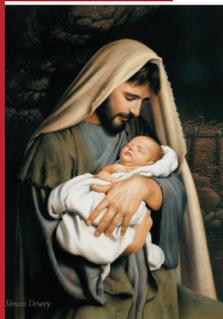




LOVE is a Verb. Without action it is merely a WORD.

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH
October 31, 2021

The Pastor Jots It Down



Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Rosalie and St. John Bosco Parishes and School,

Happy All Saints Weekend!

As we celebrate all those who have gone before us and are enjoying eternal bliss in heaven, we are reminded that our destiny – God’s desire for us is to be with Him, with our Blessed Mother, and all the angels and saints in heaven.



God with His great love is pulling for us to do what is right and just; Satan with his great misery is pulling us in the opposite direction to disregard what is good for us to attain eternal life. In other words, Satan calls us to sin, whereas God calls us to grow in holiness.

In this tug of war, we are in the driver’s seat. We can choose a life of goodness which leads to Heaven. Or we can chose a life of sin which leads to hell.

In this journey, because of original sin, we need all the help we can get to stay on track to reach Heaven.



That’s why God gave us the Ten Commandments, The Beatitudes, The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, the Sacraments, and most importantly, the gift of Jesus and the example of his life.

There are myriads of souls who have gone before us who have walked in the pathways given to assist us on our journey to Heaven.

This weekend, we celebrate both those who are canonized saints and all those who lead holy lives while on earth and have merited heaven.



This weekend let us share the memory of family members, who lead holy and blessed lives. Let us also share stories of our favorite saints: those for whom we were named, those whom we chose for our patrons, those who are the patrons of our work, and those who are patrons of our special needs. It is well that we not only share their stories, but also get to know more about their lives by reading their biographies.

The saints in Heaven are happy. They want us to happy as well, both here on earth and together with them in Heaven. Thus, it’s important for us to pray for their intercession to help us live holy lives here on earth as well as to assist us in our times of difficulty.



God loves you!

F. Mark

The Greatest Commandment

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

The second is this: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



One of the teachers of the _____ came and heard them debating. Noticing that _____ had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the _____, which is the most _____?”

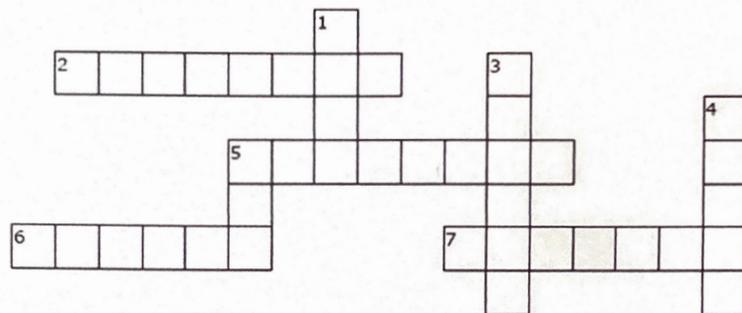
“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. _____ the Lord your God with all your _____.’ The second is this: ‘Love your _____ as _____.’ There is no commandment _____ than these.”

commandments	heart	Jesus	Love	strength
greater	important	law	neighbor	yourself

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 12:28-34



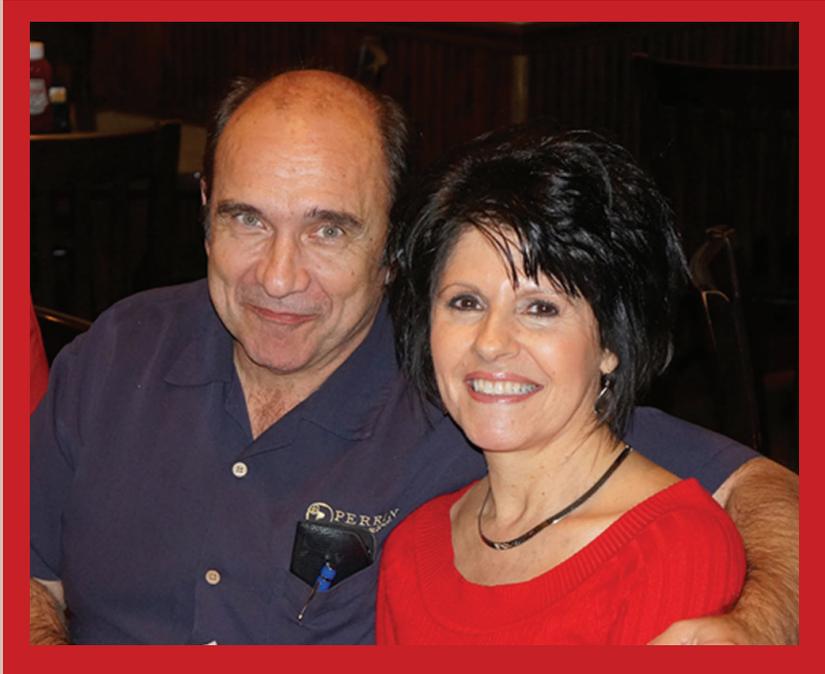
ACROSS

- A person who lives near or next to another
- The most important; better than all others of the same kind
- Coming next in order after the first one
- Someone who educates or trains others

DOWN

- To have a deep feeling of affection or attraction for someone
- A spoken or written reply to a question
- The center and source of a person's emotions or feelings
- The creator of heaven and earth; The One we worship

NEIGHBOR	TEACHER	SECOND	GOD
ANSWER	HEART	GREATEST	LOVE



Does God Speak to Us Through Others?

Wade and his wife of 36 years, Sandy Perrin

The Perrin's are parishioners at St. John Bosco.

Whether we acknowledge God or not, He is always with us, - and, He has His ways of communicating with us. Connection with God may be done in silent reflection of reading scripture and prayer. It always occurs when receiving the Eucharist in Holy Communion. He may also come to us while we sit silently in awe of nature. His words may also be delivered through a total stranger. It does require an open heart. We just must listen.

I never considered myself to be a “religious” person. Although I attended Mass often and attended annual retreats over the years, I frequently felt myself only going through the motions in my spiritual life. Living a good and fruitful life was my objective, but God was not a central living part of achieving that balance. I simply believed God existed without any consistent depth of true appreciation for that fact. Then, an event occurred that impacted my life, forever.

I found myself in a hospital bed, so weak, I could not even open my eyes. My total exhaustion was beyond any comprehension I ever had.

Let me say that anyone you may see in their last stages of life on earth, may appear to be unconscious, but they can still hear you. I lay there unable to move, speak or even open my eyes, but I could hear everything going on around me. I remember laying there and taking inventory of my life, as I thought I was dying. My thoughts were turned to God in that desperate moment. Although I lamented my imperfect life, I thanked Him for my loving wife and wonderful sons, along with the gift of life I had to that point.

As I lay there in my motionless reflections, I heard the hall alert go off. “Code Blue. Code Blue.” I thought someone was in dire straits on the floor. Little did I realize, it was me. I heard a bustle of people and equipment rolling into the room. As they worked around me, I heard one of them say, “51 over 19”. That was my blood pressure.

Immediately after hearing that, a female voice, whom I assume was my attending physician at that moment, leaned over me and whispered in my ear. “Mr. Perrin, now is not your time. You are stronger than that. God has more for you to do.” I was convinced I was dying, but with those words, my thought pattern changed. I felt a rush of emotion. I was wheeled out of the room and remember the bright lights in the hall filtered through my closed eyelids, and the medical discussion of attendants around me.

If this doctor told me that, I needed to find strength within. I am sure my mental change from her words helped carry me through 3 and ½ weeks in intensive care and 32 doctors trying to find out what was wrong with me.

I was finally diagnosed with VIPoma (Vasoactive Intestinal Polypeptide tumor of the pancreas). This was considered a rare disease which required its surgical removal through what is known as a Whipple Procedure. The doctor said Whipple Procedures are regarded as the Superbowl of abdominal surgeries.

As explained to me, my stomach was cut in half and all of my intestines were removed to get to my pancreas. About 40-50% of my pancreas was surgically removed, then my intestines were placed back into my body with my stomach stitched back together.

The expected life span of someone who undergoes a Whipple Procedure for VIPoma was explained to be about 7 years, at that time. Incredibly, this all occurred in 1998. Thank God, the tumor was benign. Thank God, I am the exception to average expectations.

Does God speak to us through others? My unequivocal answer to that question is a resounding “Yes!”. I thank God for the woman doctor who gave me His words which gave me the strength to pull through to this day. I have no idea who she was, but God had a place in her life that prompted her words to change another person’s life.

I am a blessed man, and I know it. I acknowledge and give thanks for God’s presence in my life, each and every day. Though I am still an imperfect man, I have great joy in knowing He is always with me. No matter what, I am never alone. None of us need ever feel alone.

Wade Perrin

In Our Parish



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

6:00PM - 7:30PM

COME DECORATE YOUR TRUNK

BRING CANDY TO SHARE

**STAY FOR THE 8P.M.
YOUNG ADULT MASS**



During the month of November we will be collecting for the Food Pantry. If you'd like to donate, please place items in the box provided inside the vestibule.

~ Only Non-perishable items

~ Please ensure no expired items

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry." John 6:35

2022 Mass Book Opening

2022 Masses will **NOT** be scheduled in person. Since the parish office remains closed to the public, we ask for your understanding and cooperation throughout the process.

Please complete the form provided in the back of Church and available on our website with the preferred dates and time. Please **PRINT** clearly your phone number and/or email in the event your selection cannot be accommodated. Mark your envelope "*Masses*" and drop in the collection basket, mail to the office at 2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, LA 70058, or drop off in the mailbox. We will make every attempt to provide you with your chosen dates. *As in the past, your offering is due with all Mass submissions. Just a reminder, Masses must be specific. It is not acceptable to say 'A Special Intention' or 'For Answered Prayers.'*

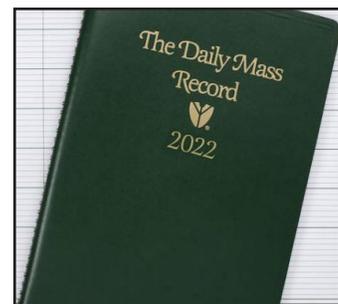
The customary donation for a stipended Mass is \$5.00. However, if you care to give a more substantial donation, it would be a real blessing for the Church.

The \$5.00 stipend is per individual per Mass – exceptions are:

- ~ Husband and wife considered one (1)
- ~ Combined families (Smith & Jones Families) is also considered one

The parishioner will be offered every Saturday morning at 8:00am and on **all Holy Days**. At this time the 8:00pm Mass will remain 'For the needs of the Parish'.

Multiple Mass intentions are available at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday and will rotate on Sunday. As per Archdiocesan policy, we are allowed to schedule two multiple Masses a weekend.



**For more information on any of this, please contact the Church office -
504.340.0444 (leave a message if no one answers) or email - office@saintjohnboscochurch.org.**

