

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## MASSES & INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, March 5, 2016

8:00 A.M. MASS – Sr. Zélie Thérèse of the Redeemer

4:30 P.M. MASS – Simon, Leora, & Freddie Sonnier, Pereda Fontenot, Michael Granger, Bish LeJeune, Jeremy Rider, Elvis, Carol & Laura Gradney, Keith LeJeune, Armosa Victorian, Joseph Fontenot, Houston & Gladys Ardoin, Nakia (Nick) Ware, Henry L., Lula & Betty Fontenot

### SUNDAY, March 6, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Dallas & Billy Bertrand, Sr., James Yeagley, Leonard Beaubouef, Stacey Beaubouef, Wesley, Addison & Jordy Pitre

### MONDAY, March 7, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – E.J. & Mary Hance

### TUESDAY, March 8, 2016

5:30 P.M. MASS – Jack Johnson

### WEDNESDAY, March 9, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Marcelis Ross

### THURSDAY, March 10, 2016

5:30 P.M. MASS – Fr. P.J. Jansen

### FRIDAY, March 11, 2016

5:30 P.M. MASS – Fr. Barnard Neyboers

### SATURDAY, March 12, 2016

6:00 P.M. MASS – Claiborne Durio, Michael Granger, Jeremy Rider, Evelyn Manuel, Sidney McGee, Sox Gordon, George & Clara Schneider, Jason, Roselyn & James Victorian, Keith LeJeune

### SUNDAY, March 13, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – Leonard Beaubouef, Stacey Beaubouef, Darrell, Eloise & Greg Reed, Paul Thomas, Sr. & deceased Family members, Wesley, Addison & Jordy Pitre

## Last Week's Collection

\$3,763.15

## PRAYER LIST FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH

Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Gerry Beaubouef, Enola Bellard, Jerome, John & Josie Bergeron, Joann Bertrand, Michael Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Renate Bourque, Virginia Bowles, Luke Burnham, Bertha Ceaser, Norris Chapman, Jr., Charles Chaumont, Jerry Chaumont, Florence Comeaux, Pam Dequant, Carol Deshotel, Marla Duplechain, Poochie Duplechain, David Fontenot, Mary Ophelia Fontenot, Rodney Fontenot, Verlis Fontenot, Elsie & Cotrell Foster, Roy Franks, Tim Germany, Cathy Deshotel Guillory, Clifford Guillory, Terrence Guillory, Sybil Haas, Harrison Harmon, Mildred Harmon, Esther Harmon, Joseph Harmon, John, Perella & Shenita Jackson, Brayden Johnson, Essie Langley, Tina Morgan-Lantier, Keith LeJeune, Lou, Joe, Adam and Mary LeJeune, Mitch LeJeune, Willie Mae LeJeune, Joy Mancil, Kevin Manuel, LuLu Manuel & Fly., Marlin Manuel, Pat Manuel and Fly., Trista Marler, Charles Mancil, Fran & Ronnie Meaux, Russell Meaux, Beau Montou, Kathy Montou, Gloria Morris, Carolyn Morgon, Glenn Morgan, Marvin Morgan, Odrey & Dorothy Montou, Charles Mosley, Nicholas Odum, Devin Pelt, Mary Mott Peterson, Sally Pitre, Linda & Don Portie, Sandy Pousson, Jimmy Prudhomme, Ashton Read, D. C. Reed, Lynda Reed, Ervin Reed, Terry Reeves, Leonard Richard, Johnathan, Christina, Hayley, Jayden, Ryleigh, Skylei, Richard, Sharon, Martha, Rusty, Patsy, Matt, & Josh Rider, Rev. Fred Russi, Evelyn Sandell, Tina Sapienza, Bill Scheffler, Tucker Scimemi, Helen Shreeman, Hazel Slate, Donald Paul Sonnier, Kermit Sonnier, Kolton Squier, Leah Squier, Suzanne Stringer, Devin Swarhout, Carl Tarver, Celeman Thomas, Maynard Topping, Matthew Truman, Danika Treweek, Ticky Family, Roselyn Victorian, Zachary Villereal, Gene Vizena, Kena Wilson, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young, Laura Zaidan

## 2016 Cursillo Dates

### Men

April 7 – 10  
May 19 – 22  
June 21 – 24  
September 8 – 11

### Women

March 10 – 13  
April 28 – May 1  
June 9 – 12  
August 11 – 14  
September 29 – Oct. 2

Contact Corinne at the Rectory if you are interested in making a Cursillo.

## Leading the Rosary before Mass this Weekend

4:30 P.M. – Haddie Goodly 7:30 A.M. – Lucy Brandon  
10:00 A.M. – Deacon Norris Chapman

Vocations Candle – Dorothy Berry & Family  
(Call the rectory to sponsor the green vocations candle)

Vocations Cross – Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Brandon

## Anticipated Mass Time Change

Beginning next Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, the Anticipated Mass reverts back to 6:00 P.M.

## Diocese of Lake Charles Youth Conference (DYC)

“Cast your Net” Diocesan Youth Conference will be held April 8 – 10 at the Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza. SJoA youth in grades 8 – 12 are invited to attend. Adults are welcome to attend as chaperones. Registration forms were given to youth members and are due by Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Call Ms. Corinne for more information. If you would like to help a teen attend the conference please call or go by the rectory and talk to Ms. Corinne. The total cost for a teen to attend the conference is \$232.50. This includes conference fees, administration fees, 4 meals, t-shirt, supplies and hotel for 2 nights.

## St. Vincent de Paul Winter Sale Extravaganza

St. Vincent de Paul will have a winter sale on the following days and times. Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 and 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.; Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 10:30 A.M. and Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 5:00. All winter clothes will be \$.50 each.

## Fairview High School Pre-Kindergarten Registration 2016-2017

Updated Testing and registration dates for Fairview High School's 2016-2017 school year will take place March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Children must be 4 years old by September 30, 2016, and must live in the Fairview School District. Call the school office to schedule a testing appointment at 381-634-5354 or 337-328-8714.

## This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> – **Mercy Monday:** Year of Mercy and the ABC's of Divine Mercy – Fr. Nathan Long @ 6:00 P.M. in the church hall.
- ❖ Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – Men's Holy League: Men's Prayer Group @ 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> - Adoration: 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.**
- ❖ Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – Latin Class after 5:30 P.M. Mass
- ❖ Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Stations of the Cross after 5:30 P.M. Mass
- ❖ Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Spiritual Pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles. See flyer in the church and website for details.

## SAVE THE DATES

### First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00 Mass.

### High School Confirmation

Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 P.M. at SJoA.

### EWTN Pilgrimage

Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Reserve your spot now by calling the Rectory.

### External Observance of the Feast Day of SJoA

Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 Mass. A reception will follow in the Church Hall.

## FROM FATHER CONNER

### **The Prayers of the Priest during Confession**

As I am consistent in asking you to make a regular confession, it occurred to me that I should produce, for your reflection, the prayers which the Priest makes for the penitent during a confession. This Sunday I will provide the prayers for the Sacrament of Penance in the *Ordinary* Form.

Next Sunday I will provide them for the *Extraordinary* Form. In the Ordinary Form, there are essentially two prayers made by the Priest. The first is the prayer of:

### **Absolution**

God, the Father of mercies, through the death and the resurrection of His Son has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace. And I absolve you from your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

The prayer of *absolution* must be said without any alteration. While a Priest could abbreviate the prayer *in the case of an emergency* (e.g., the penitent is *imminently* dying), the Priest is not free to *ad lib* this prayer or make up a new one. He must say the prayer of absolution exactly as it is prescribed by the Church. When absolution is abbreviated, it begins with the words, "I absolve you . . ." and ends with "of the Holy Spirit." As you already know, I'm sure, I begin the prayer of absolution while you are reciting your Act of Contrition. In so doing, this allows for me to begin the last sentence of the absolution ("And I absolve you . . .") as you are completing the Act of Contrition.

The second prayer for confession in the Ordinary Form is the prayer of:

### **Commendation**

May the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the merits of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all the saints, whatever good you do and evil you endure be cause for the remission of your sins, the increase of grace, and the reward of everlasting life. Amen.

The prayer of *commendation* is, strictly speaking, not required. Priests are, however, encouraged to pray it for the penitent. In the years that I have been a Priest, I have, admittedly, been inconsistent in praying the prayer of commendation. As we were approaching holy Lent this year, and after making a good examination of conscience on some aspects of my priestly life and ministry, I made the resolution to no longer omit this beautiful prayer. So, if you wondered what that "new" prayer is I have been "adding" to confession as of late, well . . . now the mystery is solved.

Before concluding this little reflection on confession in the Ordinary Form, I think it's important for you to know that you may request to be absolved by me in Latin in the Ordinary Form of confession. Every Sacrament in the Ordinary Form comes to us first in Latin (as Latin is the normative text of *every* sacraments) and then is translated into the vernacular (i.e., the spoken language of the people). If you are ever interested in receiving absolution in Latin (in the Ordinary Form), all you have to do is ask as you enter the confessional. I am more than happy to oblige. FYI: To be absolved in Latin changes nothing for the penitent, as "Amen" is pronounced identically in English and in Latin!

I hope you will consider spending some time reflecting on the truths enshrined in these two beautiful prayers of the Sacrament of Penance in the Ordinary Form. Next week we'll have a look at the prayers of the Sacrament of Penance in the *Extraordinary* Form.

### **On Punching People in the Mouth**

That subtitle likely got your attention. I suppose that was the point. After one of the weekend Masses this past Sunday, a parishioner came to me after the crowds cleared away outside the church. He thanked me for giving the homily on keeping the Lord's Name holy. He felt that just about everyone, himself included, benefited from hearing it. He described it as a "punch in the mouth." On a separate occasion, another parishioner told me, again approving of the sermon, that I probably "stepped on a lot of toes." After reflecting on these little exchanges, I decided to offer a few thoughts on how I approach homilies such as the one I gave last Sunday.

First I want to say that I do not intend to "punch" anyone in the mouth when I preach a homily (well, no one other than the Devil). While I would describe the homily we are discussing as "direct," I perceived it as a pious exhortation, deeply rooted in Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Saints, to love the holiness of the good God's Name, and a challenge to respect Its awesome power. Certainly there was seriousness to the homily, but any conscientious person knows that in the intimate things pertaining to the All-Holy God it cannot be otherwise.

Secondly, I wish to communicate that I strive to fulfill my priestly duty of preaching primarily as a loving father. The words of Our Lord to His Apostles serve as a foundation for me: "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves" (Luke 22:25-26). Please be assured that I address every word I say from the pulpit to myself before I offer it for your consideration, for I too need conversion.

Thirdly, my intention is to inspire love of God and neighbor. When it comes to preaching, a basic principle of the Dominican Order is that the preacher of the Word must himself be filled with charity. Love (of God, of his audience) is far more important than high learning or rhetorical eloquence or any other talent. St. John Vianney demonstrated the truthfulness of this. When speaking, he sometimes fumbled his words, but so great was supernatural charity in his priestly soul that people swore an angel of God was speaking to them through him. It was not uncommon for people to leave his Masses in tears, having been thoroughly converted from their sinfulness. (And, let me tell you, the Cure of Ars was known to give very "direct" homilies – and give them often.) While I am not comparable to St. John Vianney in any way other than being a Catholic Priest, I do ask the Lord for the grace to love Him perfectly and to love you that way too. I know. I am a long way from both, but I do hope that God will answer my prayers. And I believe He will grant it one day. It'll just take quite a bit more time, prayer, penance, and suffering – but those will be worth it in my estimation.

Additionally, I want you to know that, while my holiness does not remotely mirror St. John Vianney's, he and I do share the same objective. He wanted to bring the parishioners of Ars to Heaven and I want to help bring the parishioners of SJoA to Heaven. This is in my heart when I pray, or when I prepare to preach, teach, visit, plan, etc. I hope you can be confident that I have this desire, and that I love you as a father does his children. As any man trying to be a good father, I strive to give you my best. Granted, while my best is not all that great, it is sincere, and it's rooted in a genuine desire for a high level of supernatural charity.

Finally, I want to thank those two parishioners who offered their feedback. My gratitude is not based on their approval of what I said or that I said it in a particular manner. Certainly a Priest is like any other human being in that he is inclined to be pleased when another praises him. My gratitude does not lie in that here. Rather, it is founded on these parishioners trusting me enough to share that they felt the homily effectively touched upon an important subject relevant to the struggles of many. Knowing things like this helps me grow in effective preaching – and that is good for us all.