

6th Sunday of Easter

Whoever loves
me will keep my
word.
John 14:23



www.mjdasma.blogspot.com

**ST. JOHN BOSCO
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

May 22, 2022

The Pastor Jots It Down

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. John Bosco & St. Rosalie Parishes and School,
People of God, Happy Sunday!

Let us rejoice and be glad as we continue to celebrate our Easter Joy and ponder the words of today's Alleluia verse: *Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.*

Jesus' great plan for us is to be holy and happy. Keeping his words will lead us to holiness and true happiness in life. We find his words in Scripture, especially in the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and in the Spiritual and Corporal works of Mercy.

Because of Original Sin, we experience concupiscence – the tendency to commit sin. Thus, the temptations/the lies of the devil seem so much more inviting than the high and noble standards that the Lord is calling us to live in our lives.

The spirit of much of the world revolves around selfishness and pleasure – what's in it for me – for my pleasure – for my power – for my fame.

Many people today substitute God's call to a holy way of life for what the world gone astray calls right and just. Religious practice, belief and morals are considered old fashioned.

It's up to us, to swim against the tide and not let the mores of today separate us from the love of God.

In this bulletin, you will find an article by our Salesian Director, Fr. Steve Ryan, on the good news and bad news of prayer today as it is experienced in many teens, young adults and families. This article challenges us to transformation in our prayer life and how we model and teach prayer to our children.

There is also a great article on dating from the Christian perspective. It plainly states that dating is primarily for discerning God's will in one's life, not for seeking hook-ups, casual flings, and intense pleasure. Parents, would you sit down with your teens and young adults, read this article together, and have an open discussion? Just because you have never done anything like this in the past, doesn't mean that you can't start now. You might just be amazed, when you let go, and let God take the lead.

I want to congratulate our Confirmandi and First Holy Communicants on these big steps in their life as Catholic Christians.

Parents and grandparents, I want to remind you to live God's words in your daily lives to serve as models for your children and grandchildren. Take prayer and Sunday Mass as examples. If you don't make the effort to pray at home and faithfully attend Sunday Mass, it will not be a value that your children will take with them. Also, too, Sunday Mass is a serious obligation we have as Catholic Christians. Missing Sunday Mass, without serious reason or dispensation is a grave sin which must be confessed before receiving Jesus in Holy Communion or any other sacrament of the living.

Those who read this bulletin, I ask you to ponder how God is speaking to you to use this bulletin to help build up His Kingdom here on earth. Please do respond as the Lord inspires you to act. If the Lord has not inspired you, maybe you need to ponder and pray a bit more. Know that He will be your partner in your efforts

God loves you!



Prayer - Good News and Bad News

By Fr. Steve Ryan, SDB

The good news is that researchers of the **National Study of Youth and Religion** found that most young people want to be connected with God. Certainly, even if there are more and more young people who are labeling their religion as “NONE”, most teenagers and young adults believe in God.

The bad news about this connection with God is that it lacks familiarity (i.e., fraternal or paternal depth). Many of today’s somewhat spiritually aspiring young people look at God as a sort of “divine butler”. He is someone whose job it is to be at their beck-and-call. He exists to give people what they want, when they want it. And when they don’t need God anymore, they’d like him to go back into the kitchen where He belongs!

Adults, they are watching us. Be a good example of prayer. Unwittingly, we may be feeding a debased view of God by the way we teach young people to pray. Instead of adoring and magnifying Our Lord, praising His divine attributes, giving Him thanks for his wondrous deeds and begging forgiveness with contrite hearts – we’ve taught them that prayer is simply asking for stuff. Maybe we’ve perpetuated the “butler at your service” image of God. We’ve (without malice or bad intent) taught young people that “the harder we pray, the higher God jumps.”

Adults, here are two reminders for us as we model prayer for young people:

1. Stay joyful! Let’s remember that prayer is a joy. A good prayer life is a gift that brings a joyful countenance. Prayer is not a discipline we must muster and master to get God to do what we want Him to do. When I see old religious people, who have grown in prayer by practicing it daily for decades, I see gentleness, joy, calm and peace.

2. Don’t model a diminished view of prayer for young people where we pray only at certain times, with certain words, in certain places and in a certain tone of voice. As a result, people learn that prayer is primarily rote, coercive and/or administrative. Let’s model new ways to pray that are primarily *relational*. Like what? Try...

- Small-group sharing
- Prayer activities that teach your people to offer something to God, not just take something from Him
- Teach those in your family to ask Jesus, before starting to pray, what He wants for someone. So often we “pray without knowledge” because we don’t first stop to ask what’s on Jesus’ heart for someone – we assume we already know.
- Since our prayer times are too often focused on our own needs, teach those in your family that intercession on behalf of others is a courageous and humble gift.
- Every now and then purposely transition from talking to your children right into talking to God without prefacing your prayer by saying, “Let’s pray” or “I’m going to pray now.” Just talk to Him. This models prayer as something natural and teaches that God is with us in the here and now.

Transformation and creativity in this one area – how we model and teach prayer – will start to work against the “divine butler” mentality that’s so entrenched in today’s young people.

Catholic Dating 101: A Better Way to Date

DR. MARIO SACASA

Dating is hard. It consists of constantly putting yourself out there, trying to figure out if you are being too picky after a couple dates, not sure if the relationship is progressing well, and a general fear of commitment. To navigate the dating process, it can be helpful to start by gaining a better understanding of those questions through the lens of faith. By doing so, you will develop a better way of approaching the dating scene and some concrete ways of assessing the quality of your relationship. You also will know what to look for when considering a break-up.

Dating is Discernment

Take a moment to remember why you are doing this whole dating thing. Dating is something more meaningful than a means for hooking-up and casual flings. Dating is primarily about discerning God's will in your life — not the maximization of pleasure. The fruits of dating done well are learning to love another person and growing in your own personal development. With each relationship, we gain a better understanding of God's plan for our lives.

Young adults will often say that discernment feels mysterious and tricky, mostly because we often forget that discerning God's will is a practical endeavor as much as it is a spiritual one. Every aspect of our lives can be used by God for our personal growth in holiness. How we manage the fear and anticipation of going out with someone new, how we develop chastity when there's chemistry and attraction, and how we grow in consideration of the other person's needs are all ways God can form our sanctity. To this end, there are three helpful keys to approaching dating as a discernment process: prayer, reflection and action.

Prayer

Prayer in dating does not mean you commit to praying a novena and expect



to serendipitously walk into your future spouse at a coffee shop. Rather, it is a prayer as a vehicle for dialogue and bringing your experiences before the Lord. Pray before your dates. Pray about what you experienced during them. Pray about your attraction and desire for the person you are dating. God wants to sort all those things out in our hearts, and prayer is the primary way that can happen.

Prayer in dating also means praying with the person you are dating, too. Early on it is good to establish that having a shared faith is an important aspect of the relationship. This doesn't mean that every date needs to end in the adoration chapel, but just that you two are willing to bring God into the relationship and let him guide the relationship from the start. This also doesn't mean that just because you pray that everything will work out. Shared faith is a foundational element in a relationship but not the only important quality.

Reflection

It is good to reflect on our own experiences in a relationship. What did we like or dislike in the first few dates? Is there a connection? Are they respectful of my boundaries? These are things that would be helpful to journal about (not necessarily every day, but certainly on occasion).

It doesn't take much for reflection to become rumination, however, so we

also need trusted folks in our lives to converse with to get ourselves out of our heads. Consider processing with friends and family the dates you've gone on. It shouldn't be gossip or "kiss and tell," but a way to make sense of your experience. These types of conversations can help us answer very important questions about our motivations and fears: Are you being overly critical of the date? Did you feel comfortable in his/her presence? Was conversation easy? What happened the last time you dated someone like that? Again, all of this is part of the practical way to discern.

Action

Now that you've prayed and reflected, you are freer to act and make decisions that support where God is leading you in marriage. For example, maybe you learned that dating co-workers makes things awkward at the office. If so, don't date co-workers. It's OK to have that boundary. God works within such experiences and boundaries. Engage with what you learn about yourself and see how God will guide you.

Dating done right will force you to grow. It'll help you see God's plan unfolding in your life. Through it, you'll develop the virtues of courage, chastity and love, which are all needed for a lifelong marriage.

From: <https://www.simplycatholic.com/catholic-dating-101-a-better-way-to-date/>



*First
Communion
Class*

St. Rosalie Church
May 7, 2022



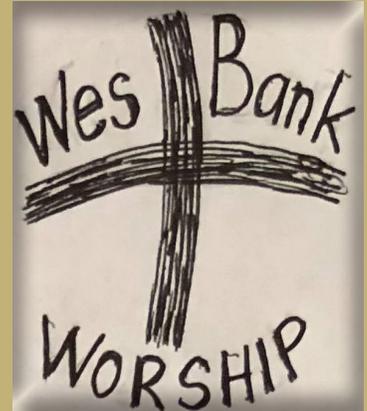
Confirmation Class

St. John Bosco Church
May 5, 2022

In Our Parish

Young Adult & Youth Mass Sunday evening at 8:00 pm

Everyone is invited to attend the latest Mass on the West bank with the 'West bank Worship' band



Have a gift for music???

New band members always welcome!
See Tim Cook following Mass
or email him - music@saintjohnboscochurch.org.

Announcements



Womens Society

The next Womens Society meeting will be **Monday, May 23, 2022** beginning at **6:30pm**. All women are invited to attend the potluck meeting.

Womens Society Raffle

The Womens Society would like to congratulate the winner of the 50/50 raffle, **Julie Kirkland**. The group expresses heartfelt THANK YOU to all that participated in this years event - over \$800 was raised!



Sanctuary Candle
for
The Lynch Family

Bread & Wine
In Memory of
Adele & Odele DeSoto

St. John Bosco Catholic Church

Served by the Salesians of Don Bosco

2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, LA 70058

office@saintjohnboscochurch.org

504.340.0444

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB

Pastor

Fr. George Hanna, SDB

Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB

Parochial Vicars

Kevin Steel, Deacon

Masses

Monday - Friday: 7:00am

Saturday: 8:00am

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 9:00am, 12:00 Noon & 8:00pm

Confessions

Saturday: 4:45pm - 5:15pm

Wednesday: 7:00pm - 8:00pm ~ Eucharistic Adoration

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 21

8:00am Parishioners of St. John Bosco

5:30pm +Jacqueline Guillot

+Leboria Burrell

+Duffy & Derek Dumas

+Peter David Nguyen

Conversion of Sinners

+Maria Chien Vu Nguyen

+Wayne Delaune

+Melvin & Ruth Cheramie

Sunday, May 22

9:00am +Ronald Jacobs, MOD

Noon +J. D. Spano

+Ha Xuan Du

+Phong Vu

+Raymond Ward

+Simon & Gustavia Breaux

+Maria Chien Vu Nguyen

Conversion of Sinners

All Souls in Purgatory

8:00pm Needs of Parish

Monday, May 23

7:00am Julie Kirkland

Tuesday, May 24

7:00am +Paul Nha Chu

Wednesday, May 25

7:00am +Rosario 'Boogie' Termine

Thursday, May 26

7:30pm +Carlos Hernandez

Friday, May 27

7:00pm +Maria Thu Chu

Saturday, May 28

8:00am Parishioners of St. John Bosco

5:30pm +Jacqueline Guillot

+Leboria Burrell

+Duffy & Derek Dumas

+Peter David Nguyen

Conversion of Sinners

+Maria Chien Vu Nguyen

+Maria Pham

+Raymond Ward

Sunday, May 29

9:00am +Ronald Jacobs, MOD

Noon +J. D. Spano

+Ha Xuan Du

+Phong Vu

+Raymond Ward

+Simon & Gustavia Breaux

+Maria Chien Vu Nguyen

Conversion of Sinners

All Souls in Purgatory

8:00pm Needs of Parish