

15th

Sunday in rdinary Time

**"But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who
hears the word and understands it..."**

- Mt 13:23



SAINT RITA PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN

July 16, 2023
VOLUME 38 NUMBER 29
7100 Jefferson Highway
Harahan, LA 70123-4928
737-2915

www.stritaharahan.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
7:30 p.m.
Mon.-Fri.: 7:00, 8:30 a.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00-3:45 p.m.
**Sunday: 8:30-9:15 a.m. &
6:45-7:15 p.m.**



PASTOR

Fr. Steven Bruno
frbruno@arch-no.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Fr. David Frank
dfrank@arch-no.org

DEACON: Daniel Flynn

DEACON: Greg Flores

SECRETARY: April Wahl

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Paige Mosley
stritcharahan@arch-no.org

CRE: Erin Maffe
emaffe@arch-no.org

Youth Minister: Joseph Rivera
jrivera@arch-no.org

PRINCIPAL: Toni Ruiz

SCHOOL: 194 Ravan Avenue
737-0744

stritchahar@arch-no.org

CAFETERIA: 737-2773

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

Holy Communion will be brought to the home. Please call the church office when someone is ill and unable to come to church, or when someone is in a hospital. Prayers may be requested for the sick and elderly.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Our St. Joseph Perpetual Adoration Chapel is located on the first floor of the Msgr. Champagne Complex on the corner of Jefferson Hwy. and Ravan Ave. and is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (For everyone's safety, only assigned adorers are allowed entry with a key code between the hours of 6:00 pm and 7:00 am) Prayerfully consider spending an hour a week with Our Divine Lord. If you cannot commit to a specific hour, why not consider being a substitute? If you are interested, please contact the church office at 737-2915.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament is administered upon request to those near death, gravely ill, permanently handicapped, very elderly and those undergoing major surgery.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

3rd Sunday of each month following the 11:30 a.m. Mass.

BAPTISM SEMINAR

Parents and Godparents are required to attend a baptism seminar held at 7:00 p.m. the first Thursday of the month in the Mary Room at the rectory. Parents must attend the baptism seminar before their child can be baptized.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

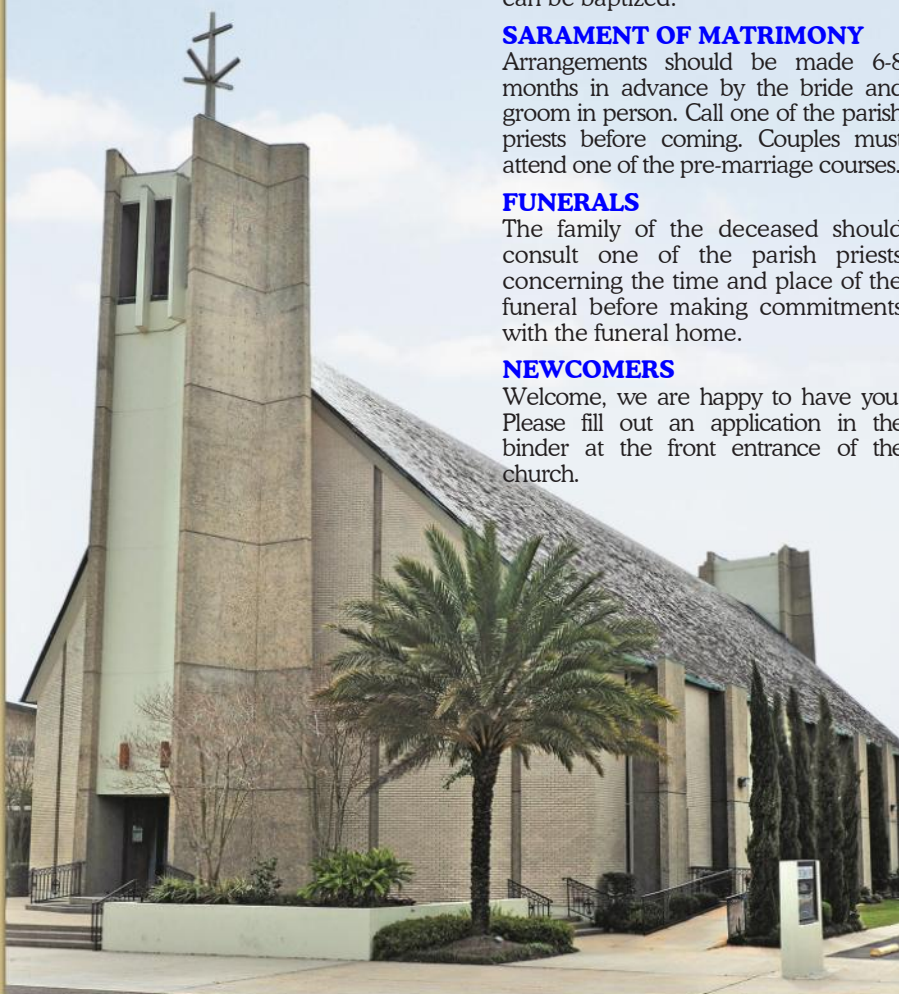
Arrangements should be made 6-8 months in advance by the bride and groom in person. Call one of the parish priests before coming. Couples must attend one of the pre-marriage courses.

FUNERALS

The family of the deceased should consult one of the parish priests concerning the time and place of the funeral before making commitments with the funeral home.

NEWCOMERS

Welcome, we are happy to have you. Please fill out an application in the binder at the front entrance of the church.



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sat. July 15, 4:00 pm Peter Vallelungo	
Monica Flick	Ed & Shirley Walsh
Whitney E., Gertrude R., Leslie J., Gina M. Esthey	
Darrel & Gerardine Hotard	J. Gayle Calongne
Dorothy V. Calongne	Barbara Brehm Calongne
Julie Ann Calongne	Gary Boihem
Terry Fonseca	Marilyn Pankratz— Healing
D.J. Picou III	Angel Cannatella
Melissa Korn— intentions	Larry Stillings –healing
Geraldine C. Feugas	
Sunday July 16, 7:30 am Sandra Barrios	
	9:30 am Johnny Krieger III—intentios
Victor Marsiglia	Rose Velez
Mary Ann McKearan	Dominick Ogg— Healing
Randy Blaise	Carol LaRose Fontenot
Paul Wang, Sr.	
	11:30 am Raymond Gannuch
	7:30 pm Parishioners
Mon. July 17, 7:00 am	
	8:30 am Sandra Hemmingway—Birthday
Tues. July 18, 7:00am Daniel Morehiser	
	8:30 am Mary Ann McKearan
Wed. July 19, 7:00am Daniel Morehiser	
	8:30 am Marian Landry Henderson
Thurs. July 20, 7:00 am Daniel Morehiser	
	8:30 am Johanna D. Peeler
Fri July 21, 7:00 am Iney Newton	
	8:30 am June Marie Barrette –intentions
Sat. July 22, 8:30 am Gregory Johnson	

Scripture Readings

For the Week of July 16, 2023

Sunday Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9

Monday Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8; Mt 10:34 – 11:1

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1 & 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27; Mt 11:28-30

Friday Memorial of Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Ex 11:10 – 12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15 & 16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Sgs 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Sunday Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

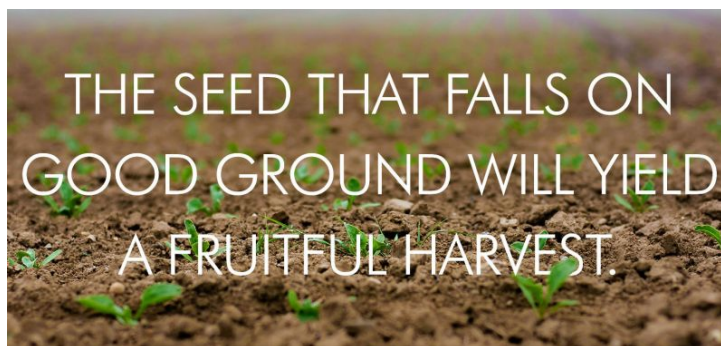
Wis 12-13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or Mt 13:24-30

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:



In today's Gospel, we hear the story of the sower and we know that "some seed fell on rich soil, and produce fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty fold."

This week by putting a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that together they will produce fruit a hundred fold



Sanctuary Lamp
Parishioners
Chapel Lamp
Parishioners



Sun. July 16 12:30 pm Parish Baptisms
Mon. July 17 7:00 pm Festival Meeting
Tues. July 18 6:00 pm St. Vincent
Wed. July 19 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Thur. July 20 10:00 am Legion of Mary
 6:00 pm Holy Hour
Fri. July 21
Sat. July 22 6:00 pm Scout Movie Night

Church office Hours
 * **Lunch 12:00 pm— 12:30 pm**
Summer Hours : 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Weekly Collection Totals

July 9
\$10,865.81

July 2
\$9,911.50

Weekly Parish Expenses

\$14,945.60

These figures exclude extraordinary income & expenses

Sign up to make a recurring automatic donation by going to **StRitaHarahan.com** where you will find a link to our Online Giving page or **make a one time donation**



Pray for Them

Henry, John, Earl Deibel, Mary Ann Schmitt, Catherine Kives, Willie "Bill" Wolverton, John Paris, Doris Portera, Mary Dal Daigle, Virginia Stansbury, Fr. Randy Roux, Dc. Nolen LeBlanc, Joyce Harris, Pat Trahan, Dale Fishel, Jo Maraist, Mark Crawford, Lisanne Lightfoot, Randy Smith, Gloria Krieger, Andrea Thomas, Diane Smith, Phil Crowson, Mary Morvant O'Neill, Edwynna Combe, Louis Jung, Jr., Letty Loomas, Harold Bartchy, Lena Sparacio, Deborah Mula, Steve Bonnacaze, Deacon Gary Borne, Patricia Whetleman, Bobbie Ann Bergeron, Caiden Reid, Jack Serigne, Josephine Piazza, Lindsey Collier, Charles Slocum, September Wang, Vincent Palestina, Judy Ewens Hof, Lois Dupuy, Andrea Glandt, Suzanne Unger, Linda Mayer, Robert Petty, Cynthia B. Farrara, Barbara Dziubla, Henry Deibel, Dora Higgins, Amanda Livaudais, Mr. Tim Smith Sr. & Family, Mr. Tim Smith Jr. & Family, Worley Parks, John Bel, Henry S. Tuminello, Rebecca Gandy, Elise Atchley, Joyce Benoit, Bridget Celestin, Robert Vallejo, Alicia Walker- Cole, Alvin M. Castay, Sr., Hilda Orgeron, James McCilwain, Bob Velez, Beau & Trudy Barrett, Joseph McAdam, Leslie and Al Mendoza, Barbara Guidry, Louise Chapman, Tim Walker, Nellie Barsoza, Francis Parks, Little Bonnie, Joel Stansbury, Yvonne Rousset, Donald Geier, Dan Peeler, Rebecca Wahl, Betty Oneill, Paige Brock, Randy Sroebe, Kathy Livaudais, Ellen Chapman, Charlotte Evola, Janet Wild, Fred Grilletta, John Johnson, Louella Lange, Laura Knipper, Gerard Tonglet, Elizabeth Bonnette, Sandra Caperino, August V. Cristina, Claude Barsoza, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ward, Theresa Arroyo, Rodney Este, Sr., Philip Godbold, Gabriella Ogg & Baby Dominic, Elizabeth Bittel, Tommy Woods, Bruce Perry, The Picou Family, Shelley Vathy, Melissa Korn, Tomalyn Disalvo, Marilyn Pankratz, Lee Belgarge, Virginia Carreca
Name will remain on the list for 6 weeks. If at the end of 6 weeks you wish for them to remain on the sick list for 6 more weeks you must call the office. This request must be made by the individual or an immediate family member.

Reflections of an adorer

My dear daughter, I love you very much. My children will soon see how I can light up their hearts with my love. They will be compelled to light someone else's heart with my love and mercy, for I will send graces down upon my children to start a movement of light filling up the darkness with my Sacred Heart sparking rays of light upon you. Capture this ray of light and place it in your own hearts, and go out and bring this holy light into your world. Hold a candle in your hands and light someone else's candle with your good deeds. Keep lighting each other's candles by random acts of kindness. You will then see, my children, the face of Christ Jesus before you. Where you spread love, you will see Me! Bring all these rays of light committed by your good deeds and actions to my beloved Mother. She is gathering your efforts to build her flame of love, which will be cast down upon the world. This great light will bring many souls out of Satan's darkness, and will be released into the light of Christ Jesus! By your great efforts of prayer, fasting, and penance, many souls will be saved. Seek the kingdom of God by being in the light. Love is the source of this great light; love is God! Go in peace!!!

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tending the Soil of Our Souls

The Parable of the Sower helped me understand the transformative power of spending time daily with the Word of God, especially in overcoming obstacles to living the Catholic faith.

Although the Catholic Mass is seeped in Scriptures, it took me years to realize it; not exactly sure where in my catechesis the communication breakdown occurred, but the fact remains that the seeds, the Word of God, had been scattered before me, my entire life. However, like the seeds strewn on the rocky path in the parable, although the Word had reached my ears, the devil took full advantage of my ignorance and snatched the meaning away before it could penetrate my heart.

At times, I attempted to grow spiritually by attending retreats or presentations. These set my heart on fire for the things of God. All my senses heightened—the incense smelled sweeter, the readings felt more inspired, the homilies touched deep into my heart as if they were written just for me; even kneeling in prayer felt more reverent. Filled with this renewed desire to become closer to God, I vowed to pray a daily Rosary, attend Mass more faithfully, and not give into my fears by continuing to avoid the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Yet, over time all those things I had discovered to nourish my budding faith—the encouraging retreat team, consistent study of the Scriptures, or quiet time for prayer—faded. I did not stick with anything long enough to develop deep roots of faith, and my attention to God withered away. Left with a thirst for more yet unable to duplicate the euphoric feelings of my retreat experiences, I allowed the thorns of the world to grow all around me. Any seeds dropped would be choked by the weeds of daily worries, concerns, and tasks.

Prayer dissolved into a speedy blessing before meals, a quick petition as I tried to make our income cover our expenses, or an Our Father or Hail Mary as I drifted off to sleep; all prayed more out of habit than a yearning for a deeper faith. My weekly Mass participation spurned more out of a desire for perfect attendance and a heavenly insurance policy than a love of the Lord.

Finally, joining a small group faith sharing tilled the rich soil necessary for true spiritual growth. However, even rich soil needs consistent tending for seeds to continue flourishing within it—weeds of distraction, busyness, and apathy need constant extraction, or they will completely overtake our time with the Lord. Fertilizing the soil is critical. Our faith is watered and nurtured by what I refer to as the "Grace Trifecta," which consists of daily participation in prayer, sacrament, and Scripture. Our beautiful Catholic faith provides the gardening tools for an abundant harvest; we merely need to pick them up and tend the soil of our souls.

Should I be a St. Rita Altar Society Member ? “ *One of the best decisions I ever made*” says one member



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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Parables, Anyone?

When Jesus answers the apostles' question about why he speaks in parables, it may seem as if he is using them to confuse people. We know he is trying to spread the good news of God's kingdom. So he talks to the crowds in parables, easily understood stories that usually have a moral or that end with a question for the hearers. He uses these stories to teach the crowd.

Jesus threw out parables like a farmer sowing seeds. Some of them fell on the ears of those who would be disciples. But most fell on the ears of people not ready to understand. So how do we receive his word? Do we hear it without understanding, letting it go in one ear and out the other? Do we hear it joyfully, but then forget it when troubles or difficulties come along? Do we listen to the word but ignore it in the face of some later temptation?

If we want the word to grow strong in us, we can take steps to help ourselves understand it. We can come to church early and spend a few minutes with the readings before Mass. After Mass we can talk about the readings or the homily with our family over breakfast. We can pick out one practical point to practice that week.

Keeping the word in difficult times is not easy. The cross teaches us to expect troubles, but we have to endure them to really learn that we can go through suffering to a new life.

To be strong enough to resist temptations, we have to decide each day that we want to follow Jesus' word. We can pray for that strength and ask God to help us remember that word when temptations come. And we can decide to stay away from the places, people, or situations that so tempt us.

God's word can be likened to a ball game. We can sit back and watch, not really involved or caring who wins. Or we can jump in and participate and make the game ours. Let us ask God how we can take the word and run with it.

Tom Schmidt

Now is the time to
register for the
2023-2024 CCD
and Confirmation.

The forms are now available at
stritcharahan.com under Parish
Ministries Please send fees St Rita
Church 7100 Jefferson Hwy,
Harahan, 70123.



Scan to Link to CCD forms

A Prayer to Avert Storms and Hurricanes

Father, all the elements of nature obey your command.
Calm the storms and hurricanes that threaten us
and turn our fear of your power into praise of your goodness.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

St. Rita Harahan HOLY HOUR

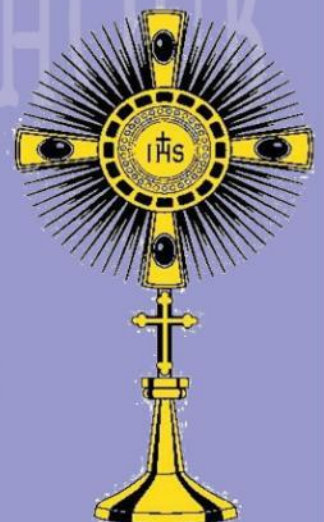
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