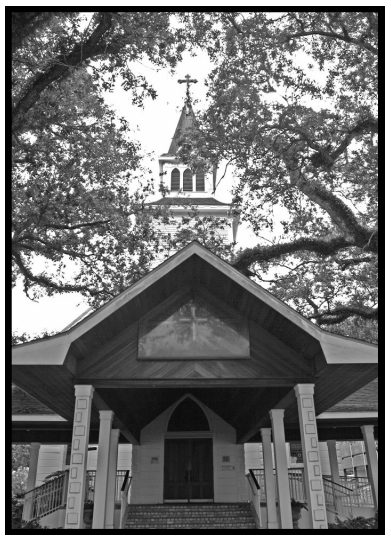


THE HOLY YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH (ESTABLISHED 1848)

Why a Child's First Holy Communion is a Big Deal!

As Catholics, we know that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith: it is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Pope Francis has called it the "Sacrament of Love":

"***The Eucharist is at the heart of 'Christian initiation', together with Baptism and Confirmation, and it constitutes the source of the Church's life itself. From this Sacrament of love, in fact, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness."***

For children who are preparing to receive their **First Holy Communion**, this is a big deal. And for all of us, no matter how many times we have received Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, **it should always be a big deal.**

What makes it so special the first time is the same thing that makes it special every time!

Jesus comes to us in a unique way in the Eucharist. When He comes, we receive Him into our body and our soul. This is very beautiful, personal, and intimate. We should not take it for granted!

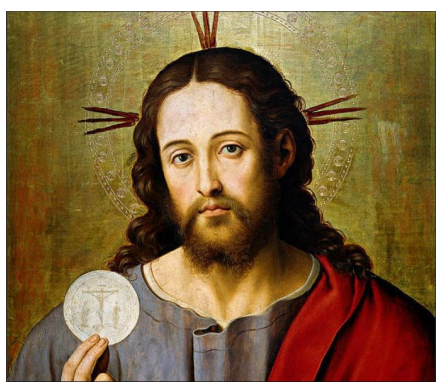
This is why the first time a family member makes their Holy Communion, it is an exciting event for the whole family. The boy or girl preparing for this sacrament is going to be profoundly united with Jesus in a way that they never have before!

It is such a holy, joyful occasion. Our souls become the bride of Christ. That is why girls wear white dresses and boys wear suits. Relatives are invited. Parents take pictures. We celebrate. And the very act of celebrating reveals our belief in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Father Roger Landry of the Diocese of Fall River in New England says,

"...what makes one's first Communion a truly blessed event is not the adjective but the substantive: not the 'first' but the 'communion.' **Because of whom we receive,** the second, third, next, and last **Communion should always be as special.**"

Unfortunately, for many of us Catholics, First Holy Communion has become simply a right of passage. The essence of the celebration is lost among the parties and gifts. "Parties and gifts are fine," says one priest, "as long as the focus never strays from what the celebration is truly about."



First Holy Communion is, without question, a time of great joy. The saints in heaven, who are delighted to intercede for us, are celebrating along with your family.

"You come to me," says Saint Maximilian Kolbe to Jesus, speaking for all of us, "and unite Yourself intimately to me under the form of nourishment. . . . What miracles! Who would have ever imagined such!"

St. Mother Teresa also has words for you and your family: "Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. **If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist...**"

Yes, the celebration of a child's First Holy Communion IS a big deal. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise!

Celebration of Holy Mass

Weekday
Monday thru Thursday 11:00am

Weekend
Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Reconciliation
20 minutes before Masses begin or anytime by appointment.

Rectory Office Hours
Mon. thru Thur. 9:am to 3pm
Fri. 9am to 12 noon

Education Office Hour.
Mon. thru Thur. 9:am to 3pm
Fri. 9am to 12 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.

MASS INTENTIONS LIVE ON FACEBOOK!

MONDAY, APR. 26
11:00 A.M. : Curtis Gautreaux Jr, Suzanne Lipari, Frank Guarisco, Irene Mouton, Marshall Gray, Jackie Couture, Frank Cali Sr., Frank Lapari, Chris Costa, Frank Jones, Louis Stuer, Louise Smoorenburg, Laura Johnson, Pam Faul Lucille Savoie

TUESDAY, APR. 27
11:00 A.M.: Loving Memory Tree intentions

WEDNESDAY, APR. 28
11:00 A.M. :

THURSDAY, APR. 29
11:00 A.M. : Curtis Gautreaux Jr

FRIDAY, APR. 30
NO MASS

SATURDAY, MAY 1
4:30 P.M.: Wilson & Gertrude Bailey, Luke & Virginia Lipari, Frank Guarisco, Gulley & Anna Taylor, Donald & Leona Smith, Max Griffin, Graci Andrews, Marie & Anthony Morella, JP Morella, Mary Bellard, M/M Clarfa Boudreaux, Disire Migues fly, AJ Moncada, Melba & Murray Trahan

SUNDAY, MAY 2
8:00 A.M. : Beth Verret, Floyd Estay, Katherine Cardinale, Elsa Y. Parchmont, Frank Cali Sr. John DiMatteo, Gail Smith, Charpentier & Costa Fly., Smoorenburg & Boumans fly, Curtis Gautreaux Jr., M/M Jake P. Lipari, Guderian & Barcenas fly,
10:30 A.M. : For the People of our Parish (Living & Deceased)

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
Watch live :
St. Joseph's Masses: Monday thru Thursday 11am & Sunday 8 & 10:30am on our facebook site.
Cathedral in Lafayette : www.diolaf.org

Sick Relatives & Friends

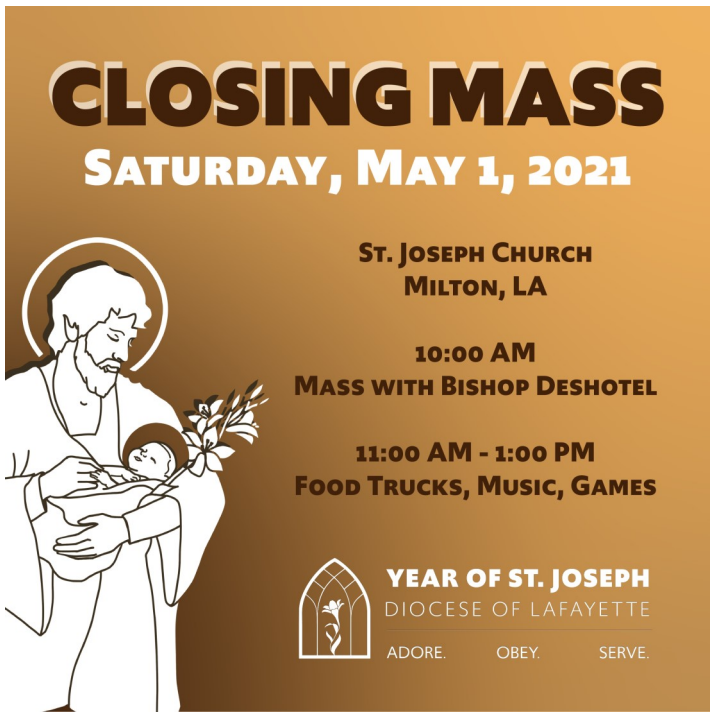
Please pray for the sick of our parish & their caregivers: Stella Saleme, Wilda Cali, Angelle Hebert, Iris Roy, Celeste Jumonville, Jackie Como, David Hartford, Lee Michel, Cursey Gordon, Rachel Caprito, Rose Johnson, Robert Johnson, Daisy LeBlanc, Russel Cardinale, Linda Thomas, Bonnes Guidry, Austin Gabourel, Ruth Blocker, Troy Broussard, Ken & Nadine Montgomery, Barbara Johnson, Agatha Wiggins, Ricky & Brenda Lamartiniere, Bud Lange, Joseph Gomez, , Mary Ann Trosclair, Raymond Verret, Don Cordray, Wilbert Drash, Doug & Mamie Perry, Miguel Espansa, Russel Cremaldi, Josie Moncada, Lee Felterman, Alanna Sloane, Wineva Acosta, Mary Sehon, Kerry Montet Jr, Bryce Solar, Dolores Verret, Barbara Guarisco, Kenny Leger, Joann Landry, Diane Singleton, Garnet Acosta, Geraldine Dilly, Jamie Credeur

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

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:	$2701.25
BSA	$701.00



Acadiana Catholic Magazine can be found outside the entry of church.

Father's Adult Discussion Group :
Monday, 6:30pm will meet in the Parish Hall

Eucharistic Adoration First Tuesday of each month from 12 noon to 9:00 pm contact Angie Stelly @ 985-759-3154 for more information

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.

The Warning Book by Christine Watkins, Fr. B will be having a discussion group May 12, Wednesday at 6pm in the Parish Hall all are invited.

Mother's Day Flowers

We are now accepting donations for Mother's Day flowers. If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, call the Rectory at 395-3616.

You Need to Know: One of the lesser known events of the Catholic Church's year is approaching soon. Rogation Days will be observed in the coming weeks– the major rogation day occurring on April 25 (the feast of St. Mark), and the minor rogation days on May 10,11, and 12, the three days preceding Ascension Thursday. Historically, these were days of fasting and prayer (a mini-Lent?) in preparation for the celebration of Jesus's Ascension into heaven. Processions were also a common feature of Rogation Days-the minister would lead parishioners around the boundary of the parish while praying for protection of the parish in the coming year. As with various Christian observances, Rogation Days replaced a pagan celebration. This one, Robigalia was a Roman procession done for the protection of crops. Rogation days began to be observed by the Catholic Church around the year 470. Pope Leo III adopted them for the Roman rite about the end of the eighth century. Farmers often had their crops blessed by priests at that time. Rogation Days continued to be conducted in countries such as England after the Protestant Reformation. Rogation Days, as well as Ember Days, were to be determined by each nation's episcopal conferences following Vatican II. Consequently, their practice declined in the Latin Church. However, Pope St. John Paul II did revive them somewhat by allowing them to be held, while not mandating them. Rogation Days are an interesting part of our Church's history, a possibility for our Church's future– and something you need to know!

Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants! Several of our young people received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time after receiving their first sacrament of Reconciliation. Thanks to Mrs. Debra Verret, Mrs. Rosie Pellerin, Mrs. Pauline Bellard and you parents, godparents, grandparents and others who prepared them well to receive these sacraments. May God bless you all and may this be the first of many Reconciliations and Holy Communions for our young people.

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. 395-3616

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

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

TOWN & COUNTRY FLORIST & GIFTS,
Owner: Glynda Lasseigne
3515 Hwy 182,Berwick
985/385-6929
www.tandcflorist.com

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

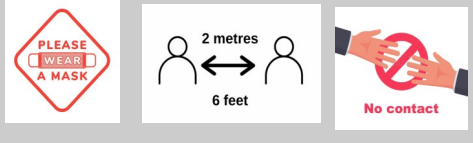
Knights of Columbus #1710
Protecting Catholic Families for Generations

Member FDIC
PATTERSON STATE BANK

Hanson Memorial High School, Franklin La.
is seeking candidates for the following positions, 6th grade - 12th grade 2021-2022 school year
Seeking Applicants for the Following Positions:
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religion
- Spanish
- Head Boys Basketball
- Head Football Coach
- Head Track Coach

Mission Statement:
Hanson Memorial High School is a Roman Catholic school dedicated to the formation of a Christ-centered individual, equipped to use the gifts of spirit, mind and body in positive contributions to Church, family and society
APPLY NOW! WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ON OUR TEAM!
Please Send Resumes to:
Connie Daigle, Principal
Hanson Memorial High School
903 Anderson Street, Franklin, LA. 70538
cdaigle@hansonmemorial.com - 337-828-3487

Reminder during Mass:



May 1 & 2	Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:	Lectors:	Altar Servers:
Sat. 4:30pm		Alecia Rabalais	
Sun. 8 ;00am		Mary Richoux	
Sun. 10:30am		Shannon Freeman	