



# St. Joseph's

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Founded 1875

255 North 8th St. (P. O. Box 368) Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Church Phone Number: (985) 386-3749

Church Web site: [www.stjosephsonline.com](http://www.stjosephsonline.com)

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

**Sunday Mass Schedule:**

Sat. Vigil 5:00 pm  
Sun. 8:00 am & 11:00 am

**Week Day Mass Schedule:**

M-Th 8:00 am

**Confession:**

Sat. 4:00 pm  
T & Th after Mass or by appointment.

**Baptism:**

Couples who would like their child baptized need to contact Ramona at the office, 985-386-3749 to register for baptism preparation.

**Marriage:**

Contact a priest or deacon of the parish at least 6 months before the wedding at 985-386-3749.

**Anointing of the Sick:**

Please notify the office as soon as a Catholic is seriously ill or is having surgery.

**Adoration:**

Wed. 9:00 am to 10:00 pm  
- **Divine Mercy: 3:00 pm**  
- **Vespers & Benediction: 6:00 pm**

**Catechetical Programs:**

PSR-Gr. K-5; Sun 9:30-10:30 am  
Ablaze-Gr. 6-8; Sun 9:30-10:30 am  
High School Formation  
Gr. 9-12; Sun. 5:00-7:00 pm

*May 17, 2020 Sixth Sunday of Easter*



**Sunday Masses resumed this weekend.**

**Weekday Masses will resume on Monday, May 18th.**

**The Sunday Mass obligation continues to be dispensed for all indefinitely.** Those who are ill who

are not feeling well in any way should not attend Mass until they are free of their illness and its symptoms for three days. Those who are especially vulnerable (namely, those defined by the Center for Disease Control as those 60 years of age or older, those with compromised immune systems, and/or those with underlying health conditions), and indeed anyone who does not feel comfortable attending Mass is encouraged to stay home.



Parishioners are required to bring and wear a mask while in the worship space. The faithful are encouraged to bring small bottles of hand sanitizer for their personal use.

The Church Office will open on **Monday, May 18th**. The lay faithful continue to be encouraged to conduct as much Parish business as possible either by phone, mail, or email. All visitors and parishioners who enter a church and school facility must wear a face mask at all times.

**Letter from Bishop Duca**

*(Please see complete letter on the church's website)*

I am grateful that we are able to Continue the Mission of preaching the Good News and offering the faithful the Bread of Life but we must do so with care. Gathering together under these new guidelines is a big undertaking by your Pastors and parish staff. *Be patient with your pastor and also expect that each parish will begin public Mass with different options and maybe even a different beginning date that reflect the size of the parish, number of priests, available resources, readiness and parishioner support.* I invite you not to compare what is going on in another parish with your parish's situation. Accept the evangelical mission that your calling is to help restore the life of the Church in your parish for the good of the whole Body of Christ.

**WHAT'S INSIDE!!!**

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## Staff

Rev. Paul A. McDuffie, *Pastor*  
Larry J. Melancon, *Deacon*  
Michael A. Agnello, *Deacon*  
Angela Perrin, *Business Manager*  
Stacy Randazzo, *Director of Ministries*  
Paige Bacile, *PSR Coordinator*  
Sarah Stoehr, *Youth Minister*  
Rhonda Rossano, *Music Director*

Ramona Folsie, *Receptionist/Data Entry*  
Kathleen Phillips, *Bookkeeper/Receptionist*  
**St. Joseph School**  
Mrs. Danette Ragusa, *Principal*  
Phone Number, 985-386-6421  
Website: [www.sjscrusaders.org](http://www.sjscrusaders.org)

## Mission Statement

St. Joseph's Parish is a rapidly growing faith community that serves the spiritual and temporal needs of Southernmost Tangipahoa Parish through its various ministries.

St. Joseph's develops, supports, nurtures and educates Catholic Christians while offering to this entire expanding community a caring environment and a welcoming spirit of Christ present.

## Parish Ministries and Contact Persons

**Altar Servers:** Michele & Glen Ernst, 985-386-6618. [sj\\_altar\\_server@bellsouth.net](mailto:sj_altar_server@bellsouth.net)  
**Bible Studies:** Monday at 6 p.m.—Stephanie Waguespack, 985-981-9859  
**Children's Liturgy Ministry:** Paige Bacile 985-386-3749.  
**Cooking Ministry:** Cook a plate of food for our Priest one day each month, call Linda Guagliardo 985-345-8409.  
**Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion:** Angela Pevey (Call / text) 985-507-5757.  
**Readers:** Larry Ernst, 985-386-5731. [lernst1@bellsouth.net](mailto:lernst1@bellsouth.net)  
**Marriage Ministry:** Ed & Julie Hanks, 985-351-3143.  
**Mass Greeters:** Barbara Martino, 985-386-3622.  
**Music Ministry:** Rhonda Rossano 985-386-3749 - Choir Practice-Wednesday's at 6:30 pm.  
**Parish School of Religion:** Grades K-12; Paige Bacile 985-386-3749  
**Special Education PSR:** B. J. Nepveux, 985-370-7548.  
**RCIA:** Ed or Julie Hanks, 985-351-3143.  
**Small Christian Community:** Clay Nepveux at 985-634-8805.  
**St. Joseph Bereavement Food Ministry:** Cheryl Laiche, 985-386-2033 or Ann Phillips, 985-969-2700  
**Stephen Ministry:** Anita or Ronnie Perrin, 985-687-4458 or 985-386-3016.  
**Ushers:** Contact Joseph Jason, 985-386-8639.  
**Widowed Friends of St. Joseph:** Barbara Guy at 985-507-9966.  
**Word & Worship Prayer Ministry:** Fernando Morales: 985-662-2844.  
**Women's Ministry:** Mary Vedeckis, 225-294-6631.  
**Youth Ministry:** Sarah Stoehr, 504-270-3451.

## Download Our New Parish App!

Our new St. Joseph's app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook or Twitter. Also enjoy a bunch of additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders to silence your phone before Mass or Confession, and much more.

Help foster a stronger parish life at St. Joseph's and better engage the New Evangelization.

Download our app today at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) or search your phone's app store for my parish.



## Organizations

**Ancient Order of Hibernians:** Ronnie Crimmins 985-773-8965.  
**Kaycee Auxiliary:** Maureen Felder 225-294-3092 or [maureenfelder75@gmail.com](mailto:maureenfelder75@gmail.com)  
**Knights of Columbus:** Buddy Williams, 504-252-2031 (Application for new members)  
**Rosary Altar Society:** Evelyn Lavigne 985-386-6732  
**St. Vincent de Paul Society:** For membership contact the church office, 985-386-3749. For assistance call 985-370-5459.  
**Core Group:** Ronnie Perrin (Chairman), Lawton Hotard, Barbara Martino, Larry Melancon, Rebecca Smith, Larry Wilson  
**Finance Committee:** Dennis James (Chairman) Michelle Ernst, Mike Fulmer, Larry Melancon, Brian Steib, Barbara Theriot .  
**Council of Ministries:** Vance Balado, Melissa Henderson, Lisa Kennedy, Harry LeBlanc, Rachael Perrin, Stephanie Reggio, Rodney Schmaltz, Mary Threeton, Wayne Vedeckis, Stephanie Waguespack, Tom Waller, Bill Wheat. Ad Hoc Council Members: Fr. McDuffie, Deacon Larry Melancon, Danette Ragusa. Stacy Randazzo.



Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device.

Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.



## WHAT TO WATCH THIS WEEK

- 5/22 **Saint Rita**  
Watch: Saint Rita of Cascia - A True Story  
Pray: Novena of Surrender (Start today to finish on Pentecost!)
- 5/24 **Ascension of the Lord**  
Pray: Sunday Mass  
Watch: Shade the Series  
Study: Why Believe? - Volume 2, Chapter 15

Visit [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) or search for "Formed" on your favorite app store

## Heavenly Revelations-II

Roman Catholic theologians distinguish between **revelation** in a broad sense, which means knowledge of God concluded logically from facts about the natural world and human existence, and **revelation** in the strict formal sense, which means the *utterances of God*.

Spiritual **revelations** come in many forms. **Private revelations** through the collection of books known as the Bible were written by human authors influenced by the Holy Spirit. Jesus is regarded as the supreme revelation of God (with the Bible being a revelation in the sense of a witness to him). *“Still the Christian faith is not a ‘religion of the book’. Christianity is the religion of the “Word” of God, a word which is ‘not a written and mute word, but the Word which is incarnate and living’.” (CCC 108)*

An example of where the Church authoritatively recognized such a message is the appearances of **“Our Lady of Lourdes” to St Bernadette**. These *“private revelations”* do not belong to the deposit of faith. These revelations are not to add or enrich Christ’s definitive REVELATION, but to help believers live it more fully in a specific period of history or time. The Church may recommend certain *“private revelations”* worthy of acceptance, but we are not called to these in the same faith of sacred Scripture and Tradition.

***“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)***

***“Know this first of all, that there is no prophecy of scripture that is a matter of personal interpretation, for no prophecy ever came through human will; but rather human beings moved by the Holy Spirit spoke under the influence of God.” (2 Peter 1:20-21)***

St Paul’s letters are considered as “hard to interpret”...(Not from their own interpretation, and is a matter of what the author and Holy Spirit intended, not the personal **interpretation** of false teachers.) St Paul’s letter does not specify “the other Scriptures”, nor does the term “all Scripture” in **2 Timothy** indicate which writings were or would be breathed out by God and useful for teaching. Such later works “may have been” as the Book of Revelation and the Epistles of John. Catholics must firmly reject false teachings or personal interpretation.

The Catholic Church has 73 books as inspired which form the Bible (*46 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament*). The most common versions of the Bible that Protestants have today consists of 66 of these books. None of the 66 or 73 books gives a list of revealed books.

In the *Old Testament*, Gideon was given **public revelation** (*Judges 6:11-40*), as were many other characters in the Bible. We expect no new **public revelation** until Jesus Christ returns to Earth.

Stacy Randazzo  
Director of Ministries



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
IN PONCHATOLA

# VIRTUAL VBS

FOR K-5TH GRADERS  
JUNE 22ND - 26TH, 2020

## Vacation Bible School

June 22nd–  
June 26th

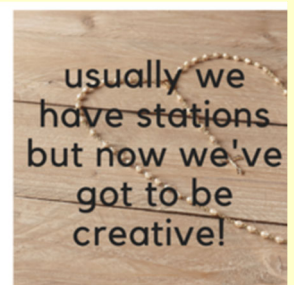
*Please see  
website for  
more  
information,  
to register  
or volunteer.*



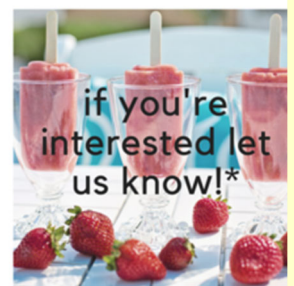
## volunteers needed!

stjosephsonline.com

we'll provide the content, and editing, we  
just need your smiling faces!



usually we  
have stations  
but now we've  
got to be  
creative!



if you're  
interested let  
us know!\*

## Mother Teresa and her Bullets

While traveling Teresa was always giving away gifts to everyone she would meet, she would never hold on to anything and would promptly re-gift anything given to her. She did not want to possess or be possessed by anything but Jesus. Her favorite item to give people she met was "Miraculous Medals" which she would give to everyone she met and she called her "ammunition." **She would kiss the medal and show them how to wear them, tell them that Our Lady promised great blessings to those who wore them and that we can always trust Our Lady to help us even miraculously if needed.** She did this all with great love and care and compassion as if she were meeting the greatest personage in the universe, Jesus Christ Himself. Everyone who met her always felt like the time they were together with her that they were the only one in the world that mattered. She was focused on each person as Beloved by God and her. The Miraculous Medal was a powerful way to show that Teresa cared for them and she taught them this simple and powerful prayer that never failed her, "Mary, Mother of Jesus, be a Mother to me now." Those who received the medals would always treasure them and experience Mary's powerful protection for themselves.

Once on a trip to Soviet Union on Christmas Eve in a private lounge with KGB bosses and other top Soviet communist men, Teresa and her sisters warmed them all up with their love and affection. Anyone who even glanced at them was smiled back at and given a Miraculous Medal, told the prayer, and showered with love. One man was given the medal then as an atheist in Russia and the next time he saw her he was happy to tell her he still had the medal and was being baptized into the Orthodox church shortly.

In 1984, the communists controlled about half of the world in what was called the Eastern Bloc, at the center of it was the Soviet Union, now called Russia. These communist countries did not allow the faith to be expressed even in private homes if it were possible to stop it. Teresa did not want to get involved with politics but only wanted to spread the love of Jesus and take care of the poor. Her friend, exiled Bishop Pavol Hlinica kept asking her to send the sisters to Russia and he came all the way to India to convince her. Convinced, Teresa asked Pope John Paul II for permission and he said to her, "You go where I cannot go!" He wanted to go so badly to Russia himself but could not because the communists would not let him. Before she went there she had her close friend Father Leo Maasburg take hundreds of "Bullets" Miraculous Medals and plant them throughout Moscow to help pave the way with grace for the communists to let the sisters come. Before Father could even go he was having so many difficulties getting a visa that he was about to give up hope of going to Moscow. He decided to try the "Bullet" and gave one to a representative at the Aeroflot airline. She was able to help him and a little miracle happened. He was soon on a plane to Moscow to become part of the advance team of grace preparing the way for Jesus and the Missionaries of Charity.

Father Leo went to Moscow with Bishop Hnilica and they took the medals. At customs it looked as if the medals would be confiscated but again the "bullets" worked their grace when the Bishop asked the agent if he wanted one and he nodded yes and let the rest of the medals pass through. Another Miracle! They planned to celebrate Mass on the same day that Pope John II would consecrate the world and Soviet Union to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Thus they would fulfill the request of all the Bishops joining in this special consecration in the Heart of Russia, Moscow at the church of the Annunciation. Getting the small mass kit into the church was marked with difficulties. A Guard stopped them and wanted to confiscate the kit but again a "bullet" stopped that. They offered him a medal and a nod and a wink later they were in the Church of the Annunciation saying their secret mass. At the end Father Leo launched a few "bullets" into the space where the Tombs of the Tsars were kept. Unfortunately they made a clinking noise and the guards swarmed the area but were unable to find the medals that continue to bless all of Russia to this day.

Now thanks to that secret mission and the prayers and faith of Teresa there are over twenty MIC Houses throughout the old Soviet Union pouring graces everywhere through the Eucharistic Jesus kept in all the tabernacles in each house and the love that the sisters shower on the Poorest of the Poor and everyone. A year later after the secret mission Mikhail Gorbachov came to power in the Soviet Union and miracle after miracle began to happen for Teresa and her mission to bring a house there.

One sister had such a healing touch and so many children were healed miraculously that the government sent a team of researchers to find out the "healing method" that Teresa and her sisters were using. Three doctors and a intern came there and questioned them for an afternoon. The sisters showed them how to pray and gave them a Miraculous medal that they placed on the official report page and went back to Moscow. Two years later the intern ran into Father Leo and told him he was to be baptized into the Orthodox church and said, "that may well be another effect of the Miraculous Medal that you gave us." **MIRACLES!**

Teresa quickly made friends in the Peace Committee which was in charge of a lot in the Soviet Union. She would give them "Bullets" and told them how much God loved them and how He had written them in the palm of His hand. She said to them, "God loves the world through us." She would stay in touch with them for years afterwards as she had an almost photographic memory and loved to send "love mail" no matter how far away she was from them. She always remembered those who helped her.

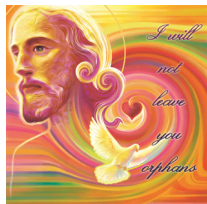
One time she was meeting with a dictator in Nicaragua named Manuel Ortega to ask for permission to set up a house for the poor there. Manuel ranted and raved about the revolution for thirty minutes with four armed guards next to him. Teresa just said when he finished, "works of Love are works of peace." Then she asked him if he had children and he said seven, then she took out seven Miraculous medals, kissed each one and handed them to him, then she asked if he had a wife, he said yes and she took out two more medals, one for him with a necklace and she showed him how to wear it. She had changed the mood from fear to love. Then she asked him if they could send five sisters to help the poor and the next day permission was granted.

Praise Jesus! Giving is a sign of love and opens hearts.



## The Reason For Our Hope

“What is the reason for your hope?” Imagine somebody coming up to you and asking you that question. Not “What are you hoping for?” or “What are you hoping to do?” No, this isn’t about our desires for possessions or aspirations for life, it’s “Why do you hope?” Peter today tells us that we ought to be ready to give an answer to this question. Truth be told, few of us spend much time thinking about why we hope. Luckily, the scriptures today give us our answers. We hope because Christ suffered for us, in order that we might come to God. We hope because we know that, in the Spirit, God grants us another Advocate through Christ to remain with us always. No matter what we might hope for, whatever we might hope to do, we must always first know and proclaim the reason for our hope: the presence of God in Christ, with us through the power of the Spirit. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — The people of Samaria accepted the word of God preached by Philip; they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17).

**Psalm** — Let all the earth cry out to God with joy (Psalm 66)

**Second Reading** — Act with gentleness and reverence toward all, so that when you are maligned those who defame you will be the ones put to shame (1 Peter 3:15-18) or 1 Peter 4:13-16.

**Gospel** — I will not leave you orphans, but will come to you (John 14:15-21) or Jn 17:1-11a.

## Monica's Journey

“Monica’s Journey” is a ministry of St. Joseph Catholic Church for women who struggle to find answers in the midst of difficult relationships or traumatic experiences in their lives. This ministry gives them a welcoming and non-judgmental place to find the hope and healing they need. Meetings are held in the evening during the week for 90 minutes. Members of other denominations are welcome. **This is a strictly confidential group and a confidentiality statement must be signed by all members.** The place and time of meetings will be disclosed after initial contact is made with the group facilitator. Voicemail: *Please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.* (985) 467-9520.

## Healing Hearts

Healing Hearts: A Catholic support group for WOMEN, whose relationships have been negatively impacted by the pornography addiction or sexual addiction of a loved one. This may include a spouse, boyfriend, family member or friend. Strict confidentiality is observed by all members. Meetings are held on a weekly basis. Contact 985-401-2010 for more information and respond to the prompting.



## Healing from Divorce Group

If you are separated or divorced, the Church cares about you. The loss of a relationship through separation or divorce poses one of the most difficult transitions a person can face. As people journey through a divorce, they face the stress of emotions, life changes, and developing a way to live a new life. As a Church, we are called to imitate Jesus Christ, who always sought to heal the brokenhearted. St. Joseph now has a new ministry for this purpose. For more information please contact Angela Perrin at 985-318-4927.

## Please Pray for Sick and Shut-Ins

Jason Abernaghy, Deacon Mike Agnello, Stephanie Alexander, Ray Aleman, Ockie Baldassoro, Sr., Patrick Bailey, Gloria Bennett, Mildred Bittick, Ray Boihem, Michelle Bossier, Hazel Boudreaux, Larry Boudreaux, Ranice Bourg, Barbara Bourgeois, Angel Braun, Amy Brennan, JoAnne Brisset, Jeanette Brown, Baby David Burris, Eric Campos, Christine Castjohn, Carol Castle, Dennis Charbonnet, Rita Charbonnet, Julian Chiro, Gavin Cieutat, PJ Clause, Phillip Connelley, Ken Davidson, Lucille Davidson, Melissa Balado Dean, Kitty Dervely, Larry Deslatte, Alexis Dionne, David Dionne, Stacey Dolan, Beverly Dominique, Carol Dominguez, Andrew Dzuraychko, Pam Guichet Elder, Veronica Fannally, Joey Fortenberry, Marge Frahm, Eva Francois, Geraldine Freeman, Lenny George, Nittie Gilliland, Malissa Gonzalez, Joan Gurganus, Brian Guichet, Myrthus “Twinkle” Guichet, Anne Guidry, Sue Quave Guildner, Jean Guitreau, Katherine Harris, Warren Heckmann, Kalee Henderson, Sherry Hill, Elaine Hoover, Tammy Perrin Horn, Peggy Howes, Jimmy Hubert, Tara Huguet, Ashley Ingolia, Grace Innerarity, Joseph Jason, Jennifer Jernigan, Alan Klein, Ronnie Klug, Norma Kraemer, David Kraft, Charles Gregory Kraft, Sis Kyzar, Norma Larrieu, Wayne Laurent, Doris Lavigne, Ruby Drude Lee, Sally LeJeune, Hilton Lloyd, IV, Nathan deLord, Elsie Major, Mary Twickler Mann, Francis Martino, Caitlyn Matherne, Max McCray, Cole McMillion, Morris Meyer, Barry Mince Sr., Anna Mae Mixon, Patricia Monteleone, Andrew Morales, Ed Murray, CJ Otilio, Carol Ott, Ruth Ourso, Wanda Pandarvis, George Peltier, Bert Perilloux, Fran Poche, Ann Prine, Mary Prine, Mike Raiford, Vera Ragan, Dale Roberts, Bryan Roddick, A. J. Roig, Jr., Linda Ryan, Rosa Maria Santos, Ernest Schenck, Bob Simoneaux, Bristol Rose Smith, Dale Allen Smith, Kayla Smith, Wylene Remy Taylor, Madeline Thibodeaux, Tracy Todd, Mike Tournillon, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tartamelia, Earl Theriot, Sam Vilardo, Sam Viola, Carla Van Vrancken, June Villa, Glen Walker, Danny Wall, Francis Waguespack, Rodney Wempren, Peggy West, Stanley Williams, Faith Rose Wiltz. **Names submitted will be included for 4 weeks. Please call the Church office to renew.**

**Please pray for members of our parish family serving our country in the armed forces and remember also their families:**

CM Sgt Christopher Castle, Col. Brad Duplessis, Col. Brian Duplessis, Col. David, Duplessis- Commander, Mason Joiner Sgt Major in Army, Capt. Kathleen Keller, Jacob Milton, Commander Eric Olsen, US Navy. **Names submitted will be included for 4 weeks. Please call the Church office to renew.**

## Saints and Special Observations

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter  
 Monday: St. John I  
 Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena  
 Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (unless transferred to Sunday); St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions  
 Friday: St. Rita of Cascia



PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved-ones) is a support group of parents helping parents. PAL is also open to spouses and other family members and friends (18 or older) who have a loved one struggling with addiction.

Usually, A local PAL group meets in the St. Dominic room of St. Joseph’s Ministry Building on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Pine St. every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 6-7:30 pm. **However, during the Pandemic we are hosting ZOOM meetings every Thursday night instead.**

We look forward to sharing this program of hope and support with you. For more information contact Mary Jo B. at 985-320-3010 or Paige B. 985-981-8010 or review the website [www.palgroup.org](http://www.palgroup.org). All inquiries are held in strict confidence. **You are not alone There is HOPE.**

## Readings for the Week of

**May 18, 2020**

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a  
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11  
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15  
 Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23;  
 Mt 28:16-20 (for Ascension); otherwise  
 Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20  
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23  
 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28

**Next Sunday Readings ( May 24, 2020)**

First Reading.....Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11  
 Second Reading.....Ephesians 1:17-23  
 Gospel.....Matthew 28:16-20  
 Psalm.....47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, May 18, 2020**

8:00 AM (L) Pope Francis

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

8:00 AM Joy Steib

**Wednesday, May 20, 2020**

8:00 AM Darryl Pinion, Sr.

**Thursday, May 21, 2020**

8:00 AM Devon Brock Phillips

**Saturday, May 23, 2020**

5:00 PM Dudley & Geraldine Berthelot  
 Edgar & Gladys Charbonnet  
 Joseph Ralf LeSaicherre  
 Ella Mae Melancon  
 Bill Perrin  
 Rufus Poche  
 Liz Sanderson  
 Alice Phillips Turcotte  
 Victims of the Coronavirus

**Sunday, May 24, 2020**

8:00 AM Mary Sue Drude  
 Richard & Clotilde Drude  
 (L) Elsie Major  
 Lester Richoux, Jr.  
 Barbara Troxler

11:00 AM For the People of the Parish  
 (L) Indicates Living

## Stewardship

### “Concerning Apollos”

“A Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, an eloquent speaker, arrived in Ephesus. He was an authority on the scriptures. He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord and, with ardent spirit, spoke and taught accurately about Jesus, although he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the Way of God more accurately. And when he wanted to cross to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. After his arrival he gave great assistance to those who had come to believe through grace. He vigorously refuted the Jews in public, establishing from the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.”

The cast of characters satisfying every part in any of human history’s most engaging narratives includes those we know well, as well as the hosts whose names we never will. When we read the Acts of the Apostles, stories regarding Paul and Peter are among those that reveal facets of their character leaving them richly portrayed. So, what of somewhat lesser known characters, men like Apollos. What do we know of him? Enough it seems. He was an eloquent speaker, an esteemed scholar, ardent in his devotion to Christ, and bold in his presentation. And, more than most, he was open to learning. The teacher was also teachable. What a man. What a servant of Christ.

## Financial News

YTD	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
5/10/2020	\$ 873,888.72	\$855,000.00	\$ +18,888.72
Church Support	\$ 19,783.50		
St. Joseph School	\$ 449.00		
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 573.00		
Mis. Collections	\$ 417.39		
	\$ 21,222.89		



### Society of St Vincent de Paul Report: April 2020

We made **12** home visits serving **36** people  
**Delivered 20 bags of food from our Parish Food Pantry**  
 Paid utility bills totaling \$84.86, and \$461.80 in other assistance including fresh food, and transportation needs.

As always, we are grateful for your generosity that makes our work with the poor possible.

We are in need of new members due to the fact that some of our members have moved, and others have health issues that are preventing them from going on home visits. If you feel called to this ministry please come to a meeting and see what we do.

## GIVE ONLINE

*Easy. Safe. Convenient.*



Find more information on our website or parish app.

Now available for Apple and Android devices!

## Volunteers Needed!



Volunteers are needed to help with Masses. Please see our church’s website [www.stjosephsonline.com](http://www.stjosephsonline.com) to sign up to help our church with the Masses.

## Mary, the Ark of the Covenant

Typology in the Bible is a person, place, thing or event in the Old Testament that foreshadows something in the New Testament – a hint of something that will be realized or fulfilled. St. Augustine said that “the Old Testament is the New concealed, and the New Testament is the Old revealed” (*Catechizing of the Uninstructed* 4:8). Last week we read about Mary as the new Eve. This week I would like to continue the typology study of Mary as the new Ark of the Covenant.

About the Ark of the Covenant, The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, “The prayer of the people of God flourished in the shadow of the dwelling place of God’s presence on earth, the ark of the covenant and the temple, under the guidance of their shepherds, especially King David, and of the prophets” (CCC 2594). God instructed Moses to build a tabernacle surrounded by heavy curtains (Ex 25-27). Within the tabernacle he was to place an ark made of acacia wood covered with gold inside and out. Within the Ark of the Covenant was placed a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant (Heb 9:4).

When the ark was completed, the glory cloud of the Lord (the *Shekinah* Glory) covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle (Ex 40:34-35; Nm 9:18, 22). The verb for “to cover” or “to overshadow” and the metaphor of a cloud are used in the Bible to represent the presence and glory of God.

There is a parallel between the *Holy Spirit overshadowing the ark* and the *Holy Spirit overshadowing Mary*, between the Ark of the Old Covenant as the dwelling place of God and Mary as the new dwelling place of God, between the Ark containing *manna, the bread from heaven* that God’s people with Moses in the desert and Mary’s womb containing *Jesus, the bread of life* that sustains us in the Eucharist today.

Another correlation can be made between David and the Ark recovered from the Philistines and Luke’s account of the Visitation. David upon receiving the Ark, “*danced before the LORD* with all his might, clothed in priestly garments” (2 Sam 6:14); and when Elizabeth saw Mary, the babe in her womb *leaped for joy*. (Lk 1:41) Note: David was wearing priestly garments and the Ark of the Covenant contained the rod of Aaron representing priestly lineage.

A last important point about the Ark of the Covenant is that it contained **the stone tablet** on which God wrote his word to Moses in the ten commandments. Mary in her womb contained Jesus, **the living Word of God** (“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” Jn 1:14)

In summary, Mary is the New Ark of the Covenant because in her womb was Jesus- the Word of God, the High Priest, and the bread of life.

Paige Bacile  
PSR Coordinator

## An Invitation

To Make or Renew a Total Consecration at Home

**Suggested Consecration Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 -  
Feast Day of Mary, Mother of the Church

**Preparation Dates:** April 26 - May 31

Consecrate means “to make holy.” St. Joseph’s Consecration ministry tries to offer consecration preparation during the Spring and Summer. With the uncertainty of social gatherings at this point, we are encouraging parish members to consider doing a consecration at home this year. The date shown above is only a suggestion. Timing is not nearly as important as the consecration itself. Now would be the perfect time for each of us to grow closer to Our Lord.

There are several books available that make the process very easy. For a few weeks you simply follow the short, daily readings, and upon completion you prayerfully make your consecration.

Here are a few recommended consecration preparation books, most of which are available through [heavenlygiftsonline.com](http://heavenlygiftsonline.com), or by calling 985-386-3558:



Note: If you’re using *33 Days to Morning Glory*, accompanying videos are available in the *Formed* app.)

### For more information:

Call Ron or Terri at 504-450-5459 or

Connie at 985-507-7164.

## Saint Rita of Cascia (1381-1457)

May 22

If you’re ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita’s shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and—as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies—difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children. Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. “Divine Savior,” Rita prayed, “let me suffer like you!” Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita’s two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth—and ever since in heaven.

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