

VOCATION AWARENESS

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, Upon him I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations. -Isaiah 42:1



ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH



20370 Smith Road, Covington, LA 70435 • Office: 985-892-5202 • Fax: 985-892-4211

Social Assistance Requests: 985-214-6237

www.stbenedictchurchcovington.com • Email: office@stbencov.org www.facebook.com/stbencov

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:45 am-4:00 pm

Pastor	Very Rev. Charles J. Benoit, O.S.B., V.F.	cbenoit@arch-no.org
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Daniel Musso	dmusso@arch-no.org
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Ellis Iverson	eiverson@arch-no.org
Parish Secretary	Channon Horner	office@stbencov.org
Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL):	Corina Montreuil	psr@stbencov.org
Youth Minister	Bobby Thomas	985-373-5198
RCIA	Corina Montreuil	rcia@stbencov.org
Lunch Ministry	Janie Ellis	jellis1129@gmail.com
	Anna Bienvenu	annabienvu@gmail.com
Communion Ministers	Susan Desilva	shd777@charter.net
Communion to the Sick	Parish Office	985-892-5202
Lectors	Darlene Bertrand	dennisbertrand@bellsouth.net
Ushers	Phil Rapp	rapppp1976@outlook.com
Blanket Ministry	Jackie Edrington	jgednotary@yahoo.com
Men's Club	Clint Jacob, President	Warrinercontrol@gmail.com
Altar Society	Lorelle Russell, President	lorellwr@yahoo.com
Knights of Columbus Council 3061		
	Grand Knight, Dale Bratschi	gkcouncil3061@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am
Tuesday-Friday 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 5:00-6:00 pm
Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays 8:30-9:30 am
First Friday 7:00-8:00 pm

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Third Thursday 8:30 am

MARRIAGE Please contact the church office at least six (6) months prior to the desired date of the wedding.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK Any Catholic who is in danger due to age or health, or undergoing medical procedures and feels the need for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact Father Charles. It is the parish's custom to do anointings during the daily Mass, but they can also be administered privately. For emergencies, call the parish office 892-5202 and follow the prompt for emergencies.

BAPTISM Please email Deacon Danny dmusso@arch-no.org or contact the office to begin preparations. Seminars are held on the last Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, strengthened by the Eucharist, and inspired by Benedictine values, the mission of St. Benedict Catholic Church is to be a vibrant family of believers, worshipping God with joy, excitement, and reverence. Forming the Body of Christ and acting upon our faith in Jesus, we strive to spread the Good News by engaging in ministries of hospitality, hope, education, spirituality, and social justice to each other and those beyond our community.



Father Charles's Corner...

The readings on this weekend offer us a glimpse into the heart of our loving Savior. He is the Good Shepherd and we can confidently place our trust in Him.

In both the first and second readings, we find Peter embracing his role as leader of the newborn Church. In our first reading from Acts, he exhorts the crowd, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." We then read that the ones who accepted his message were baptized that day. Peter simply proposed the Good News to them and then left them free to accept or reject the call to repentance and belief in Christ, which is ultimately a call from God.

Our second reading offers further motivation for embracing this way of life. Peter reminds us that Christ, "bore our sins in his body upon the cross." And that, "by his wounds you have been healed. For [we] had gone astray like sheep but... have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of [our] souls." Such an incredibly poignant description of the love our Savior has for us and the kind of relationship He desires to have with us — as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

This endearing image of Jesus as shepherd, and His personal love for each one of us, is expanded in our Gospel passage from John, through the words of Jesus Himself. Here we read Jesus' description of Himself as the "Good Shepherd." He says of Himself, "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice."

This aspect of our Lord's tender and personal love for each one of us is yet another reason to embrace our risen Lord and express our gratitude to Him for the incomprehensible love He has for us.

Embracing the Lord certainly requires trust on our part. But Christ has proven Himself worthy of our trust. He "bore our sins in His body." He calls Himself our shepherd and He offers Himself as the guardian of our souls. He has withheld nothing of Himself and His goodness from us. He would never ask anything of us that would bring us harm.

On the contrary. Our Lord did not come to take from us, but to give to us. Again, we read His own words from the Gospel passage, "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

This Easter season, let us resolve to freely give all of ourselves and our lives gratefully to Him.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, May 2

+Yolande Billman

Wednesday, May 3

Members of Marianite Guild

Thursday, May 4

+Whip Mouton

Friday, May 5

+Carrol Arcement

Saturday, May 6

5:30 p.m.

+Bob Cooper, +John DeSilva, +Mike Langhart,
+Mike Lucas, +Genenieve Stephens, +Skip Miller,
+Carrol & Claudette Arcement, +Father Sam Polizzi,
+Robbie Stiener, +George & Laverne Novak,
+Steve & Anna Balogh, +Bob & Jane Ayerst,
+Father Hugh Baumann, O.S.B.

Sunday, May 7

8:00 a.m.

+Arthur deLaune, Wes & Connie Koon, Luke Haar, Landry Haar, +Dora DeKerlegand, +John DeSilva, +Skip Miller,
+George Fischer, +Danny Haar, III

10:30 a.m.

Parishioners of Saint Benedict



Prayer List



Deacon Nelvin Luke, Jim Seward, Anthony Sorrentino, Dee Sylvia, Julie Wagner, Tina Zocco, Clara Armstrong, Dr. Jerry Casey, Lisa Valley, Scott Lee, Carol Everhardt, Bennett Miller, Joanne Leber, Anna Ison, Gerardo Antonucci, Presley Patrick, Kaiden Lessard, Jennifer Bradley, Derek Feske, Fred Guillot, Ryan Ware, Lois Seals, Timothy Rollman, Vivian LeBlanc, Donna McFatter, Angela Brady, Jackie Catalanotto, Judy Woolley, Joseph Candilora, Phillip E. Lee, Sr., Gloria Nordman, Jan Nordman, Flavia Langan, Addie Pitre, Harry LeBlanc, Carol Vickers, John Johnson

The prayer list is for our parishioners who are homebound or sick. All others can be entered into the general prayer book in the church. Please call the church office to add a parishioner's name to the prayer list. All names will stay on the list for 30 days at a time.



Saint Benedict Catholic Church



May 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	2	3 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5-6 p.m. Family Faith Formation 6:00 p.m.	4	5 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	6 First Communion Retreat and Practice 9:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Second Collection: Diocesan Priest Retirement
7 First Communion Mass 10:30 a.m. Second Collection: Diocesan Priest Retirement	8 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	9 Altar Society Meeting 6:00 p.m.	10 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5-6 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30 p.m.	11 Men's Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.	12 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	13 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Second Collection: BUILDING FUND
14  Second Collection: BUILDING FUND	15 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	16	17 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Parish Office Closes at Noon Sacrament of Reconciliation 5-6 p.m.	18 Rosary for Peace 8:30 a.m. 4 th Degree Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 p.m.	19 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	20 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass
21 Knights of Columbus Corporate Communion 10:30 a.m. Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass Coffee & Donuts after all Masses	22 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	23 COMMUNION SERVICE	24 COMMUNION SERVICE Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. NO Sacrament of Reconciliation	25 COMMUNION SERVICE	26 COMMUNION SERVICE Friday Adoration after Communion Service	27 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Second Collection: Collection for the Holy Father – Peter's Pence
28 Second Collection: Collection for the Holy Father – Peter's Pence	29  Parish Office Closed	30	31 Sacrament of Reconciliation 5-6 p.m.			



Amy Mortensen



"JOY IS THE NET OF LOVE BY WHICH WE CAPTURE SOULS." ~ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

WILL YOU LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE?

CLARITY AFTER TRAGEDY LEADS TO PRIESTHOOD

Thirteen years ago, Catholic school teacher David Roman was huddled together with students in Danbury, Connecticut. Just a few miles away, at Sandy Hook Elementary, there was an active shooter and all area schools were on lockdown. In those tragic hours, all he knew to do was pray the rosary.

"I asked the kids to pray for people who were hurting, and for people who hurt others," Fr. Roman recalled. "Later, I was reflecting on all of it and I realized how much I loved those kids. I realized that I would die for them."

As he re-lived that awful day in prayer, David felt the Lord asking, "You would die for those children. What will you do for the rest of my people?"

The truth was, he had spent a lot of time telling his students about the priesthood, but he'd never thought about it for himself. Thus began a long journey of discernment, and eventually seminary. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Bridgeport in 2019.

Fr. Roman has since learned that the priesthood really is about sacrificing everything. Like Jesus, priests are called to lay down their lives to be present to people, certainly through the sacraments, but also in the most painful moments of life.

SITE RE-LAUNCH

Invisible
Monastery



Pledge to pray for vocations
at invisiblemonastery.com
and receive monthly vocation
prayers & updates.



Amy Mortensen

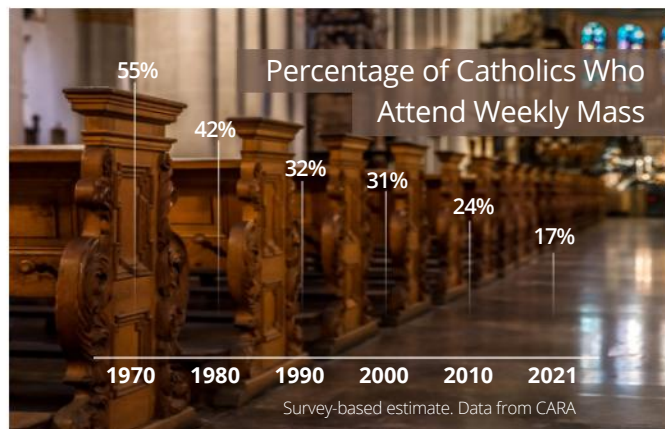
Fr. David Roman first heard God's call to the priesthood shortly after the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary, which was a few miles away from the Catholic school where he taught.





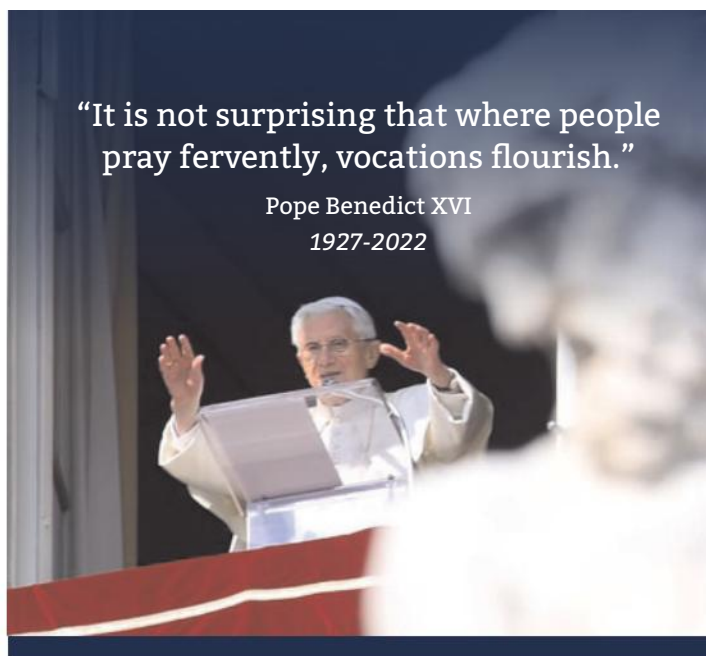
U.S. CHURCH STATS

EVANGELIZATION NEEDED



“It is not surprising that where people pray fervently, vocations flourish.”

Pope Benedict XVI
1927-2022



CHANGES IN SEMINARY



Seminaries are adapting to new requirements. The Church’s *Program for Priestly Formation* was significantly updated in 2022, and two changes (among many) stand out. First, at the beginning of seminary formation, new men will enter a “propaedeutic phase” intensely focused on maturity and spiritual growth. Secondly, toward the end of formation, transitional deacons will no longer remain at seminary full-time in their final year before being ordained priests. Instead, deacons will be stationed in parishes for at least six months, working alongside seasoned pastors, as an apprenticeship to learn parish ministry. Overall, the idea is to build a firm spiritual foundation at the beginning of formation, and have a smoother transition to parish life at the end.

IS CELIBACY AN OUTDATED PRACTICE?

Many have wondered why the Church steadfastly honors the tradition of celibacy. Wouldn’t we solve the vocation shortage if priests were allowed to marry?

The first thing to remember is that the Church did not “make up” the idea of celibacy, but rather, takes it from scripture. St. Paul famously said that “it is good to stay unmarried, as I am” (1 Cor 7). And Jesus himself said, “Some have renounced marriage for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Whoever can accept this ought to accept it” (Mt 19:12).

It’s important to keep in mind that even if the Church were to change the discipline of celibacy for *diocesan* priests (which is unlikely), we would still have religious brothers and sisters who take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Finally, when we look to the Eastern Catholic Churches, who have long allowed married clergy, it is not true that they have solved the vocation shortage. Rather, as Eastern-rite bishops would attest, there are significant challenges managing a married presbyterate, especially with the difficulty (and high cost) of seminary formation and supporting a priest with a family.

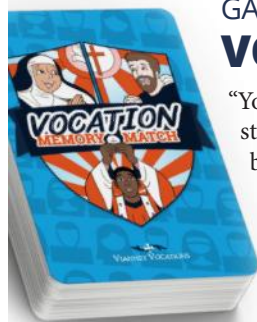
So while the Church truly cherishes its married clergy, there is good reason for celibacy, found in scripture, long tradition, and practical experience. Priests who can be single-hearted in their devotion to the Lord and their parish are a blessing to the Church.



GAME FOR KIDS

VOCATION MATCH

“You can’t want to be what you never see.” Catholic students so rarely encounter religious sisters or brothers, it’s hard for them to envision themselves wearing a habit or living in a monastery. As one bishop said, “We have to help kids get these vocations on the menu.” This clever memory card game includes 12 different characters in various stages of their vocations, including marriage, diaconate, and more.



vianneyvocations.com



Renewing the Church by inspiring priestly and religious vocations.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**



Have You Heard?

**GOD IS DOING SOMETHING NEW—AND
HE IS CALLING **YOU** TO BE A PART OF IT!**

Jesus desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world. How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith—the Holy Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.

Scan the code below to learn more about the exciting journey ahead, and sign up for weekly updates on what's happening in this unprecedented national movement!



eucharisticrevival.org





Happening this Week

Wednesday, May 3

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 5:00 to 6 p.m.

Family Faith Formation 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 5

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 6

First Communion Retreat & Practice 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 4:00 to 5 p.m.

Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection

Sunday, May 7

First Communion Mass 10:30 a.m.

Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection



MAY CROWNING AND FIRST COMMUNION

The crowning of the statue of the Blessed Mother inside the church will occur at the end of the First Communion Mass on Sunday, May 7th at 10:30 a.m. with a reception to follow in the catechetical center.

New Baby Meal Ministry

If you are expecting a new baby or infant, please contact Debra Dwight at 985-966-0437 or DebraDwight07@gmail.com so that we can prepare to be of assistance once your new baby arrives and you bring him/her home. Any parishioner parents are eligible, including birth parents, foster parents, and adopting parents of an infant (under 1-year-old) and this applies to all children (the first, second, third...etc.).



The flowers on the Altar this weekend are in memory of Marie Gremillion.



The **BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE** is a group of parishioners who have volunteered to serve those who are experiencing the loss of a loved one by preparing a meal for the family who may be attending the funeral when the funeral is held at St. Benedict's. We would like to update our list of

volunteers who are willing to assist. We are asking anyone interested in assisting by preparing a dish for these meals to please sign-up (again) on the sheet in the back of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Lydia Gallo who coordinates the committee at 985-327-5013.

DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT SECOND COLLECTION



As in the case with many pension funds in secular businesses today, the Archdiocese of New Orleans Priests' Pension Program is underfunded. This is largely due to the growing number of retired priests, the skyrocketing cost of health care, and inflation. This collection is separate from the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which supports religious orders and institutes across the United States. Please show your generosity next weekend, May 6/7.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BUILDING FUND SECOND COLLECTION FOR MAY WILL BE THE WEEKEND OF MAY 13/14, NOT THE FIRST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH.



Kelly Tranchina
Tax Analyst
Parishioner

1200 Business Hwy. 190
Ste. 42
Covington, LA 70433

O: 985-892-0651
kelly.tranchina@hrblock.com

H&R BLOCK
AVAILABLE YEAR-ROUND
HRBLOCK.COM

Bagnell & Son
Funeral Home

Truly Affordable
Funeral Services
Cremation
Pre-Planning needs

Marilyn Schoen
Preneed Counselor

C: 985-502-6362 O: 985-893-2235

FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. GLEN SPELL, DDS
Parishioner

Over thirty years serving
family members of all ages

893-3900

www.spellfamilydentistry.com

GASTRO GROUP & ENDOCENTER

Gastroenterology Group, AMC
All Physicians are Board Certified in Gastroenterology

SCREENING COLONOSCOPY • LIVER DISEASE
REFLUX • COLITIS • CROHN'S DISEASE • ULCER
CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY • HEMORRHOID BANDING

131-B CHEROKEE ROSE LANE, COVINGTON • **985-871-1721**
Felix G. Rabito, Jr., MD • L. Phillips Jenkins, MD
Nathan R. Ramsey, MD • Brandon R. Brousse, MD
58515 PEARL ACRES RD., SLIDELL • **985-641-8982**
Anthony F. Albright, MD • Timothy J. Trainor, MD
Veronica T. Dugan, MD • Mark J. Nicaud, MD • Edward Deuterive III, MD

Dignity
LIFE WELL CELEBRATED

GRACE FUNERAL HOME
& ST. LAZARUS OF BETHANY
MEMORIAL GARDEN

985-635-4745
GraceNorthshore.com

FIFTH DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK

Checking
Savings
Home Loans

504.362.7544 • 888.362.7544
Eastbank • Westbank • Northshore

Member FDIC
www.fifthdistrict.com

Janie Ellis, REALTOR®
LSS, LSE, LMS
Licensed in Louisiana

LATTER & BLUM
INCORPORATED
Since 1916

janieellis.latter-blum.com | jellis@latterblum.com
1119 N. Causeway Blvd., Ste. 2 Mandeville, 70471
Cell: **985.807.4254** Ofc: **985.626.8589**

SAINT JOSEPH ABBEY

www.saintjosephabbey.com
75376 River Rd., North Covington

St. Benedict Knights of Columbus
BINGO EVERY SATURDAY!

Doors open at 10AM, Bingo starts at 12 Noon
75050 HWY. 25
985-892-3212

NORTHLAKE GASTROENTEROLOGY & ASSOC.

Colon Screenings • Crohn's Disease
Reflux Disease • Colitis

GREGORY MULA, MD • LAWRENCE GENSLE, MD • DENNIS BOOTH, JR., MD
JASON REINA, MD • RUSSELL WARDLAW, MD
All MDs are Board Certified in Gastroenterology

7015 Hwy 190E, Covington • **893-9592** 16061 Doctors Blvd, Hammond • **542-1334**

CASKETS
Handcrafted mahogany &
cypress caskets in the traditional style.
Cremation Urns also available.
985-867-5161

State Farm

C.J. Ladner
Auto • Life • Fire • Health
Bus: **985-892-5030**
Cell: **985-630-6380**
1972 N. Hwy. 190, Covington

TREU DAT TRAVEL

treudattravel@gmail.com
Jack & Jamie Treuting
Parishioners

GIFT SHOP
MONKSOP, Honey, Rosaries, Crucifixes,
Missals & other items in stock or visit
stjosephabbeygiftshop.ecwid.com
985-867-2227

NEW DESTINATIONS TRAVEL
Creating experiences by aligning
passions with new destinations.
Samantha Musso
Owner/Travel Advisor & Parishioner
504-641-4840
sam@newdestinationstravel.com

PARRAIN'S
Heating & Air Conditioning

"Parrain's is who you choose to be treated like family!"

24 Hour Emergency Service
Repair • Installation • Residential
Furnaces • Air Conditioners

985-303-9883
info@parrainshvac.com

LAND-O-PINES
Family Campground

www.camplop.com
1-800-443-3697

FULL HOOK-UPS • RENTAL UNITS • WATERSLIDE
SWIMMING POOLS • RIVER & BEACHES • MINI-GOLF
PAVILION RENTALS • PLAYGROUND • GAME ROOM
DAY USE • FISHING • PLANNED ACTIVITIES & MORE!

CEMETERY
Plots & Cremation Niches.
Payment Plans Available.
985-867-2253

CHRIS PAVING LLC
ASPHALT & CONCRETE PAVING
Commercial & Residential
Office: **504-909-2078**
Cell: **985-960-2131**

RT Plumbing

Family owned & operated
for over 40 years
Lic. Master Plumber / Insured

JAMIE TOSSE
rtplumbing1985@gmail.com
Cell Phone **985.966.2734**

dicristina's
Italian and Seafood Restaurant

985.875.0160
810 N. Columbia St. Covington
Located across from the St. Tammany Parish Justice Center

MANDINA'S RESTAURANT
OF NEW ORLEANS
Lunch Specials: Mon.-Thurs. 11-9
Fri.-Sat. 11-10, Sun. 11-8

Sunday Brunch 11-3 • Frank Marcello
4240 Hwy. 22 **674-9883**

E.J. Fielding
FUNERAL HOME

Pinecrest
Memorial Gardens
& Crematory

www.ejfieldingfh.com **985.892.9222**

Custom Jewelry
Barattini

Manufacturing Jeweler
Jewelry Repairs
Diamonds
Monogram Specialist
985.893.5253
1421 North Highway 190

Delaune & Associates
Stephanie Delaune LeBouef
A SENIOR ADVISORY SERVICE

Medicare Supplements/Advantage &
Part D Plans, Life, Individual/Group Health
19438 Tice Rd.
adelaune@bellsouth.net **985-892-5241**

NOEL MAESTRI'S
Since 1972
FlooringAmerica

105 W. 31st Ave./Hwy. 190 W • **985-892-1673**
www.noelmaestris-flooringamerica.com

R.A. BARATTINI
Services LLC

Bobcat Work • Grading
Chainsaw & Clearing • Demolition
Bushhogging • Land Clearing
Locally Owned

985.630.0001 • 985.893.5253 Licensed / Insured

NOW HIRING
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

DIOCESAN
Catholic Life Every Day
PUT YOUR FAITH TO WORK.

Join Our Family • Diocesan.com/Careers

For Advertising Information
Contact Ray Kelly
rkelly@diocesan.com | 504-338-3058