

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: April 3-4, 2021

As months go by on **Phase III restrictions of this Pandemic**, we continue to (1) sanitize our hands, (2) wear our face mask or shield and (3) maintain the 6-foot social distancing on our own. Thank y'all for your cooperation. Soon and very soon, this too shall pass!

Thank y'all for remembering in your prayers, **MADALYN DANIELLE HOSKINS** and **CATHERINE MARIE JEBLONSKI**! Bishop Shelton Fabre received them into our Church and faith community this past Easter Vigil. Our Church continue to grow and be blessed by the presence and the gifts of the people the Lord has called to be His own! Thanks be to God. I am most grateful to James Lajaunie and Sponsors who walked with Madalyn and Catherine from the beginning until now.

The Special Second Collection this Easter weekend is dedicated for the Diocesan Offices of Vocation, Seminarians and Permanent Diaconate. Proceeds from this special Easter Collection supports the work of promoting the Vocation Office and supporting our seminarians in formation. Educating a seminarian at one seminary till priesthood ordination is costly but the rewards are heavenly. We also train and form qualified men for service as permanent deacons in our diocese who serve the churches (and some in the diocese) in various capacities. Our Quota for this collection is **\$15,025.00**. Your generous support of the Special Second Collection for Ministry this weekend will be deeply appreciated.

In added note above, I am pleased to inform y'all that one of our parishioners, **MR. JAMES LAJAUNIE** has been accepted to the Permanent Diaconate Program of the diocese. James and his wife, **Sherry**, will begin their 5-year instruction and formation under the Diaconate Program of the Archdiocese of New Orleans this August. James is married to Sherry for 19 years and have three children. He received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from LSU, and after living in the Baton Rouge area for 25 years, returned to Thibodaux in 2015 to work as an agency manager for a local insurance agent. Their youngest son, Tony, is a sophomore at ED White Catholic High School. Their oldest son, Andrew, lives in Johnson City, TN, and their daughter Victoria, lives in Denham Springs with her family. James said that *"We are so blessed to be a part of the St. Joseph Co-Cathedral parish family, and humbly ask for everyone's prayers as we begin formation."* I will present James and Sherry to all of

you during one of my Masses next weekend, Divine Mercy Sunday.

I am again very grateful to our Jacob's Ladder Crew and Volunteers who decorated and cleaned our Co-Cathedral for this weekend! Your valuable help makes our church more beautiful especially during this Holy Season of Rejoicing. Deprived of the Easter experience last year due to the outbreak of the pandemic, we are privileged to gather in our beautifully decorated church this Easter weekend not only to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord but to again admire the beauty of this Holy Season thanks to the hard-work of our Jacob's Ladder Crew. Most of the beautiful things you see in and around our Co-Cathedral Church are possible because we have volunteers who share their gifts with us. I've been appealing in the past for volunteers to join our Jacob's Ladder (and other ministries) because we need you! I hope some of you would consider joining our Jacob's Ladder Crew.

This Easter weekend, we were given multiple choices of readings for various times of celebrating Easter Sunday, viz. a set of readings for the Easter Vigil and one for Mass During the Day, I chose to reflect and write about the readings for the Mass During the Day. The reason: I love the short resurrection story from the Gospel of John. But before I get to John's gospel, let's start our reflection in the Acts of the Apostle.

In the 1st reading, St. Peter summarizes for us what happened on that 1st Easter Sunday. He was very straightforward and to the point. St. Paul's Letter to the people in Colossae reminded all the witnesses of the resurrection to keep the experience and this knowledge always in their hearts and minds. We must not forget that (1) Jesus rose from the dead and that (2) we are His witnesses!

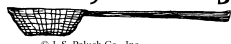
But then Mary of Magdala in the Gospel of John raises a point for our reflection: ***"They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him."*** At every Mass, we take Jesus's Word and Body from the Ambo, the Altar of Sacrifice and this church, where do you put Him? To whom do we bring Jesus' Word and message? Where do we take His Precious Body after we received Him at Holy Communion? I pray that wherever and to whomever you take Jesus, someone will find Him.

On behalf of our Staff, I wish y'all a Happy and Holy Easter!

Father Vic+

March 20th/21st, 2021

Weekly Offering



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Weekly Envelopes	\$ 6,680.50
Weekly Loose	2,105.00
Weekly ACH	350.00
	\$ 9,135.50

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Please remember

Claudine Mosier

who passed on into the Kingdom of our Father recently. Please pray also that her family may find comfort and consolation through their faith.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions
April 2021**

Universal intention—Fundamental rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Missalettes

Donated In Memory of



The James Gilbert Family

By: Children

**EDUCATION TO MINISTRY
COLLECTION
(EASTER SUNDAY)**

This collection is used locally.

**St. Joseph Co-Cathedral's
Quota: \$ 15,025.00**

Below is the expected year-end financial report for the education of seminarians, the operations of the Offices of Vocations and Permanent Diaconate. As you will see, the **NEED IS GREAT !!**

Donations and Grants	\$ 169,102
Interest Income	\$ 26,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$195,102
Advertising	12,200
Seminarian Expenses	730,000
Books / Pamphlets	8,500
Communications /	
Public Relations	2,500
Conferences / Workshops	5,500
Continuing Professional Ed.	10,000
Dues / Subscriptions	2,000
Office Supplies	400
Program Expenses	1,000
Recruitment	10,000
Screening Programs	5,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$787,100
TOTAL NEED	\$ (591,998)

Thank you for your generosity in advance.

Respect Life Event
with Special Guest Speaker,

RYAN BOMBERGER

*Tuesday, April 13th
 6:30 – 8:00 PM
 St. Joseph Co-Cathedral*

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