



# 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

## Suspension of Public Celebrations

Bishop Michael Duca of the Diocese of Baton Rouge has announced the suspension of public celebrations of Sunday and daily Masses in all parishes and Catholic institutions in the diocese effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

The suspension is in effect until further notice. There are over seventy church parishes and other Catholic institutions in the 12 civil parishes that comprise the boundaries of the diocese. Additional details on how this decision will affect the celebrations of sacraments and other aspects of parish life will be determined and communicated in the next few days. As always, priority consideration will be given to the directives of Governor Edwards and to public health officials who have our best interests in mind. The Bishop said, "Let us pray that the Holy Spirit gives us a spirit of Hope in the Lord, who will sustain us even in these unprecedented times."

## St. Joseph's Church is Open for Individual Prayer

Tuesday – Friday:  
9am– Noon & 5pm-7pm  
Saturday & Sunday: 9am –Noon  
**NO MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE AT A TIME**

## Church Office

**Closed for ALL OUTSIDE BUSINESS. Effective Tuesday, 3/24/2020**

**CLOSED**

## April 19, 2020 2nd Sunday of Easter



## Divine Mercy Sunday

Sister Faustina was a young, uneducated nun in a convent of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland during the 1930s. She had only three years of simple education, so hers were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually in the kitchen or garden. She died at the age of 33 in 1938 and in the few years she was a nun, Faustina received extraordinary revelations from our Lord Jesus, which are published today as the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska.

During these revelations, it became Sr. Faustina's mission to proclaim God's mercy toward every human being and it was at her canonization on April 30, 2000 that Pope John Paul II designated the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, which popularized and revived the devotion of Divine Mercy.

In these revelations Jesus appeared to her coming out of the darkness, dressed in a white garment. His right hand was raised in the gesture of a blessing.

His left hand was touching His breast where two bright rays which emanated from His heart spread out as they descended to the floor - one ray red, the other pale.

At Jesus's request, Sr. Faustina had a painting made of this image of Jesus as Divine Mercy along with the words "Jesus, I trust in You."

*I am Love and Mercy itself (1074). My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners ... it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from my Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy (367)*

**My gaze from this Image is like My gaze from the Cross," (Diary 326)**

The image was captured by the Polish artist Eugeniusz Kazimirowski under Sr. Faustina's direction and the original is displayed today in the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Vilnius.

From <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/basics-divine-mercy>

(Continued on page 3)

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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 Threton, Wayne Vedeckis, Stephanie Waguespack, Tom Waller, Bill Wheat. Ad Hoc Council Members: Fr. McDuffie, Deacon Larry Melancon, Danette Ragusa. Stacy Randazzo.

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

## Divine Mercy Sunday (Continued from page 1)

We can call to mind the message of Divine Mercy simply by remembering ABC.

**A-Ask for His Mercy.** God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world. \_

*God, who created us free, will not force anything on us, not even His mercy. He must wait for us to turn from our sinfulness and ask: "Ask and it will be given to you ... for everyone who asks receives" (Mt 7:7, 8).*

**B-Be Merciful to Others.** God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

*Mercy is love that seeks to relieve the misery of others. It is an active love, poured out upon others to heal, to comfort, to console, to forgive, to remove pain. It is the love that God offers us, and it is the love He demands from us for each other. " As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34).*

**C-Completely Trust in Jesus.** God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

*Trust means that we agree that God can write the script of our lives, instead of insisting on our own script. "Not my will, but Yours be done" (Lk 22:42).*

## Divine Mercy Chaplet

*Begin with:* **Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed**

**For each of the five decades** (*On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray*)

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

*(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)*

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**Concluding prayer** (*Repeat 3 times*)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet may be recited at anytime and only takes 7-10 minutes to recite. **During the Pandemic— Join us on Facebook for the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm (Monday— Saturday).** Once the church opens, join us every Wednesday, during Adoration at 3pm, the Hour of Mercy. *Please join us whenever possible!*

## EASTER - A Season of JOY

The Church has a built-in pattern within the liturgical calendar that provides what man needs to celebrate the feasts of the year: times of preparation and penance building to major celebratory feasts that are prolonged and spread throughout the year. **The two principle feasts in the Liturgical Year are Easter and Christmas.** Not only are they both **Solemnities**, which are the highest ranked days in the Church calendar, but they are also the only feast days that currently have octaves (a period of 8 days) attached.

Why would we celebrate an octave and why eight days? Some theologians propose that the earliest known celebration of an octave comes from the times of Constantine when the churches of Tyre and Jerusalem were dedicated in imitation of the dedication of the Jewish Temple which lasted eight days. The number 8 could also be deemed important because in the Old Testament, circumcisions which are a sign of the covenant between God and the Jewish people, were done on the eighth day. In any case, the Church in her wisdom knows that we need more than a single day to experience the full awe, wonder and joy of Christmas and Easter.

During the Easter Octave, which is from Easter Sunday to Divine Mercy Sunday every day is considered another solemnity or another "little Easter" and it overrides any other feasts on the calendar. The Liturgy of the Hours repeats the prayers for Sunday every day of the octave and the Responsory is Psalm 118:24, often called the **Easter psalm: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it."** On both Easter and Divine Mercy Sundays, the renewal of baptismal promises are proclaimed. Jesus's Resurrection proclaims his divinity and Baptism is a sign of our being raised to sharing in that divinity as sons and daughters of God. We have much to rejoice about!

Historically, the newly baptized or neophytes, wore their baptismal garments this entire week. Can you imagine seeing our newly baptized outside of the Easter vigil- at Walmart or the ballpark-radiant in their white robes, unable to conceal their joy, answering the questions of curious bystanders? This week was also a legal holiday in many parts of the Roman Empire, not so that people could go to Disney World, but so that they could participate in a daily liturgy. Because daily Mass was not widely celebrated then, this was a major statement of faith.

Liturgically, **the entire Easter season is actually celebrated for 50 days from Easter Sunday through Pentecost.** The first ecumenical council of Nicaea even issued a decree that as a sign of rejoicing, kneeling in the liturgy was prohibited until the end of the Pentecost celebration. This decree is still observed in some Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox Churches where kneeling is a more a sign of penance than of adoration.

It may be difficult to sustain the level of joy felt on Easter Sunday for an entire 50 days, but perhaps we can keep it up for the 8 days of the Octave of Easter ending with Divine Mercy Sunday. In the article Celebrating Easter at [www.crossroadsinitiative.com](http://www.crossroadsinitiative.com) Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, a professor of theology and father of five, writes: *in my family, we do a few special things to set off the whole Easter season. At the breakfast and dinner table, before saying grace, we employ the Easter greeting used in the Eastern Churches. I say "Christ is Risen." The family responds, "He is Risen Indeed!"*

**What can you do to celebrate the joy of Easter and keep the hope and promise of the Resurrection alive throughout the Easter season at your home?**

*Paige Bacile, PSR Coordinator*

## *Chanting Vespers Part 3: The Psalms and Canticles*



Now that you have the prayers of Vespers/Evening Prayer before you, either in a book, or in an app such as Laudate or iBreviary, and you are familiar with the cross symbol, †, which tells us to make the sign of the cross, and the Introduction, it is time to learn how to pray the Psalms and Canticles.

Each Psalm or Canticle is preceded by an **Antiphon**. The first time we see the antiphon, the presider or leader proclaims this alone: “He is the first-born of all creation; in every way the primacy is His.” After the Psalm or Canticle, the people will join with the presider for the last half of the antiphon. For example, Leader: “He is the first-born of all creation;” Leader and People: “in every way the primacy is His.”

The **Psalms** and **Canticles** following the antiphons are usually divided into four-line verses (occasionally there are fewer or more than four lines-we combine lines for consistency) and are prayed in this way:

1. Group I (usually those seated on the side of the room where the statue of Joseph would be located in a church) prays the first two lines; Group 2 (the Mary side) answers with the next two lines.

2. You will note the “\*” after the first and third lines. This reminds us to pause and briefly consider what has just been said or sung. The first and third lines are presenting an idea. The second and fourth lines emphasize or complement the idea presented, so the pause gives us a chance to absorb the thought, and this is followed by an affirmation of the thought.

3. The first and third lines follow quickly on the heels of the second and fourth as a new thought is presented.

Praying the Psalms and Canticles in this way presents us with a conversational rhythm that is unfamiliar to us. When we speak to one another, or even in private prayer, we do not typically have an extended pause in the middle of a sentence and then quickly begin the next sentence. Praying the Psalms and Canticles in this way helps us to focus and meaningfully consider the prayers. I also find a lesson in patience in praying this way.

Evening Prayer will be available to join *every day at 6 pm on the St. Joseph’s Facebook page*. I hope you will join to pray this public prayer of the Church.

## *St. Joseph's Family Rosary*

Let us join in prayer as a community and Church family during this time we cannot gather together. We are asking that each **Sunday at 8pm** families and individuals pray the Rosary in their own homes. Together we will storm the heavens with our prayers, as we offer intentions for our families, protection from the Coronavirus and all illnesses, healing of those affected and restoration of our Holy Mass.



*“We cannot underestimate the power of prayer and the difference it will make in our world” Mother Theresa*

## Get Real!

Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a “realistic” view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, “Get real!” when we hear Luke’s account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in “exultation,” and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn’t be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke’s intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation’s original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, “Get real!” but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God’s joy and beauty.

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## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

**Psalm** — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

**Second Reading** — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

**Gospel** — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved

## 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 Bourq, Barbara Bourgeois, Angel Braun, 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 Derveloy, Larry Deslatte, Alexis Dionne, David Dionne, Stacey Dolan, Beverly Dominque, 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, Sena Kilbert, 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, Betty Olsen, CJ Otilio, Carol Ott, Ruth Ourso, Wanda Pandarvis, George Peltier, Bert Perilloux, Beverly Pinion, Fran Poche, Ann Prine, Mary Prine, Mike Raiford, 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, 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: Second Sunday of Easter  
(or Sunday of Divine Mercy)  
Tuesday: St. Anselm  
Thursday: St. George; St. Adalbert  
Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen  
Saturday: St. Mark



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. .

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.

We look forward to sharing this program of hope and support with you. For questions or 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

April 20, 2020

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8  
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15  
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21  
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36  
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15  
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

### Next Sunday Readings ( April 26, 2020)

First Reading.....Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33  
 Second Reading.....1 Peter 1:17-21  
 Gospel.....Luke 24:13-35  
 Psalm.....16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

## Mass Intentions

**Fr. McDuffie will offer his private daily Mass for the following Intentions:**

### Monday, April 20, 2020

(L) Jennifer Morales

### Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Barbara Troxler

### Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Lillian Foret

### Thursday, April 23, 2020

(L) Anne Elizabeth Lahrs Phillips

### Saturday, April 25, 2020

(L) Paige Bacile

Dudley & Geraldine Berthelot

Geraldine Desplas

Dominick DiCarlo

Lawrence Allen Dominguez

John Dufreche

Kevin Dufrene

Edward Eichaker

(L) Melissa Henderson

Judith Guichet

Julius Guichet

Ella Mae Melancon

Bill Perrin

Rufus Poche

Liz Sanderson

Stephen Vuljoin

### Sunday, April 26, 2020

Wayne Aymond

Lawrence Allen Dominguez

Mary Sue Drude

Richard & Clotilde Drude

John Dufreche

Kevin Dufrene

Ted & Nancy Dupont

Richard John Eleser

Patricia D. Kimbrough

(L) Elsie Major

Ella Mae Melancon

Jeanette Taylor

(L) Mary & Wayne Vedeckis

(L) Haley Bacile Vermeulen

(L) Indicates Living

## Stewardship

**“Let’s Not Stand in the Way”**

Inherit a fine Victorian chair from your grandparents you’ve always loved, and you find exactly the right spot in your living or family room for it. But, just because you want others to notice, you’d never place it directly in a doorway or walkway. In the same sense, who’d hang a favorite piece of artwork in the middle of a bay window, limiting its view? You simply wouldn’t. As God doesn’t hinder those who seek him and his will, the Almighty likewise calls us to open those doors wide for others.

“He (the disciples’ host) related to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, saying, ‘Send someone to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter, who will speak words to you by which you and all your household will be saved.’ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them as it had upon us at the beginning, and I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift he gave to us when we came to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to be able to hinder God?’ When they heard this, they stopped objecting and glorified God, saying, ‘God has then granted life-giving repentance to the Gentiles too.’ ”

## Financial News

YTD	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
<b>4/5/2020</b>	<b>\$791,622.32</b>	<b>\$760,000.00</b>	<b>\$ +31,622.32</b>
Church Support	\$ 10,918.45		
St. Joseph School	\$ 620.00		
Misc. Collections	\$ 335.00		
	\$ 11,873.45		
<b>4/12/2020</b>	<b>\$ 802,852.82</b>	<b>\$779,000.00</b>	<b>\$ +23,852.82</b>
Church Support	\$ 11,230.50		
Priest Retirement	\$ 210.00		
Mis. Collections	\$ 605.00		
	\$ 12,045.50		

# GIVE ONLINE

*Easy. Safe. Convenient.*

SIGN UP TODAY!

Find more information on our website or parish app.

Now available for Apple and Android devices!



## St. Joseph's Church is Open for Individual Prayer

Monday – Friday: 9am– Noon, 5pm-7pm  
 Saturday & Sunday: 9am –Noon

**NO MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE AT A TIME**



## An Invitation

To Make or Renew a Total Consecration at Home

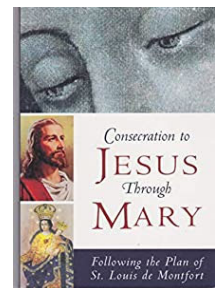
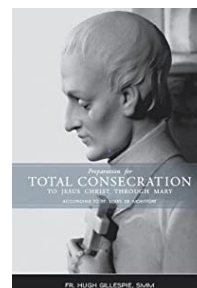
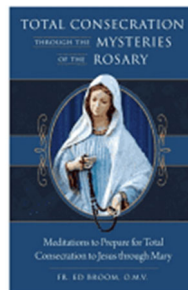
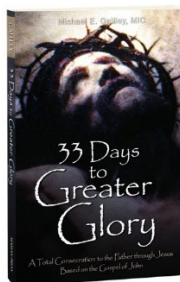
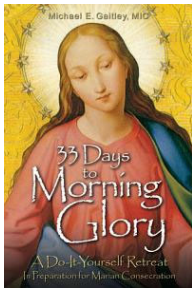
**Suggested Consecration Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 - Feast Day of Mary, Mother of the Church

**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.



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

We made **22** home visits serving **64** people  
**Delivered 34 bags of food from our Parish Food Pantry**  
Paid utility bills totaling \$879.94, and \$1,331.43 in other assistance including rent, fresh food, prescription medicines, furniture, clothing, 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.

### School News

St. Joseph School would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter. Although we all celebrated very differently this year, the message was still the same...HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

We are praying for all our St. Joseph community families and ask that you keep our students, faculty, and staff in your prayers as well.

Our Spring Fair has been cancelled for this school year. However the raffle and silent auction will take place in the Fall. More information will be shared in the future! You can still mail in your raffle tickets or drop them off at the church office drop slot.



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