

#### **Celebration of Holy Mass**

Weekends:

Saturday 4:30pm (Vigil Mass) First Sat. Rosary 4pm Sunday 8am, 10am, 5pm

Weekdays: Mon. Wed. & Fri. 6:30am Tues. Nursing Home 9:30am, Thurs. 12:10pm

#### **Reconciliation**

20 minutes before Masses begin or anytime by appointment.

#### **Rectory Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 9am - 3pm Friday 9am - Noon

#### **New Parishioners**

We welcome you with great joy and invite you to register and worship with us regularly.

Forms are available in the rectory.

#### SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptism - Instructions are offered for both parents and godparents during the months of February, May, August, and November . Plan accordingly when expecting a child or choosing godparents and call 395-3881 to register for the class or to schedule a baptism.

Confirmation - Young people are prepared for Confirmation through the Confirmation Program. Adults are prepared for Confirmation through the R.C.I.A.

Matrimony - Diocesan Policy requires that a couple make arrangements with the pastor at least 6 months prior to desired date.

Sacrament of The Sick - Call the rectory to make arrangements for Communion and Anointing.

**Rite of Christian Burial** - Arrangements to be made with a priest by the family.

Sacrament of Holy Orders or calling to religious life - please contact the priest in order to discern God's will.

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) - This process is structured to provide information for the formation of those who are seeking a fuller life as Christians in the Catholic Tradition. For information, please call the Office of Religious Education.

Religious Education For Children Call the Office of Religious Education for information about registering your child.

Knights of Columbus - Meet the second Thurs. of the month at 7pm.

Come Lord Jesus Groups Seeking to become closer to God, learning more about scripture and being spiritually prepared for Sunday liturgy....consider joining a CLJ Group Call Marguerite Sumrall 395-5304 for more information.

Need a Ride to 10am Masscall Evelyn Estay at 985-395-3610 by 3:00 PM on the Friday before each Sunday that you need assistance.

# "Pilgrimage Church for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy"

St. Joseph Catholic Church (Established 1848)



Pope Francis

## **30th Sunday: Under His Mercy**

The parable in today's Gospel strikes home with each of us. There are certain feelings that we have every time we walk into a Church. Few of us are like the Pharisee, self-assured in what he we are convinced is our innate goodness, sort of just checking in with God to remind Him how wonderful we are. No, most of us, perhaps all of us, are like the tax collector, aware of our own unworthiness to be before God. Sometimes we have an overwhelming feeling that we really are not good enough to be in Church, but we are afraid that if we don't approach God, we might get even worse. We live, we must live, as Sheldon Vanauken would write, "Under His Mercy."

It is in this frame work that we can best understand the parable and its relationship to us. We see our spiritual state in contrast to the Pharisee. We know that we need the mercy of God.

The Pharisee in the parable does not recognize his own need for God. He is very much caught up in himself. He is convinced of his own righteousness. As he takes what he is sure is his proper place in the Temple, he appears to be caught up in prayer, but in reality he is not giving thanks to God as much as he is delighting in himself. He doesn't ask God for mercy. In his eyes, he doesn't need God's mercy. He's too good. In reality he is committing the primal sin, the original sin of mankind, the sin of Adam. His pride has convinced him that he does not need God. He goes to the Temple to present himself in his goodness, not to ask for God's mercy and blessing. He leaves with nothing but his own spiritual arrogance.

The tax collector is aware of his own sinfulness and his deep need for God's mercy. As you know, tax collectors were not honest government employees like our IRS workers. Tax collectors were traitors and thieves. Although they were Jewish, they sold their services to the occupying Romans. They had to pay their employers a set sum of money. With Roman soldiers standing behind their table, they collected whatever they felt they could get from the frightened people standing in front of their tables. There were no controls or checks placed on the tax collectors. They demanded far more than Rome mandated and became

wealthy, basically using the Romans so they could steal from their own countrymen. How many people did the tax collector in the parable cheat? How many children went hungry? How many of his fellow countrymen, Jews, suffered so he could become rich with the support of the pagan Romans? Sinner was the appropriate name tag. The tax collector in the parable is aware of his sinfulness. He dares not lift his eyes to heaven. "Be merciful to me a sinner," is all he can pray.

The Pharisee asked for nothing from God and received nothing. The tax collector asked for mercy and received mercy.

Many times I and you come upon people who say that they have done something that is unforgivable. They say that they cannot go into a Church because they are convinced that they do not belong there. They joke about the walls caving in, but in reality, they are afraid that God will inflict an additional punishment on them for being presumptive.

To these people I and you must say, "Been there. Not only have done that, but am doing that, or at least being continually tempted to do that." Even a thoroughly consecrated Christian, a person who will someday be canonized by the Church, a saint, even St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Calcutta need-

ed to go to confession. A saint is a person who is aware of his or her need for God's mercy.

We have to tell those who fear returning to Church, "God is infinitely better at loving than we are at sinning." If we place ourselves in His hands, if we seek His mercy for everything from the major sins of our lives to our yelling at the dog, then God will raise our heads up from looking down on ourselves and send us out of the Temple, the Church, living in His presence, justified, living Under His Mercy.

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted," the Gospel concludes. God raises the lowly and the sinners to himself by giving his grace to them. Those who act as though they do not need His grace, will suffer the result of an empty spiritual life.

Reality. That is what makes the Catholic Church so reasonable. Reality. We are all sinners who under the grace of God, Under His Mercy, are being continually raised up to become a Church of Saints.

Christmas is not that far off. Every Christmas, people long for the spiritual and consider coming back to Church. Yes, many will only come for the day caught up in sentimentality. But there are some, no, there are many, who will come using Christmas as an opportunity to give the Church, to give religion, another look. Who are these people? They are your neighbors, your friends, and your relatives. Some of them, perhaps most of them, may feel very uncomfortable attending Church. They may feel that they don't belong among such good people, people who worship every week. Reach out to them. Invite them to join you on Christmas and beyond. Let them know that there is no one in Church who is not totally dependent on the mercy of God. Anyone who says, "I don't go to Church because I am such a sinner," needs you and me to say with all sincerity, "Come and join the rest of us sinners. He is turning us into saints." The first Christians referred to themselves as the community of saints, not because they thought they were so good, but because they were acutely aware that God is so merciful.

We cannot comprehend the depth of the love of our God. He sees each of us for whom we are, with all the warts and bumps, yes, but also with the love, conviction, courage and character, the virtue that is integral to our existence. God sees Himself in us, our unique reflection of His being. He loves us. He is far more concerned with extending us His mercy than He is with our sinfulness.

When we come to Church seeking this mercy, we leave Church living under His mercy. Fr. Joseph Pellegrino

# **Parish Directory**

Office / Rectory: 985-395-3616
Office Fax: Parish Directory
Office / Rectory: 985-395-3616
Office Fax: 985-395-9129
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 219
Patterson, LA 70392

Fr. Herb Bennerfield, Pastor ext. 3 ~
Email: stjoepat@cox-internet.com
Bobbie Diaz (Office Manager) ext. 4 ~
Email: stjoepat@cox-internet.com
Ann Murray (Housekeeper/cook) ext. 8
Education Office: 985-395-3881
Fax: 985-395-3685
Mamie Perry (DRE) ext. 5 ~
Email: stjoedre@teche.net
Rosie Pellerin (Ed. Coordinator)
Websites:
St. Joseph Church

www.stjosephpatla.org
Diocese of Lafayette
www.diolaf.org
South Region
www.diolaf.org/southregion

Websites:
St. Joseph Church
www.stjoepat.intuitwebsites.com
Diocese of Lafayette

### EXTRAORDINARY HOLYYEAR OF MERCY: Dec. 8, 2015 – Nov. 20, 2016

Individuals and groups visiting our parish as a pilgrimage site are very welcome! Church doors will be open from 8:00am to 5:00pm. A register and informational pamphlets are available in the entrance of church for your convenience. For groups – if you call in advance to make an appointment (985-395-3616) some additional arrangements can be made.

To gain plenary indulgence, follow the 5 actions listed: Holy Door, Confession, Mass-Communion, Nicene Creed, Pray for the Pope. For more information call the rectory.

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

MONDAY, OCT. 24

6:30am: Fr. Vu,

(After Mass: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena)

**TUESDAY, OCT. 25** 9:30am: Nursing Home-

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26** 6:30AM:

THURSDAY, OCT. 27 12:10PM:

FRIDAY, OCT. 28 6:30AM:

#### SATURDAY, Oct. 29

4:30pm: Danny & Norris Broussard, Anthony & Marie Morella, Anna Ruth Taylor, Clyde G. Peterson, Donald Ross, Amy Lowery, Donald Ross, John & Annette Carpenter,

#### SUNDAY, Oct. 30

8:00am: Lenny Guzzino, Ray Jude Vidos Sr., For the People of our Parish, Jo Broussard, Neil & Charlotte Bernadou

10:00am: Frank Governale, Verona Vidrine, Gertrude S. Bailey, Harold Allemond, Concisa Tubod, Souls in Purgatory, Donald Jumonville, Zetta LaCoste, Luke & Virgina Lipari

5:00pm: James Blocker Jr., Beth Verret, Katherine Cardinale, Ross Grimball, Elsa Y. Parchmont, Holy Souls, Antonia Lipari Mire, Judy Clark,

#### Sanctuary Light Fr. Vu

#### **Sick Relatives & Friends**

Please pray for the sick of our parish & their caregivers: Stella Saleme, Linda Thomas, Charles Felterman, Arthur Roy, Scott Governale, Linda Adams, Anthony Trosclair, Mary Ann Trosclair, Dana Griffin, B.L. & Jackie Como, Charles Culotta, Brittany Richoux, , Andy Hebert, Evita & Karter Boutte, Earl McNail, Frank Black, Kristin LaPointe, Natalie Hyatt, Pat Gary, Gayle Verdin, Loretia Plemons, Barry Broussard, Wilda & Frank Cali, Barry Tobias, Sylvia Felterman, Cary Mac Staples, Clyde Aucoin, Carol Covillier, Ruby Crapell, Rogers, Karen Thurgie, Geraldine Dinger, Coutrey Cox, Emma G. Cox, Tessie Michel, Michelle Thomas, Fr. Vidrine, Cindy Dugus, Joe Guillory, Amber Grogan, Rip & Cherly Verdin, Noel & Deidra Verdin, Michelle Thomas, Dean Carrington, Mary Sehon, Greg Cart, Noel & Aeidia Verdin, Melissa Michel, Ellen C. Bougeious, Sandy Mire, Mathilde Harrington, Quinn Williams, Lara Campbell, Lillian Rose, Dennis Taylor, Ken Montgomery, Trevor Matherne, Mary Boudreaux, AJ & Myrna Bourg, Hunter Alpha, Mary Graves, Iris Roy, Charles LaSalle, Danell Kimble, Burt Williams, Leona Cloud, Kevin Cole Simon, Bobby Johnson, Sterling Hebert, Carla LaSalle, Ronnie Roy, Ahney Chauvin, Lucas Griffin, Totsie Harrington, Louis & Suzanne Lipari, James Veazey, John Dimatteo, Fr. Joe Breaux, Tammy Chauvin, Joey Estay, Rose Johnson, Ronald Blanchard, Nancy Shllings, Ian Davis, Celeste Henry, Darlene Paul, Harold Gobert , Lebance, Mildred Trujillo, Sally Rogers, Brenda Simon, Brandy Brown, Susan Guzzetta Fromenthal, George, Cindy M. Ribaul , Sadie Grow, Gretchen Lambert, Donald Jumonville, Charles Esprit, Sherda Reedom, Jermaine Boutte, Mindy Kincade, Ray Primeaux, Jacob Billington, Cary James Laiche, Jimmy Aucoin, Anna George, Samantha Floyd, Eula Trahan, Susan Howell, Jane Daves, Ramona Carpenter, Claude Czaja, Emily Carrington, Coni Marble, Allie Keith, Sennett Wiggins III, Joslyn Cannon, Wilda Riles, Chloe St. Julian, Brie Landry Dr. Whyba Duay, Mike Alisio , Peggy Grimball, Theresa LaGrange, Judi Garrett, Tanya Clamon, Fr. Robert Marcelle, Janet Boudier, Patsy Huskey, Erica Hebert,, Lydia & Adrian, Paul Conner, Gail Smith, Courtney Montet, Dan Broussard, Jeffery Dimatteo, Sissy Chapman Jimmy Premeaux Jr., Betty Rulf

Please call the rectory to add or delete a name on the list.

#### **Weekly Offerings**

Last week collection:

\$3822.85 \$782.00

#### Office of Religious Education & Formation

Mamie Perry 395-3881 stjoedre@teche.net



#### **October**

Oct. 23 10:00 a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade & Confirmation Students' Mass 3:00 p.m. Living Rosary sponsored by the Confirmation Class

#### **CCD Holiday Schedule:**

(NO classes on these dates:) Nov. 23 2016 Thanksgiving Dec. 21-Jan. 4 Christmas Holidays Feb. 11 Ash Wednesday March 22- Last day of class

#### \*\*\*\*\*

Women's Study Group any woman interested in sharing a few mornings discussing matters of faith and family should contact the religious education office for more information. (First meeting TBA)

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS...**

**Discussion Group:** Adult Discussion Group will begin at 6:30 this Monday

#### First Saturday Rosary:

The Holy Rosary will be prayed before the Vigil Mass in church beginning at 4pm the first Saturday of each month. Please join us.

#### **ALL SAINTS DAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Holy Day of Obligation

6:00pm Vigil Mon., Oct. 31

9:30am @ Nursing Home & Tues., Nov. I 6:00pm Mass

12:10pm Blessing of the Graves (St. Joseph Cemetery)

Wed. Nov. 2(not a holy day) 6:30am Mass 12:10pm Mass in St. Joseph Cemetery

Ministers please see your schedule to see which of you are serving.



# St. Joseph's ongoing tradition Christmas at Harbour House December 17, 2016

What will we be doing?

\*Raise funds for gifts , etc. prior to the event

\*Provide and share Christmas Dinner with the residents and staff

\*Hang out, play games, and spend time with the resident youth

\*We will bring small gifts and wal-mart gift cards to distribute YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!

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I All high school youth in grades I 8-12 are invited to attend

Parents we are in need of drivers and chaperones (must have Safe Environment).

Please contact the office of religious education if you can help. I

St. Joseph is now accepting Bulletin ads. You may purchase an Ad for your business or in memory of someone. Ads are \$20.00 a month or \$240.00 a yr. If you would like to place an Ad in the Bulletin please call the rectory 395-3616.

In Loving Memory of Jeanie Roy Cora Marie Ward

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Oct. 29 & 30

Sat. 4:30pm Sun. 8:00am Sun. 10:00am Sun. 5:00pm

BSA

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Eucharist

Terry Burgess, Mamie Perry, Linda Thomas Anna & Jean Picou, Marguerite Sumrall Belva & John Hamilton, Monica LaSalle Cliff Couture, Henry LeRay, Debra Verret

Lector

Gardes & Frederick

985-384-6264

Certified Public Accountants

Chris Wheeler Jamie Guidry Jamie Guidry Terri Dimatteo Altar Servers

Mary Frances Cali volunteer Kaylee Craddock Madalyn, Zachary Landry