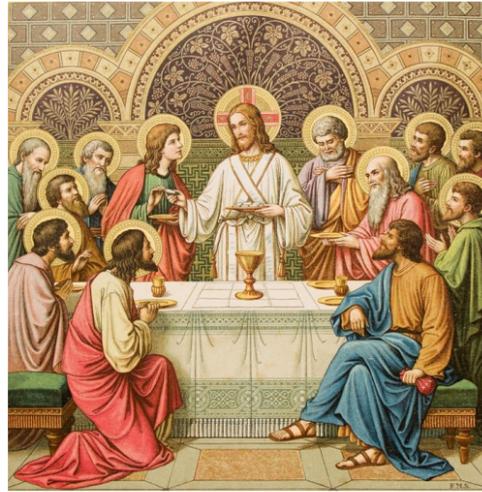


St. Joseph Bulletin

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Banquet Etiquette at the Table of the Lord.

Today's Gospel contains two teachings of similar styles. Both are about banquets. "When you go to a banquet" and "When you give a banquet." Both have a cautioning phrase, "Don't sit at a high place, lest you be put down," and "Don't put out a spread for the rich to impress them, lest you already receive your reward." Both have the teaching, "But when..." The Lord is not playing Miss Manners. He's not giving lessons in proper etiquette. He is teaching us the proper way to view ourselves and others. He is teaching us about honor, respect, and, particularly, about humility.



A number of years ago there was a terrible article in T.V. Guide entitled "You are where you sit." Part of it is as follows:

"In Hollywood you are where you sit. This is called power seating. A strategically placed table indicates to the community your prominent and important position in the industry. It is so important that one major studio assigns a full time PR person to make sure the studio doesn't play second fiddle to anyone. One television producer has his secretary call before a meal and politely note that if the table isn't in the right place, her boss won't go. One producer put it this way, 'Information is power. I don't want to be seen seated with two dentists and three veterinarians. It ruins my image, and they have nothing to offer me.'" Obviously, humility was not that producer's forte. His place at table had to signify his importance, his superiority over others.

The Banquet table in the first part of the Gospel is the Table of the Lord. We are invited to the celebration of God's Kingdom. Our joy should be that we are invited to this meal. We cannot be concerned with comparing ourselves to the other guests. We are told that we shouldn't think so highly of ourselves that we put ourselves over other people. Symbolically, we shouldn't move to the best seat at the banquet thinking that we are so much better than everyone else.

Are we better than others because we are here at Mass right now and others are not planning on worshipping this weekend? Is that how the Lord wants us to think? Of course not.

A number of years ago I was speaking with a young lady, in her first years of college. She had been very involved in high school ministry and used to give some of the best talks and the most spiritual sharing. She was holy, but, sometimes, a bit pietistic. Whether she meant it or not, she conveyed a bit of a "better than thou" attitude. She wanted to talk to me because she wanted to start a separate prayer group for those, and these were her words, "who were "really up there spiritually speaking." I left the discussion thinking, "How can she possibly think that she was spiritually superior to someone else?" She, evidently, thought that she deserved a higher place at the Table of the Lord. Unfortunately, she soon found herself outside of the banquet altogether when she became infatuated and chose to become sexually active outside of marriage.

I, and I am sure you, run into many people who assert their high spirituality, greater than all others, save those who share their particular experiences. They are part of a particular prayer movement or a spiritual group, or they have visited shrines, they join a traditionalist parish and consider themselves the "faithful Catholics" as in real Catholics opposed to the rest of us. They insinuate, or even say directly: "I'm sorry that you haven't made this movement, joined this group or visited that shrine. You are really missing out here." And in this way purport to be so much better than everyone else. What they are in fact saying is, "You haven't made this movement, you haven't visited this shrine, well, you're just not up there, spiritually." A truly holy person would never belittle the faith-life of another person. The first dinner instruction encourages us to recognize who we are before the Lord, not to be concerned with making believe we are better than others.

The second part of the gospel does not speak about the Table of the Lord, but refers to honoring people for favors to come later.

During my senior year of college I was invited to a meal that I was surprised to find out was in my honor. It was put on by the parents of one of the Freshmen that I was assigned to supervise by my college-seminary. This individual was not studying to be a priest, but was living with the seminary students and was expected to follow their routine. In turns out that his parents owned a very good restaurant in New York City. You would not believe this meal they had ready. The table was stacked high with filet mignons. During the meal his parents kept telling me that they were happy I was supervising their son. They were more lavish in their praises of me than in the food they offered me. I left feeling pretty good about myself. After all, I had to agree with some of it.

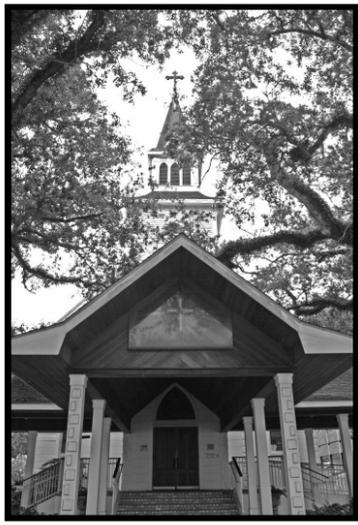
About a week later, the young man mentioned to me that when I assign chores for the Freshmen for the next month, he really didn't want to do anything that would take too long or would be too difficult. I ignored this and gave him whatever job he was in line for. His parents never spoke to me again.

I was not being honored, I was being used.

The second dinner instruction, about not looking for pay-backs, tells us to be sincere. The Christian attitude should be to care genuinely for others, not try to buy them. If we are concerned with whom they are, not what they can do for us, then we are honoring the Lord who is present within them.

Put both dinner instructions together and we have, simply enough: recognize the presence of the Lord in ourselves and in others and honor that presence. This is Christian humility. Humility is rejoicing in whom we are and who others are before the Lord. If we live this way then we, the humble, will be exalted by the Lord.

From the Book of the Prophet Micah, chapter 6 verse 8: *He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?* Fr. Pellegrino



Celebration of Holy Mass

Weekday

Monday & Thursday 11:00am
 Tuesday 9:30 at Nursing Home
 Wednesday 6:30am

Weekend

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

Reconciliation

20 minutes before Masses 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.

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
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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, AUG. 29

11:00 A.M.: Fr. Robert Morella

TUESDAY, AUG. 30

9:30 A.M.: NURSING HOME-

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 31

6:30A.M.:

THURSDAY, SEPT. 1

11:00A.M.:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2

11:00 A.M.: NO MASS

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3

4:30 PM: Pat Vidos, Frank Guarisco, Alfred LaCoste, Donald & Leona Smith, Max Griffin, Graci Andrews, Hal Thomas, Curtis Gautreaux Jr, Luke & Virginia Lipari, Nadine Montgomery, Gulley & Anna Taylor, Butch & Sylvia Felterman, Jackie & BL Como, Russell Cardinale Jr., AJ & Josie Moncada, M/M Clarfa Boudreaux, Virginia Young, Gail Domangue, Anthony & Marie Morella, JP Morella, Arthur Madison Jr., Marlene Burns, Delores M. Abrahan

SUNDAY, SEPT. 4

8:00 A.M.: Elsa Y. Parchmont, Randy & Beth Verret, Charpentier & Costa Fly (Living & Deceased), Curtis Gautreaux Jr, Gertrude & Wilson Bailey, Ernest & Beverly Felterman, Melba & Murray Trahan, Ray Vidos Sr., Wanda Thibodeaux, Bernice & Joseph Accardo

10:30 A.M.: For the People of our Parish

Sanctuary Light
Luke Lipari

**Sick Relatives & Friends
Please pray for the sick of our parish & their caregivers:**

Stella Saleme, Angelle Hebert, Iris Roy, Celeste Jumonville, Rachel Caprito, Rose & Robert Johnson, Daisy LeBlanc, Linda Thomas, Austin Gabourel, Ruth Blocker, Troy Broussard, Agatha Wiggins, Ricky & Brenda Lamartiniere, Bud & Debbie Lange, Joseph Gomez, Mary Ann Trosclair, Lee Felterman, 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, Heather Bourque, Samantha McGill, Doug Perry, Kirsten McGill, Jessica Fariar, Donald Sloan, Susan Murray, Brooke Rhodes, Melanie Lipari, Ronald Berry, Randy Ledet, Jan Fabre, Ray Rentrop, Jacqueline Hebert, Kim Hanks, Rip & Cheryl Verdin, Jason Percle, Judy Leray, Florence Bebe Viator, Justin Fabre, Karen Bertrand, Nanette Landry, Anthony Richard, Valerie Simon, James Carinhas, Liz Clement, Ann Heard, Jimmy Russo, Rick Tabor, Bennie Collins, Averi Andrews, Sandra Bradford, Sheena Robertson, Kelly Dalton, Stephen McReynolds, Kay Olds, Frank Hernandez, Jason & Theresa Babin, Noel Verdin, Michele Harrell, Lonnie Garza, Ryan Domingue, Micheal Darnell, Woody Carlin, Penelope Meadows, Ray Primeaux, Elijah Allen, Warren Soudelier, Keely Price, Carla LaSalle, Janice Boudier, Jerry Butch Robicheaux, Elizabeth Swan, Alex Lewis, Kate Hicks, Troy Landry, Barbara Vinning, Jane & Cursey Gordon, Lyman Wilson, Blaine St. Romain, Ray LaHoste, Layla Joseph, Veronica St. Romain, Mildred Trujillo, Jerry Trosclair, Christian Miguez, Wesley Munfon Jr., John Carmody, Jina Thomas, Abigail Watson, Geraldine Verdun, George Tappin

Please call the rectory to add or delete a

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 \$2082.00
Property & Liability \$721.00

Office of Religious Education & Formation
Mamie Perry 395-3881 stjoe@teche.net

REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!

Returning family forms have been mailed out. Registration forms for new & returning families can be downloaded from our parish website stjosephpatla.org Forms can be dropped off at the religious education office. Please check Facebook & the GroupMe app for updates and important information throughout the year.

August

8/31 Catechist / Mentor Meeting 6:00 p.m.

September

9/14 Parent Information Meeting Grades Pre-K - 10th 6:00 p.m.

9/18 Family Faith Formation Mass 10:30 a.m.

9/28 First class session for grades Pre-K-10th 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

***SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING**

8/31 5:30 pm

FOR ANYONE NEEDING UPDATED OR INITIAL TRAINING. If you are unable to attend update training can be done online on virtus.org at your convenience.

Why Is That? Why Do Catholics Fast before Mass? We fast before Mass in order to prepare a proper dwelling for Jesus when we receive Him in the Eucharist. If the Pope were coming over would you clean your house? Of course you would! You'd even dust the crack in the floor, under the carpet, in the corner of the basement storage room!

It's the same when we open up the door of our body and soul to Jesus. We need to clean up and prepare! The rules for fasting have evolved over the years. According to the Code of Canon Law we are required to fast from everything except water and medicine for one hour prior to receiving communion (Code of Canon Law 919).

Why is this necessary? Fasting is all about the 'disposition' of your soul. That means the 'condition' or 'state' that your soul is in. In order to prepare the soul, we have to prepare the body.

We are physical beings. When we force our body to do something hard, like not eat or drink, it reminds us that hunger and thirst for spiritual food is even more important.

Since the body and soul make up the one person that you are, they have to do things together . . . like get ready for Jesus in the Eucharist.

Question: Is it a sin if one does not fast before receiving the Eucharist?

Answer: The essence of sin is not the mere breaking of a law but in the attitude that leads to the breaking of the law (Mark 9:15).



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

<p><i>Mausoleum Crypts</i> Are still available here at St. Joseph. If interested please call the rectory. 395-3616</p>	<p>JEFF PRESIDENT CARDINALE  CARDINAL LUMBER & SUPPLY, INC. 985-395-9580 800 HWY. 90 WEST PATTERSON, LA</p>	<p>Frank's Agency, Inc. Complete insurance Services 985-395-9351 glynnuarisco@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus #1710</p> <p>Blackstone Raffle</p>  <p>KC's be raffling off a Blackstone grill, tickets cost \$5.00. Knights will be selling tickets after all Masses till Oct. 15! Please support our Knights!</p>
<p>TOWN & COUNTRY FLORIST & GIFTS, Owner: Glynda Lasseigne 3515 Hwy 182, Berwick 985/385-6929 www.tandcflorist.com</p>	<p>MORGAN CITY SUPPLY of Louisiana  985/384-3650 6911 Hwy 182 E Morgan City, LA</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus #1710 Protecting Catholic Families for Generations</p>	
<p>Member FDIC  PATTERSON STATE BANK</p>	<p><i>C. Whitten</i> Photography cwhittenphotography.com</p>	<p>Acadiana Catholic Magazine can be found in the back of church.</p>	

Sept. 3 & 4	Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:	Lectors:	Altar Servers:
Sat. 4:30pm	Sandra Marshall	Brightman Kornegay	Landon Lipari
Sun. 8:00am	Shannon Freeman	Shannon Freeman	Alex Haven
Sun. 10:30am	Mike Brocato	Michael Brocato	Parker Brocato, Lex Chamberlain

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 7:00 pm. Begins with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at noon, and ends with the Benediction at 7:00 P.M. All are welcomed and encouraged to come spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Contact Angie Stelly @ 985-759-3154 for more information.
Next one Sept. 6

Catholic Daughters will meet the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 P.M. in the parish hall. If you are interested in joining please call the rectory.
Catholic Daughters invite you to a coffee & biscuits social this Sunday at the Guarisco Parish Hall after the 8am Mass.
PLEASE JOIN US!

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.

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