

Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

January 15, 2017

Vol. XXXIII, No. 3

In The Know

How we all love to be part of the inner circle! Whether it is work information, neighborhood gossip or parish voting results, there is a delicious thrill that comes from being on the inside track, knowing before anyone else. As the words of our culture tell us, knowledge is power and knowing first is even better.

It is easy to imagine John the Baptist as the consummate "inside track guy." He was, after all, the one to announce the Messiah. John must have felt great satisfaction, pride even, at being part of such a big picture. But in many ways John was still in the dark. He changed his lifestyle, took on a harsh, demanding ministry before he ever saw Jesus in person. John had to trust God and obediently begin his work *before* God could reveal the Messiah. In this week's gospel, John tells us, "I myself did not know Him, but I came so that He might be revealed." It was John's blind obedience that drove him to preach and baptize. John was not in the know, but he knew God and that was enough for him to act in faith. Is it enough for you today?

Washington, D.C. March For Life

As the Youth Group, Father Bernie, Deacon Gene and their chaperones leave for Washington, D.C., please keep them in your prayers. Please pray also for our country and its government.

Help Us Be One

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Dear Lord, please shed your grace
Upon our nation and this day;
May we ever walk in unity
And keep the Christian way.
May we live in harmony.
Each race, each creed we know;
Crown our lives with tolerance,
Lead the path that we should go.
From one shore to another
Each bell of freedom rings;
Fill the rafters of our churches
With the joy that freedom brings!
Keep us ever mindful, Lord,
Of blessings that You give;
Help us work together on
This earth on which we live.



Offertory Giving

As the prophet Isaiah proclaims in the first reading, the Lord continues to remind us that we are His servants. Imagine the Lord speaking these words to you personally: "You are My servant. Through you I show My glory. I formed you as My servant from your mother's womb. I will make you a light so that you may shine the light of My salvation everywhere you go, and reveal My glory to everyone you encounter. I will give you the strength to do this. I will give you confidence. Heed My words, for I have spoken to you." What would your response be to the Lord? Would it be different from the response you give the Lord now?

Weekly Budgeted Need	\$7,100.00
Last Sunday Jan. 8	
Envelopes (Adult)	\$7,361.00
Loose	497.00
Total	\$7,858.00
Progress Report	
Cumulative Budget	\$198,800.00
Cumulative Income	<u>204,558.35</u>
Ahead <Behind>	\$5,758.35
Second Collection	
(Building Fund)	\$1,421.00

Office Closing



The Church Office will be closed **Monday, January 16**, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. The office will reopen at 1:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 17**.

Altar Flowers Donated

The lovely flower arrangements adorning the altar this weekend were donated in loving memory of **James Bailey, Jr.**, by his wife Sandy Bailey.



If you would like to place flowers on the Altar in memory of a deceased loved one or someone on his/her special occasion, please call the Church Office. We have several openings for you to honor that person in a memorable way.

Pope Francis's Mission Intention

"That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity."

Mass Intentions Requested

Monday, January 16

(Heb 5:1-10; Mk 2:18-22)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, January 17

(Heb 6:10-20; Mt 19:16-28)

8:00 a.m. Paul Burkhart

Wednesday, January 18

(Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Mk 3:1-6)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, January 19

(Heb 7:25—8:6; Mk 3:7-12)

8:00 a.m. Yvonne Tracey

Friday, January 20

(Heb 8:6-13; Mk 3:13-19)

8:00 a.m. John Lacourrage

Saturday, January 21

(Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Mk 3:20-21)

5:00 p.m. Rosemary Poche, Tina Mangano, Ken & Adele Salzer, Louis Mangano Sr. & Jr., Roszczynialski Family, Lee & Yvonne Tracey, Robert Jenevein, Bill Deckwa Althea Jenevein, Frank & Julia Drake, Marie Theresa Messa, Maurice Poche, Victor Michon, Audrey Bonnet, Joseph D'Antoni Jr., Vera Lyons

Sunday, January 22

(Is 8:23—9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23)

7:00 a.m. Jacques Fuselier

8:30 a.m. Amelia Fandal, Debbie Goodey, Burnick Terrebonne Sr., Andrew Lambert, Ronnie & Betty Lambert, Deacon Pat Downey, Louis C. Funel Jr., George Rehage Jr., Antonians & Benefactors

10:30 a.m. Parishioners



WEEKLY EVENTS

Legion of Mary—Monday 7:00 p.m. in St. Anthony Hall

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Jude Novena in St. Anthony Hall

RCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in classrooms

ESP—Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Pastoral Council—Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall in Room 8

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Widows Group—Meet at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, for lunch at Applebee's, 850 E. I-10 Service Road, Slidell. We will then return to the Parish Hall for dessert, coffee and fellowship. For information, contact Pat Langsford at 863-3445.

St. Joseph's Altar Preparations Begin



Preparations for the St. Joseph's Altar, celebrated Saturday, March 18, will soon begin. We begin baking Saturday, January 28, in the Parish Hall. Baking will be on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. If interested in working in this ministry, call Gene Templet at 863-2545.

2016 Income Tax Statements



Will you need a statement of 2016 contributions to the church for income tax purposes? If so, please call the Church Office at 985-863-7935, extension 3, and request yours. Since not everyone has a need for a statement, we do not automatically mail one. The exception would be those who issued a check in an amount \$250 or over, as we are mandated by the IRS to issue a statement. Those who call will have their names put on a list, and a statement prepared as soon as possible. Our bookkeeper hopes to have these ready for mailing or pick-up (*please state your choice*) near the end of January.

2017 Church Contribution Envelopes

Contribution envelopes for 2017 can be picked up from the front of the Church before/after weekend Masses. Envelopes can be picked up from the Church Office during the week. If you would like to use the envelope system, contact the Church Office during office hours.



Tabernacle Lamp

This week the Tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary burns in memory of the **Deceased Members of the Widows Group.**



Pray For The Sick

Valdeana Bauer, Audrey Bonnet, Diana Bradshaw, Jo-Ann Brewin, George & Wanda Butko, May Caballero, Patricia Cuccia, Dotsy Chedville, Deacon Pat & Cathy Downey, Julia Drake, Steve Dunn, Marcelle Ernewein, Carroll Fourcade, Jeanette Gomez, Deacon John Howard, Virgie Hurstell, Allen & Joan Jagneaux, Maria Kalcic, Gloriette Kiem, Elizabeth Kittel, Catherine Lambert, Pat Langsford, Cheryl Martin, Shirley Matthews, Rose Mire, Bailee Mitchell, Vito Montalabano, Jessie O'Dell, Cheryl Poiroux, Ed Roszczynialski, Cathy Smith

Golden Wedding Anniversary Service

The Archdiocesan Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration will take place Sunday, June 11, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Church, Metairie. This year's celebration will not be a Mass, but a Prayer Service. Mass attendance for Sunday obligation will have to be met within one's respective parish. Contact our Church Office at 863-7935, ext. 3, **before March 3** to register in order for us to make a reservation with the Archdiocese for you. You will then receive a letter of confirmation from the Archdiocese with details about the celebration.



Our Lady Of Lourdes Open House

Our Lady of Lourdes School, Slidell, invites you to our Open House Sessions Wednesday, January 18, at 9:00 a.m. and Thursday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m. with tours and opportunities to learn about our academic programs. Private tours may also be arranged. In the 2017-18 school year, grades offered will be Pre-K, kindergarten to 7th grade. Come see why our test scores are above the national average, and why our students give thousands of service hours. Religious class is offered daily and enrichment courses are offered weekly. A tuition assistance program may be available for you to help your child receive a Catholic education. Call the school office for more information at 985-643-3230.



Bus To Louisiana Life March South

Please join us to build a stronger culture of life in Louisiana through the Louisiana Life March South in Baton Rouge on Saturday, January 21. St. Margaret Mary Church is sponsoring a bus departing from the SMM parking lot in front of the E Building at 7:15 a.m. to attend the March. The walk begins at the Old State Capitol at 10:00 a.m. and ends about noon at the State Capitol. Cost to ride the bus is \$15.00 (make checks payable to St. Margaret Mary Church). Please bring a bag lunch; bottled water will be supplied. There are overhead bins and bathrooms on the bus, but seating is limited. To reserve a seat on the bus, please call Mary at 985-643-9547 or Eileen at 985-649-6281.

The theme this year is "Protect Them Both!" The mission of this walk is to unite the pro-life people of Louisiana, across all denominational lines, to take a stand for life in our state's capital city, and mobilize them with resources to make a difference in their communities. For more information on the schedule of the events, visit www.LALifeMarch.com

Magnificat Breakfast

This year's West St. Tammany Magnificat Chapter Magnificat Breakfast will be held at Benedict's Plantation, Mandeville, from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Thursday, February 9. This year's speaker will be Nicole Johnson, a former special education teacher and stay-at-home mother who converted from the Methodist faith to the Catholic faith, but not without trials and struggles. Tickets are available at Most Holy Trinity Church, 501 Holy Trinity Drive, Covington, for \$15.00 each (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Registration forms are available at the front entrance to our Church and on the bulletin board in our Parish Hall. No tickets will be sold at the door or after Friday, February 6.



Archdiocesan Spirituality Center

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Spirituality Center, 2501 Maine Avenue, Metairie, is offering the following programs. You can register for any of these programs at <http://asc.arch-no.org> or by emailing archspirctr@arch-no.org For details, you may also contact Doris Melito at 504-861-3254.

Praying Our Goodbyes (book by Joyce Rupp) Janet Trahan will facilitate this workshop in dealing with the spiritual effects of changes in our lives. The meetings will be Thursdays, beginning January 19 and running through February 23 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Spirituality Center. Please purchase the book, read the introduction and first chapter. Bring a journal. Cost is \$50.00 (adjustments made).

Prayer: Real Soul Food—Sr. Gloria Murillo, STJ, will lead this talk and discussion on prayer at the Spirituality Center Wednesday, January 25, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Cost is \$25.00 (adjustments made).

Spiritual Intimacy: Taking Your Marriage to the Next Level Join Jan and Lloyd Tate as we explore ways a married couple can grow in unity with God and each other through sharing an open and honest couple prayer time. The workshop will be Saturday, January 28, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Spirituality Center. Cost is \$35.00 (adjustments made).

Please Support Our Sponsors

LARRY'S DRY CLEANING BY LOUIS

190 Audubon, Slidell, LA 70458

220 W. Canal Street, Picayune, MS 39466

HOURS: 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Sat.

Slidell—985-649-2621; Picayune—601-798-3131

Alterations Suede & Draperies Leather
Wedding Gowns Furs

Parishioners

I have extended an invitation to Rev. Joseph Gosselin, M.S., to come to our parish on the week-end of January 21-22. Father Gosselin will speak to you about the work being done by Unbound (previously know as CFCA), and how this provides a trustworthy way to actively participate in the social outreach of the Catholic Church and answer the Gospel call to serve the poor.

Founded by lay Catholics, Unbound is an organization that has severed more than 600,000 children, youth and elderly in 20 developing countries since 1981 empowering them to make more choices in their lives, live with dignity and reach their potential.

Unbound's unique sponsorship program is highly personalized. It matches a child, youth or aging person at a project overseas with a sponsor in the U.S. who cares about and encourages that person. With a monthly contribution, a sponsor helps to provide much-needed nourishing food, medical and dental care, the chance for a child to go to school, livelihood programs for families and much more. All of these efforts are directed at affirming the dignity of every person in their local community.

Please join me in welcoming Father Gosselin to our parish.

Rev. Bernie

God's Accuracy

When GOD solves our problems, we have faith in HIS abilities;

When GOD does not solve our problems, HE has faith in our abilities.

God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs. . . .

-those of the canary in 14 days;

-those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;

-eggs of ducks and geese in 28 days;

-those of the mallard in 35 days;

-the eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.

(Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant.

The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction.

No other quadruped is so made.

God planned that this animal would have a huge body,

too large to live on two legs.

For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first.

A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first.

How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

-Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.

-Each orange has an even number of segments.

-Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.

-Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.

-Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number. Amazing!

-The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.

-All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed! The lives of each of us may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if we will only entrust Him with our life. If we try to regulate our own life, it will only be a mess and a failure.

Only God, who made our brain and heart, can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

I Pray God Bless You In Ways You Never Even Dreamed

I did not think twice about sharing this one.

When you carry "the Bible," Satan has a headache; when you open it, he collapses;

When he sees you reading it, he loses his strength, and when you stand on the Word of God, Satan cannot hurt you! And did you also know. . .

That when you are about to share this article with others, the devil will probably try to discourage you, but do it anyway.

Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil—it has no point.

The Worst And The Best Of Our Days

Your worse days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace.