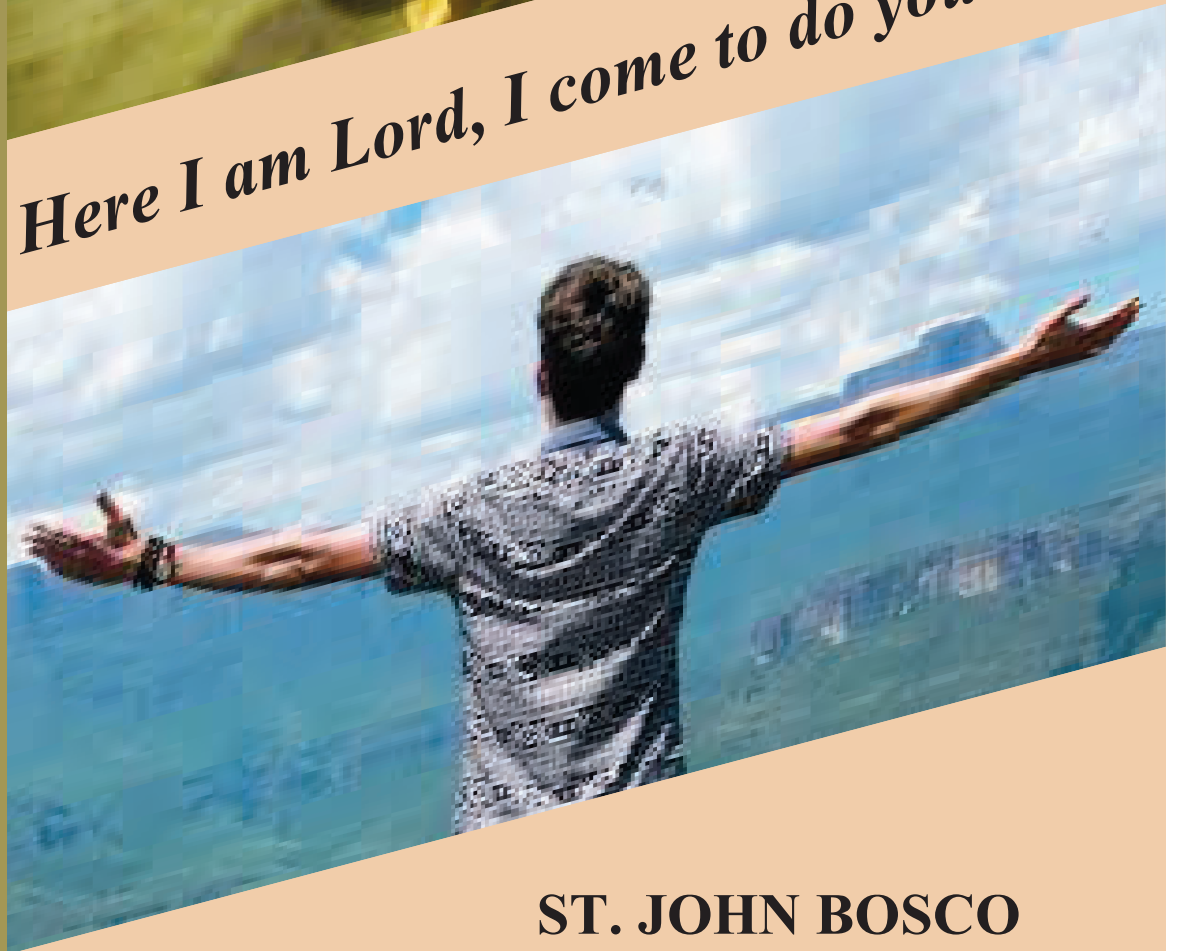


2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.



**ST. JOHN BOSCO
CATHOLIC CHURCH
January 15, 2023**

The Pastor Jots It Down!_____

My dear parishioners and friends of St. John Bosco and St. Rosalie Parishes,

Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will. These words of the responsorial psalm can make for a beautiful aspiratory prayer that we can say frequently throughout the day. Its short. It's a powerful reminder of our Christian vocation – to grow in the ways of holiness and to help others grow in holiness as well – a life of missionary discipleship.

The Church also exists to do the will of God and to be good stewards of the resources in building up God's Kingdom here on Earth.

Our archdiocese has begun an examination of all our parishes in the terms of vibrancy and is beginning a process to make our parishes more vibrant in serving the people of God in the archdiocese. This is a huge task. Let's support this process with our prayers.

Here on the Westbank years ago the Catholic population was constantly growing and new missions and parishes were established and multiple masses were celebrated on Sundays to accommodate the large number of parishioners for Sunday Mass. Now we have many churches, many masses, and fewer Catholics attending Sunday Mass.

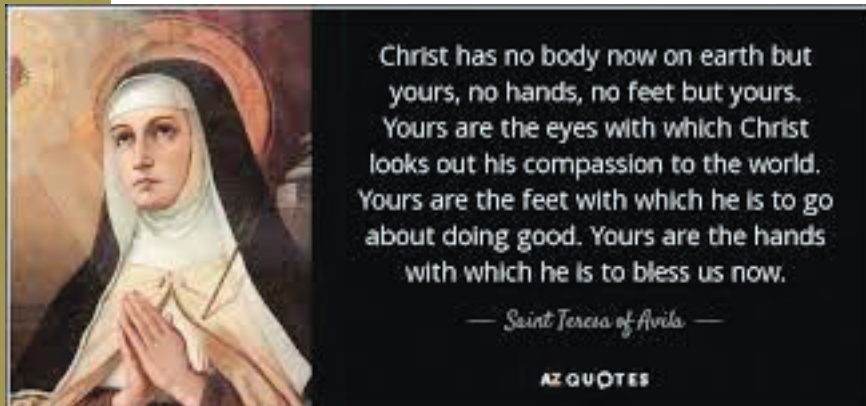
Our archdiocese is reading the signs of the time and is seeking how to make our churches more vibrant.

Making our parishes more vibrant is not only the task of the archdiocese but the task of each and every member of our parishes to do our part in making our parishes more vibrant. We can't sit back and do nothing. If we do nothing, our parishes will die. Everyone must take seriously their Baptismal commitment to build up Christ's Body here on earth.

During World War II, a French village lost a beloved statue of Christ in a bombing raid. The villagers managed to rebuild the statue, except for its hands. Those pieces were never found in the rubble. Finally, the villagers placed a plaque on the statue with the inscription, "I have no hands but yours."

The saying calls to mind an instruction from St. Teresa of Avila to her Discalced Carmelite community in Spain: "Christ has no body now on earth, but yours; no hands, but yours; no feet, but yours. It is your eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out to the world; your feet with which he must walk about doing good; your hands with which he blessed humanity; your voice with which his forgiveness is spoken; your heart with which he now loves."

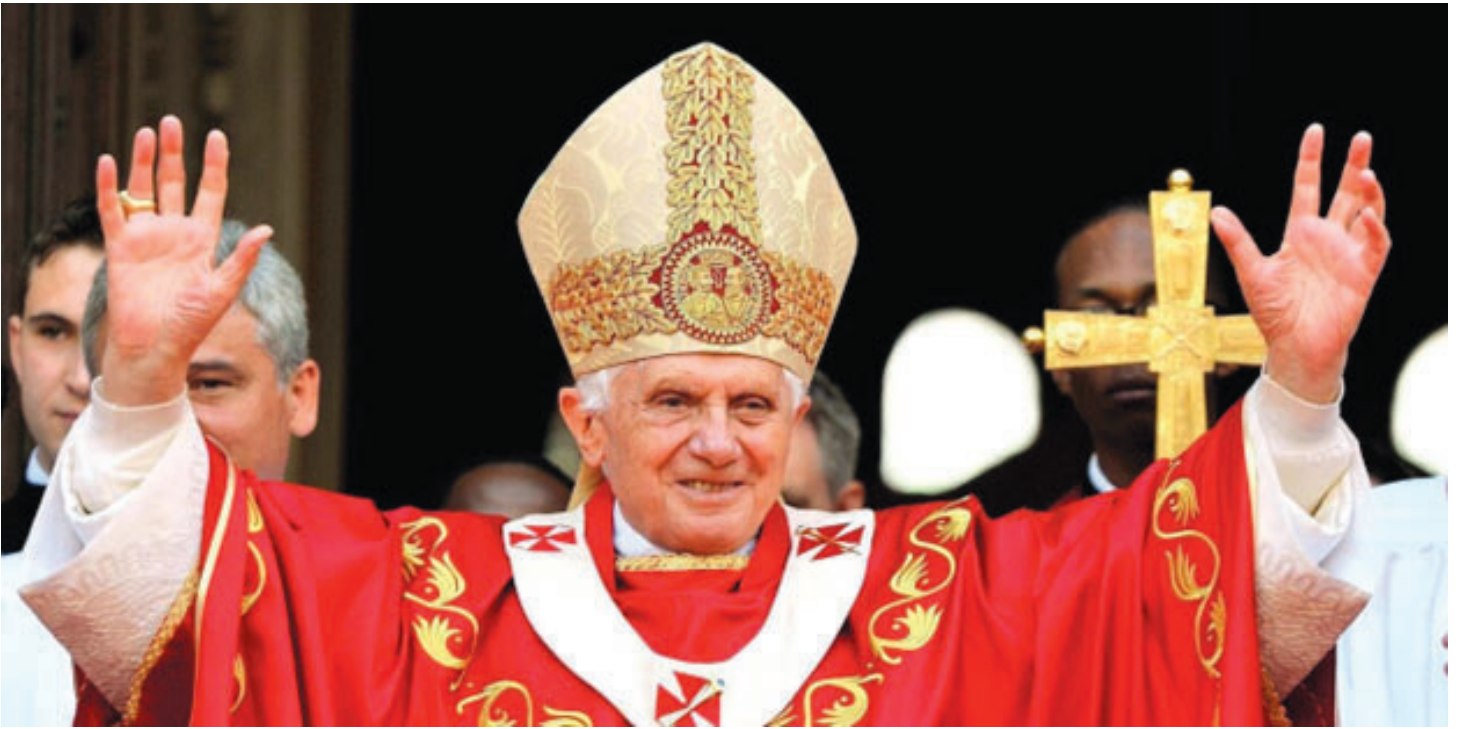
From: <https://thecatholicpost.com/2019/07/18/no-hands-or-eyes-but-yours/>



Yes, Christ lives in each of us and calls us to be his presence on earth growing in holiness ourselves and helping others to develop a personal relationship with Christ through our words and example...missionary discipleship.

God loves you!

F. Mark



"Holiness does not consist in never having erred or sinned. Holiness increases the capacity for conversation, for repentance, for willingness to start again, and especially, for reconciliation and forgiveness." -Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

"Friendship with Jesus Christ"

In his early days as pope, Benedict referred to both Jesus Christ and John Paul II. Citing John Paul II's well-known words, "Do not be afraid! Open wide the doors for Christ!", Benedict XVI said:

Are we not perhaps all afraid in some way? If we let Christ enter fully into our lives, if we open ourselves totally to Him, are we not afraid that He might take something away from us? ... And once again the Pope said: No! If we let Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free, beautiful, and great. No! Only in this friendship do we experience beauty and liberation. ... When we give ourselves to Him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open, open wide the doors to Christ – and you will find true life.

"Friendship with Jesus Christ" is a frequent theme of his preaching. He stressed that in this intimate friendship, "everything depends." He also said: "We are all called to open ourselves to this friendship with God ... speaking to Him as to a friend, the only One who can make the world

both good and happy ... That is all we must do is put ourselves at His disposal ... is an extremely important message. It is a message that helps to overcome what can be considered the great temptation of our time: the claim, that after the Big Bang, God withdrew from history." Thus, in his book *Jesus of Nazareth*, his main purpose was "to help foster [in the reader] the growth of a living relationship" with Jesus Christ.

He took up this theme in his first encyclical *Deus caritas est*. In his explanation and summary of the encyclical, he stated: "If friendship with God becomes for us something ever more important and decisive, then we will begin to love those whom God loves and who are in need of us. God wants us to be friends of His friends and we can be so, if we are interiorly close to them." Thus, he said that prayer is "urgently needed ... It is time to reaffirm the importance of prayer in the face of the activism and the growing secularism of many Christians engaged in charitable work."

From: <https://bit.ly/3WWX0Fm>



What is a Pro-Lifer?

The terms “pro-life” and “pro-choice” are used in our society quite a bit.

But what is the definition of “pro-life?” And the implications that go along with the term?

How do we exemplify a “pro-life” stance in our approach to life itself?

What exactly is “pro-life,” anyway?

Definition of Pro-Life

Merriam-Webster defines “pro-life” as “against abortion.” Yet, for those who resonate with the description, it is so much more than saving unborn babies.

Focus on the Family shares this perspective in an article called PRO-LIFE AND PRO-CHOICE: WHAT DOES IT MEAN? : “While the term pro-life was birthed from the abortion wars of the 1970s, the pro-life movement has grown into a thriving community of those who meet political issues with the mindset that all human life is valuable.

Whether you are a preborn baby, a newborn, an elderly person, or someone with disabilities and special needs, your life matters. At its core, the pro-life movement is about the value and equality of all human beings.”

The argument is that being pro-life truly encompasses all aspects of life. To be pro-life is to hold to “the belief that all human life is created equal regardless of size, level of development, education, and degree of dependency.

Pro-Life Advocacy

If being pro-life is valuing life at all stages, how can you make a difference? What are some ways you can advocate for life in all its forms?

SAVING THE UNBORN

Since many feel-like pro-lifers are focused on the unborn, let’s start there.

Raising awareness and becoming a voice to the voiceless is an important aspect of being pro-life.

The unborn are completely at the mercy of others and are considered utterly vulnerable.

There are several ways you can work towards saving the unborn.

- Learn more about your local pregnancy resource center. How are they serving women facing unplanned pregnancies and empowering them to choose life for their unborn children? Are there ways you can get involved or partner with their ministry?
- Is there a local or statewide pro-life organization like **Louisiana Right to Life** that helps raise awareness of pro-life issues and make a difference with local legislation?
- Is your church or parish involved in pro-life ministry?

SERVING OTHERS IN NEED

As an advocate for life, it’s important to be aware of the needs in the world and be willing to step forward to address those needs in your own personal way.

- Are you burdened for a specific population – at-risk youth, elderly, homeless, disenfranchised, incarcerated, refugees, etc.?
- Do you have unique skills, talents, or gifts to use to help address needs?
- Are there local organizations that are currently serving these populations that you can partner with by utilizing your personal skills?

From: <https://www.caringnetwork.com/news/what-is-pro-life>

*Special Marriage Preparation
For Those
Civily Married or Co-Habiting*



Special Marriage Preparation

is a one-day seminar for couples who are either convalidating their civil marriage
(now entering a Sacramental marriage in the Church)
or who have already been living together for a substantial period of time.

The cost includes the **REFOCCUS** program.

If you have questions or specific needs, or if you would like to register by mail, please call 504-861-6243.

**February 11, 2023 in New Orleans
CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Building
2241 Mendez St, New Orleans**

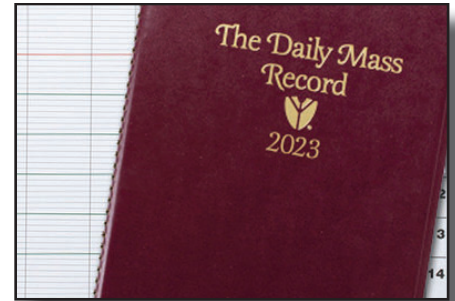
For More Information

**Please contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life at 504-861-6243
or mfl@arch-no.org .**

In Our Parishes

2023 Mass Book Opening

There are still many Masses available! As in the past, please complete the blue form provided in the back of Church (and available on our website) with the preferred date and time for each intention. The 2023 Masses will **NOT** be scheduled in person, we ask for your understanding and cooperation throughout the process. Every effort will be made to provide you with your chosen dates. Please be sure to **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.



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

Sanctuary Candle and Bread & Wine requests should be included along with Mass intentions. Keeping in mind we try to accommodate everyone, they will be scheduled accordingly. **Please note - there are only a small number of weeks available for the Candle and Bread & Wine.**

Offering for Sanctuary Candle and Bread & Wine are as follows:

Sanctuary Candle	\$10.00	Bread & Wine	\$10.00
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****New this year** Flowers for Blessed Mother or St. John Bosco Statues: \$75.00 each**

Tabernacle (2 arrangements flanking Tabernacle): \$140.00 - \$170.00

Altar (1 larger arrangement in front of Altar): \$250.00 - \$275.00

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.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the month of January



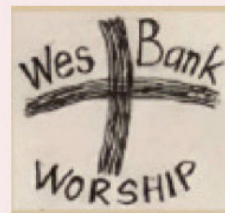
True Human Fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Young Adult & Youth Mass

Sunday - 8:00 p.m.

The latest Mass on the Westbank



Musically Inclined???

Get Involved!!!

**St. John Bosco Catholic Church
2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, La**

Announcements

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Monthly Meeting will be
Monday, January 16, 2023. The Rosary will begin at 6:40pm and the meeting at 7:00pm

WOMENS SOCIETY

Monthly Pot Luck Meeting will be
Monday, January 23, 2023 beginning at 6:30pm. All women in the parish are invited to attend.

*Pray the Rosary!
Thursdays at 10:00 am
in Church*

*Saint John Bosco
Catholic Church*

2114 Oakmere Drive
Harvey, LA 70058
P: 504 340 0444

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB, Pastor

Fr. George Hanna, SDB
Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB
Parochial Vicars
Kevin Steel, Deacon

MASS SCHEDULES:

ST. JOHN BOSCO

Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm
Sunday – 9:00 am and 12:00 pm
Youth & Young Adult Mass –
Sunday – 8:00 pm
Weekdays – 7:00 am
Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 4:30 - 5:15 pm

ST. ROSALIE

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 pm
Sunday – 7:30 and 10:30 am
Weekdays – 7:00 am
Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Both Churches:

**Adoration & Confessions –
Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

ADORATION

Volunteers Needed!

New Year's Resolution?
Draw closer to God?
Worship and adore Jesus
in His presence... and
gain many graces... If
not already committed and scheduled,
would you who are able bodied please
consider sharing an hour with an
already scheduled adorer who would
like a partner to share responsibility
for the hour? Contact Edie Meaux -
edithmeaux@cox.net or stjohnbosco@adorationservants.org.



COME LORD JESUS!



Are you looking to gain a
greater understanding of
Sunday Readings, including
Gospels and the Old Testament?
**Meetings are every Wednesday or
Thursday at 6:30pm!**

Sanctuary Candle
In Memory of Death
Veronica Nguyen Thi Tin

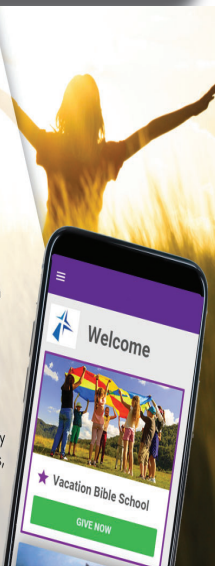
Bread & Wine
In Memory of Death
Veronica Nguyen Thi Tin



BRIGHTER DAYS BIGGER MISSION

Summer sunshine offers us time and opportunities for spiritual building. That is why our church offers Online Giving as an additional option to support our ongoing mission and ministries. Our church is a spiritual home for all of us which relies on our time, talent, and treasure to fulfill that mission.

Online Giving helps support our church by allowing you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your mobile phone, smart device, or computer to our church.



SIGN UP TODAY BY VISITING OUR CHURCH WEBSITE!

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00am Conversion of Sinners
5:30pm Jacqueline Guillot
Peter John Paul Nguyen
Joseph Lai Duc Anh
Terry Legendre
Maria Chien Vu Nguyen
Teresita Abdon
Veronica Nguyen Thi Tin
Barbara Kuenz
Paul Louis Nguyen D Dzung
Alphonse Hebert, Sr.
Joyce Hebert
Philip DiPascal, MOB
Wayne Delaune

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00am Billy, Jr & Derek DiMarco
Candida & Guillerrmo
Calimlim
Brehn, May & Ruiz Flys.
Roderick Miller
Peace on Lucky Jean Boat
& All Fishermen
All Souls in Purgatory
William DeBlanc
Peter Tam Van Nguyen
Martha Can Thi Nguyen
Joseph Quang Trong Nguyen
Maria Tu Thi Hoang
Noon J. D. Spano &
James Hennegan
8:00pm Parishioners of St. John
Bosco & St. Rosalie Parishes

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

7:00am Maria Nguyen Kim Cuc
Laura Michot
Joseph Tao Bui
Giuse Bui Van Tao

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

7:00am Mark & Holly Hecker

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

7:00am Paul Maxie Nguyen, MOD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

7:00am Teresita Abdon Healing

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

7:00am All Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

8:00am Conversion of Sinners
5:30pm Terry Legendre
Teresita Abdon
Alphonse Hebert, Sr.
Joyce Hebert
Charles & Rena Richard

*"Our earth is talking to us and we must
listen to it and decipher its message if we
are to survive." ~ Pope Benedict XVI*