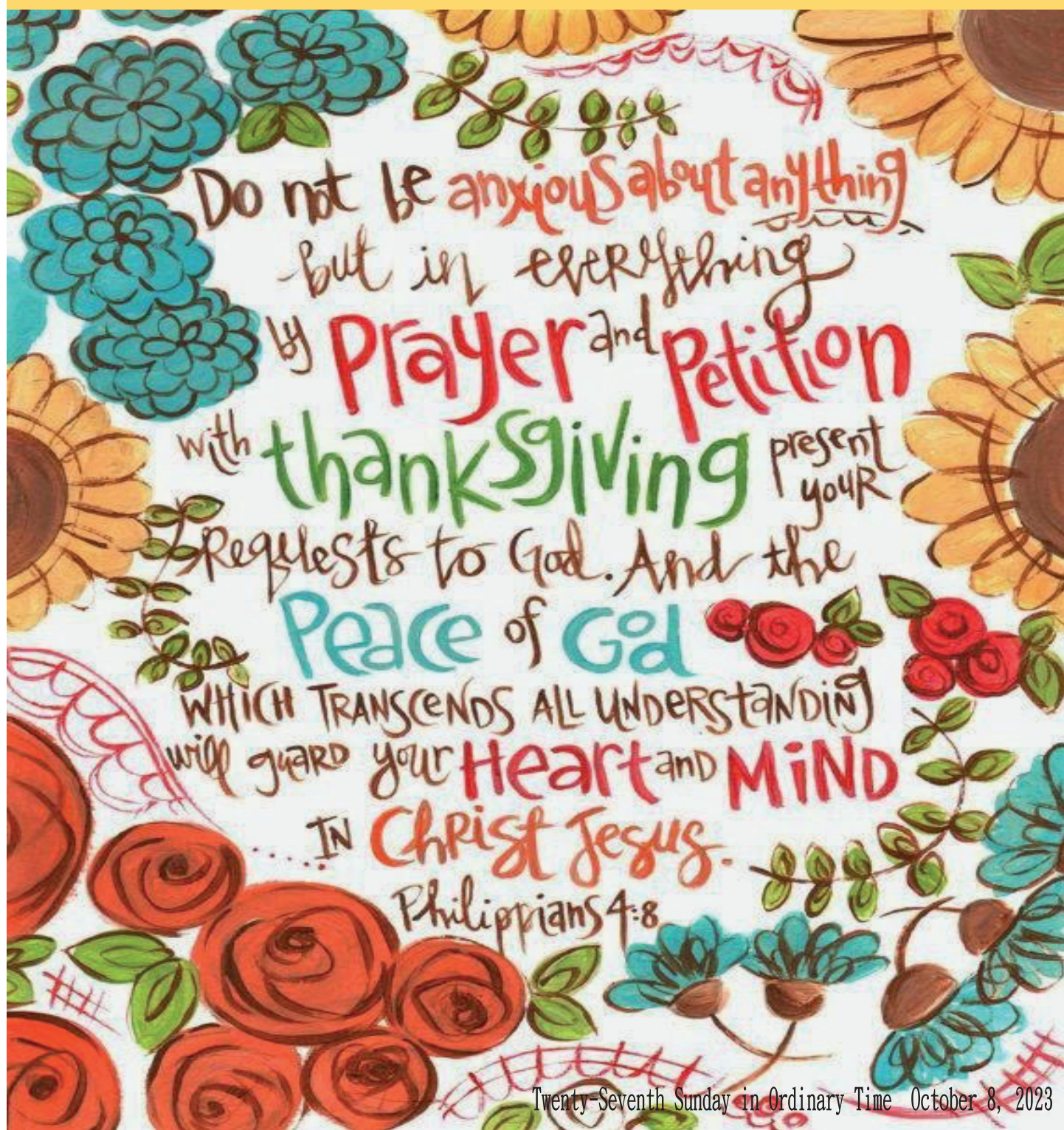


Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 8, 2023

66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452
www.sppcprla.com email: info@sppcprla.com

ABOUT OUR PARISH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon	No Mass
Tue	8:00 a.m.
Wed	6:30 p.m.
Thu	8:00 a.m.
Fri	8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil and Holy Day Mass times vary; please see bulletin or website

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Tuesday: St. Jude Novena following
8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena following 8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Patriotic Rosary in Church
6:30 p.m.

First Friday: The Most Blessed Sacrament
and Eucharistic Adoration following 8:00 a.m.
Mass until 5:00 p.m. closing
with Benediction

First Saturday: Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed
by the Rosary and Confession

RECONCILIATION

Sat	4:00-4:45 p.m.
Wed	6:00-6:15 p.m.
Or by request	

YOUR CLERGY

Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D.
Archbishop of New Orleans

Very Rev. Gerald Seiler
Dean, Deanery X

Fr. Kevin DeLerno
Pastor

Deacon Francis "Frank" Drake
(Retired)

YOUR STAFF

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mary@sppcprla.com

Cedric Konyaole
Web Site
ckonyaole@sppcprla.com

Jerry Broussard
Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-3:00
Friday 8:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax

985-863-5431

Parish Mission Statement

It is the mission of our Church Parish to follow the commands of Jesus to Saints Peter and Paul: "Feed My sheep" and "Carry My name among the nations."

REGISTER

If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by filling out a form located in the holder at the Church entrances and place it in the collection basket or come by the office.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Usually the third Sunday of the month (except during Lent) following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration forms at least **three weeks** in advance.

Matrimony

By appointment with the parish priest or deacon at least **six months** in advance. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the priest.

Anointing of the Sick

Upon request for the seriously ill, infirm and those undergoing major surgery. Please contact the Church Office when someone is homebound or hospitalized and in need of the sacrament.

Communion for Ill/Shut-In

Please call the Church Office if you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry.

Funerals

Families should contact the priest (office) before making arrangements.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Jude Novena in Parish Hall

RCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday 6:30 p.m. in classrooms

Legion of Mary—Thursday 10:00 a.m. St. Anthony Hall

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday 6:30 p.m. in church

Rosary Rally—Saturday in Poitevent Park off Hwy 41 at noon

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

Redelegation for EMHC—Sunday 12:30 p.m. Hall



Confirmed in Christ

The Sacrament of Confirmation was conferred upon the following young adults of our parish on Thursday, September 21, 2023:

*Patrick Brown
Andre Caballero
Mylie Elsensohn
Laikyn Jeffrey
Andrew Johnson
Monnica Miller
Rhyan Morel
Zoey Symons*

We congratulate them and pray that their commitment to be confirmed may continue to lead them to a fuller appreciation of their Catholic faith. May God's blessings be upon each of these young people and their families.

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Audrey Bonnet, May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Kathy Johnson, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Bunny Shriver, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Maria Kalcic, Beverly Cosse, Lou Lou Battle, Fay Vogt, I&J Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Vivian Sedgebeer, Romana Smith, Joseph Decaro, Barbara Galino Gonzales, Daniel Jocks, Isaiah Deblanc, Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Ed & Carol Wallace, Jim Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 9

(*Jon 1:1-2:1-2, 11; Lk 10:25-37*)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, October 10

(*Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10:28-42*)

8:00 a.m. Phillip Gremillion†

Wednesday, October 11

(*Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4*)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, October 12

(*Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13*)

8:00 a.m. Terry & Wally Goodey

Friday, October 13

(*Jl 1:13-15, 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26*)

8:00 a.m. Gabriel & Karen Dickerson

Saturday, October 14

(*Jl 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28*)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Cpt. Pete Vogt†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Mariana Selva†, Robert Jenevein†, William Deckwa, Jr.†, Antonians & Benefactors, Frederick Songy

Sunday, October 15

(*Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or Mt 22:1-10*)

7:00 a.m. Carolyn Jo Leonard†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Rosary R. Marchese†, John Lacourrege†, Teresa Nguyen Thi Chien, Glen Parker†, Bonnie Aguilar, Danny Fontenot†, Kelley Milam†, Lawrence Otilio†, May Caballero

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM

Weekly Rosaries: 386

Year to Date: 15,405





POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



TABERNACLE LAMP

This week, the Tabernacle Lamp in the Sanctuary burns for

† Catherine Schaefer & Joyce Dearman †



ALTAR FLOWERS

The beautiful flower arrangements adorning the altar this weekend were donated for

Terry & Wally Goodey

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

First Reading – Isaiah 5:1-7

In the “vineyard of life,” do we follow our Lord’s way to use our time, talent, and treasure to produce good fruit? Or do we do our “own thing” that produces “wild grapes”?

Psalm 80:9, 12-16, 19-20

In the “battle of life,” do we try to go at it alone or follow a Christian steward’s path and trust in the Lord? Are we good stewards of God’s creation?

Second Reading – Philippians 4:6-9

Christian stewardship emphasizes prayer to God, not only for our needs, but especially in thanksgiving to the Lord for all our blessings.

Gospel – Matthew 21:33-43

As tenants of this world, do we accept Jesus and the prophets’ words in a spirit of stewardship, or does our materialistic culture distract us from the truth?

Stewardship Thought

In the Gospel today, the owner of the vineyard sent messengers to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers, but there was not a single good steward on the property! God is the owner, we are the tenants. What sort of stewards are we? (Our Sunday Visitor, *ibid.*, page 13).



CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF DIVINE MERCY

Student Shadows and 2024/2025 Recruitment

We are just entering the season when seventh grade families are beginning the high school application process. Please let anyone and everyone you meet know about Chesterton and direct them to our website for more information. Feel free to share my email and phone number to anyone with questions!

A shadow joined us on campus last week and more are coming this week! Prospective families can sign up by reaching out to admin@cadmla.org or by visiting this website: [Schedule a Visit](#)

Prospective families can also sign up to one of our two open houses coming later in October/November. Remember, please save these dates—students are required to attend both open houses and look for an email soon asking for a few parent volunteers!

- Th. October 19th 6pm – 8pm: Open House #1

- Sat. November 4th time 10am – 12pm: Open House #2

Families can RSVP through the events page:

<https://www.chestertonacademydivinemercy.org/events>

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The confessional is a familiar setting in literature and drama. Everyone from Dostoevsky and Shakespeare down the line to Seinfeld has used the sacrament to tragic or comic effect or to reveal aspects of character otherwise hidden. All of this theater, from world classics to slapstick, has had a numbing effect on our own expectations, and has skewed how the culture looks at us and our struggle with sin and forgiveness, hope and healing.

Yet the artists are on to something. The reconciliation chapel is a place where hearts are laid bare, where honesty is the watchword, and people confess their deepest needs. It is also a place of rebirth, or at least realignment. It is, like the baptismal font, a place where something dies, and where something else is born. Today, although literature has barely caught up, the place is usually not the dark and gloomy cabinet of old; rather it is a chapel that speaks of peace, serenity, and the comfort of a welcome home. People in one parish were astonished recently to see their children skipping with delight as they left the place of their first confession. We have to wait a bit for world literature to catch up with this reality, but at least we can experience the joy of penance, the thrill of a new beginning, the assurance of God’s love.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



PASTOR'S CORNER

THIS IS A HARD SAYING

The week before last when I left off talking about the Eucharist, I was explaining how important the manna was and how Jesus said He will give His people the “new manna”.

Many questions arise due to the Bread of Life Discourse, when Jesus says, “I Am the living bread that came down from heaven, whoever eats this bread will live forever.” (John 6:51) And “whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood, remains in Me and I in him.” (John 6:56)

Even if we take Jesus at His word, how is it possible for Him to actually give His disciples His flesh to eat? Did He intend for them to engage in cannibalism? And what about the prohibition against drinking animal blood in Leviticus? Was Jesus breaking the Law of God by commanding His disciples to drink His blood? Last, but certainly not least, what about the apparent audacity of claiming that He could do such a thing? How a mere man could give himself in this way to others, much less teach that their salvation was somehow dependent upon consuming His flesh and blood?

The answer to these questions can be found by paying close attention to how the disciples reacted to His sermon on the new manna and how Jesus responded in turn to their reaction. Remember, the disciples themselves were all Jews. How did they react to His teaching? Not too well, as John tells us in the very next verse: Many of His disciples, when they heard it, said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” But Jesus knowing Himself that His disciples murmured at it, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? It is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you that do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who those were that did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. And He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted him by the father.”

After this many of His disciples drew back and no longer walked with Him. Jesus said to the Twelve, “Will you also go away?” Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; and we have believed, and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.” (John 6:60-69)

Notice the negative reaction of many of Jesus’ disciples to His Eucharistic words. It is very hard to overestimate the importance of their response. Like the other Jews in the synagogue, Jesus’ disciples took Him literally. They “took offense” at His words, decided to leave His company, and He let them go.

This is extremely revealing. For one thing, it gives us first hand testimony to how Jesus’ words would have sounded to actual first-century Jews. His insistence that they eat His flesh and drink His blood in the form of food and drink was so shocking to their Jewish ears that they could barely stand to hear it. “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” (John 6:60), they said. Like the Israelites in the desert who murmured about the manna (Exodus 16:2-9), Jesus’ followers “murmured” at His difficult and distressing claims. In other words, they didn’t believe Him. As Jesus said to them, “There are some of you who don’t believe.” (John 6:64)

Moreover, notice exactly what the disciples’ dilemma was, and what it wasn’t. The difficulty was not that they misunderstood Jesus by taking Him too literally. This had happened before, and when it did, Jesus would clarify or explain Himself. For example, on another occasion, when the disciples took Jesus’ words too literally, He explained His teaching as a metaphor. When the disciples reached the other side [of the lake], they had forgotten to bring any bread. Jesus said to them, “Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “We brought no bread.” But Jesus, aware of this, said, “O men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive?... How is it that you fail to perceive that I did not speak about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. (Matthew 16:5-12)

Contrast this response with Jesus’ Eucharistic discourse. After the disciples objected to the Bread of Life sermon, Jesus did not say to them, “Do you not perceive or understand?” (Mark 8:17) What He said was, “Do you take offense at this?” (John 6:61) In other words, with regard to Jesus’ Eucharistic teachings, His disciples’ primary problem was not that they didn’t understand Him. Their problem was that they didn’t believe Him.

Because of this, something shocking happens. In the wake of His Bread of Life sermon, many of Jesus’ followers abandoned Him,” meaning that they stopped being His followers, and He let them go. (John 6:66) This is extraordinary; it’s the only time in all four Gospels that Jesus was ever abandoned by His own followers because of something He taught. Just as a side note, notice that this passage is the only time in the New Testament where the number 666 comes into a passage and it is when many of His disciples left Him. And why did they leave? Because they took His Eucharistic teaching literally. But did He back down? No.

In fact, not only did Jesus let His disbelieving disciples go, but He turned to Peter and the Twelve and inquired of them if they wanted to leave, as well; “will you also go away?” (John 6:67) The point is clear; Jesus would brook no compromise on the mystery of His body and blood. It was a litmus test of discipleship. And how did Peter respond to the test? As spokesman for the Twelve, he said, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have come to believe that You are the Holy One of God.” (John 6:68-9) Essentially Peter was saying, “Lord, I don’t fully grasp what You just said, but I do know who You are.”



PASTOR'S CORNER

Again, Jesus' Eucharistic teaching was not like the allegorical Parable of the Sower, where the disciples just needed some explaining. His shocking words about eating His flesh and drinking His blood called for supernatural faith. That is what Jesus meant when He said to those who didn't believe Him; "No one can come to Me unless it is granted him by the Father." (John 6:65) What a wonderful God we have, who gives Himself to us as food for immortality.



East St. Tammany Slidell Chapter Magnificat Saturday, October 28th, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
(doors open at 8:30 a.m.)

Pinewood Country Club
405 Country Club Blvd.
Slidell, LA 70458

Guest Speaker: Fr. Kevin DeLerno

As an avid gardener, Fr. Kevin DeLerno understands the time and care in planting seeds and bringing them to fruition. That could describe his journey to the priesthood. In the mid-1990's, Fr. Kevin was asked by his pastor at St. Edward the Confessor Parish if he was open to the priesthood. Fr. Kevin had a simple answer, "no." But a seed was planted in Fr. Kevin. A few years later, Fr. Kevin became involved in the Life Teen program at St. Edward, and, while attending a retreat with the youth of the parish, Fr. Kevin experienced the presence of the Lord! Fr. Kevin entered the seminary in January, 2001. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 6, 2009 at the age of 36. Fr. Kevin has served at several parishes for the Archdiocese of New Orleans: St. Christopher, St. Jane de Chantal, and St. Edward the Confessor. A few years ago, Fr. Kevin was appointed as pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Pearl River, where he has been instrumental in bringing healing and joy back to that parish. Fr. Kevin also serves as the Spiritual Advisor for the Slidell Magnificat Chapter Service Team. In his spare time, Fr. Kevin enjoys gardening and painting.

Come hear the inspiring testimony of Fr. Kevin DeLerno on Saturday, October 28th, at Pinewood Country Club, 405 Country Club Blvd., Slidell. Tickets may be purchased at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.Eventbrite.com). Tickets are \$20.00 and are on sale now through October 24, 2023. Limited seating is available and no tickets will be sold at the door. If a group would like to sit together, please have all guests in your party arrive at 8:30 for seating.



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kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

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Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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LEGION OF MARY

Laurie Howell 985-290-6983

Meet on Thursdays at 10:00 am

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

rogrus1@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold & Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

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Andrea 985-640-7412

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Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

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Eydie Richmond

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

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howardhebert@bellsouth.net

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Sandra Bailey 985-250-9013

Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3rd Thursday each month 12:00 pm

Youth Group (CYO)

Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604



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