



St. Joseph Bulletin

**St. Joseph Catholic Church (Established 1848)
1011 First Street, Patterson, LA 70392**

Second Sunday of Easter: The Journey through Doubts to Faith

The Gospel reading for today takes all of our Easter idealism, our delight in the Risen Savior, and applies a sobering dose of reality. The reading as well as recent events in our parish, country and world, lead me to write about faith, doubts and crises.

It is very, very easy to be a person of faith when all goes well. When life is without any really deep crises, when the hardest things to accept are the deaths of elderly parents and hospitalization for minor ailments like appendicitis, it is easy for each of us to be a person of faith. But when a crisis tears at our hearts, as when a young spouse dies or, worse still, a child dies, or a marriage is evidently on the rocks, then very often we feel our faith ebbing. Many times we enter into a period of anger at God and a time of doubts. This does not mean that we have lost our faith. It simply means that we are being called to a deeper faith.

It was easy for the disciples to believe in the Lord when they felt the magnetism of His words, when they witnessed His healings, when they saw His miracles. But it was much harder for them to believe after He had been taken away to be killed. It was harder for them to believe when they realized that they also could be killed for having been His followers. Thomas doubted the Resurrection because he had suffered the crisis of the crucifixion. His faith in God waned. Like the other specially chosen disciples who would later be called apostles, like Peter, James, Andrew, Bartholomew, Simon and all the rest, Thomas ran and hid. He was not to be found on Golgotha. He was too afraid to remember the promises of the Lord. But his faith was restored when he saw the Lord. At this point Jesus told Thomas about a greater faith, a faith that He has called you and me to. The Lord looked at Thomas and then looked down the ages at us and said, "Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe."

When a crisis hits us we all pray for deliverance. "God, please keep my husband, my child alive. God, please save our marriage. God, protect my son at war." If deliverance comes we feel that we have seen the Lord. This is all well and good, but how much greater is our faith when we hold onto the Lord even when our prayers are not answered. "Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe."

Last Sunday we were called to believe in the Resurrection. Our own faith in the Resurrection is not based on experiencing a presence of the Risen Lord, but on an empty tomb. When we feel empty, when we feel that the Lord is no longer in our lives, we have to recognize that more than ever He is alive, among us.

We should not feel bad about having crises in faith. We should feel very human. We should also realize that our crisis can lead us to an even stronger faith. That which challenges us often strengthens us. Let me give you an example of this from everyday life. A fourteen year old child does something very wrong, something that could have resulted in harm for himself or herself or others--like go for a joy ride in a car and then get into an accident. Once caught, the teenager has to deal with the law and whatever reparations need to be made. The teenager also has to go before his or her parents. The parents will most likely have their own punishment connected to the incident, such as, "Regardless of what the law says, you will not get your driver's license until you are seventeen," but good parents will still say to their teenager, "I love you despite your irresponsible behavior." When they do this they demonstrate a fuller, deeper love of their child than before their love was tested by what the child did.

On a higher plane, for us to say to the Lord, "I love you and believe in you despite the times that I have been uncertain of you in my life," demonstrates a deeper faith than we had before our faith was challenged.

A young wife dies. A young man is devastated. He argues with God, even gets angry with God. "How could you let this happen to her," he says in his grief forgetting that God does not do bad things or cause bad things, but cries with us in our crises just as he cried with Martha and Mary when Lazarus died. In time, after the initial shock and upset, the young man recognizes that God is present in bad times as well as in good times and then chooses to believe. His faith is now based not just on his experience of the good, but also on his choice of God during crisis. The crisis, while not caused by God, led him to a deeper faith than he had previously.

Let's not persecute ourselves. Doubting is part of being human. A person who does not react with anger at the time of a tragedy might be a saint, but most likely is a person who really never had a high quality of love. The person who recognizes that God was certainly there even at the time of anger, is a person whose faith has grown.

We pray today that we might all have a mature faith, able to grow through crises. We pray today that we might all be included in that phrase of the Lord's, "Blessed are those who have not seen but believe."

Msgr. Joseph A. Pellegrino

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 Mass- call Evelyn Estay at 985-395-3610 by 3:00 PM on the Friday before each Sunday that you need assistance.

Parish Directory

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 219
Patterson, LA 70392

Email: stjoepat@cox-internet.com

Office / Rectory: 985-395-3616

Fr. Herb Bennerfield, Pastor ext. 3 ~
Bobbie Diaz (Office Manager) ext. 4 ~
Ann Murray (Housekeeper/cook) ext. 8
Office Fax: 985-395-9129

Education Office: 985-395-3881

Mamie Perry (DRE) ext. 5 ~
Rosie Pellerin (Ed. Coordinator)
Education Fax: 985-395-3685
Email: stjoedre@teche.net

Websites:

St. Joseph Church

www.stjosephpatla.org

Diocese of Lafayette

www.diolaf.org

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, APR. 24

6:30am: Fr. Vu,

TUESDAY, APR. 25

9:30am: Nursing Home-

WEDNESDAY, APR. 26

6:30AM:

THURSDAY, APR. 27

12:10PM:

FRIDAY, APR. 28

6:30 AM:

SATURDAY, APR. 29

8:00PM: Gertrude Bailey, Luke & Virginia Lipari, Marie & Willie Wiese, Burt Williams

SUNDAY, APR. 30

8:00am: Ray Jude Vidos Sr., For the People of our Parish, Dr. Earl Eues, Lenny Guzzino, John Dimatteo

10:00am: Harold Allemond, Louis Lipari, Frank Governale,

5:00pm: James Blocker Jr., Beth Verret, Katherine Cardinale, Ross Grimball, Elsa Y. Parchmont, Holy Souls, Judy Clark, Greg Cart, Donald Jumonville, John Dimatteo

Sanctuary Light
Beth Verret

Note: If a name is not printed above, due to human error, be assured that God has accepted your intention in heaven. Canon Law 94

Office of Religious Education & Formation

Mamie Perry 395-3881 stjodre@teche.net

Religious Education - Year at a Glance

April 18 Reconciliation & Confirmation rehearsal

April 19 Confirmation Mass 6:30 p.m.

April 22..... First Reconciliation & First

Communion Rehearsal 9:30 a.m.

April 23 First Communion Mass 10:00 a.m.

May 1.....Bible camp registration and staff recruitment begins



We're preparing for Summer Bible Camp and will be making handmade items for the kids to enjoy during camp. If you would like to join us on "craft days" we would love to have you! We are looking for scrap fabric material and anyone willing to bring a sewing machine to assist us with a special project for our kids! If you would like to join us or have any questions all 395 -3881. Thanks! Our first craft day will be Wednesday April 26, 2017 9:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Adult Discussion Group: Monday @ 6:30pm in hall

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. **"PRAY & GEAUX"**- Come Pray the Rosary every Monday morning at 8:30am @ St. Joseph Church

WIN AN APPLE WATCH \$5.00 / Ticket

Drawing to be held May 14th @ St. Joseph Parish Hall immediately following the 10 am Mass. The winner will be contacted, you do NOT have to be present to win.

Support the religious education programs at St. Joseph Catholic Church



Only 500 tickets sold get yours today!

Sick Relatives & Friends

Please pray for the sick of our parish & their caregivers: Stella Saleme, Jason Hernandez, Herman Lajaunie, Archer Rogers, Rodney Hebert, Carey Mac Staples, Herbert Estay, Ruth Bourgeois, Amanda Boggs, Ahney Chauvin, Peggy Grimball, Drue Langlinais, Linda Adams, Nicole Hingle, Wilda Cali, Angelle Hebert, Aba Grace Lang, Sally Rogers, Peter Broussard, Ian Davis, Daniel Broussard, Robert, Susan, Karter Esprit, Evita Boutte, Cameron Boutte, Harold Gobert, Trinity Simons, Madeline Venable, Annie Russo, Danell Kimble, Tuwana Ray, Bobby Johnson, James Primeaux, Cindy Guidry, Judi Garrett, Tanya Clamon, Billy Garcia

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

The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us — all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A – Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B – Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C – Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

The message and devotional practices proposed in the Diary of Saint Faustina and set forth in this web site and other publications of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception are completely in accordance with the teachings of Church and are firmly rooted in the Gospel message of our Merciful Savior. Properly understood and implemented, they will help us grow as genuine followers of Christ.

Spend time to learn more about the mercy of God, learn to trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others, as Christ is merciful to you.



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.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome! Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for worship. We invite you to register and make St. Joseph your parish. Please complete the form, place in the collection are mail to parish office.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Stewardship Area

"Give to the Most High as He has given to you, for the Lord is one who always repays, and He will give back to you sevenfold." Sirach 35:10

Last Weekend : \$4790.70
Holy Thursday \$987.00
Good Friday \$690.00

<p>Cajun Breakers, Inc. Electrical Equipment & Supplies www.cajunbreakers.com 985/702-1004 Micah Thibodaux Cell (985)255-1352</p>	<p>Vital Signs Custom sign shop Heath Theriot 985/992-0072 Hillary Theriot 985/225-2974 Wendel Theriot 985/518-1234</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Wendel, Loren, Bryant, & Kaylee Henry</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of James Blocker Jr. Oct. 20, 1945 Jan. 10, 2007</p>
<p>Frank's Agency, Inc. Complete insurance Services 985-395-9351 frankg@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Darnall, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick Certified Public Accountants 985-384-6264</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus #1710 Protect... Catholic Families for Generations</p>	<p>CHRIST OUR King 90.5 FM 1230 AM CATHOLIC RADIO FOR ACADIANA .COM</p>
<p>BOB'S HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE INC. Residential / Commercial Service all Makes 985-384-0283</p>	<p>Violin Lessons # 985-714-4502 Gina Doran Facebook: Fiddling Classics</p>	<p>TOWN & COUNTRY FLORIST & GIFTS, INC Owner: Glynda Lasseigne 3515 Hwy 182, Berwick 985/385-6929 www.tandcflorist.com</p>	<p>Member FDIC PATTERSON STATE BANK</p>

Apr. 29 & 30

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Eucharist

Lector

Altar Servers

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

Leona Armato, Joy Guarisco, Volunteer needed
Maimie Perry, Marguerite Sumrall, Volunteer needed
Frank & Karen Fink, Gloria Roy
Angela Harrington, Henry Leray, Rosie Pellerin

Chris Wheeler
Angie Stelly
Jamie Guidry
Mike Brocato Jr.

Mary Frances Cali, Landon Lipari
Madalyn & Zachary Landry
Kaylee Craddock
Volunteer needed