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

Karen Dickerson Office Secretary kdickerson@sppcprla.com info@sppcprla.com

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

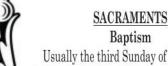
> > Fax 985-863-5431

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."

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.



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



JESUS WILL CALM YOUR INNER STORM

Today, in the Gospel of Mark, we read that Jesus calmed the storm when He and the apostles were out at sea. We all know this story. Jesus had fallen asleep when a storm began to brew. The apostles, fearing they would capsize and drown, became terrified. So they woke up Jesus and said to Him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus then calmed the storm and asked them, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"

Jesus didn't ask "Do you not have faith?" He asked, "Do you not yet have faith?" The word yet is an integral part of that question. We could ask the same question to ourselves when we encounter difficulties in life or when we feel sad and alone. These are the times when we may feel like we are perishing. And sometimes we may even feel like God doesn't care.

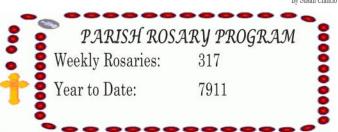
How many times, out of despair, have we asked Him, "Jesus, where are (2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21:29) you?" We allow fear to take over. We allow the outside world to convince us that 8:00 a.m. God doesn't care, that we are not lovable, and that we are all alone. But we are never alone. No matter what we go through in life, Christ is there for us. Christ is there with us. In those times, He could ask us the same question, "Do you not yet have faith?"

So how do we build that trust we should all have in God? We get to know Him. We read stories in the Bible or other religious books. We talk to Him in prayer. We count our blessings. We think about the love we have for our children or the love our parents have for us, and we multiply that love by a thousand.

Our Heavenly Father loves us more than we can even begin to imagine. And that love should calm our inner storm. That love should keep us from giving in to sa, Sr.†, Lawrence Otillio†, Earline Garitty†, Altar Sosadness, anxiety, and fear.

Yes, we may still feel these emotions, as they are a normal part of being Scogint, Peggy Guelfo human. But the difference between having faith and not having faith is the ability to acknowledge those feelings, lay them at the foot of the cross, and simply say, "Jesus, I trust you to calm this storm." And then believe that He will.

By Susan Ciancio



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 & Evdie Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Camila Dest, Luke Ditmore

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, June 24

(Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, June 25

(2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Mt 7:6, 12-14)

George & Meritha Laughlin† 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, June 26

(2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Mt 7:15-20)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, June 27

Judith Doucette

Friday, June 28

(2 Kgs 25:1-12; Mt 8:1-4)

8:00 a.m. Robert DeBlanc†

Saturday, June 29

(Acts 12:1-11; Mt 16:13-19)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/ Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Traceyt, Ken & Adele Salzert, Danny Raguciety Members, Antonians & Benefactors, Lee Ann

Sunday, June 30

Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15; Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

7:00 a.m. Charles & Geraldine Frick†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downeyt, Glen Parkert, C.J. Lightell[†], J.C. Spiers[†], Bernadette Landry[†], May Caballero, Peggy Guelfo

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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

Covered Dish Supper—Saturday 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR JUNE

We pray for migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

ALTAR FLOWERS The beautiful flower arrangement

The beautiful flower arrangements adorning the altar this weekend were donated in memory of

Lucy Comeaux

GIVE THANKS TO OUR LOVING GOD

It is so easy to complain when things don't go our way. We don't understand why certain situations have to be so hard or why family members have to suffer. We get down about things like the weather, the outcome of a sporting event or the food we ordered being cooked incorrectly. If anyone ever had anything to complain about it was certainly Job, but in today's first reading God called him out on it rather strongly.

God himself teaches us with this passage just how much he dislikes complaining. Because, if we think about it, do we really have anything to be unhappy about? Our Psalm proclaims: "Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting." And that sums it up right there. Period. There is not much else to say. We have the love of God, what more do we need? Thanks be to God!

Our second reading only confirms this thought. "The love of Christ impels us...whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come." Everything on this earth will pass away. Every possession, every created thing, every person and every moment of suffering will all pass away. Even the second that you took to read this line has already passed, never to return. Yet no part of this rather stark reality should cause us fear, because we are a new creation in Christ and his love impels us forward.

In today's Gospel, the disciples fell into fear, and Jesus reminded them of his great power and love by calming the storm with just three words: "Quiet! Be Still!" When we call on him in faith, he can calm our storms as well. No matter how strong the winds or how tall the waves, Jesus can help us both physically and spiritually. And just like the disciples, we are once again filled with awe.

So whenever life's many trials and tribulations get you down, remember that complaining won't get you anywhere. Instead, lift your heart and mind to our all-powerful God and give thanks to him, whose love is everlasting.



Have you noticed our monthly devotional flags?

Beginning last June, and continuing each month through the year, Sts. Peter & Paul has flown a different flag outside our church, each representing the devotion the Catholic Church has traditionally observed for that particular month.

A card providing information for each monthly devotion has been placed in the back of the church offering different tangible ways to practice and live out each devotion; the same information has been printed in the bulletin for each month.

Additionally, a framed image depicting the seasons and monthly devotions can be found at the back of the church.

Check it all out!"

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In harbor towns throughout the world, seafarers will hear today's Gospel with profound awareness of the power of a storm at sea. In Gloucester, Massachusetts, a community of fishermen has gone down to the sea in ships for centuries, some never to return, as recounted in the book and film The Perfect Storm. In the late nineteenth century, a stranded fisherman in the North Atlantic broke an oar. Adrift, he begged Mary for help, and when he returned his story inspired the building of Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Over the years, grateful sailors have surrounded the pews with models of their ships. Between the twin towers, a statue of Our Lady holds a vessel in her upraised hand as a symbol of a safe voyage. It is visible to homecoming sailors from the harbor's entrance. For centuries, sailors have looked to Mary as Stella Maris, "Star of the Sea." Indeed, that is possibly the most ancient title of Mary. In Aramaic, the language of Jesus, the words "Our Lady" sound similar to the word meaning "pilot" or "leader," someone who could lead one to safety. Certainly, a treasure of our tradition is how Mary points the way to her Son, the one who calmed the seas and accompanies us to safe harbor.

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - Job 38:1, 8-11

• In today's first reading, God speaks to Job amidst a storm. We know in our own lives that God can speak to us in very subtle ways. As Christian stewards, do we strive to make available quiet time to listen to Him?

Psalm 107:23-26, 28-31

• As Christian stewards, we can be gratefully confident that God will rescue us in times of great distress.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

• With Christ, a new covenant is created with us; now we live, not for ourselves, but in the example of Christ, Who gave us Himself. Do we, as Christian disciples, return our praise and thanksgiving to God for His great gift?

Gospel - Mark 4:35-41

• When the wind and storms hit us in daily life, do we, as Christian stewards, turn to the Lord in faith, or try to go at it alone?

Stewardship Thought

St. Paul reminds us in the second reading that Christ died "so that those who live might live no longer for themselves." What we give to and do for others, we give to and do for Jesus! See 2 Corinthians 5:15 (Our Sunday Visitor, ibid., page 20).

June 23, 2024 5 Vol. XXXIX, No. 25

PILGRIMAGE DAY 8 ROME (CATACOMBS OF ST CALLIXTUS)



PASTOR'S CORNER

Finally, on day 8 we visit the catacombs of St. Callixtus, among the most significant in Rome. Unfortunately we were not allowed to photograph the interior of the catacombs so I only have one picture of the entrance to the catacombs. The other two I found online.

These catacombs are very impressive, because they have over 300,000 tombs / crypts. If it were not for the guides and the roped off areas you could easily get lost in them. There are miles of corridors that mostly look the same, except the names on the crypts. Not to mention that only less than half of the crypts are lit with electricity. In time before electricity you would use oil lamps and there were people who used to put oil refill stations down some of the

corridors.

In ancient Rome, Christians used to use Catacombs for their burial places. The Catacombs consist of miles of underground tunnels and chambers that were painstakingly carved out of the unique tufa soil on the outskirts of Rome. Tufa is a mixture of normal topsoil and elements from volcanic ash and lava. As long as it is not exposed to the air, it shows no special characteristics, except that it is remarkably soft and easy to dig. But when you excavate into it, exposing it to the air, it gradually becomes almost as hard as rock.

They are on the right of the Appian Way, after the church of "Quo Vadis?". The catacombs of St. Callixtus are among the greatest and most important of Rome. They originated about the middle of the second century and are part of a cemeterial complex which occupies an area of 90 acres, with a network of galleries about 12 miles long, in four levels, more than twenty meters deep. In it were buried hundreds of martyrs, 16 popes and very many Christians.

They are named after the deacon Callixtus who, at the beginning of the third century, was appointed by pope Zephyrinus as the administrator of the cemetery and so the catacombs of St. Callixtus became the official cemetery of the Church of Rome. In the open area are two small basilicas with three apses, known as the "Trichorae". In the Easter one were perhaps laid to rest pope Zephyrinus and the young martyr of the Eucharist, St. Tarcisius. The underground cemetery includes several areas. The area of the Popes is the most important and venerated crypt of the cemetery, called "the little Vatican" as it was the official burial place of nine popes and, probably, of eight dignitaries of Rome's 3rd century Church. In the walls you can still see the original inscriptions, in Greek, of five popes. On four tombstones, near the name of the pope, there is the title of "bishop", since the Pope was regarded as the head of the Church of Rome, and on two of them there is the Greek abbreviation of MPT for "Martyr".

One of the tombs in the catacombs had a statue of a woman whose face is turned away but her body is laying down in, this is a depiction of St Cecilia: the patron saint of music.

The statue of St Cecilia is a copy of the celebrated work sculpted by Stefano Maderno in 1599.

She was of a noble Roman family, she was martyred in the third century and entombed where the statue now lies. She was venerated in this crypt for at least five centuries. In 821 her relics were transferred to Trastevere, in the basilica dedicated to her.

THE ORIGINS OF CATACOMBS

In the first century Rome's Christians did not have their own cemeteries. If they owned land, they buried their relatives there, otherwise they resorted to common cemeteries, where pagans too were buried. That is how Saint Peter came to be buried in the great public "necropolis" ("city of the dead") on Vatican Hill, available to everybody. Likewise Saint Paul was buried in a necropolis along the Via Ostiense.

In the first half of the second century, as a result of various grants and donations, the Christians started burying their dead underground. That is how the catacombs were founded. Many of them began and developed around family tombs, whose owners, newly converted Christians, did not reserve them to the members of the family, but opened them to their brethren in the faith. With the passage of time, these burial areas grew larger by gifts or by the purchase of new properties, sometimes on the initiative of the Church itself. Typical is the case of Saint Callixtus: the Church took up directly the organization and administration of the cemetery, assuming a community character. With the edict of Milan, promulgated by the emperors Constantine and Licinius in February 313, the Christians were no longer persecuted. They were free to profess their faith, to have places of worship and to build churches both inside and outside the city, and to buy plots of land, without fear of confiscation. Nevertheless, the catacombs continued to function as regular cemeteries until the beginning of the fifth century, when the Church returned to bury exclusively above ground or in the basilicas dedicated to important martyrs.

When the barbarians (Goths and Longbards) invaded Italy and came down to Rome, they systematically destroyed a lot of monuments and sacked many places, including the catacombs. Powerless in the face of such repeated pillages, towards the end of the eight century and the beginning of the ninth, the popes ordered the removal of the relics of the martyrs and saints to the city churches, for security reasons.

When the transfer of the relics was completed, the catacombs were no longer visited; on the contrary, they were totally abandoned, with the exception of Saint Sebastian, Saint Lawrence and of Saint Pancratius. In the course of time, landslides and vegetation obstructed and hid the entrances to the other catacombs, so that the very traces of their existence were lost. During the late Middle Ages they didn't even know they were there.

The exploration and scientific study of the catacombs started, centuries later, with Antonio Bosio (1575-1629), nicknamed the "Columbus of subterranean Rome."

In the last century the systematic exploration of the catacombs, and in particular of those of St Callixtus, was carried out by Giovanni Battista de Rossi (1822-1894), who is considered the father and founder of Christian Archeology. In 1930 the Holy See, as the owner of the Catacombs, entrusted the catacombs of St. Callixtus to the care of the religious Congregation of the Salesians of Don Bosco.

Overall this was an exciting endeavor to see history itself unveiled in the underground of Rome itself.





Left: Stairs going into Catacombs Above: Cecilia Callixtus Grave Below: The Catacombs of Saint Callixtus



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rogrusl@gmail.com

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Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold & Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

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Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

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Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

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Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

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Eydie Richmond

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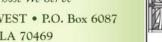
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