



## ST. MARY OF THE PINES CATHOLIC CHURCH

**March 19, 2023**

1050 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop  
Shreveport, LA 71118  
Office 687-5121  
www.StMaryShreveport.org  
Email: smopoffice@stmaryshreveport.org

**Very Rev. Mark Watson, V.F.**  
Pastor

**Rev. Raney Johnson**  
Parochial Vicar  
**Deacon Bill Roche**

Kim Long, Director of Religious Education  
Carol Garceau, Secretary  
Lisa Welby, Bookkeeper  
Tom Ticich, Music Coordinator  
Reynaldo Moreno, Organist  
German & Andrea Velazquez, High School  
Youth Directors

**MASSES:** Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.: 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday (Vigil): 4 p.m.  
Sunday Mass: English: 8:30 a.m. & Spanish: 12:30 p.m.

**CONFESSION:** Saturday 3:00—3:45 p.m.  
Sunday 11:30 a.m.—12:15 a.m.; or by appointment.

**BAPTISM:** Call the office to schedule a preparation class after which a Baptism date can be scheduled.

**ADORATION:** Following 8:30 a.m. Mass on Tuesday until Holy Hour which is 3 p.m. Benediction at 4 p.m.

**GIFT SHOP:** Tues., Wed., & Thurs. 11 a.m.—1 p.m.

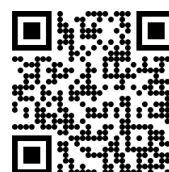
**OFFICE:** Mon.—Thurs. 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. & Friday 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon.



We the people of St. Mary of the Pines are unified by our Baptism to fulfill the mission of the Catholic Church: to proclaim the works of God and to live as Jesus taught.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will improve our lives by continuing to understand the teachings of the Catholic Church, sharing with the poor, providing support for our young people, the sick and the lonely, worshipping with reverence and enthusiasm, providing stewardship for the gifts God has committed to our care, and celebrating together as a Christian family.

Scan the QR code below with your cell phone's camera to go to our "Get Involved" page on our website to learn about all the ministries and organizations we have in our Parish!



## **New Horizons-The Man Born Blind**

One of the wonderful aspects of my ministry is visiting those who are not able to come to church. One of those individuals is named Mert. Mert is blind but has great spiritual sight. She and I enjoy speaking about the faith, about her husband and about reminiscing about her faith life. In addition she loves to ask questions about faith. Her spiritual sight has much in common with the man born blind who gains physical sight and grows in spiritual sight.

### **THE MAN BORN BLIND**

While in Jerusalem, Jesus encounters a man that was born blind. He makes a paste from the dust of the earth and places it on the man's eyes and commands "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam (which means the Sent One)." The man responds unquestioningly. The name of the pool shows that it is Jesus, the Sent One who affects the cure of this man.

After washing in the Pool, the man returns seeing and is greeted by neighbors who cannot believe that he was the one born blind. Asked how this happened he merely states that Jesus commanded him to wash in the pool. The action of Jesus does not lead to praise of God but to division among the people. Some people do not believe that this was the man who they once known. At the same time, it seems as if the man does not know the identity of Jesus.

Hauled next before the Pharisees, who are concerned about the Sabbath healing, he again repeats what Jesus did. The man born blind and the Pharisees then argue as to whether Jesus is of God. The man states the he believes that Jesus is "a prophet." The answer shows a growth in faith.

Summoned again by the leaders, the man is immediately confronted with the charge that Jesus is a sinner. Ultimately the man born blind says, "if he were not from God he could do nothing." In anger they expel him from the synagogue. The leaders fail to see what is right before their eyes: a man who has been healed by the power of God. They are blind to God working outside the structures of their own religious belief.

Doubted by friends and neighbors (vv. 8-12), abandoned by his parents (vv. 18-23), questioned, insulted and cast out by "the Jews" he is "found" by Jesus, who asks, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" When he asks, "Who is the Son of Man?" Jesus says, "You have seen him..." – a wordplay on sight which shows that the true sight that this man has been given is faith. The man replies, "Lord, I believe." The man shows that he believes that Jesus reveals God and so he worships Jesus. He grows from seeing Jesus as a man, to a prophet, to a suggestion that he must be from God and he finally prostrates himself before Jesus. This man's journey from blindness to sight was "that the works of God might be made manifest in him."

The religious leaders never make the journey of faith in Jesus. The certainty of the Pharisees prevents them from openness to Jesus and to understand that his authority is from God. The blind man moves toward sight while the Jewish leaders toward blindness. Through opposition and persecution, the blind man moves to a confession of Jesus as the Son of Man and Lord. The man born blind comes to see on physical and spiritual levels. While those who seemed perfectly well become increasingly blind.

### **CONCLUSION**

This Gospel challenges us to grow in faith and to walk in light. We are reminded that Jesus is the Light of the World. This enlightenment and consequent growth in faith began in baptism. We are called to grow in faith throughout our lives. During Lent we take stock of our lives and change so that we may grow in faith. May we always move away from the choices that keep us out of the light of Christ and may our lives always reflect the light of Christ.



**Nuevos horizontes**  
**La Mujer En El Pozo (Juan 4:1-30)**

## **INTRODUCCIÓN**

Durante el tercer, cuarto y quinto domingo en las parroquias de Cuaresma a menudo celebran el Rito de Escrutinio con sus catecúmenos. En las vidas de los elegidos, los Escrutinios están destinados a lograr el auto-descubrimiento y el arrepentimiento; para descubrir y sanar la debilidad espiritual y fortalecer todo lo que es recto y bueno. Los exorcismos están incluidos en estos ritos "para liberar a los elegidos del poder del pecado y de Satanás, para protegerlos contra la tentación y para darles fuerza en Cristo..." (Los Ritos, Volumen I, página 109).

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús viaja a la ciudad samaritana de Sácara y descansa en el pozo que Jacob había dado a su hijo José. Él elige pasar por esta área para llevar la verdad de quién es a la gente de Samaria. Al mediodía, una mujer llega al pozo. Mientras la mujer tiene sed de agua física, Jesús tiene sed de que ella tenga fe en él. Jesús le dice: "Dame de beber". La mujer se sorprende de que Jesús, un hombre y un judío, le pida una bebida. Desde una perspectiva judía, los samaritanos no adoran verdaderamente a Dios. Jesús afirma que si ella supiera quién era él, le habría pedido agua viva.

## **EL DON DEL AGUA VIVA**

Este regalo de agua viva es la revelación celestial que Jesús ofrece y que conduce a la vida eterna. La mujer no entiende lo que quiere decir. Ella está atrapada en sus tradiciones samaritanas y, por lo tanto, no cree que Jesús sea más grande que su antepasado Jacob, quien una vez fue dueño del pozo. Ella no entiende el significado de "agua viva". Por lo tanto, ella pide esta agua viva para no tener que seguir viniendo a este pozo. Jesús entonces le dice que aquellos que beben el agua viva que él ofrece nunca tendrán sed, ya que se convertirá en un manantial dentro de él que brotará para la vida eterna.

## **CRECIMIENTO EN LA FE**

A medida que avanza la historia, vemos el crecimiento en la fe de la mujer samaritana. Primero llama a Jesús judío de una manera insultante. Más tarde ella llama a Jesús señor. Luego dice que puede ver que Jesús es un profeta. Finalmente, se pregunta si Jesús podría ser el Mesías.

Esta nueva fe en Jesús la lleva a visitar su ciudad e invitar a los miembros de la ciudad a venir y encontrarse con Jesús. Los miembros de la ciudad viajan con fe para encontrarse con Jesús.

## **JESÚS CONVERSA CON LOS SAMARITANOS**

Después de conocer a Jesús, los miembros de la aldea invitan a Jesús a quedarse con ellos. Luego se convierten en seguidores debido a la palabra de Jesús. Basados en esa palabra llegan a creer que Jesús es el Salvador del mundo. Al estar abiertos a la palabra de Jesús, los samaritanos se convierten en ejemplos de creencia auténtica. La mujer samaritana se convierte en la primera misionera en el Evangelio de Juan.

## **SIGNIFICADO PARA NOSOTROS**

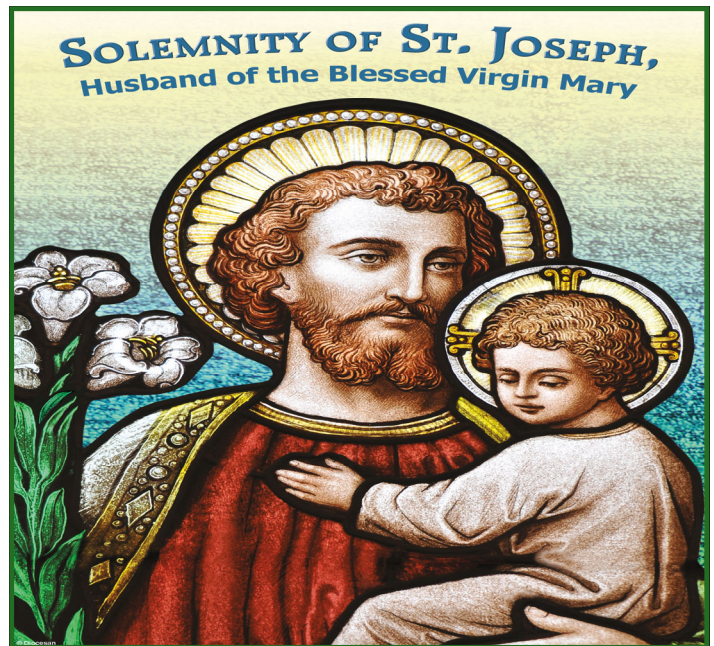
En el Evangelio, Jesús viaja a territorio no judío y lleva su mensaje salvífico primero a la mujer en el pozo y luego a la gente de la ciudad. Así como Jesús tenía sed de la fe de la mujer samaritana, así en su amor Jesús tiene sed de nuestra fe. ¿Cómo respondemos a esta sed de Jesús?

También nos desafía a llevar sus Buenas Noticias a los demás. ¿Cómo hacemos esto en nuestras vidas? Debemos reflejar a Cristo a los demás por la forma en que vivimos su verdad. Debemos reflejar a Cristo a los demás en todos los aspectos de nuestras vidas. Debemos llevar la verdad de Cristo especialmente a los católicos alejados, a los que son católicos sólo de nombre y a los que sufren.



## Mass Intentions for the Week

|                                |                   |                                                                                |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>3-18</b> | <b>4:00 P.M.</b>  | Parishioners of St. Mary's<br>and Sacred Heart Church                          |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>3-19</b>   | <b>8:30 A.M.</b>  | + Noel Mondragon<br>+ Jim Cadwell<br>+ Deceased member of<br>O.V. Ebarb family |
|                                | <b>12:30 P.M.</b> | + <b>Miguel Haro</b>                                                           |
| Monday                         | 8:30 A.M.         | + Colleen Calvit                                                               |
| Tuesday                        | 8:30 A.M.         | + Tom Ebarb                                                                    |
| Wednesday                      | 8:30 A.M.         | <b>No Mass</b>                                                                 |
| Thursday                       | 8:30 A.M.         | + Martha DeBusk                                                                |
| Friday                         | 8:30 A.M.         | + Salud M. Manal                                                               |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>3-25</b> | <b>4:00 P.M.</b>  | + Mark Garceau<br>+ Roland Antoine                                             |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>3-26</b>   | <b>8:30 A.M.</b>  | + Wanda Monette Boyd                                                           |
|                                | <b>12:30 P.M.</b> | + <b>Spanish Mass</b>                                                          |



### COLLECTIONS

Fiscal Year July 2022—June 2023  
March 11 & March 12, 2023

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Tithe                   | \$ 5,808.42 |
| Capital Improvement     | 215.00      |
| SVDP                    | 45.00       |
| Trauma/Charity          | 70.00       |
| Priest Retirement       | 5.00        |
| Catholic Relief Service | 50.00       |

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week in loving memory of Bill & Margie DeBusk.



**St. Mary of the Pines Men's Club  
Annual Fish Fry  
Fridays during Lent  
Eat In or Take Out  
Vandegaer Hall**

**5—6:30 p.m. while supplies last  
Choice of Catfish or Shrimp Plate only \$12.00 per plate.**

**Plate includes: Fried Catfish or Fried Shrimp, Fries,  
Cole Slaw, Hush Puppies, Coffee, Tea (dine in only)**

### Mass Attendance

March 11 @ 4 p.m.—112  
March 12 @ 8:30 a.m.—135  
12:30 p.m.—159

**Second collection this weekend is for Catholic Relief Services. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection**

### Schedule for St. Joseph Altar

**Mass at 4:00 pm, Saturday, March 18**, immediately followed by a procession and the Tappa Tappa Ceremony (Mary & Joseph seek shelter), ending in Vandegaer Hall with the rosary and litany to St. Joseph. Fr. Raney will bless all food, ovens, the altar itself, everything!

**Sunday, March 19**, we will serve a beautiful and delicious Italian meal from 10 am to 3 pm. Eat-in seating is available as well as to-go plates.

**Please join us as we celebrate  
St. Joseph and our Sicilian and Italian  
heritage!**



Remember a loved one (living or deceased) by placing a beautiful **Easter Lily plant** in the Sanctuary on Easter. Please print the name or names of the persons to be remembered on the front of the envelope.

Special flower envelopes are available in your package of church envelopes, or on the tables in the vestibule of church. **\$10 per plant.**

**Submit your envelopes by March 26.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OF THE LISTED & FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS.**  
*If you know someone who needs to be on this list, please let us know.*

Jennifer Booras, Cheryl Hopkins, Curtis Leroy McInnis, Charlotte Dimes-Carter, Karen LeBlon, Josh Stewart, Mike Stewart, Theresa Varghese, Cindy Hockenberry, Hazel & Dale Ebarb, Ann Parker, Glenda Ebarb, Mary Velasco, Lynne Caldwell, Clay Moock, Adam Purland, Melissa Lanigan, Tom Howard, Irene Fontenot, Peggy Pernici, Virginia Mayeux, Meredith Garcia, Julie Drabek, Jarrod DeBusk, Craig Pate, Steve Tingle, Denise Arthur, Mike Howard, Johnny Beaudoin, Janine Laenger, Sam Marsala, Theresa Metoyer, Mattie Garcia, Luke Rinaudo, Michael Gallion, Jean Wilson Crisp, Arlene Herbert, Dave Buckley, Dennis Payne, Emoretta Hinton, Sharon Williams, Jimmy Green, Loretta Toleda, Debra Friar, Jean Vance, Judy Maranto, Charlie Guillory, Janie Dalton, Marie Beaudoin, Bernadine Miller, Jennifer Ma-yeux, Jean Crisp, Stanley Bohere, Anthony & Brenda Ebarb, Dennis Akins, Sydney Moss, Danny Walsworth, Harold & Martha Flanagan, Sharon Koch, Kenneth Smith, Linda Jean Walters, Bryan Beard, June Brabham, Butch Coleman, Scott Brown, Marrie Beaudion, Donald & Sherry Ebarb, Bobby Joe Parie, Jr., Reba Meshell, Rita Connor, Bertha Pettigrew, Sharon Mayeux, Scott Porter, Janice Lafitte, Polly Burnes, Tony Fernandis, Michael Paul Meshell, Jason Danny Meshell, Elmira Trammell, Ronnie Fong, Cathy Smith D'Angelo, Martin Roque, Dr. Randy Davis, Bonnie Chance, Dr. Ramon Romero, Brody Cook, Estrellita Yu, Margaret Long, Ashley Long, Sterling Robertson, Mary A. Breedlove, Letitia Miles, Skip May, Bettye & Paul Leslie, Jeff & Gregg Holder, Theresa Evans, Kenneth Jones, Paul Thompson, Trisha Hill, Kay Mercer, Ophelia Sepulvado, Sammy Mouser, Corrinne Jenkins, Cynthia Pica, Bob Morris, Betty Beightol, Genita Leone, Earnest Janiga, Allen Owens, Sheila Malone, Robert Byler, Wayne Weems.  
**For the peaceful repose of the soul of Bob Davis (husband of Letha Davis).**

### Scripture Readings

**For the Week of March 19, 2023**

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>                 | <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br>1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41                                                                      |
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>the</b>   | <b>Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a |
| <b>Tuesday</b>                | Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Wednesday</b>              | Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Thursday</b>               | Saint Toribio de Mogrovejo, Bishop<br>Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47                                                                                        |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>&amp;</b> | Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21-23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30                                                                                                              |
| <b>Saturday</b>               | <b>Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord</b><br>Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38                                                      |
| <b>Sunday</b>                 | <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b><br>Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45                                                                                |

**Fourth Sunday of Lent:** In today's Gospel, Jesus gives sight to the blind man. Through grace we are also transformed from not seeing to seeing and then Jesus sends us to help others see and to believe.

**Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brings joy, peace, forgiveness, mercy and kindness to the hurting hearts of the poor.**

**Thank you for all of your support.**



**Feedback & information gathering for the Diocesan Pastoral & School Planning process** will be held after all the Masses on **March 25 & 26.**

Diocesan census data & information from previous listening sessions will be provided as well as gathering parishioner input on priorities. A light meal will be provided to facilitate participation. The information provided & gathered is important for the future of our Catholic community. These sessions will be led by Grace Herron & Steve Cadwell. Anyone wishing to volunteer with food or serving, please contact the Church Office..

### Events around the Diocese....

**March 26-4:00pm.** Holy Trinity Church presents **Pange Lingua - a violin recital** - featuring local rising violinist, Cal Alexander. Free admission.

**March 27-29—** Mary, Queen of Peace Lenten Mission with Julie Carrick. 6:00pm- Supper, 6:30—8:00pm- Mission. Free will Offering

**March 27-29—** Holy Trinity Church Lenten Mission with Fr. Andrew Gronette. 5:00pm-Rosary, 5:30pm-Holy Mass, followed by talk. Confession will be available.

### **WAY OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: FRIDAY, 6PM**



**God calls us to be reconciled to Him and to one another. Our Parish Reconciliation Service is on March 30th at 6:30 pm** We will have **5** priests available for confessions.