

The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord . . .

*I will bring to my
holy mountain . . .*

for my house shall be called a
house of prayer for all peoples.

ISAIAH 56:6, 7

August 16, 2020

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Al Davidson	Pastor
email: fral@sjworker.org	
Rev. Tim Grimes	Associate Pastor
email: tgrimes@diobr.org	
Mr. Duane Breaux	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Janice Pintado	Director of Christian Formation
Mrs. Susan Hue	Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper
Mrs. Karla Landry	Receptionist

SACRAMENTS OF EUCHARIST:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm
Sunday Masses: 7:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays - 4:00pm—5:45pm
Before weekday Masses and other times by
Appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Monday and Friday	8:00am—9:00am
Tuesday and Thursday	9:00am—9:45am
Saturday	4:00pm—5:45pm

RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE: 985-252-6633

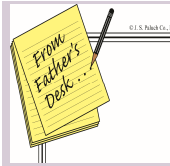
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Celebrated every month. Parents must first register with the parish office to enroll in the Baptism Preparation Program. Preparation should begin in the first trimester of pregnancy.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Please contact the Pastor at least six months before desired date.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL: The parish office must be notified before any arrangements are made with the funeral home.

A Eucharistic Community Since 1858 Church of St. Joseph The Worker

P. O. Box 190 • Pierre Part, LA. 70339-0190
985-252-6008



Mary's Assumption

On Saturday, August 15th, we celebrated an important solemnity of our Church. It is typically a holy day of obligation, but this year it is not because it falls on Saturday. As a Church, we celebrate the truth that Mary was taken body and soul into Heaven by Jesus at the end of her earthly life. Why do we believe this as a Church, and why is it essential for us to know this truth?

First, I would like to point you to the Catechism. In Paragraph 966 it says, "Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of Lords and Conqueror of sin and death. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians." What is the Church saying in this statement? The Church says that Mary was taken body and soul into heaven when her earthly life was finished. The Church also says that this is a foreshadowing of what will happen to us at the end of time. Jesus will bring his chosen people into heaven, body and soul. Mary's death is unique because she was taken immediately into heaven and didn't face the corruption of the tomb. All of us, before the resurrection of the body, will spend time in the grave as our bodies await its resurrection. However, because of Mary's unique role in God's plan, she was taken up body and soul into heaven before the resurrection of the body. Jesus, who loved his mother, didn't want her to see the corruption of the tomb.

The scriptures point to this fact as well. Revelation 12:1-2 states that a woman clothed with the sun appears in heaven. It isn't clear that this woman is Mary, the mother of Jesus. However, many of the signs in the passage and many in the Church have made this connection. For me, there is enough to say that Mary is the woman clothed with the Sun as stated in the book of Revelation.

Our Blessed Mother is the most powerful intercessor for us in heaven. Not only because she is the mother of Jesus but because she is also in heaven, body and soul. This is important for us to know and believe because the path Mary took is the same path we will take at the end of time. When Jesus comes again, he will take us too into heaven, body and soul. By believing this about Mary we can realize and believe that one day we too will be taken body and soul into heaven.

Fr. Tim

PARISH CALENDAR

AUGUST 16, 2020 VOL. XXXV NO. 33

Parish Activities

Sunday, August 16

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass—7:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

Monday, August 17

7:30am—Mass

8:15am—Foundation for Praying Priest
Scriptural Rosary

7:00pm—Confirmation

Tuesday, August 18

10:00am—Mass

Wednesday, August 19—OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, August 20

10:00am—Mass

Friday, August 21

7:30am—Mass/Rosary for Healing

Saturday, August 22

6:00pm—Saturday Vigil

Sunday, August 23

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass—7:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

August 9, 2020

Offertory

Identified Givers (116)	\$3,018.00
Unidentified Givers	468.00
Online Giving (112)	4,258.00
Total Collection	\$ 7,744.00

Building Fund

Identified Givers (15)	\$ 534.00
Online Giving (23)	734.00
Total Collection	\$ 1,268.00

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER WEBSITE HAS A NEW LOOK. GO CHECK IT OUT AT www.sjworker.org.

GOOD EXAMPLE—A Faithful Christian, illumined by the rays of grace like a crystal, ought to illumine his neighbor with the light of good example, through word and deed.

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Monday	Ezekiel 24:15-24; Matthew 19:16-22
Tuesday	Ezekiel 28:1-10; Matthew 19:23-30
Wednesday	Ezekiel 34:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday	Ezekiel 36:23-28; Matthew 22:1-14
Friday	Ezekiel 37:1-14; Matthew 22:34-40
Saturday	Ezekiel 43: 1-7ab; Matthew 23:1-12
Sunday	Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will be burning the week of August 16-22 in memory of Calvin J. Leonard, Jr. by Rita Leonard, Kathy Boudreaux Gaudet by Family, Eno Theriot by Wife and Family, Emile & Anna Alleman and Agnes "Nan" Theriot by Raymond & Pam Alleman and Family and Anna & Loveless Gaudet, Jr. by Family.



St. Joseph the Worker would like to extend our sympathy to the families and friends of Evelyn Fitch, mother of Jenny Paine and Beatrice "Bea" Blanchard Tullier, sister of T. J. Blanchard. May they enjoy everlasting life as they are welcomed into

the open arms of our Lord. Please keep these families in your prayers.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR INFORMATION CARDS THAT YOU RECEIVED IN THE MAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS. THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

RETROUVAILLE—Is your marriage going down the right road... Or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. The next Retrouvaille Weekend in the Diocese of Baton Rouge will be September 11-13, 2020. (All COVID-19 precautions will be in place.) For more information, contact Bill and Missie at 985-232-5963 or visit our website: HelpOurMarriage.org.

ANNULMENTS—Just a reminder that anyone who has experienced divorce and may at sometime desire to remarry in the Church must apply for an annulment from their previous marriage. Pope Francis has streamlined the process to make it quicker than previous times and made it free. Even if you do not plan to remarry at this time, it would be a good idea to request an annulment in the event you later choose to remarry. Any questions, please contact Duane in the Parish Office at 252-6008.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

CONFIRMATION 2020 - St. Joseph the Worker will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday, August 17 at 7:00pm. Each candidate along with their sponsor may have four other persons in attendance with them. This is a total of six persons. Masks must be worn by everyone in attendance.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION 2020/2021 - At this time final plans are not complete as to how the 2020/2021 session will be structured. Our intent at this time is to observe how the schools will be structured and take some input from that. Because of all the uncertainty we will be doing registration at a later date.

WHY PRAY?

The "foreigners" as Isaiah calls them, the "Gentiles" as Paul calls them, or the "Canaanites" as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today's readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely "knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend," but also to "break, blow, burn, and make me new" (*Holy Sonnets*, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, "Knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today's Gospel, the results will follow.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: "Stand firm in justice; do what is right" (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Recognizing the Canaanite woman's great faith, Jesus told her, "It shall be done as you wish" (Matthew 15:21-28).

A VOCATION VIEW—NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

—Let us pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life as a Church—not only for our diocese, but also for the Church throughout the world. If God is calling you, call Fr. Joshua Johnson at 225-336-8778, jjohnson@diobr.org or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

Mass Intentions For The Week



Monday, August 17

7:30am—Brent Cox, Sr.

Tuesday, August 18

10:00am—Souls In Purgatory

Thursday, August 20

10:00am—Amelie & Herbert Breaux, Sr. and Herbert Breaux, Jr.

Friday, August 21

7:30am—Kent Mayeux

Saturday, August 22

6:00pm—Bill & Celine Vaughn, Calvin J. Leonard, Jr., Gladys & Lisa Dupuis, Ester Hebert, Frank S. Tramonte, Sr., Elaine D. Tramonte, Augustine "Goose" Templet, Lena Templet Alleman, M/M Nelson Giroir, Maude Crochet, Anna & Loveless Gaudet, Jr., Phillis Gaudet, Ruby & Roy Schnebelen, Sr. and Roy Schnebelen, Jr.

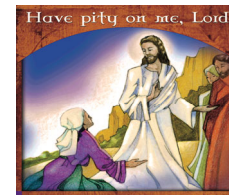
Sunday, August 23

7:00am—Parishioners

9:00am—Mabel Rousseau, Sonny & Wineva Sanchez, Roy Leblanc, Jr. and Jo Ann Landry

11:00am—Jean & Noe "Blackie" Fruge

GODPARENTS— What are they and what do they do? According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, godparents are men and women who are **official representatives** of the Christian community. They must be people who are firm believers and able and ready to help the newly Baptized. For this reason, they must be Baptized and Confirmed themselves, if married, must be married in the Catholic Church or had their marriage blessed. They must also be practicing Catholics by attending Mass regularly. Any questions regarding godparents, please call the Parish Office.



Elizabeth Mabile, Janet Anderson, Buck McCarthy, Dolly and Grady Gaspard, Alvin and Doris Friloux, Horace Gaspard, Bowen Castro, J. C. Petite, Flavia Gaspard, Brenda Templet, D. J. Berthelot, Louise Cavalier, Jaxon Blanchard, Chasely Diez, Verna Plaisance, Norma Deslattes, Edith Settoon, Gussie Rodrigue, Herbert Rivere, James Breaux, Marilyn & Raymond Russo, Sandy George, Emelda Landry, Faye Ruiz, Leanna St.Germain, Timmy LeBlanc, Katie Aucoin, Craig Aucoin, Delta Chaney, Isabelle Zeringue, Lois McDaniel, Leona Aucoin, Horace LeBouef, Sr., Robert Theriot, Gloria Alleman, Kirk Chedotal, Audrey Sparks, Elmo Guillot, Regina Templet, David Hebert, Lloyd "Casey" Dugas, Jr., Patrick Courville, Nelson Mabile, Angela Bourg, Ashley Matherne Babineaux, Bonnie Comeaux, Dorothy Gaudet Johnson, Samantha Blanchard, C.J. Berthelot, Colton Johnson, Cher Kelly, Jenny Templet, Hepburn Cavalier, Robert Blanchard, Helman Ackman, Harlen Hebert, Allie "Babe" Theriot, Bonnie Morales Knobles, and the sick of our parish not mentioned. If prayer is needed for someone, please call the Parish Office at 252-6008.

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