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

Rosary will begin 30 minutes

Before each weekend Mass

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 Bryan McCauley

YOUR STAFF

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

Mary Kittel

Director of Religious Education Assumary@sppcprla.com

Cedric Konyaole

Web Site

ckonyaole@sppcprla.com

Jerry Broussard Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00

Tuesday-Friday 8:00-3:00

CONTACT US

Main Office

985-863-7935

Fax

985-863-5431

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 <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.

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."



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

OCIA —Tuesday 6:00 p.m. in classrooms

Legion of Mary—Thursday 2:30 p.m. Parish Hall

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

Advent Mission—Friday after 8:00 a.m. Mass in church

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

I remember going to Mass at my parish during Advent and hearing Father sing "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" (from the musical *Godspell*) to start his homily. I was completely confused because the singing felt like it came out of nowhere. But he went on to explain how that song summed up the Advent season. We are preparing the way of the Lord.

In today's Gospel, we see that John the Baptist knew that Jesus's ministry was coming, saying "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire." He was helping people repent so they could be ready for Jesus' world changing ministry. As ridiculous as he might've sounded, the people who listened were able to repent and prepare. Just like actors and actresses practice for the big show, preparing themselves to perform, we need to prepare ourselves for his Second Coming.

This can also apply to modern-day society. While we are preparing for the Christmas parties and all the gift giving, we sometimes forget, myself included, what we are truly preparing for. One thing that helps is remembering to fit in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to repent of my sins and be fully present to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

As we prepare for the Lord, I pray that each of you can truly enjoy the Advent season and the Christmas season. Let's also take time to pray for those who aren't practicing Christians, that this Christmas season can help them see the good that God can do in each one of our lives. By Ben Hooper

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Michael McKelvey, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Israel & Joyce Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Joseph Decaro, Lois Leonard, Don-

ald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Lucy D'Antoni, Judy Aleman, Isabella & Dylan Gornor, Vaughn Gay, Cathy Stanford, Herbert Landry, James White, Maria Kalcic, Dave Anderson, Lisa Wayne, Robert Lawtum, Bailey Battle, Patricia Barrois, Amy Fandal, Val Methe, Randy Tilloy

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 8

(Gen 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, December 9

(Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14)

8:00 a.m. H. T. Stottman†

Wednesday, December 10

(Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, December 11

(Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15)

8:00 a.m. Lou Lou Battle†

Friday, December 12

(Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12-1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47)

8:00 a.m. Legion of Mary

Saturday, December 13

(Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/ Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Lawrence Otillio†, Lee Ann Scogin†, Judy Woods†, Patti & Vaughn Gay, James Bailey, Jr.†, Leanna & Lester Coupel†, Bruce Guidry† & Family, Augie Paretti†, Ralph Landry†

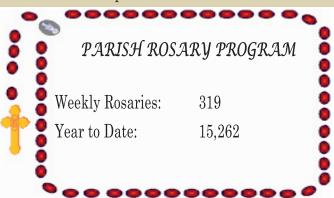
Sunday, December 14

(Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11)

7:00 a.m. Deacon Bryan & Natalie McCauley

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Deacon John & Mary Joyce Howard†, May Caballero†, Eydie Richmond†, Pat Cuccia†, Robert & Jimmie Lou Fava, Claude Yarborough†, Augie Paretti†, Lester Coupel†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish





POPE INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



IN MEMORIAM

With deep sympathy we inform you of the death of Chris Hill, husband of Barbara Fandal Hill, son-in-law to Amy Fandal and brother—in-law of Johnathan and Amelia Fandal. He was called by God to his eternal reward. Please remember Jeff and all those

who mourn him in your masses and prayers.

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

The reading from the prophet Isaiah is a very hopeful description of the Messiah. And part of that description in verses 2-3 contains the traditional seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Messiah, and looking forward to His coming in glory, let's take a look at those gifts and see how we can use them.

Wisdom is first and it is not a matter of tossing out proverbial quotes. This wisdom is the gift of seeing God in his creation. It means that we value the things of this world only as they help us to know and love God more. The second gift, Understanding, follows from Wisdom: as we appreciate God in His creation, we understand what God expects of us in dealing with creation and other people. This gift helps us to know how to act in a world that seems to ignore God.

Counsel follows from Understanding as the gift of making correct judgments on how to act, how to follow those commands of God. For example, Understanding can lead us to love others. Counsel guides us to love them in appropriate ways.

Strength or fortitude, is the gift that enables us to do those things inspired by understanding and counsel, even if they are difficult. John the Baptist shows that gift in the gospel, when he challenges the Pharisees. It gave him the courage to die for his faith.

Knowledge is similar to counsel (knowing how to act) in that we begin to see what God wants for us in this world. It includes an understanding of Scriptures and how God's Word applies to our lives. Knowledge leads us to deeper revelations of the truths of our faith. This can lead to the sixth gift (seventh in Isaiah's text: "delight in the Lord") of Piety. This is a willingness to worship and love God, a desire to be close to Him in prayer. Piety leads us to totally rely on God and humbly ask his help.

The final gift, Fear of the Lord, is more than just being afraid: It is the awe and wonder of recognizing how great God is, how much he loves us, and so how much we want to stay close to Him. The desire to be close to God leads back to Wisdom, where we see God in his creation.

Tom Schmid

AROUND THE PARISH

Advent Mission—Friday, December 12th after 8:00 a.m. Mass in Church

PSR Christmas program and pot luck lunch—Sunday, December 14th at 11:30 a.m.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. and Midnight

Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. ONLY

Solemnity of Mary: (Holy day of obligation)

New Year's Eve: 6:30 p.m.

New Year's Day: 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Sunday—Widow's Group hosts after all masses on Sunday, January 11th

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace" is the oftenmemorized definition of sacrament, but through more than five decades of reform we have rediscovered the power of sacrament to bestow grace by reshaping our lives as individuals and communities. Not so long ago, most people were not attentive to the nature of sacrament as an act of the Church, a power that flows from the Body of Christ. Fifty years ago, we were inclined to see a sacrament as an encounter between Christ and an individual.

Today, we see that definition does not go far enough. God's grace is not a trickle, but a gushing torrent washing over the whole Church. Like a photographer pulling back the camera for a broader picture, today we are not only interested in the person who is being baptized, reconciled, or anointed. We think about how celebrating a sacrament transforms a community. We think about the grace given by Christ to the community that baptizes or marries or ordains or confirms. Sacraments are for the good of the community. Even when it appears to be a private, hidden moment, as in individual confession, a sacrament is always for the sake of the whole body, always more than "meets the eye."

—Rev. James Field

PASTOR'S CORNER ON THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

Today, we look at the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. One thing that really changed my outlook on these mysteries was the movie, The Passion of the Christ, by Mel Gibson. After I viewed that movie, I had a whole new perspective on the suffering that Jesus went through for the salvation of the world. It helped me to realize just how much He did for me and for all of us out of love. My prayer is that when you meditate on these mysteries you will have a new appreciation for what Jesus did for all of us.

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

The Agony in the Garden – conformity to God's will

Jesus knows torture and death lie ahead and He prays that the cup will pass. He also prays God's will be done. In His agony, He carries the weight of our sins so that we may be saved. I imagine the courage it took to give Himself to God's plan. We too suffer and while we may pray the suffering will end, we are given support from Our Lord to endure, as Jesus received strength from the angel in the garden. I pray for the courage to conform to God's will especially when it may be difficult.

The Scourging at the Pillar – Mortification

Jesus is brutally tortured to near death. Scourging was more than mere beating; it involved using instruments to inflict the most pain and blood loss possible without actually killing. Jesus was beaten for our sins. His mother watched as her son's blood spilled on the ground. I imagine the horror she felt watching her precious child be brutalized, and how hard it must have been to not run to his rescue. I pray for forgiveness for my sins, the sins that contributed to the torture of my Lord.

The Crowning with Thorns – Moral Courage

Jesus is stripped, reclothed with a scarlet robe and crowned with thorns. He is mocked and spit upon by the soldiers. The people demand His crucifixion. Despite His innocence, He does not defend Himself. He is strong in the face of hatred. I imagine His sadness at the people's ignorance, His sorrow at their contempt. I pray for courage to defend God's truth and strength to withstand the criticism and hatred of others.

The Carrying of the Cross - Patience

Jesus' humiliation continues as He carries the Cross He will be crucified on through the town and people continue to mock Him. I imagine the pain of the heavy wood against His back, rubbing against the open wounds from the scourging, the hot sun on Him, the thirst, and hunger. I imagine His grief at seeing Mary, knowing she is watching her son die. Jesus is patient in enduring this suffering for us. I pray for more forgiveness, knowing my sins add to the weight of that Cross. I pray for patience in my own times of difficulty.

The Crucifixion - Salvation

Jesus arrives and is nailed to the cross. As He hangs, slowly dying, He is comforted by the presence of Mary, her sister, John and Mary Magdalene. Mary is strong. She has watched Him suffer and now die and she never leaves Him. I imagine her heartache. In his words to Mary, "Woman, behold, your son" all of us are entrusted to her love. I pray in thanksgiving for Christ's suffering and sacrifice so that I may be saved.



1st Sorrowful Mystery Agony in the Garden



2nd Sorrowful Mystery Scourging at the Pillar



3rd Sorrowful Mystery Crowning with Thorns

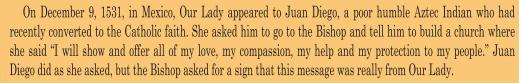


4th Sorrowful Mystery Carrying of the Cross



5th Sorrowful Mystery

THE STORY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



Mary granted his request. On December 12, she showed Juan where the most beautiful Castilian roses were and told him to gather them. It was a miracle that the roses were there and in bloom because there was frost on the ground, and the ground was an infertile place where only cactus and thistles grew. After he gathered them, she helped arrange them in his tilma, or poncho, and told him to show them to the Bishop.

When he brought them to the Bishop, the Bishop was amazed at the roses, but was even more amazed at what began to happen to Juan Diego's tilma. Right before their very eyes, the image of Our Lady began to form on the cloth. The picture of Mary was beautiful and the Bishop fell to his knees. He had the church built at her request.

The tilma is still intact after 470 years. The colors have not faded and the cloth has not deteriorated. It has been on display in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe for all this time.

The manner in which Our Lady appeared on the tilma was very significant to the Aztec Indians. God had her dressed in a way that they would understand who she was. She was dressed in royal clothes that showed that she was very important, perhaps a queen. She also had the symbol of the cross at her neck which was the same symbol the Spaniards had on their ships and in the churches they built. She had a sash tied around her waist which meant that she was with child, for this was the way the Aztec women dressed when they were pregnant. And on her beautiful dress were all sorts of designs and flowers. But there was one flower on her dress that was very significant. It had only four petals. To the Aztecs, the four petal flower was the symbol for the true God, the God above all gods. This flower was located on her abdomen, right over the place where Jesus was growing inside of her. The Aztecs immediately understood that this was the mother of the true God!

This appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe was very important to the history of our continent. You see, the Aztec Indians and the Spaniards were on the brink of war. The Aztec Indians' culture and religion were very different from the Spaniards. They worshipped gods, to whom they would offer human sacrifices, often killing 50,000 people a year. The Spaniards, who were Catholic, were naturally disgusted by this. But they were cruel to the Aztecs too, treating them like animals and sometimes killing them for no reason. If a war had occurred, it would have been very brutal and the Spaniards and Christianity would have been totally wiped out.

Mary's appearance changed everything, however. It helped the Indians to embrace Christianity and it helped the Spaniards to treat the Indians with respect and as human beings. In the course of seven years, 6,000,000 Indians converted to the Catholic faith. This was the biggest conversion in the history of the Church! This is why Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas. Juan Diego, the humble man to whom she appeared, was canonized in the summer of 2002.

Mary's appearance also put an end to the worship of stone gods and the ritual of human sacrifice. We pray for Mary's help today to bring an end to the human sacrifice of God's children through abortion and to convert non-believers. Our Lady of Guadalupe is also called the Patroness of the Unborn.



MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ALTAR SERVERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

kdickerson@sppcprla.com

ALTAR SOCIETY

Susan Mercier 985-690-6617

3rd Thursday each month 9:00 am

ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY

Deacon Bryan McCauley

985-863-7935

ELIJAH HELPERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613

1st Friday each month 8:00 am

FAITH FORMATION-OCIA

Elizabeth Brent 985-640-6938

FINANCE

Patti Gay 985-863-7935

FLORAL DESIGN

Cathy Downey 985-290-4702

GRAND ADULTS (GASPP)

Alicia O'Brien 985-863-1938

1st Monday each month 12:00 pm

LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

LEGION OF MARY

Paula Hilton 985-707-4539

Meet on Thursdays at 2:30 pm

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Deacon Bryan McCauley

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

Braden Eymard

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea Leonard 985-640-7412

ST. IOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

TUESDAY ROSARY

Fr. Kevin DeLerno

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

USHERS & GREETERS

Howard Hebert, Sr. 985-863-5319

howardhebert@bellsouth.net

WIDOWS GROUP

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



In order to keep our data base current and accurate, please contact the office if you have moved and have a new address or new phone number.

Office: 985-863-7935 or Email: kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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and more.

The office requires information <u>no later</u> than Monday, two (2) weeks before publication.

For current Parish happenings (funeral information, changes in mass times, etc.), check the bulletin boards at the entrances to church and www.sppcprla.com.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Good Sams Ministry is open Monday (12:30-3:30 pm), Tuesday-Friday (9:30 am-3:30 pm). Please call ahead for appointment, 985-641-6421

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HOW TO DONATE:

You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for every family! You may donate by going to the site below:

https://saintlukeslidell.org/donategoodsams

Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.



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