



St. Joseph Co-Cathedral

P.O. Box 966 721 Canal Boulevard Thibodaux, LA 70301

Pastoral Staff

Most Rev. Mario E. Dorsonville, STL, D.Min.
5th Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux

Very Rev. Vicente N. DeLa Cruz, J.C.L, V.F.
Pastor

Rev. Rholando Grecia
Parochial Vicar

Permanent Deacons
Deacon Joseph Bourgeois

Mrs. Miriam C. Guillot
Office Manager

Ms. Renée E. Guillot
Secretary

Adult Formation & Service Ministries Coordinator
Ms. Pamela Folse

Youth Formation Program
Mrs. Susan Manning
Ms. Patty McKee

Maintenance
Mr. Carl Waguespack

Contact Information

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Facebook Page:
St. Joseph-Co-Cathedral – Catholic-Church-
Thibodaux

Mass Schedule

Weekday Monday to Friday
6:30 AM and 5:30 PM

Saturday at 6:30 AM
Weekend Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30, 9:30 and
11:30 AM; 6:00 PM

Confession/Reconciliation

30 minutes before each Weekday and weekend
Masses and from 3 to 4 PM on Saturday

Baptisms

FIRST Sunday of each month (except during Lent)
following the 11:30 AM Mass. Baptismal Seminar
on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the
Life Center Building. Please call the Church Office
for arrangements.

Weddings

Arrangements should be made six months before
the wedding. Please call the Church Office to
schedule.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School

501 Cardinal Drive, Thibodaux, LA 70301
Ms. Jami Chadwick, Principal
Email Address: stjoeelm@htdiocese.org
(985) 446-1346

Church Office Hours

Monday to Thursday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM
Closed for Lunch 12 noon to 1:00 PM

TRMC Hospital Chaplain

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: April 29-30, 2023

For the past diocesan and church parish events, our **Co-Cathedral Choir** under the direction of Dr. John Saint-Marie (a tenured professor at NSU School of Music), have been praised by our new bishop, friends from other churches and local parishioners for their magnificent choral performance at many events. They have been requested and was part of the Installation Mass of our new Bishop at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, they have provided music for our new Bishop's Evening of Prayer Mass here and accompanied us with music during our Sacred Triduum Masses and services. I concur wholeheartedly and am proud of them! We need to increase the membership of our Co-Cathedral Choir and build on the legacy that our previous great music directors (Gibbens, Sandra and Ellis) have left us with. **WE NEED YOUR VOICE!** If you have the talent, time and skills to be a part of this great tradition, in the words of Jesus, "I bid you – come forth!" The Co-Cathedral Choir and church need you! Please speak privately with Professor John or to any Co-Cathedral Choir member for information. Remember now what St. Augustine once said: "those who sing well, prays twice!" Thank you.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter that we are celebrating this weekend will bring to our attention the gospel and church's "**call to continuing conversion.**" Mostly associated with the "old" Rite of Christian Initiation (now referred to as the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults), the **CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION**, however, is a Biblical challenge that was presented to us from the beginning of our salvation history. In short, it is **NOT** a NEW thing! Since the exile of Adam and Eve from the garden, God had been "calling us to continuing conversion" until the Return of Jesus Christ, or our own return to God, which ever comes first. To ignore, dismiss or downplay this call is to risk NOT entering the Kingdom of God. This is the lesson and the warning that the readings this weekend will bring to our attention.

When I first arrived at a new church parish years ago, I was greeted by a churchgoer saying, "I hope you don't start changing anything around here." I was dumbfounded. My heart sank and I think my soul fled away for a while. I knew those words were spoken to Jesus by the Pharisees and some Sadducees during His time but I was not expecting to hear them again in this century. What was said was plain and simple: don't change anything, leave everything alone.

In the 1st reading, Peter "*stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed*" the message of **conversion** that he and the apostles were tasked to deliver to all people, many of which still do not know Christ, and those who do, refuse to change. Peter's action and message was urgent and important: "**Repent,**" he said, meaning **change and convert** your hearts and souls for your salvation depends on it.

In the 2nd reading, the same Peter spoke to those who **changed their lives and converted** their hearts for their love of God by reminding them what the Lord Jesus had to go through in order to save them. They were once like lost sheep who wandered away from the Lord but in their **conversion**, they have "*returned to the shepherd and guardian of [their] souls.*"

In the gospel of John, Jesus's challenge to the "whoever" (addressed to the Pharisees) is also a challenge for us. The Pharisees and Sadducees were so adamant in not changing and hated Jesus for the "new commandment and challenge" He gave to them. Towards the end of Jesus' life and ministry when they handed Him over to be crucified, they justified their indifference towards Jesus and His "**call to conversion**" by saying, "*it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people.*" (Caiaphas in John 11:50). "**And Jesus wept.**"

Change and daily **conversion** is integral in our faith journey towards the kingdom. **Change** is needed in order to grow, it is needed in order to give us a new purpose, it is warranted to give new meaning in our lives and faith. As we go through the normal and usual **changes** in our lives, we are also **converted** to deeper and higher faith that always welcomes **change**. Our **conversion** begins when we realize that **changes** in our lives and even in faith bring growth, maturity and salvation. We must **change** so that we can let go of the past that keeps us from growing. We need to **change** so that we can grow for the better and not for the worst. We need **change** so that the Holy Spirit can truly and freely move in our lives. We need change so that we let God **CHANGE** the world!

The prophets of old challenged the people of all generations to **change** one's life for the love of God. John the Baptist preached a message of **repentance and conversion** for the Kingdom of God. Jesus declared that unless we become like little children always willing and open to **change and conversion**, we will not be fit for His kingdom.

Change is inevitable in one's life. We grow, we age, we **change**. Conversion happens when we learn to see and choose **changes** that are essential to our happiness and salvation that nourishes faith. **Change** is sometimes difficult because of fear or complacency, opposites of faith. If one is afraid, hate, or doesn't want **change**, how can they enter God's Kingdom "*where all things will be changed?!*" (1Cor. 15:51-53)

I wept when I heard those words "**don't change anything**" for they reminded me of what "whoever" did to Christ that made "*Jesus wept.*"

Father Vic+

April 15th / 16th , 2023

Weekly Offering



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Weekly Envelopes	\$	8,801.00
Weekly Loose		3,046.49
Online Giving		931.39
Monthly ACH		3,797.00
Weekly ACH		545.00
	\$	17,120.88

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The following were Baptized into the family of Christ recently:

Annie Ruth
child of Jordan & Alexis Barbera



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Please remember
SherryLee Davis

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



Randall Daigle & Francesca Ledet (3)
Tyler Stiles & Savannah Stumpf (2)
Drake Thibodaux, & Amy Crumlich (1)
Matthew Loker & Paige Robichaux (1)

2nd Collection Catholic Home Mission Appeal

This weekend, our special collection supports the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. This appeal assists our brothers and sisters here in the United States who do not have access to basic pastoral services like Mass, the sacraments, and religious education. Through your support, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal helps these mission dioceses form vibrant faith communities and strengthens the Church at home. Please be generous

ST. VALERIE PROCESSION & FIREMEN'S MASS

Sunday, April 30th
Procession: 8:45 AM
Mass: 9:30 AM

All are welcome to join us in this tradition.

Volunteer mentors are greatly needed for the 2023-2024 school year to help Youth Formation K-5th grades on Mondays from 5:30pm-7:00pm.



Please prayerfully consider helping with this ministry . Call Sue and Patty at the Life Center 446-1387 ext. 217 if interested.



Grief Support Group

Thursday, May 4th
6:00 PM
Life Center
All are welcome. Invite a friend.



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION
FRIDAY, May 5th

All are welcome!!