



# *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*

Church Office: (985) 446-1387  
Fax Number: (985) 446-6571

Website: [www.stjoseph-cc.org](http://www.stjoseph-cc.org)  
Email Address: [stjosephcc@htdiocese.org](mailto:stjosephcc@htdiocese.org)

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](mailto: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*

**Rev. Sebastian Stephen**  
985-438-0215

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: February 3-4, 2024

For the Hearing-Aid Wearers who want to use the Wi-fi- Assisted Bluetooth feature and/or the separate independent loop (for hearing aid telecoils) – good news! The Technician from the New York company that installed our new Sound System will be visiting our location this weekend of February 3-4 ONLY and will be available to assist you connect your hearing aid device to our Sound System and learn the app that came with it! He will also give instructions on how to use the “independent loop” (for hearing aid telecoils) for those who want to use this option. Please plan to be in church half an hour before each Mass to avail yourselves of this opportunity.

Our observance of the Year of the Eucharist will begin with the Public Lecture and Presentation of Dr. Brant Pitre on the Year of the Eucharist this coming Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Life Center Hall. Dr. Pitre will give a lecture on his book on the Eucharist as well as present the other books he wrote. After this Father Willie Todd will facilitate a Faith-Sharing Group about Dr. Pitre's Book. For more information on this, please contact Pam Folse at the church office or check our website and social media accounts.

These last few weeks have been a difficult one for us in the diocese especially among us who worked closely with our late Bishop Dorsonville. Thursday last week, February 1, 2024, our Co-Cathedral Church hosted the funeral mass of Bishop Mario Dorsonville in the presence of dignitaries, his friends and guests and among our local people. This is the first time we ever had a sitting Bishop passed away and the first one to be buried at the Co-Cathedral grounds. Bishop Dorsonville requested me personally before he passed away to arrange that his funeral mass and burial will be held here. Bishop Dorsonville consider St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Houma as his “alpha” where he began his ministry (where he was installed), and St. Joseph Co-Cathedral as his “omega” where his ministry untimely ended (had his last public celebration at the Confirmation Mass here 3 days before he died). Bishop Dorsonville and I became close even in a very short time because of his fatherly personality and amazing mind. He appointed me to be part of his Leadership Team that assists him in the administration and pastoral care of our diocese. He was an amazing leader, an exceptional teacher, and a model of service for us all. He will be greatly missed! Reflecting on his passing away, I remember what someone wrote some time ago: *“Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave footprints on*

*our hearts, and we are never, ever the same.”* (by Flavia Weedn)

The Sacred Scriptures seems to know that our diocese will be going through a painful moment with the death of our Bishop that all the readings this 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time bring to our attention the common experience we all share – **“everybody hurts!”** There is a song with the same title popularized by the rock band R.E.M. in the early 1990's that I actually like; listen to it on YouTube.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, the fictional Biblical character “Job” is expressing his sorrow on the tragedies of his life. He has been through a lot and now he's pouring out his heart to all “just to let them know.” As if the psalmist heard the outpouring of heart that Job was doing that the Responsorial Psalm came back with *“Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.”* Even a fictional character like Job was in pain; **“everybody hurts!”**

St. Paul in his letter to the people at Corinth in the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading is also doing some pouring out of emotions to a group of converts who were easy to complain. When hearing the demands of disciples, the Corinthian converts were quick to ask, “You want us to do – what?!” Well, St. Paul let them have it – **“everybody hurts!”**

In the gospel of Mark, we hear instances and incidents where those near Jesus were hurting, the mother-in-law of Simon Peter, all those possessed by Demons, those who were sick with various diseases, and many others. Jesus was surrounded by people who were hurting in more ways than one, some physically, psychologically, mentally, and spiritually – **“everybody hurts!”**

The unexpected death of Bishop Dorsonville hurt us all. The pain of losing someone, expected or not, brings a kind of pain that cannot be explained, understood, and sometimes accepted. We grieve because we loved. The deeper and longer the grief, the greater the love. During all our pains and hurts, God is always in our midst not to remove the cause of them but to bear with us. This is the reason why He allowed Himself to die on the cross, the ultimate experience of pain and hurt, to let us know that there is no pain or hurt in this world that could inflict us that God had not experienced first. Yes, even God experienced hurt and pain for **“everybody hurts!”**

*Father Vic+*

**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
**January 20th / 21st , 2024**

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 9,745.51
Weekly Loose	2,048.20
Online Giving	233.63
Monthly ACH	4,067.00
<u>Weekly ACH</u>	<u>530.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,624.34</b>

Thank you for your generosity !

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**RITE OF ACCEPTANCE**

Last weekend we welcomed Brooke Duty into the catechumenate through the Rite of Acceptance. Brooke is preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist—at the Easter Vigil . Please keep Brooke in your prayers as she prepares to enter an intense time of prayer and preparation. We look forward to celebrating with her at Easter.

We are always happy and willing to provide more information to those who are seeking a closer relationship with Jesus and the Church through St. Joseph Co-Cathedral. If that is your wish, please call the parish office, 985-446-1387, ext. 215.



That time of year is here again! Our annual Lenten Gumbo will be every Friday during Lent. Once again we will serving take-outs as well as table seating in the Life Center. Hours are 11AM-1PM. Our proceeds go to the Good Samaritan Food Bank. The Meal will be \$12 Thank you for your continued support! Hope to see you there!

Anyone who wishes to donate 10# of boiled potatoes and a dozen boiled eggs, or a dessert. Please call the Life Center at 446-1387 to give your name.

**2nd Collection this weekend**  
**Church in Africa**

This weekend we take up our collection to support the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. The people of Africa are joyous and faith-filled—but as the Church in Africa grows, the pastoral needs of the people also increase. Clergy formation, communications programs to bring the Gospel to remote territories, youth ministries that engage the next generation of disciples—these and all the Church's needs are wide-ranging. The Solidarity Fund is an opportunity for our parish to stand with the people of Africa. Our contributions help them face these challenges and build lasting foundations of missionary discipleship. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this collection today. To learn more, visit [www.usccb.org/africa](http://www.usccb.org/africa).

**ST. JOSEPH CO-CATHEDRAL PRESENTS**  
**AN EVENING WITH DR. BRANT PITRE**  
**6:30 PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**  
**AT THE PARISH LIFE CENTER**

Dr. Brant Pitre will give an introductory lecture on his book "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper" to prepare participants for a 5-session conversation on the book facilitated by Fr. Wilmer Todd during Lent.

The book may be purchased from Dr. Pitre on the evening of his presentation, at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral or through your favorite bookseller.

All are invited to attend. Those who attend Fr. Todd's sessions should come having read the assignment for the week and be prepared to take part in the conversations.



Hunter Bourgeois & Alyse LaRose (3)

Please remember  
**Gloria Lambert**



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