

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: October 3-4, 2020

Phase III of the Restrictions still require us to (1) sanitize our hands regularly and at prescribed times, places and situations, (2) wear our face mask or shield, or both in public places including churches and other houses of worship, and (3) maintain the 6-foot social distancing. I would like to urge y'all to continue with your vigilance and courtesy to all ***for our good and the good of all His people!***

At the Saturday Vigil Mass this weekend, I will officially present to **JAMES Arthur LaJAUNIE** and **MARY SUE Bordelon LINDNER**, this year's recipients of the Diocesan Leadership Award from the Co-Cathedral Church Parish, their medals of recognition that Bishop Shelton Fabre handed out last August 23rd.

James has been an active member of our church community involved with the RCIA Team, Youth Formation Program Mentor and Facilitator, an Extra Ordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist, an Adult Server, a member of the Pastoral Council, and soon a candidate for the Permanent Diaconate Program of the diocese. Sue is a Youth Formation Program Mentor and Facilitator, a member of Jacob's Ladder and the Annual Lenten Gumbo Gang. We would like to congratulate Sue and James again and thank them for their service of our Church and community.

Our Kingdom parables continue on this weekend with the "vineyard of the Lord" topic and stories in the two readings. In the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord spoke through the prophet who told the story of "his friend" who had a fertile vineyard that He worked so hard in order to produce good grapes. At harvest time, however, the vineyard did not produce good grapes that could be made into good wine but only wild grapes that are only good for animals. Disappointed, the vineyard owner condemned the vineyard and allowed it to fall into ruins.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus continued on with his Kingdom parable by narrating another vineyard story similar to the Prophet Isaiah. However, Jesus put a twist to His story with the addition of the servants and owner's son "*being sent to the vineyard to obtain his produce.*" How the tenants

dealt with the servants and the owner's son allude to how the priests and the elders of the people dealt with the prophets of old, and how they will deal with God's Son later on.

In sum, God is the vineyard owner and we (our lives) are His vineyards, His servants are the prophets (old and new), the owner's Son is Jesus the Christ, harvest time is when the Lord wants to receive/have back the fruits of His and OUR works (during and/or after our days). Only when can give back to the Lord (vineyard owner of our lives) the fruits of our lives and faith that we can enter the Kingdom of God (end of the gospel narrative). As one popular bumper sticker puts it: **"God wants spiritual fruits [of our works] and not religious nuts!"**

The need for Spiritual fruits of faith and work has been a constant message in the Scriptures from the early beginnings of the Hebrew people to the time of Christ. Over and over again, God sent prophets after prophets to remind His people about the necessity of not only observing the Law (torah) but to practice them in their lives. Jesus challenged all of God's people from the highest to the lowest rank to **"hear God's word and act on it"** (Lk. 8:19 -21). For Jesus, discipleship begins with the hearing of His Word followed by doing it. God who owned the vineyards of our lives had already provided all and everything we would ever need – the nourishments (food, water, material things, opportunities, etc.), fertilizers (family, friends, people, etc.), and the Son to make us grow and prosper. God also planted the Seed of His Word and Spirit in each and every one to grow and bear fruits. We, as God's tenants in His vineyard, must also work so that what God has planted and given would grow and bear plenty of fruits for God to obtain later on. The longer we are in God's vineyard, the better our vineyard and fruits should be. Old and mature vines produce better grapes. Old and mature trees produce desired fruits. And once they don't, then they are cut down and thrown into the fire. And so let us take the advice of St. Paul in the 2nd reading this weekend: **"Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen..."** (Phil. 4:6-9) Don't stop – ever! **"Then the God of peace will be with you."**

Father Vic+



Scott Smith & Caroline Carney (3)
Damian Gleason & Abby Hargrader (3)

September 19th/20th

Weekly Envelopes \$	9,053.00
Weekly Loose	783.00
ACH Monthly	4,815.00
ACH Weekly	355.00
\$ 15,006.00	



Our Sunday Bulletin is supported by the advertisers who are listed on our back page. What better way to say THANK YOU than to remember them the next time you go shopping.

Thank you for your generosity!

The following were
Baptized into the family
of Christ recently:



Elodie Marie
Child of Mitchell & Whitney Landry

Christopher David
Child of David & Katherine Elias

Lucas James
Child Jason & Maria Tucker



WHITE MASS
Honoring ALL Medical &
Mental Health
Professionals are invited to the
Annual White Mass for
Doctors, Nurses,
Hospital & Laboratory Workers,
Counselors and Coaches.
All Weekend Masses
October 10th & 11th
St. Joseph Co-Cathedral.

We would like to ask and encourage all to wear your distinctive uniform (or attire) at any Mass you choose on this weekend. A special blessing will be given to all at each mass.

Respect Life Sunday Events October 4th

Respect Life Sunday Mass: 11:30 AM

Life Chain: 2PM, Rain or Shine in front of St. Joseph Co-Cathedral and next to Warren J. Harang, Jr. Auditorium.

Baby Bottle Fundraiser: this weekend we will participate in the annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser to help support Crossroads Pregnancy Resource Center.

RED MASS

The Annual Red Mass for Legal Professionals and their staff will be celebrated on
Wednesday, October 7th
12 NOON
St. Joseph Co-Cathedral

Bishop Shelton Fabre will preside with Archbishop Thomas Rodi, Archbishop of Mobile as the homilist. Archbishop Rodi has a Juris Doctor degree from Tulane University (1974) and a member of the LA State Bar Association, a Masters of Divinity degree from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, and a Licentiate Degree in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America. He was appointed Bishop of Biloxi, MS in 2001 and promoted as Archbishop of Mobile, AL in 2008. this Mass is open to all legal professionals and staff members, families and friends. Pandemic Guidelines/ Restrictions are to be observed.

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA PUBLIC ROSARY RALLY

Please join us for our annual America Needs Fatima Public Rosary Rally, as we pray for our country and the world

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
11:00 AM

We will meet at the statue of Our Lady of Fatima behind the church. Everyone is invited. Please bring your rosaries, lawn chairs and mask.

**(wearing of masks and
social distancing are required)**