



RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Louisiana law requires that all children 16 years of age and younger wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD while underway on a vessel less than 26 feet long. The PFD must be fastened and of the proper size for the child. There must be enough PFDs in the boat for each participant.
2. All persons on board a motorboat less than 16 feet which is being propelled by a hand tiller outboard motor are required to wear a USCG approved Type I, II, III or V PFD while the motorboat is underway.
A motorboat less than 26 feet with a hand tiller outboard motor in excess of 10 horsepower designed to have or having an engine cut-off switch must have the engine cut-off switch link attached to the operator, the operator's clothing, or the operator's PFD, if worn, while the motor is running and the vessel is underway.
3. All mechanically propelled vessels less than 26 feet must carry one B-1 U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher if any one or more of the following conditions exist:
 - Inboard engines.
 - Closed compartments and compartments under seats where portable fuel tanks may be stored.
 - Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation materials.
 - Closed living spaces.
 - Closed stowage compartments in which combustible or flammable materials are stored.
 - Permanently installed fuel tanks. Fuel tanks secured so they cannot be moved in case of fire or other emergency are considered permanently installed. There are no gallon capacity limits to determine if the tank is portable. If the weight of a fuel tank is such that persons on board cannot move it, the Coast Guard considers it permanently installed.

Mechanically propelled vessels 26 feet to less than 40 feet must carry two B-1 U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers. Vessels over 65 feet must comply with Federal Standards.
4. Every motorboat or vessel of Class 1, 2, or 3, shall be provided with an efficient whistle or other sound-producing mechanical appliance.
5. Boats should be under nine (9) feet off the water.
6. Boats should be properly registered and meet LDWF regulations.
7. Each boat must be equipped with a rope and anchor.
8. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Ice chests with water, soft/sport drinks, sandwiches and snacks are encouraged and can be consumed along the way as necessary, taking care not to consume snacks unnecessarily during the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
9. The procession is a sacred event, behavior and dress should be like that of a Church event. No shorts, halter tops, or tank tops.
10. No one is to pass the front barge carrying the Blessed Sacrament.
11. At the stops for Rosary and Benediction, boaters in the procession are to anchor their boats, only the priest and servers on the Eucharistic Barge will disembark.
12. There will be restroom opportunities between each of the Church stops. If someone in your boat needs to use the restroom, fall out of procession at the stop and then catch up with the procession and take the tail spot just before the Boat of the Assumption.
13. If your boat is not equipped with a FM radio, bring a battery powered FM radio to receive the transmission of the Rosary and prayers on the designated station from the lead barge with the Blessed Sacrament.
14. No music or listening to the radio allowed, only the designated station is allowed.
15. Only the designated restroom spots are to be used.
16. Keep 50 feet of space between you and the boat in front of you; do not get too close, but do not fall too far behind.



17. Boat should be attended by at least one person at all times. For example, if you wish to attend Mass in Abbeville, the boat must be in the water prior to the Mass and an operator must remain with the boat while others in the party attend Mass.
18. 121 boats will be allowed. Only boats that have registered will be allowed to participate in the procession. Please try to avoid backing out of the procession once registering. If you need to cancel your registration, please do so by email in advance so that the next party on the list can be admitted in your place.
19. Each boat will be assigned a number and a designated parish that will need to be placed in a visible location on your boat. This will be the order that boats will process until boats have to fall out of line for some reason. Upon rejoining the procession, take up the rear spot just before the Boat of the Assumption.
20. Each boat will be given an Acadian flag upon arrival at the boat launch that will need to be affixed to the boat.
21. All boats departing from Abbeville should begin putting in at the boat launch no later than 6 am.
22. All boats should be in the bayou and ready to proceed at least 30 minutes prior to departure. All boats must be in the water and idle to the tie off near the main bridge in Abbeville across from the Church. All boats must put in at the Abbeville boat launch but may discontinue at any spot along the way.
23. Participants are encouraged to decorate their boats with the names of their respective Church Parishes, Organizations, Family Names or Crests.
24. Each boat registree must sign a liability waiver in order to participate. The person registering the boat assumes responsibility for all members in his/her company. He/she must also provide life vests for all boat's company as well as food and water needed. The boat registree must provide liability waivers for each of the members of his/her company.



REGISTRATION FORM

BOAT

SIZE _____ MAKE _____ CAPACITY _____

REGISTRATION NUMBER _____ NUMBER IN PARTY _____

NAME OF BOAT _____

PARISH/ORGANIZATION/FAMILY REPRESENTING _____

PEOPLE

NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY _____

CELL PHONE OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

PARTICIPANT _____

If you wish to make a tax deductible contribution to offset the costs of this project, please send your contribution made payable to:

**Community Foundation of Acadiana
1035 Camellia Blvd, Suite 100
Lafayette, LA 70508
Memo – Fete-Dieu du Teche**

**WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABILITY
READ BEFORE SIGNING**



In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Fete-Dieu du Teche, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

I have received and read a copy of the rules and regulations.

I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the Releasees or other and assume full responsibility for my participation; and I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation.

I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release, protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless, Fete-Dieu du Teche, Inc.; Fr. Michael Champagne; Community of Jesus Crucified, the Diocese of Lafayette, and Community Foundation of Acadiana, their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, all owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), with respect to any and all claims, demands, suits or causes of action of every kind and character for damages to persons and/or property (including, but not limited to, claims or causes of action for bodily injury or death) in connection with my participation in the Fete-Dieu du Vermilion, even if said claims or causes of action arise solely or partially from the fault, negligence, or strict liability attributable to Releasees, or unseaworthiness of any vessel or otherwise.

I also understand that photographs & videos taken by Fete-Dieu du Vermilion volunteers during the course of the event may occasionally be posted to the web, used in printed articles or for promotion of any future events. I will notify Fete-Dieu du Teche, LLC in writing if I want to elect out of any photograph or video releasing.

I have read this release of liability, indemnity and assumption of risk agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it, and sign freely and voluntarily without any inducement.

_____	Participant Address
Participant Name (Please Print)	_____
_____	_____
Participant Signature	_____
_____	_____
Date	

For Participants Under the Age of 18 on the Day of the Event

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above, of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, even if arising from the negligence of the Releasees, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)	Parent/Guardian Signature