THE HOLY YEAR STARTS HERE MARCH 19, 2020

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Clean the Inside of the Cup First

Today's readings speak about the interior life of the committed follower of esus Christ. They make it clear that God sees within our hearts. As His people, we have to do far more than attend Mass on Sundays, receive the sacraments and say daily prayers. As Christians, we have to be certain that our exterior actions reflect our interior attitudes.

The first reading from the Book of Sirach tells us that we are engulfed with the mercy and love of God. He is all around us, and in us. He knows what is going on within us. He gives us a choice: choose Him or reject Him. If we reject Him, we die. If we choose Him, we live.

We are reminded that we are not slaves. We are heirs to the Kingdom. We are sons and daughters of God. Every person has dignity. Every one of us is chosen by God. We cannot sacrifice the freedom we have in Jesus Christ to the evil of the world. We cannot allow ourselves to be enslaved by sin. Jesus came to free us from sin.

But how can we avoid sin? Well, the obvious answer is to avoid occasions of sin, be those occasions people who would lead us into sin, or places that we, people of the Light, do not belong--including the dark alleys of the internet.

Today's readings tell us to go deeper than just avoiding occasions of sin. They tell us that God sees what is going on within us. We have to do all we can to be sure that we treasure His presence within us.

If there is evil in our minds, then evil actions will follow. Let me be clear, I am not speaking about those things that flash through our minds, the things that we get rid of with a quick prayer, "Jesus, have mercy on me a sinner". Those quick nasty flashes are part of being a human. They are not the problem.

The real problem comes when we entertain evil thoughts. People, sadly, do this. People spend time plotting out how they can do this or that to or with another person. Men and women, guys and girls in high school and college, talk about people as sex objects. They consider how they can take advantage of another person, using them for their own desires be they sexual desires, or how they can take advantage of others to get better grades, or to exploit in any way. People entertain bad thoughts when they plot out what they want to happen during or after a party. People entertain bad thoughts when they consider how they can get back at someone. When people are malicious, their evil flows from within them.

We cannot tolerate hypocrites. We are disgusted with hypocrites. And we are disgusted with ourselves when we are hypocrites. We cannot stand ourselves when we create an external personage that is very different than the person we really are. We are repulsed by our thoughts when we give ourselves over to plotting sin.

Jesus speaks about this in today's Gospel. He tells us to clean up our act on the inside so that our external actions are not hypocritical but a true reflection of whom we are. It is not enough to avoid hurting another person, we cannot hate anybody. Evil actions come from hate. Recently, some in our society have given credence to hate. We need to fight against this. We Christians are people of Jesus Christ, Love Become Flesh. Those who foster hate are anti-Christs.

How does this happen? How does evil gain such power? Evil gains power when people refuse to fight off hatred in their own lives.

This is what Jesus means when he says that unless our holiness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees we will not enter the Kingdom of God. We need to fight off any tendency we have to evil, be that hatred, or lust, or avarice, or jealousy. We can't be pretending we're pure when we are considering using others for sex. We cannot be making believe we love another person if we just want to have sex with him or her. We cannot say that we are doing our best to live as Christians, when we are planning to get drunk next Friday. We cannot say that we are followers of Jesus Christ if we foster any kind of hatred within us.

We cannot be two faced. We have to say what we mean. My mentor and our dearly departed pastor, Fr. John LaTondress, used to say, "My life is an open book. I have no secrets. What you see is what you get." We all need to say that. This is what Jesus means when he says, "let your yes mean yes and your no mean no." We shouldn't need to take oaths to prove our righteousness. We just need to be honest with ourselves as well as with others.

God peers into the depths of our souls. He knows where evil lurks. He also knows how hard we are trying to destroy evil within us. Every day we pray for His help that we might fight against evil. That is what we mean when at the end of the Lord's Prayer we say, "Deliver us from evil." For the worst evil in the world is also the one evil that we can defeat. The worst evil in the world is the evil within us.

Deliver us, Lord, from evil.

Fr. Joseph Pellegrino

Parish Directory

Mailing Address: 1011 First St. 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 ~
Office Fax: 985-395-9129

Education Office: 985-395-3881
Mamie Perry (DRE) ext. 5 ~
Education Fax: 985-395-3685
Email: stjoedre@teche.net

Websites:
St. Joseph Church
www.stjosephpatla.org

Diocese of Lafayette
www.diolaf.org

Celebration of Holy Mass

Summer Weekends :
Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 9am & 5:00pm

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

Education Office Hour.

Monday-Thursday 9am to 4pm
Friday by appointment

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.

Holy Year Update: By the time you read this bulletin, our Holy Year billboard along Highway 90 may be up! Look for it near Patterson State Bank (Highway 90 at Catherine Street). Many thanks to Rock's AC & Heating and our parishioner Bill Marin who make it possible.

Please make sure you pick up an invitation to our Opening Mass for the Holy Year as I mentioned to you last weekend. These will be found on a table at the back of Church, near the main doors. The invitations are being mailed to the hierarchy of our diocese.

Well underway are the baking of the Italian cookies, the production of the fig-piece sculptures for our altar, the choir practices for the Opening Mass, the designing of the display boards for our "World of St. Joseph" exhibit, and the printing of programs for the various events. Pilgrimage welcoming committees will be meeting soon. If you can assist in any way let the parish know– call us at (985) 395-3616.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, FEB. 17
6:30 A.M: Janina Vasquez, Charles Cortez, Ruth Bourgeois, Anthony Licciardi, Ross Grimball, Austin Jenkins, Frank & Diane Governale, Russell & Molly Governale, Marie Morella

TUESDAY, FEB. 18
9:30AM: Nursing Home – communion service

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19
6:30 A.M: no mass

THURS DAY, FEB. 20
12:10 A.M: no mass

FRIDAY, FEB. 21
6:30 AM:

SATURDAY, FEB. 22
4:30 P.M: Sylvia Felterman, Charles & Kevin Cortez, Amy Lowry, Alex Martin, Alex Martin Etienne Kidder

SUNDAY, FEB. 23
9:00am: Floyd Estay, For the People of our Parish, Beverly & Ernest Felterman, Charpentier & Costa Families,
5:00pm: Beth Verret, Katherine Cardinale, Judy Clark, Elsa Y. Parchmont, Jackie Couture, John DiMatteo,

Sanctuary Light
Austin Jenkins

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, Nicole Hingle, Wilda Cali, Angelle Hebert, Madeline Venable, Iris Roy, Celeste Jumonville, Owen Hebert, Jackie & B.L. Como, David Hartford, Lee Michel, Gulley Taylor, Anne Broussard, Wilson Bailey, Cursey Gordon, Rose Johnson, Robert Johnson, Scott Governale, Daisy LeBlanc, Gail Smith, Shira Rideau, John Siracusa, Kristen Murphy, Dianne Austin, Terrance Overland, Cecilia Lawnicki, Mary Fontonet, Christina Murphy, Candy Hoekstra, Anna Balance, Sally Rogers, Ora Mae Wilson, Luke Pitre, Barbara L. Vinning, Diane Bonnaffee, Pat Vidos, Ahney Chauvin, Annie Russo, Frank Guarisco, Josie Moncada, Kevin Tabor, Leona Cloud, Melissa Boutte, Linda Horn , Verlie Loup, Helena August , Nash Tabor, Mary Sehon, Melissa Prince Tarleton, Holly Newbolt, Laura Larive, Ed Shilling, Rip& Cheryl Verdin, Clyde & Angelina Aucoin, Frank Jones, Norma Amos, Jerry Barrileaux, Sandra Grogan, Russel Cardinale, Linda Thomas, Bob Opperman, Maritta Race, Angie Findley, Kay Olds, John Falgout, Amada Murphy, Alice Guzzetta, Joann Landry, Bonnes Guidry, Dalton Hilliard Jr., Austin Gabourel, Christine Tabor, Ruth Blocker, Troy Broussard, Ken & Nadine Montgomery, Sandy Mire, Mary Bellard, Francis Daugherty, Larry Besse, Sr.,Luby Grimball, Mathilde Harrington, M /M Theonis Harrington, Dr. Charlie Ballay, Ella SanMiguel, Ruby & Herman Pellerin, Inger Peterson Denver Jenkins
Please call the rectory to add or delete a name

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 Offerings: $3760.00

Office of Religious Education & Formation

Mamie Perry 395-3881 stjoedre@teche.net

Class Mass Schedule 2019-2020

February
16 - 4th Grade
23 - 5th Grade

March
1- 6th Grade
8- 7th Grade
15- 8th Grade
22- 9 & 10 th Grs

1st Communion Mass: Sunday, April 19, 9:00 a.m.
Confirmation Mass: Sunday, May 3, 9:00 a.m.

LENTEN MISSION W/ FR. GARRETT MCINTYRE

NIGHT 1
THE GOD OF UNITY
THE GARDEN OF EDEN TO THE UPPER ROOM

NIGHT 2
THE GOD OF MERCY
EAST OF EDEN TO CALVARY

NIGHT 3
THE GOD OF LIFE
THE DESERT TO THE GARDEN OF THE RESURRECTION

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
MARCH 9, 10 ,11TH AT 6PM

UPCOMING EVENTS…

Father's Adult Discussion Group :
No class

First Saturday Rosary:
The Holy Rosary will be prayed before the Vigil Mass in church beginning at 4:00 P.M. the first Saturday of each month. Please join us.

Want to convert hearts?...come and pray the rosary@ 8:30am every Monday morning in church.

Catholic Daughters will meet the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 P.M. in the parish hall. If you are interested in joining please call the rectory.

Choir Practice Wednesday at 5:00pm in the church.

KC's Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month @7pm in the parish hall.

Nursing Home Mass Ministry is looking for volunteers to help with Mass each Tuesday @ 9:30am at the nursing home, if you can help please call the rectory 395-3616

St. Joseph Altar :
Will be making cookies Feb. 18th, 20th and 21st.
Will be off on Monday, Feb. 17th and Wed., Feb 19.
Volunteers needed!!! We will show you what to do.
Call Maria Tabor at 985-518-8009 or 985-395-3996 with any questions.

YOU NEED TO KNOW: This weekend we find ourselves at Sexagesima Sunday, the second Sunday before Lent begins and the eighth Sunday before Easter. Although meaning "sixtieth," Sexagesima Sunday falls about fifty—seven days before Easter. It can occur any time between January 25 and February 29. Sexagesima Sunday is found in the middle of Shrovetide, the pre– Lenten preparation period that was observed by the Catholic Church before the revisions of the liturgical calendar of Vatican II. Although not on Sexagesima Sunday itself, fasting would occur during this season as the means of achieving a forty-day fast while omitting Sundays, Thursday, and Saturdays. As noted last weekend with Septuagesima Sunday, Sexagesima Sunday is retained in the Extraordinary form of the Mass with its customary practices. Sexagesima Sunday is another sure sign that Lent-and Easter—are on their way, and something **You Need to Know!**

My love & prayers,

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

Mausoleum Crypts Are still available here at St. Joseph. If interested please call the rectory.

Frank's Agency, Inc.
Complete insurance Services
985-395-9351
frankg@bellsouth.net

VITAL SIGNS
CUSTOM SIGNS & GRAPHICS
vitalsigns1995@gmail.com 985-518-1234

MORGAN CITY SUPPLY of Louisiana
MORGAN CITY SUPPLY OF LOUISIANA,
985/384-3650
6911 Hwy 182 E
Morgan City, LA

Knights of Columbus #1710
Protecting Catholic Families for Generations

CHRIST OUR King 90.5FM 1230AM
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TOWN & COUNTRY FLORIST & GIFTS,
Owner: Glynda Lasseigne
3515 Hwy 182,Berwick
985/385-6929
www.tandcflorist.com

Member FDIC
PATTERSON STATE BANK

A Day of Prayer for Women
"Lent: Fasting, almsgiving, Prayer"
Tuesday, March 3, from 8:30amto 2:15pm
Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House, Grand Coteau, La
Cost $25.00 P
Presented by Fr. Lou McCabe, S.J.

JEFF CARDINALE *PRESIDENT*
CARDINAL LUMBER & SUPPPLY, INC.
985-395-9580
800 HWY. 90 WEST
PATTERSON, LA

Bulletin Ad's Available — call the office 395-3616

Feb. 22 & 23	Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:	Lectors:	Altar Servers:
Sat. 4:30pm	Sandra Marshall, Terry Burgess, Jamie Guidry	Alecia Rabalais	Alex Haven
Sun. 9:00am	Chris Little, Frank Fink, Ruby Delaune	Irene Mouton	Parker Brocato
Sun. 5:00pm	Mike & Loretta Brocato, Debra Verret	Nicole Brocato	Jude Guarisco