spirit. At the same time, it demands that we keep "our lamps lit" (Lk 12:35) and be attentive. "Abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thess 5:22). "Keep awake" (Mt 24:42; Mk 13:35). "Let us not fall asleep" (1 Thess 5:6). Those who think they commit no grievous sins against God's law can fall into a state of dull lethargy. Since they see nothing serious to reproach themselves with, they fail to realize that their spiritual life has gradually turned lukewarm. They end up weakened and corrupted.

165. Spiritual corruption is worse than the fall of a sinner, for it is a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centredness, for "even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light" (2 Cor 11:14). So Solomon ended his days, whereas David, who sinned greatly, was able to make up for disgrace. Jesus warned us against this self-deception that easily leads to corruption. He spoke of a person freed from the devil who, convinced that his life was now in order, ended up being possessed by seven other evil spirits (cf. Lk 11:24-26). Another biblical text puts it bluntly: "The dog turns back to his own vomit" (2 Pet 2:22; cf. Pr 26:11).

167. The gift of discernment has become all the more necessary today, since contemporary life offers immense possibilities for action and distraction, and the world presents all of them as valid and good. All of us, but especially the young, are immersed in a culture of zapping. We can navigate simultaneously on two or more screens and interact at the same time with two or three virtual scenarios. Without the wisdom of discernment, we can easily become prey to every passing trend.

175. When, in God's presence, we examine our life's journey, no areas can be off limits. In all aspects of life we can continue to grow and offer something greater to God, even in those areas we find most difficult. We need, though, to ask the Holy Spirit to liberate us and to expel the fear that makes us ban him from certain parts of our lives. God asks everything of us, yet he also gives everything to us. He does not want to enter our lives to cripple or diminish them, but to bring them to fulfilment.

177. It is my hope that these pages will prove helpful by enabling the whole Church to devote herself anew to promoting the desire for holiness. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us a fervent longing to be saints for God's greater glory, and let us encourage one another in this effort. In this way, we will share a happiness that the world will not be able to take from us.