

Fourth Sunday of Easter

MASSES & INTENTIONS

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, Frank Mougeot, Paul, Celeman, Norbert, Lawrence Thomas, Alphonse Ardoin

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, Clanton “Moose” Frank

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2018

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018

5:30 P.M. MASS – Armore Victorian

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Dwight Gradney

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

6:30 A.M. MASS – Brenda Sonnier Tidwell

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

4:30 P.M. MASS – Veronica Vizena (1st Anniv.), Don Fontenot, Fran Meaux, Jeremy Rider, Cecilia Sonnier, Benton Smith, Roy & Elsie Frank, Steven Cezar & Fly., Samuel & Melinda Papillion, Frank Mougeot, Paul, Celeman, Norbert, Lawrence Thomas, Alphonse Ardoin, Dec. Fly. of Paul & Celeman Thomas

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Marvin Banks (1st Anniv.), Carol Deshotel, Leonard Beaubouef & Sons, Sarah Chapman, Garrett Howard, Leah Mancil, Edward Maddox, Clanton “Moose” Frank, Sarah Reed, Joseph & Gerry Beaubouef, Steve & Maryland Reed

Last Week's Collection	\$3,339.38
Bazaar Income – Wine Tasting Party	\$779.71
2nd Collection Next Weekend – Catholic Home Missions Appeal	

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, Ailene Chapman, Vivian Cole Fly., Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Larry Cormier, Virginia Cottongin, 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 Mclver, Bonnie McNabb, Patricia Mikas, Rita & Billy Miller, Trista Marler, Brandy McCarty, Christina McNutt, Ronald Meaux. Russell Meaux,

Clifford Montou, Glen Morgan, Carolyn Morgan, Andrew Norwood, Nicholas Odum, Debbie & Phil Owen & Fly., Joey Owen, Martel & Gabriella Papillion, Brittany Pate, Howard Patin, Sonya Pickett, Shirley Papillion, 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, Skylie, 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 Stycr, Aerial Storer, Donald Taylor, Erin Taylor, Lory Taylor, Matt Taylor, Tiffany Taylor, 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 – Beaubouef Family

Easter Lilies

If you made a donation for the Easter Lilies you may pick one up on the north side of the church.

Spring Middle School Retreat

The Diocese of L.C. Spring Middle School Retreat for grades 6 – 8 is Friday, May 4th – Sunday, May 6th at Dry Creek Baptist Camp. The cost is \$140.00 which includes registration, lodging, t-shirt & food. Registration forms are at the entrances of the church and are due to the Diocese office by Thursday, April 26th. **Registration is also available online at www.dolcyyouth.org.** Make checks payable to Diocese of L.C. For more information call Mrs. Corinne.

6th 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 22nd – NO R.C.I.A.; Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M. followed by Compline
- ❖ **Friday, April 27th – Adoration 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**
- ❖ **Saturday, April 28th – CCD Closing 11 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

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SAVE THE DATE

BACCALAUREATE MASS

Sunday, May 6th at 10:00 A.M. Mass

CONFIRMATION MASS

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

SJoA FEAST DAY

Reception after the 10:00 A.M. Mass on May 27th.

GARAGE SALE / BAKE SALE BENEFITING SJOA BAZAAR

Saturday, July 7th from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. (You may begin to bring your items to the rectory)

RELICS OF OUR LORD'S PASSION VISITING SJoA

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

SJOA BAZAAR

October 27th & 28th

WHAT WE BELIEVE...WHY WE BELIEVE IT

FROM PRINCE TO PAUPER

Once upon a time (I love stories that start that way), a great king wanted to honor an old childhood friend. He gave his friend a large estate and a princely title. By his royal decree, the king made it so his friend and all his descendants would enjoy the princely title, estate and wealth in perpetuity. Imagine suddenly being created a prince!

But rather than being forever grateful, the new prince and his wife became proud. They tried to establish their own kingdom and rebel against the king. They failed in their rebellion, but the king mercifully spared their lives. However, the king took back all he'd given them and they became mere subjects again.

When the children grew up, they realized they could have had title, land, wealth and the respect of the entire kingdom...if only their parents had obeyed the king. They were sorry for what their parents did and held no ill will toward the king, because they understood the reason for the king's punishment. As children of disobedient parents, they willingly accepted the punishment deserved by their parents.

But the king had a very kind and gentle son who loved the children of the disobedient parents. He loved them so much, in fact, that he went to live with them. The son begged his father to give back to those children what they'd lost. For the sake of his son, the king restored all that the children had lost for their parents' disobedience.

In a nutshell, this story is the salvation history of man. Man in his original state was perfect. God created Adam from dust and breathed life into him. Then He created Eve from Adam's rib. He set them up in Eden—Paradise. Adam and Eve were given dominion over everything—the animals, the land, the elements...*everything*. They were commanded to be fruitful and multiply, which they did and which is how the entire human race came to be.

Paradise was remarkable for Adam and Eve. God gave them many wonderful gifts. The greatest gift God gave Adam and Eve, our first parents, was the gift of sanctifying grace; that is, a sharing in His divine life, which made them holy and gave them a right to heaven.

Among some of the other gifts God gave our first parents were superior knowledge, control of their passions by the use of reason, and freedom from suffering and death. By giving them superior knowledge, our first parents had dominion over all the earth. (With superior knowledge they had no reason to fear the animals of nature, nor anything else in the natural world, because they knew how to subdue it.) By giving them control of their passions by reason, Adam and Eve weren't driven by the desires of the flesh. (Control of the passions by reason means they procreated based on God's command and reason, not lust.) Having freedom from suffering and death means they were intended to live forever—that when they had lived on earth as long as God intended, rather than die He would simply take them to heaven to be with Him.

God only gave them one rule to live by. He told them they couldn't eat the fruit from the tree of good and evil. But they disobeyed God. They still lived on earth, so they lived by faith. Although our first parents were created holy, they still had their God-given free will, which means they could choose between good and evil. When the devil tempted them, they knowingly (with superior knowledge) and willfully (with free will) disobeyed God.

Because of their sin, our first parents lost sanctifying grace and the right to heaven. They lost their other gifts too, becoming inclined to evil and subject to ignorance, suffering and death. This means that

original sin (It isn't called original sin because it was the first sin, but rather because it came to mankind from its origin—origin-al..), which has been passed down to us from Adam, causes us to enter the world, from the moment of our conception, with the absence of sanctifying grace and the right to heaven. Original sin also causes us, as it did Adam and Eve, to be inclined to evil and subject to ignorance, suffering and death.

However, original sin doesn't make our human nature totally corrupt. Our mind can still know truth and our will is still free. Therefore, we can still do good and avoid evil, but with greater effort and God's help.

The remedy for original sin is the King's Son who came to live with us—Jesus Christ, the God-Man. He died on the cross to redeem us from sin and restore sanctifying grace to us. The ordinary means of removing original sin is through Baptism.

The *effects* of original sin, however, continue to stay with us. These effects may be partially remedied by reading Scripture, religious instruction (like reading *What We Believe...Why We Believe It*), prayer, devout reception of the sacraments, voluntary penance, and obedience to God's law...all of them.

Let me urge you to read the Bible every day. You don't have to read a lot. Just spend ten minutes a day in Scripture. I'd recommend you begin with the four Gospels and Acts, which I think you'll find exciting, then move on to other books. I always recommend the Book of Tobit in the Old Testament. This little known book would make a great modern movie!

Religious instruction can be done from reading *What We Believe...Why We Believe It*, but you really should go further. If your parish doesn't have anything in place for continuing adult education, there are lots of good Catholic book publishers like Ignatius Press and TAN Books. At this writing, I'm developing a course you'll be able to get on JoeSixpackAnswers.com.

When it comes to prayer, develop a daily regimen of prayer. Begin with at least some morning prayers (I always start with the Fatima daily offering) and a few prayers throughout the day, ending with an examination of conscience and act of contrition before bed time. You can gradually advance into a deep conversation with God on a daily basis.

When it comes to devout reception of the sacraments, you might need to make some adjustments there. *Devout* reception of the sacraments would be to do as the Church recommends. It's disturbing to see nearly everyone go to Communion at Mass, but hardly anyone taking advantage of Confession. The Church recommends that we go to Communion once a week, but says it's better to go every day. She also recommends that we go to Confession at least once a month, but says it's better to go once a week. Combine doing the two as the Church suggests and you'll discover benefits that can't be put into words.

Also remember to do penance on your own. When you want a cup of coffee, for example, put off having that cup for five minutes. Then tell God you're offering up that legitimate desire as a gift to Him in reparation for your own sins and the sins of the world. The effect this has on your thinking, your soul and your relationship with God is amazing. This is *What We Believe...Why We Believe It*. Got a question? Ask them at JoeSixpackAnswers.com