

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

MASSES & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, November 19, 2016

4:30 P.M. MASS – Claiborne Durio, Hubert & Doris Ryder, Hubert Bertrand, J.C. & Bertha Smith, Emily Adams, Lee Regal

SUNDAY, November 20, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS Roland & Verlie Chaumont, D.C. Reed, Jr., Sox Gordon, Edward Maddox, Stacey & Leonard Beaubouef, Tush Strother, Alee & Colonial Gobert, Joseph Gobert, Alvin Briscoe, Bob & Ruby Cormier, Velma Richard, Fr. Thomas Panthalani

MONDAY, November 21, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Joseph Karam

TUESDAY, November 22, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Eve Smith Guilbeau

WEDNESDAY, November 23, 2016

6:30 A.M. MASS – Manuela Travieo Rodriguez

THURSDAY, November 24, 2016 – Thanksgiving Day

8:00 A.M. MASS – Angelle L. Durio

FRIDAY, November 25, 2016

NO MASS

SATURDAY, November 26, 2016

4:30 P.M. MASS – Cecilia Sonnier, Andrus Joseph Frlot, Ella Mae Frlot, Joseph Guillory & Mildred P. Guillory, Florence S. Guillory, Francis S. Guillory, Hosey Joseph Guillory, Gene & Velma Brakel, LeRoy Fontenot, Pereda Fontenot, Savannah & Curley Gradney, Sr.,

SUNDAY, November 27, 2016

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

10:00 A.M. MASS – D.C. Reed, Jr., Edward Maddox, Stacey & Leonard Beaubouef, Tush Strother, Alee & Colonial Gobert, Joseph Gobert

Last Week's Collection

\$2,700.65

PRAYER LIST FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

Marvin Banks, Phil Beard, Charles Beaubouef, Gerry Beaubouef, Quintan Bell, Joan Bertrand, Alvin & Sonja Billodeaux, Bruce & Diana Brakel, Corey Briscoe, Douglas Briscoe, Luke Burnham, Bernice Bushnell, Helen Bushnell, Kristin Carlton, Linda Beaubouef Cazes, David & Natalie Carrier, Beatrice Cezar Family, Vivian Cole Family, Florence Comeaux, Richard Cooper, Virginia Cottongin, Aiden Darbonne, Carol Deshotel, Jackie Deville, 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, Dwain LeBleu, 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 McMahan, Christina McNutt, Fran & Ronnie Meaux, Russell Meaux, Clifford Montou, Kara Montou, 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, Michael Roger, 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, Conrad Trombatore, Matthew Truman, Dollyanna Victorian, Zachary Villereal, Linda Voeller, JoAnn Welch, Robbie Willis, Odelia & Ernest Wilson, Nicole Young

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 – Mrs. Phielomone Goodly

Vocations Cross – Todd & Kellie Manuel

Sponsors are needed for the Vocations Candle - \$5 per candle

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Glad Tidings Program

Sunday, November 27, 2016 – **First Sunday of Advent:** Bishop Glen John Provost reads the Gospel of the day from St. Matthew (24:37-44) and speaks on the importance of the scripture.

Fifth Annual Bishop's Gala

Bishop Glen John Provost invites you to the 5th Annual Bishop's Gala Saturday, December 10, 2016, in the Lake Charles Civic Center. Tickets are \$125 each and may be purchased in the church office until Monday, November 28th.

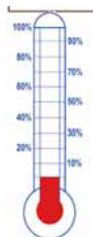
Cursillo Bookstore Holiday Hours

The Cursillo Bookstore will be open every Saturday beginning the Saturday after Thanksgiving for 4 weeks from 9 am – 3 pm.

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This Week @ SJoA

- ❖ Sunday, November 20th – Christ the King Eucharistic Procession following 10:00 A.M. Mass
- ❖ Sunday, November 20th – RCIA at 5:00 P.M.
- ❖ **Wednesday, Nov. 23rd – NO ADORATION; NO CCD or Youth Group.**
- ❖ **Thursday, November 24th – Thanksgiving Day Mass at 8:00 A.M.; Office Closed; NO Holy League**
- ❖ **Friday, November 25th – NO MASS**



RETURN TO THE LORD **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

COMMITMENT WEEKEND

This weekend we will be holding our Commitment Weekend for the *Return to the Lord* Capital Campaign. This is the time to wrap up formal campaign activities for our parish. It is a great opportunity for those who have not yet made a gift to leave their mark, and support this important effort. Our goal is to ask everyone to consider a sacrificial gift and to have 100% parish participation. To date, we have 84 families who have supported our campaign through generous and sacrificial gifts. We invite all families to participate in this effort to benefit both St. Joan of Arc and the diocese. Thank you to everyone who has made their sacrifice, and for those who will make a sacrifice today. To date our parish has raised **\$195,018** or **79%** of our goal of **\$246,444**.

FROM FATHER CONNER

Congratulations Gabriella Sharp

Hearty congratulations to Miss Gabriella “Gabby” Sharp, a 7th grader who was baptized, confirmed, and received her first Holy Communion this Sunday. How fitting that she became a Christian (by Holy Baptism) on the liturgical Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe! All of SJoA congratulate the entire Sharp family! We share your joy and we thank God for the graces He has showered down on each of you, but especially on this day, dear Gabby! May her life continue to be one of constant and continual growth in holiness, Christian joy, and intimacy with God!

More on Christian Funerals

Two Sundays previous, the Priests of the Diocese offered reflections on the nature of Christian funerals. Briefly, let’s revisit the points I made on that occasion:

- A Christian funeral is **not** a celebration of the deceased’s life. Christians worship God at their prayer services (especially holy Mass). They do not make an idol of other human beings.
- At the same time, thanking God for the deceased’s life is appropriate, but the focus at a Christian funeral should never be rooted in the accomplishments of the deceased. After all, does not the Good Book teach us that “all good gifts” come from God (cf. James 1:17)? *God*, then, is to be thanked, praised, adored, and implored. This leads to the next point:
- The primary purpose of a Christian funeral is to offer spiritual support for the deceased. We are sinners, all of us. We need God’s grace in this life. The faithful departed need God’s mercy in the next if they have not sufficiently atoned for their sins, and let’s face it, do any of us *really* do a sufficient amount of penance for our sins? We need to be honest about this.
- Black vestments motivate us to pray for the deceased. White vestments, on the other hand, are a sign of celebration and festivity. As such, we can see the reasonableness of black vestments at a Christian funeral. (See more on this below.)

At the Masses *this* Sunday, I will address the sin of *scandal*. In so doing, this will enable us to understand why the Church must refuse a Christian funeral to a baptized person under certain (but very limited) circumstances. Here is what the *Code of Canon Law* says about denying a Christian funeral:

Can. 1184 §1. Unless they gave some signs of repentance before death, the following **must** be deprived of ecclesiastical funerals:

1. notorious apostates, heretics, and schismatics;
2. those who chose the cremation of their bodies for reasons contrary to Christian faith;
3. other manifest sinners who cannot be granted ecclesiastical funerals without public scandal of the faithful.

At this point, I will include the teachings of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on “scandal.” For context, please note that scandal is found in the *Catechism*’s treatment of the Fifth Commandment: “You shall not kill.” This should tell us that scandal is *deadly*. If taken lightly, scandal will kill one’s faith.

CCC 2284 Scandal is an attitude or behavior which leads another to do evil. The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbor’s tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission another is deliberately led into a grave offense.

CCC 2285 Scandal takes on a particular gravity by reason of the authority of those who cause it or the weakness of those who are scandalized. It prompted Our Lord to utter this curse: “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him

to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.” [Matthew 18:6; cf., 1 Corinthians 8:10-13] Scandal is grave when given by those who by nature or office are obliged to teach and educate others. Jesus reproaches the scribes and Pharisees on this account: He likens them to wolves in sheep’s clothing. [cf., Matthew 7:15]

CCC 2286 Scandal can be provoked by laws or institutions, by fashion or opinion. Therefore, they are guilty of scandal who establish laws or social structures leading to the decline of morals and the corruption of religious practice, or to “social conditions that, intentionally or not, make Christian conduct and obedience to the Commandments difficult and practically impossible.” [cf., Pope Pius XII, *Discourse, June 1, 1941*] This is also true of business leaders who make rules encouraging fraud, teachers who provoke their children to anger, [cf., Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21] or manipulators of public opinion who turn it away from moral values.

CCC 2287 Anyone who uses the power at his disposal in such a way that it leads others to do wrong becomes guilty of scandal and responsible for the evil that he has directly or indirectly encouraged. “Temptations to sin are sure to come; but woe to him by whom they come!” [Luke 17:1]

Good articles on www.sjoaoberlin.com about funerals

I’ve loaded up two more articles on our website relating to Christian funerals.

One article is from Msgr. Charles Pope. The title of it is: “*A Funeral Sermon designed to teach about the Last Things and inspire prayer.*” Some of its highlights:

- A Christian funeral is not a celebration of the deceased’s life.
- Christians come to a funeral to lend spiritual support to the deceased and seek to assist with atoning for the sins he or she committed. (This is true charity.)
- Naturally, those attending a funeral should consider their own death – which is inescapable.
- Msgr. Pope offers a funeral sermon (also referred to as a “homily” sometimes) designed to lead people to reflect upon the Four Last Things: death, judgment, heaven, and hell.

The other article is written by Father Ryan Erlenbush: “*Why Priests ought to wear black vestments at funerals and All Souls Day.*”

- You will notice that there is no question mark at the end of the article title, and for good reason.
- Father Erlenbush makes a *very* strong case for black vestments at funerals and on All Souls Day. I, for one, wholeheartedly agree with him that black vestments (as opposed to white and violet) should be worn by the clergy at funerals and on All Souls Day.
- Among other points made in Father Erlenbush’s article are these:
- Black is one of the most ancient colors used in the Sacred Liturgy (Mass).
- The color black in most places throughout the world is a sign of mourning.
- The family of the deceased wear black. They drape the door of their homes in black. When vested in black vestments, the sacred ministers show themselves to be in union with the deceased’s family in their liturgical attire. In this, the sacred ministers also give expression to the shared sorrow of the entire Church universal. (Doesn’t St. Paul say that charity is one? So do black vestments! See Ephesians 4:1-6.)
- In addition to being the color of mourning, black vestments also move us to *pray for the deceased*, whereas white has a sense of festivity (e.g., Christmas, Easter, All Saints) and violet connotes penance (e.g., Advent & Lent). As in life, so also in death, we need prayer. Black reminds us of this without using a single word.