

St. Joseph Bulletin

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

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time: I Belong Here

Have you ever had a feeling that you really don't belong someplace? I certainly have. I remember when I first became involved in youth ministry. I was twenty-one years old and a newly professed brother with the Salesians of St. John Bosco. I was just getting used to people calling me Brother Joe. I received my first official ministry assignment. I was to teach CCD on Sundays to the sixth grade boys at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Sparta, New Jersey. Piece of cake. What problems could I have with 11 and 12 year olds? The first class went well, but it really didn't last long. By the time the kids were assigned to the rooms there were just a few minutes for me to introduce myself. Little did I know that they were just casing me out. The second Sunday I showed up with a great filmstrip that had just come out. To you young people, back in the olden days a filmstrip was like Powerpoint, only with music and words. You would play a tape at the same time that you showed a slide. Then at the "bing" you would advance to the next slide. Well, I got to the parish a little early and ran into Sister Debra who was preparing to teach the sixth grade girls. When she saw that I had this particular filmstrip, she said, "I've been looking to show that to the girls. Would you mind if I brought them into your class so they could see it too?" "No problem, Sister. I was planning on starting it about twenty minutes into the class." "Great," she said, "you have the boys ready and I'll bring the girls in." Have the boys ready? What was she talking about? A few minutes before the class started, she said again to me, "You get the boys ready, and I'll bring in the girls in twenty minutes." "Sure," I said. But I was completely clueless as to what she meant. Twenty minutes into the class, a little girl came in and said that sister wanted to know if the boys were ready for the girls. I was a bit irritated, after all, I was twenty-one and a Salesian. I knew all about kids. But I just said, "Tell sister to send them in."

So these little girls came in carrying their chairs. And the boys started. They were hooting and howling and whistling. My face dropped. I was paralyzed. I had no idea what to do. And that's when Sister Debra came in. Now I didn't mention it, but Sister Debra was a very beautiful young lady. When she walked in, the smallest boy in the front row with the loudest voice in the world stood on his chair and yelled out, "Hey, Brother Joe, there's one for you!!"

And I had the feeling that I really didn't belong there. Sadly, this story is 100% true. Actually, I did belong there. I just had to learn a few things about youth ministry....and eleven year old boys.

There are a lot of times that we feel we really don't belong somewhere. I remember a high school girl who accompanied us on the Life Teen Leadership Conference quite a number of years ago. The first night when we got together as a parish, the girl looked at the other Teens there and said, "I don't belong here. I'm not as good as these other kids." I took her aside and told her that Bart, our youth minister, and I chose her to be there and that I was sure she should be there. She responded, "You don't understand, Father. I'm not good like those other kids. I have a terrible reputation at school. And I earned it." I told her that the past was the past. There would be an opportunity for confession. And, especially, she did belong there. She showed all the signs of being a strong leader in the faith. Sure enough, through the grace of God, she grew that week and from then on. By the time she got to college, she was the family's leader in the faith, as well as a leader in our youth

group. Now, out of college, she is a young Catholic woman determined to live and spread the faith.

The feeling of not belonging someplace was certainly forced on the woman in today's Gospel. She was a Canaanite, a gentile, a pagan. What was she doing seeking healing from this Jesus, whom the Jewish people were treating as their long sought Messiah? Jesus Himself seemed to emphasize this when He joined the sentiment of the crowd and said that He was only sent for the lost sheep of Israel. But the woman was determined. Her daughter was gravely ill. She demanded an audience with Him. Her faith was further tested when He said that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs, dogs being the Jewish way of referring to the gentiles. Her response that even the dogs eat the food that falls from the table showed that her faith in Him would not waiver. It was clear that she belonged there, before the Lord. No one could say that she didn't belong. She couldn't even say that about herself.

None of us should ever feel that we don't belong coming before the Lord. We do belong here. We belong here because he has called us to be here. Of course we are not good enough to be in His Presence. Not on our own. But He makes us good enough. That is what Baptism does. And, if we squander the Grace of our Baptism, then Penance makes us good enough.

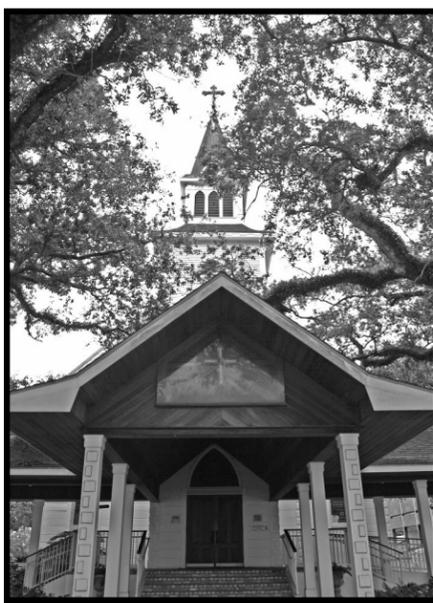
Nor should any of us believe others who through their subtle actions send a message that we really should be excluded from His Presence. For example you might walk into church and see someone you know outside of the parish who gives you a look that says, "I didn't expect to see you here." Everyone in the Church belongs here. And there are billions of people outside of the Church who also belong here.

This is the Catholic Church. The word Catholic means universal. All people from all lands and races belong in the Church. The Catholic Church is not a white Church. The Catholic Church is not a black Church. The Catholic Church is not an Asian Church. The Catholic Church is not a Hispanic Church. The Catholic Church is not an American Church. The Catholic Church is not a European Church. The Catholic Church is the universal Church. All people belong here.

Saints and sinners belong here. People who are living exemplary lives belong here. People who are seeking to live better lives belong here. Most of us, actually all of us, I would think, are in that second group. We don't go to Church because we are so holy. We go to Church because we are seeking holiness. No one could say that the girl on that retreat did not belong there because she had a terrible reputation well earned. She did belong there. She belonged there because she was seeking the Lord. There are many people here in this Church, foremost myself, who come every week asking God to heal us. We are seeking to be sincere in our practice of the faith. We belong here. "Come, all you who are weary and find life burdensome," the Lord said. He didn't exclude anyone. He said, all you who are weary.

One of the most effective weapons the devil uses against us is convincing us that we have no right to the Grace of God. The devil wants us to give up on ourselves. The Lord tells us that he will never give up on us. We do not have the right to give up on ourselves.

And so, we come before Him this Sunday and every Sunday. We come before Him with simple faith. Like the Canaanite woman, we ask Him for healing. And we trust Him. For His mercy and compassion are infinitely greater than our sins. We look at the image of our Lord on the cross. We meditate on what He has done for us. And in complete humility we say, "I belong here." *Fr. Joseph 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: stjoeat@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: stjodre@teche.net**

Websites:

St. Joseph Church

www.stjosephpatla.org

Diocese of Lafayette

www.diolaf.org

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, AUG. 21
6:30am: Fr. Vu, Jerry Nezat, Carmen Herzog

TUESDAY, AUG. 22
9:30am: Nursing Home

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23
6:30AM: Gus Cremaldi

THURSDAY, AUG. 24
12:10AM:

FRIDAY, AUG. 25
6:30 AM: Msgr. Richard Mouton

SATURDAY, AUG. 26
4:30PM: Gertrude Bailey, Carey Mac Staples,
 George Studdard, Luke & Virginia Lipari, Hattie
 Norris, Ben LaGrange

SUNDAY, AUG. 27
8:00am: Ray Jude Vidos Sr., For the People of our
 Parish, Dr. Earl Eues, Lenny Guzzino,
 John Dimatteo, Johny & Virginia McCann
10:00am: Louis Lipari, Frank Governale,
 Harold Allemond,
5:00pm: James Blocker Jr., Beth Verret, Katherine
 Cardinale, Ross Grimbball, Elsa Y. Parchmont, Holy
 Souls, Judy Clark, Greg Cart, Donald Jumonville,
 Mary & Wilbert Drash Sr., George Studdard

Sanctuary Light

**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**

Sick Relatives & Friends

**Please pray for the sick of our parish & their
 caregivers:** Stella Saleme, Jason Hernandez,
 Herman Lajaunie, Archer Rogers, Rodney Hebert,
 Herbert Estay, Ruth Bourgeois, Amanda Boggs,
 Ahney Chauvin, Peggy Grimbball, Drue Langlinais,
 Linda Adams, Nicole Hingle, Wilda Cali, Angelle
 Hebert, Aba Grace Lang, Sally Rogers, 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, Cindy
 Guidry, Tanya Clamon, Billy Garcia, Tyra
 Newcomb, Kristi Liner, Ray LaHoste, Celeste
 Jumonville, Owen Hebert, Chad LaGrange, Jackie
 & B.L. Como, Sherry Hughes, Carol Sampey, Anna
 George, Doug Hood, Sean Nezat, Guy Gilmore Jr.
 Frank Guarisco, Derrick Jennings, Mary Bellard,
 Bruce LaHoste, Warren Balance, John Rouso,
 Brinda Beam, Curtis Gautreaux, Chase Broussard,
 Suzanna Lipari, Billy Picou, Debra Roy, John Michell
 Quinn Toups

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

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 com-
 plete 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 : \$3060.00
 Property & Liability \$1246.00

Office of Religious Education & Formation

Mamie Perry 395-3881 stjodre@teche.net

Grades K-11 Religion Classes

All classes begin **Wednesday, August 30**
Grades K - 6 5:00-6:00
Grades 7-10 7:00-8:00
Confirmation 6:45-8:00

We are still in need of;
Catechist & Classroom Helper for Gr. 5
Safety Monitors for both sessions
Substitute Catechist for second session

Please consider helping out.

We very much appreciate all who are willing to share
 their time and faith with our young people in Gr. K-10
 and Confirmation.

**Co-ordinator for Grades K-10:
 Rosie Pellerin**

Catechist:

Kristi Crouch
 Angela Harrington
 Debra Verret
 Susan Murray
 Jennifer Taylor
 5 _____

Anna Picou
 Rachel Carinhas
 Chris Little
 Chris Bailey
 Leslie Landry
 Jamie Guidry

Substitutes

Pauline Bellard
 Rachel Carinhas

Classroom Helpers

Lennie Alleman
 Michelle Grimbball
 Sydney Vidrine
 Charlene McCann
 Taylor Perry
 5 _____
 Mary Ollie Thibodaux
 Mallory Perry
 Chontay Watson
 Doug Fangue
 Stephen Foret
 Jason Watson
 Donette Freeman

Substitutes

Ruth Blocker
 Substitutes

Traffic, Hall,

Restroom,

Safety

Monitors:

Stephanie Verret
 Tina Dugas

Please pray for all of our children and their families
 as we begin this year of Religious Education and Faith
 Formation. We also ask you to support all of our
 volunteers with your prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Adult Discussion Group:

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.

Family Fun Day Meeting -

Life Chain- Oct. 1

Prayer for Hurricane Season

By Bishop Maurice Schexnayder

O God, master of this passing world; hear the
 humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee
 obeyed your order and returned to its former
 quietude. You are still the master of land and sea.
 We live in the shadow of a danger, over which we
 have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry
 giant, can awaken from its seeming lethargy,
 overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our
 land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season, we turn to you, o
 loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose
 memories are still so vivid, and whose wounds
 seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, our beloved Mother, we
 ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf; so
 that spared from the calamities common to this
 area, and animated with a true spirit of gratitude,
 we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to
 reach heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless
 eternity awaits us. Amen.

First Communion and Confirmation: Pictures are in and can be picked up at the Education Office.

*Life Chain Family Fun Fest Saturday September 30th
 10 am-2 pm @ St. Joseph's*

**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.**

<p><i>Mausoleum Crypts Are still available here at St. Joseph. If interested please call the rectory. 395-3616</i></p>	<p>St. Joseph 's "Family Fun Day" September 30</p>	<p>Vital Signs Custom sign shop Heath Theriot 985/992-0072 Hillary Theriot 985/225-2974</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Wendel, Loren, Bryant, & Kaylee Henry</p>	<p>Bulletin Ad's Available — call the office 395-3616</p>
	<p>In Loving Memory of James Blocker Jr. Oct. 20, 1945 Jan. 10, 2007</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>TOWN & COUNTRY FLORIST & GIFTS, INC Owner: Glynda Lasseigne 3515 Hwy 182, Berwick 985/385-6929 www.tandcflorist.com</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>Peterson Agency Inc. In Loving Memory of Clyde Peterson Sept. 27, 1927 Dec. 20, 2010</p>		<p>Member FDIC  PATTERSON STATE BANK</p>

Aug 19 & 20

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Eucharist

Lector

Altar Servers

Sat. 4:30pm Linda Thomas, Jane Watson, Terry Burgess
 Sun. 8:00am Marguerite Sumrall, Irene Mouton, AJ Gaudet
 Sun. 10:00am Bubba Richoux, Paula Boutte, Janet Carmody
 Sun. 5:00pm Keith & Michelle Grimbball, Rosie Pellerin

Chris Wheeler
 Angie Stelly
 Jamie Guidry
 Nicole Brocato

Brian Landry
 Mallory Perry
 Paris Guidry, Alex Haven
 Jude Guarisco