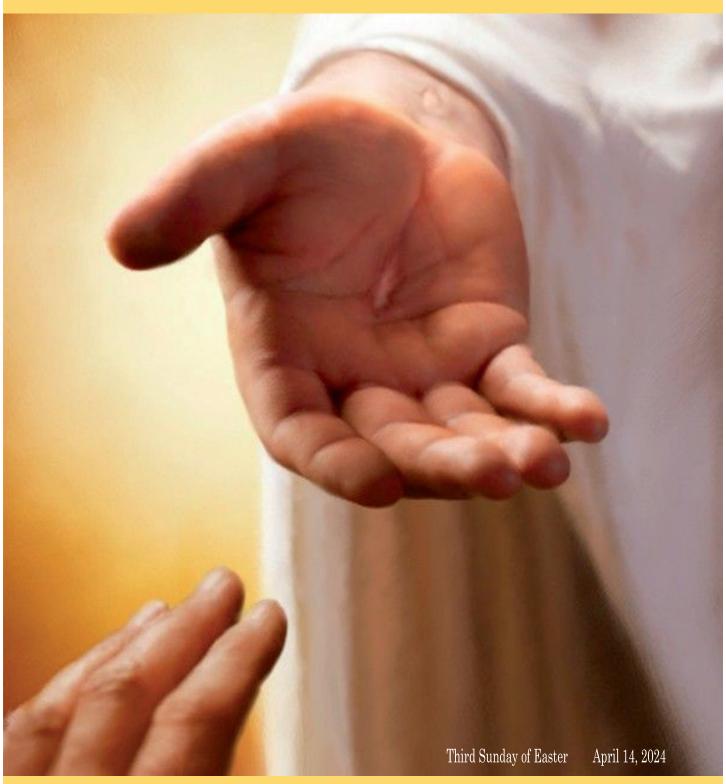
Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



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 Kittel Director of Religious Education 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."



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 <u>six months</u> 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.

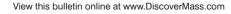
Communion for Ill/Shut-In

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

Altar Society Meeting—Thursday 9:00 a.m. Parish Hall

Widow's Group—Thursday 11:00 a.m. Torito Grill

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

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

Farmer's Market—Saturday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Parish Hall

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND



Archdiocesan Priest Retirement Fund.

The Archdiocese is truly blessed by the service of many holy and dedicated priests, especially our retired priests, who have served our archdiocese so faithfully. We currently have almost fifty retired priests, many of who continue to

serve in our archdiocese in many ways.

The annual retirement collection is used to support the medical and 7:00 a.m. retirement expenses of these priests.

Your participation in this collection is a way to say "thank you" to our retired archdiocesan priests for their many years of service to us.

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, Isaiah Deblanc, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Andriana Richard, Landon Jeffrey

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 15

(Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, April 16

(Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn 6:30-35)

8:00 a.m.

Emma Graves

Wednesday, April 17

(Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40)

6:30 p.m.

Purgatorial Society

Thursday, April 18

(Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51)

8:00 a.m.

Patrick Brown

Friday, April 19

(Acts 9:1-20: Jn 6:52-59)

8:00 a.m.

Gabriel Dickerson

Saturday, April 20

(Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/ Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & The second collection next weekend will be for the Yvonne Traceyt, Ken & Adele Salzert, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Sarah Stokes, Eleanor Strickland, Alice Bailey, Earline Garitty†, John Lacourrege†, Lawrence Otillio†, Augie Guth, Joyce Morganit, Emilie Tran

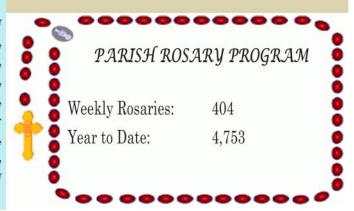
Sunday, April 21

(Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18)

Margaret & Henry Jorns†

Deacon Pat Downeyt, Glen Parkert, 8:30 a.m. Cheryl Cook, Brenda Dehm, Earline Garitty†, Bonnie Aguilar†, Augie Paretti, Riley Richard & Family, Emilie Tran, Billy Sanchez†

People of the Parish 10:30 a.m.



April 14, 2023 4 Vol. XXXIX, No. 15



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR APRIL

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

ALTAR FLOWERS The beautiful flower arrangements

adorning the altar this weekend were donated for

Barbara & Larry Laughlin

FAULT OR FATE?

Peter seems to be pretty tough with his listeners in the first reading. He says they handed Jesus over, denied him before Pilate, asked for a murderer to be released in his place, and put Jesus to death. They must have thought they were doomed. Suddenly, he tells them they were just ignorant. And that God had planned all this long ago. So is he saying Jesus' death is their fault, or just fate?

The answer of course is that it's everyone's fault. Our sins are the reason for Jesus' death. We deny Jesus when we choose to be selfish instead of loving. We hand him over when we tell ourselves we are too busy to take time to pray. We ask for Barabbas to be freed instead of Jesus when we insist on doing things our own way rather than God's way. We crucify Jesus when we follow the crowd instead of following the Lord.

It is only "fate" in the sense that our sins needed to be forgiven and God plan's for salvation was through Jesus' death and resurrection. Does that mean our sins cause something in the past to happen? There were sinners long before Jesus' time and God knew there would be sinners after that. God also planned to forgive anyone who repented their sins. In one sense, Jesus died for those who deserved to be punished for sin, and also for those who would deserve punishment in the future. He rose from the dead to show that God's forgiveness raises us up from guilt to a new life.

Peter wasn't laying a guilt trip on the listeners. After all, this is good news. God planned all this to show how much he loved us. Our response should be one of joy that we are forgiven because of that love. All we have to do is tell God we are sorry, mean it, and start living our response of love. Sins may be our fault, but Love is our fate.

THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST

Back in 2007, a group of researchers compared the amount of food consumed between two groups. They were curious to discover if the evidence of food already eaten (in this case, individuals were given chicken wings to eat while watching a football game) would impact the amount they ate altogether. They found that the participants ate less at the tables where the bones were left out in plain sight in comparison to the tables where the bones were removed. "The results suggest that people restrict their consumption when evidence of food consumed is available to signal how much food they have eaten." (Brian Wansink, Cornell Chronicle, April 9, 2007).

In today's Gospel, Jesus miraculously appears before the apostles. If His resurrected body wasn't shocking enough, He still bore the wounds of His crucifixion. There is nothing that Jesus cannot do. His very presence before the Apostles is a testament to that. So if He can do anything, why did He choose to leave those wounds, the very gruesome and heart wrenching places that we, humanity, created?

The wounds of Christ bear witness to the truth of His sacrifice. His wounds are proof to the Apostles that He is who He says He is. In a way, Jesus is providing them a second chance to look upon Him on the cross. Only John was at the foot of the cross, but he was not the only one to witness the marks of it. We too, are invited to gaze upon the broken body of Christ. We need to see, we need to remember.

Each time we enter a church, we see the cross behind the altar. Without the cross, there would be no resurrection. St. Augustine said, "The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory. In taking upon himself the death that he found in us, he has most faithfully promised to give us life in him, such as we cannot have of ourselves."

For the same reason that the people eating chicken wings need a visual to remind them of how much they have eaten, we need Jesus' wounds to vividly remind us of the lengths He was willing to go to save us. We humans are slow to learn and quick to forget. We quickly forget the price that was paid for our salvation. We bemoan all the things we are lacking, rather than lifting our empty hands in adoration to the God who gave us everything we have.

Jesus' wounds should shock us, yes. But they are also the most precious things we have ever received, for through them we are reborn to eternal life.

By Kate Taliaferro



SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS (1844-1879) April 16

With Immaculate Mary's "Ave Maria" for its refrain, Andy Williams' "Village of Saint Bernadette" peaked at #7 on *Billboard's Top 40* at Christmas 1959, airing on radio stations all over America. Imagine! In some dioceses, today marks the feast of Bernardette Soubirous, the teenager who, combing a refuse heap for firewood, saw a "beautiful lady" who identified herself in words Bernadette faithfully reported to the bishop, though she did not understand their meaning: "I am the Immaculate Conception." Relentlessly interrogated, she never wavered in her story or sweetness. Chronically ill all her life and dead at thirty-five, Bernadette left behind the shrine at Lourdes where healing waters still flow from the spring that her "beautiful lady" pointed out to her.



As we know the Holy Eucharist is the most important element of our Catholic Faith. The month of April is the month of the Holy Eucharist, so I have taken this article from the Old Baltimore Catechism to tell us what it is all about.

APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The greatest of the seven sacraments is the Holy Eucharist. The Catholic Church teaches that in the Eucharist, Our Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, is really present under the appearances of bread and wine. Our Lord is not merely symbolized by the bread and wine; nor is he present only through the faith of those present. Rather, the two material things, bread and wine, are completely changed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ, leaving behind only their sensible appearances. Thus, through the words of consecration spoken by the priest,

Jesus, without ceasing to be present in a natural way in heaven, is also present sacramentally, body, blood, soul and divinity, in many places throughout the world.

The Eucharist is not only a sacrament but also a sacrifice. In it Jesus, acting through the priest, makes present again in an unbloody manner the sacrifice which he offered once for all by shedding his blood on Calvary. In Holy Communion, by obeying Jesus' command to eat his flesh and drink his blood, the faithful are also united spiritually with Jesus himself, and they unite their own prayers, works and sufferings to his perfect sacrifice.

Q&A ON THE EUCHARIST FROM THE BALTIMORE CATHECISM

343. What is the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is a sacrament and a sacrifice. In the Holy Eucharist, under the appearances of bread and wine, the Lord Christ is contained, offered, and received.

- (a) The whole Christ is really, truly, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. We use the words "really, truly, and substantially" to describe Christ's presence in the Holy Eucharist in order to distinguish Our Lord's teaching from that of mere men who falsely teach that the Holy Eucharist is only a sign or figure of Christ, or that He is present only by His power.
- (b) All Christians, with but few minor exceptions, held the true doctrine of the Real Presence from the time of Christ until the Protestant Revolution in the sixteenth century.
 - (c) The word "Eucharist" means "Thanksgiving."

344. When did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist?

Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, the night before He died.

About a year before the Last Supper Our Lord promised to give us the Holy Eucharist. This promise is related in the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John. The fulfillment of this promise took place at the Last Supper.

345. Who were present when Our Lord instituted the Holy Eucharist?

When Our Lord instituted the Holy Eucharist the apostles were present.

346. How did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist?

Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist in this way: He took bread, blessed and broke it, and giving it to His apostles, said: "Take and eat; this is My body;" then He took a cup of wine, blessed it, and giving it to them, said: "All of you drink of this; for this is My blood of the new covenant which is being shed for many unto the forgiveness of sins;" finally, He gave His apostles the commission: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

347. What happened when Our Lord said: "This is My body... this is My blood"? When Our Lord said, "This is My body," the entire substance of the bread was changed into His body; and when He said, "This is My blood," the entire substance of the wine was changed into His blood.

Christ could not have used clearer, more explicit words than "This is My body." He did not say, "This is a sign of My body," or "This represents My body," but, "This is My body." Catholics take Christ at His word because He is the omnipotent God. On His word they know that the Holy Eucharist is the body and blood of Christ.

348. Did anything of the bread and wine remain after their substance had been changed into Our Lord's body and Blood?

After the substance of the bread and wine had been changed into Our Lord's body and blood, there remained only the appearances of bread and wine.

Because the appearances of bread and wine remain in the Holy Eucharist, we cannot see Christ with our bodily eyes in this sacrament. We do see Him, however, with the eyes of faith. Our bodily eyes, moreover, do not deceive us when they see the appearances of bread and wine for these appearances really remain after the Consecration of the Mass.

349. What do we mean by the appearances of bread and wine?

By the appearances of bread and wine we mean their color, taste, weight, shape, and whatever else appears to the senses.

350. What is the change of the entire substance of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ called?

The change of the entire substance of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ is called Transubstantiation.

351. Is Jesus Christ whole and entire both under the appearances of bread and under the appearance of wine?

Jesus Christ is whole and entire both under the appearances of bread and under the appearance of wine.

- (a) We know that Christ is whole and entire under both appearances because, "Christ having risen from the dead, dies now no more" (Romans 6:9). Because Christ cannot die, His blood must remain united always to His body, and His soul to both. The divinity of Christ, moreover, always remains united to His body and blood and soul because He is God made man.
 - (b) The whole Christ is present under each part of the sacred appearances and remains present as long as the sacred appearances remain.

352. How was Our Lord able to change bread and wine into His body and blood?

Our Lord was able to change bread and wine into His body and blood by His almighty power. God, who created all things from nothing, who fed the five thousand with five loaves, who changed water into wine instantaneously, who raised the dead to life, can change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. Although the Holy Eucharist is a great mystery, and consequently beyond human understanding, the principles of sound reason can show that this great gift is not impossible by the power of God.

353. Does this change of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ continue to be made in the Church?

This change of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ continues to be made in the Church by Jesus Christ, through the ministry of His priests.

Only ordained priests have the power of changing bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. When they consecrate, they act in the person of Christ, through the power received in the sacrament of Holy Orders.

354. When did Christ give His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood?

Christ gave His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood when He made the apostles priests at the Last Supper by saying to them: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

355. How do priests exercise their power to change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ?

Priests exercise their power to change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ by repeating at the Consecration of the Mass the words of Christ: "This is My body . . . this is the Cup of My blood."

356. Why does Christ give us His own body and blood in the Holy Eucharist?

Christ gives us His own body and blood in the Holy Eucharist: first, to be offered as a sacrifice commemorating and renewing for all time the sacrifice of the cross; second, to be received by the faithful in Holy Communion; third, to remain ever on our altars as the proof of His love for us, and to be worshipped by us.

These questions were taken from The Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 26.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The month of May has not only good weather, but an interesting pedigree. It is named after the Roman goddess Maia, said to be the mother of Hermes, or Mercury. The Romans saw it as "love's month," while in England, more practical farmers called it "Three Milks," since the cows grazing on springtime's bounty could produce at a phenomenal rate. Old customs die hard, and Christians have never made peace with Maytime frolics. No wonder that popular tradition dedicated the month's prayers and devotions to Mary, although we cannot lose sight of the fact that the liturgy always has Easter at the center of celebration. Recent developments have enriched Mary's place in a cycle of feast days woven through the whole year, dedicated Saturday as a weekly day for devotion, and highlighted Mary's role in the Advent story. In fact, every day of the year Evening Prayer centers on the singing of Mary's Canticle of Praise. The fifty days of Easter culminate on Pentecost with Mary, present of course for Christ's birth, waiting in the upper room for the birth of the church.

Rev. James Field

I shall spend every moment loving. One who loves does not notice her trials; or perhaps more accurately, she is able to love them. I shall do everything for Heaven, my true home. There I shall find my Mother in all the splendor of her glory.

-St. Bernadette

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Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604





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