



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

P. O. Box 365 117 South Main St.

Loreauville, Louisiana 70552

(337) 229-4254

FAX (337) 229-4255

Rev. Barry F. Crochet, Pastor

Rev. Godwin Nzeh CM, Associate Pastor

Deacon Christopher Doumit, Pastoral Assistant

pastor@stjosephparishonline.org

stjosephparishonline.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass — 4:00 p.m. [5:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory]

Sunday — 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

[9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory]

Monday, Wednesday and Friday — 6:45 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory

Tuesday and Thursday — 5:30 p.m. at Saint Joseph

First Saturday — 8:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Every Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. [5:00 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory] and one-half hour before all weekday Masses, or by appointment during office hours.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday — 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

RECEPTIONIST

Ms. Sherry Prioux — sherry.prioux@stjosephparishonline.org

BOOKKEEPER/CEMETERIAN

Mrs. Gail Borel — gail.borel@stjosephparishonline.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Sherry Hebert — sherry.hebert@stjosephparishonline.org

YOUTH MINISTRY/CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR

Mrs. Jeanne Stiles — jstiles@diolaf.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Janice Carboni (4:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Jeanne Stiles and Mr. Dro Gondron (10:30 a.m.)

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Mr. Jimmy Clifton

SACRISTAN

Mr. Jerry Frugé

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The chapel is open every day from 6:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office prior to contacting the funeral home. Funerals are celebrated in the morning of Tuesdays through Saturdays no later than 11:00 a.m.

A Funeral Vigil is celebrated on the preceding evening at 6:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism classes are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:45 p.m. in the rectory. Baptism are held on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Please contact the parish office for scheduling.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples must contact the pastor at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the parish office to schedule a pastoral visit.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Contact the parish office.

Pictures From Our Past



This picture is from a major parish celebration with Bishop Frey that occurred sometime during the mid 1970's.

During this Centennial Year of our Diocese, we will try to publish pictures from our parish history. If you have any pictures you would like to share with us we would be most grateful.

Please pray for our parish family members who are sick:

Jess Koch, Lisa Adcock, Kendall Romero, Alicia Durand, Janice Stacy, Joseph Huval, Marie Lee Prioux, Troy Barras, Kelly Ransonet, Jessica Scott, Mary Smith, Brian Thibodeaux, Cora Laviolette, Jackie Savoy, Barry Thibodeaux, Doris "Boutte" Barras, Michele Dugas Burke, Paul Crochet, Craig Breaux, Helen Simon, Ross Rouly, Jamie Brady, Holly LeBlanc, Faye Gary, Tony Berard, Glenn Romero, Stuart Sandoz, Duffy Domingue, Eric Clements, David Louviere, Judy Judice, Nelda Breaux, Hayden Ransonet, Jackie Courville, Clark Provost, Trevor Louviere, Vanessa Courville, Woodrow Ruiz, Austin Willett, Willey Poirrier, Inez Barras, Dennis and Helen Bastian, Butch and Debbie White, Gwen Borel, Guy Thibodeaux, Lydia May, Louis "CoCo" Landry Jr., Jerry Fruge, Jimmy Clifton, Michelle Breaux, Rowena Borel, Megan Scully, Terrel Dressel, Maxine Latiolais, Dawn Derouen, Deacon Chris Doumit, Beulah Dugas.

We invite you to submit the names of people who are in need of our prayers.

Please note that our office will purge the names on our sick list every quarter.

We ask anyone who lists someone's name to please call the parish office to add or remove a name.



Collection for July 29, 2018

Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes (60%)	\$ 3,928.00
Regular Sunday Offering Loose (40%)	\$ 2,655.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Regular Collection Total	\$ 6,583.00
Difference	-\$ 2,917.00
Completion Loan Balance	\$ 127,852.30
Completion Collection	\$ 80.00
Insurance Balance 2017-2018	\$ 35,225.70
Insurance Collection	\$ 326.00

137 of 1314 families used collection envelopes (10% participation).
 230 of 1314 families attended Mass this weekend (17% attendance).
Thanks to those who practice Sacrificial Giving and give of their time, talent and treasure as an act of profound Christian stewardship.

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning for:
 Louto, Anite, Alton and Jason Gondron

The Vocation Chalice is in the :
 Adoration Chapel

Please pray for vocations. If you would like to have the vocation chalice in your home please call Jeanne Stiles at 229-4254.

The Bi-Monthly Statue is in the home of:
 Sherline LeBlanc



The Weekly Statue is in the home of:
 Joni and Russell Castille

Flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of:
 Sue Crochet

Saint Joseph Altar Candles are burning for:
 Pliny Walet Family, Agnes Breaux
 Mr. and Mrs. Angus Mestayer, Special Intentions

Please pray for our priests and seminarians
 Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests and seminarians of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



- Aug 4 Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell/Evan Hebert
- 5 Rev. David Hebert/Rev. Mr. Sal Istre
- 6 Rev. Matthew Hebert/Luke Johnson
- 7 Rev. T. J. Hebert/Andrew Killeen
- 8 Rev. Gregory Heslip, LC/Luke Kirk
- 9 Rev. Matthew Higginbotham/Hayden Lacour
- 10 Rev. Godwin Imoru/Joshua LaFleur

MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Date and Time	Lector	Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
August 11 4:00 p.m.	Jana Angelle	Marcus Hebert Sherry Hebert	Dominic Smith Noah Smith Bella Smith
August 12 7:00 a.m.	Brianna Oubre Kim Landry	Lynn Delcambre Lottie Frioux	Kylie Kay Mestayer
10:30 a.m.	Catherine Dugas Jean-Paul Stiles	Patti Gondron Sully Gondron Karol Dugas	William Stiles Corgan Edler

Mass Intentions — 8/4 — 8/11

Saturday 4:00 p.m. — Kay Dooley, Velma Moity, Theresa Douet, Arville Douet, Lucille B. Romero, Calvin Berard, Alton and Cecile Segura, Octave and Gerdie Justice and Family, Aymar "Poon" Dugas, Ide Dugas Family, Alexis Lavolette Family, Moise Louviere, Martha Louviere, Jeanette Theriot, Harold Louviere, Vernon Louviere and Family, Aimee and Kernis Peltier, Francis Crochet, Louto, Anite, Alton and Jason Gondron, Louis Prince, Loretta and Lloyd Dressel, Ossie Romero Jr, Ken Segura, Earl Mestayer, Clenie and Eve Segura, Claire Bonin Myers, Audrey Kern, Deyna Champagne, Chad Romero, Sam Delcambre and Family, Sue Crochet, Wayne LeBlanc, Lily Mae and Alvin LeBlanc, Rusty Justice, Tasey Eldridge, Clarence Champagne Family, Robert Prados Family and Breaux Family, Audrey Crochet, Jordan Prince and Enoe Justice Sr. Family, Joseph Dressel, Kimberly Decuir, Decuir and Dugas Family, J.O. Sr. and Marie Neuville and Ted Neuville Family, Barry Eldridge and Ned Broussard Families, Melvin Dugas, Roy Sr. and Gladys Berard, Forbus Mestayer Sr., Granger and Mestayer Family, Ronald Gonsoulin Sr., Leed and Mabel Gondron, Fred Lavolette, Louis and Grace Moran, Virginia Frioux, Lennet and Marie Antoinette Crochet, Dorothy T. Latiolais and Kathy Latiolais Holtzclaw, Clenie and Eve Segura and Billie, Jay and Judy Gonsoulin Family, Paul Sonnier Family and Clyde Warfel Family, Sally Domingue, Cabrol and Domingue Family, Lorraine Huval, Preston and Agnes Huval, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Lloyd Broussard, Claude and Felicia Granger, Nancy Broussard, Clarence and Hilda Landry, Otto Sr. and Laurence Girouard, Terradot Family, Theresa Girouard Allen, Antoine Justice Families, Suzette B. Justice, Kelly Louviere, Sylvia Thibodeaux, Francis and Art Mazerole, Billie and Armanca Barrilleaux, Herman Walet, Oneil and June Landry, Al Broussard Jr. Family and Abby Dugas Broussard Family, Will and Lily Roberts, Collins and Doris Louviere, William and Dolores Dooley, Irving Justice, Darrell Justice, Bernie Justice.

Sunday 7:00 a.m. — Suzette Justice, Robin, Stan and Van Justice, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Broussard, Lora Bloom, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Boudreaux, Noelle Seneca, Esma Braquet Champagne, special intentions, S.J. "Bute" Granger and Junius and Mary Hebert, Wilbert "Spic" LeBlanc, Anthony "Tony" LeBlanc, Eunice Fitch Giblin, Dot and RD Verret, Barry Boudreaux, Alan Olivier, Albert Broussard and Wilson Boudreaux

Families, Sue Crochet, Sandra P. Horton, John Michael Steiner, Joe and Rita Habetz, Thomas Voorhies, Howard and Irene Duplantis, Louis Landry, Loto and Leah Louviere, Cathy Braquet Latiolais, Mark Braquet, Antoine "Boy" LeBlanc Family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Albert Sr., Champagne and Landry Families and Souls in Purgatory, Maude Granger and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Granger, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger, David Provost, Dr. Raymond Schneider, Elaine Schneider, Skip Schneider, Lolly Harbin, Breaux and Delcambre Families, Lenwood Delcambre, Roy Freyrou Family and Frank Fruge Family, Warren Granger.

10:30 a.m. — Odette Gondron Blanchard, Emile Gondron Family, Joel Blanchard Family, Clayson and Lil Dugas, Odillon Guillot Family, Albert J. Lissard, Jr. Family, George Thibodeaux Family, Justin Boudreaux, Joe Boudreaux, Anna Mae Breaux, Donald Lasseigne, Louis and Verna Dugas, Philip Hebert Jr, Neil Hebert, Lionel Duplexchain Jr and Lionel Duplexchain Sr, Loto, Sr, Leah and Loto Louviere, Jr, Gam and Velma Gondron and Family, Dot and R. D. Verret, Barry Boudreaux, Alan Olivier, Sue Crochet, Alvin and Faye Tauzin, Edmonia Tauzin, Marcel and Nadage Broussard, Jimmy Eldridge, Elaine Plessala and Eldridge Family, Sylvia Thibodeaux, Gam and Velma Gondron and Family, Cheryl Segura, Jeanette "Jan" Crochet, Pliny Walet Family, Agnes Breaux, Florence "Flo" Mestayer, Louis and Elbay Justice, Boots Thomas, Joe Boudreaux and Justin Boudreaux, L.J. and Anita Grivat and parents, Louis Landry, Una and Otto Landry, Widley Louviere, Anita and Lennet Grivat, Antoine Justice Families, Suzette B. Justice, Kelly Louviere, Butsy Walet, Sandi Angelle, Bentley Solari, Percy Granger.

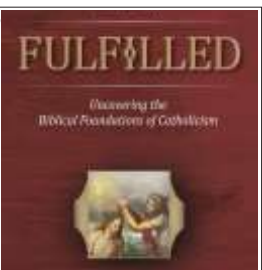
Monday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Sue Crochet, Landry and Champagne Families and Souls in Purgatory.

Tuesday 5:30 p.m. StJo — Cobey Braquet, Sandra Sandi Angelle, Lucien and Lorena Angelle, Georgean Babin, Landry and Champagne Families and Souls in Purgatory, Sue Crochet.

Wednesday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Sue Crochet, Landry and Champagne Families and Souls in Purgatory, John Michael Steiner.

Thursday 5:30 p.m. StJo — Jules Bourque, Sam Delcambre and Family, Sue Crochet, Landry and Champagne Families and Souls in Purgatory, Friday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Sue Crochet, Landry and Champagne Families and Souls in Purgatory, Walet and Justice Families.

Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism is an apologetic approach to sharing the Catholic Faith using the Old Testament Tabernacle as a blueprint for God's Plan. While it is designed as a faith-sharing Scripture study, you will also gain an understanding of some of the most questioned Catholic teachings. *Fulfilled* will reignite your love of Scripture and help you share and defend the Catholic Faith with the Word of God. Part One focuses on the elements found in the outer sanctuary of the Tabernacle and how they connect to the liturgical calendar, the priesthood, purgatory, baptism, and more. The program begins on Monday, August 27, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. It is a seven week program with a \$30 registration fee. To register, please contact the Parish Office at 229-4254.



The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Patriotic Rosary at Saint Joseph Church this Sunday, August 26, 2018, 4:00 p.m. This Rosary is part of a novena of nine months with the intention of praying for the elections to be held this Fall.

Council 4676



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Red Beans, Sausage and Rice with Coleslaw and Yams

Sunday, August 5, 2018
11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Saint Theresa Hall
\$5 per meal



Religion Classes

Many thanks to all who registered
for our 2018-2019 religion classes.

Classes will begin during the week of August 6, 2018
and end the week before Thanksgiving.

Mondays - 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade Tuesdays- K, 1st, & 2nd grade
Wednesdays - 8th, 9th, & 10th grade Thursdays - 6th, 7th, & RCIC

*[Please note that 2nd Grade will return for First Confession
and First Communion Preparation in January 2019]*

All classes will be held from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Car line runs every night except Tuesdays.

You must personally come in and pick up your child for their safety.

Please — Children must wear school uniforms only.
No gum. No cell phones. No idevices of any kind.



Exciting News!

Pope Francis has granted a Plenary Indulgence for all those who participate in one of the events of Fête-Dieu du Vermilion on August 15.

Come out and celebrate the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette and gain the special plenary indulgence! The unique Eucharistic Boat Procession will take place on the Feast of the Assumption, Wednesday, August 15. The day begins at 8:00 a.m. with a French Mass at Saint Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Abbeville by Bishop Glen Provost. At 10:00 a.m. a boat procession with the Blessed Sacrament will embark and make its way up Bayou

Vermilion to Lafayette. The boat procession will stop in Milton at Wawee's Landing at 11:35 a.m. for recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at Ruffino's in River Ranch at 1:40 p.m., and at Beaver Park at about 3:20 p.m. Persons interested in making the "100-Year Walk" to the Cathedral can gather at Vermilionville at 3:00 p.m. and use the bike path under the Thruway to muster at the boat landing. At 3:45 p.m. a procession with the Blessed Sacrament and a statue of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will leave the landing and process up University Avenue in Lafayette to the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist. Solemn Vespers will be prayed at 5:00 p.m. and Holy Mass will follow at 5:30 p.m. with Bishop Douglas Deshotel. After Mass the Cajun youth band, *Adeline et ses Amis du Teche*, will perform outside the Cathedral to conclude the historic day. Buses will be available to shuttle walkers back to Vermilionville as needed. Boats are still needed and registration forms are available at www.fetedieuduteche.org.

For more information email at fetedieuduteche@gmail.com or call (337) 394-6550.

Affirming and Celebrating
Humanae Vitae
by George Weigel

July 25 is the fiftieth anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*, Blessed Paul VI's encyclical on the integrity of love and the appropriate means of family planning. Issued during the cultural meltdown of the 1960s, and in a year when irrationality stalked the entire Western world, *Humanae Vitae* instantly became the most vilified act of the papal magisterium in history. And to what should have been their shame, entire national episcopates distanced themselves from **Pope Paul's teaching by a variety of stratagems**, many of which exhibited some degree of theological confusion and some of which were downright cowardly.

Paul VI came to the judgment he did in *Humanae Vitae* for two reasons.

First, because he was convinced that using the natural rhythms of fertility to regulate births was the most humanistic means of family planning, and the method most congruent with the dignity of the human person—and especially the unique dignity of women.

And second, because he came to understand that many of those advocating a change in Catholic teaching on the morally acceptable means of family planning were in fact promoting a fundamental change in **the Church's way of moral reasoning**: They denied that some acts are simply wrong because of their nature, and they argued that moral judgment is really a calculus of intentions, acts, and consequences. Had that **“proportionalism,”** as it's technically known, been enshrined as the official Catholic method of making moral judgments, Catholicism would soon have found itself in the sad condition of liberal Protestantism

— another Christian community with utterly porous moral boundaries.

His abandonment by a lot of the world episcopate deeply wounded Paul VI, a sensitive soul who had supported the **Second Vatican Council's affirmation** that bishops are something more than local branch managers of Catholic Church, Inc., and who probably thought he was owed a little loyalty in return. So as the Church and the world mark the golden jubilee of *Humanae Vitae*, and as Catholics around the world prepare to celebrate the canonization of Paul VI in October, perhaps those bishops who understand that a serious breach in episcopal collegiality took place in 1968, when so many of their predecessors failed to defend the Bishop of Rome against his often vicious critics, might consider making these affirmations about the encyclical, in one form or another:

1. I am deeply grateful to Pope Paul VI for his courageous witness to the truth about love in the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. With Pope Francis, I believe that Paul VI **“had the courage to stand against the majority, to defend moral discipline, to exercise a ‘brake’ on culture, [and] to oppose [both] present and future neo-Malthusianism,”** which treats the gift of children as a societal and economic burden.

2. I believe that the truths taught by *Humanae Vitae* on the appropriate means to plan a family are important for human well-being today; that conscious use of artificial means of regulating fertility distorts the truth about human love inscribed into Creation by the Creator; and that conscience must respect these intrinsic truths in family planning.

3. I believe that the truths taught by *Humanae Vitae* about natural family planning have proven themselves in pastoral

situations around the world; that those truths have made significant contributions to family ministry and marriage preparation in various cultures; and that those who deny the human capacity to understand and live the disciplines of natural family planning often engage in racism, new forms of colonialism, or both.

4. I believe that the **“contraceptive culture”** of which Paul VI prophetically warned in *Humanae Vitae*, and the related abortion license, are major factors in the sexual abuse of women that has come to public attention through the #MeToo movement; and I invite feminists to rethink their celebration of artificial contraception and abortion on this fiftieth anniversary.

5. I believe that **Pope Saint John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*** has given the Catholic Church a compelling tool for explaining both the truths taught by *Humanae Vitae* and the unhappiness caused by the sexual revolution.

6. I pledge to make this anniversary year an occasion to celebrate the gift of *Humanae Vitae* and to use my pastoral office to deepen understandings of the Catholic sexual ethic as a celebration of human dignity and the gift of life.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of Washington, D.C.'s Ethics and Public Policy Center, where he holds the William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies.



10½ Rules for Forming Christian Community
by Douglas D. Dewey

What exactly is Christian Community and why should we form it? Christian Community flows from our imitation of three persons perfectly in love with each other: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When the whole world looks like the Holy Trinity, we will have fulfilled the great commission to make disciples of it.

God did not place us alone in this world but in the presence of others, starting with our families, working outwards, then – as He

commanded us – loving our neighbors as ourselves.

We've all heard that commandment innumerable times, but has it ever occurred to you to ask why it is so essential to our salvation to love our neighbor? After all, God could have ordered the world in other ways, including solitude for billions of souls.

Saint Catherine of Siena wondered about that too, and asked God, who told Catherine that what He most desires is for us to love Him as He loves us. That may sound straightforward, but it is impossible for us to love God as He desires to be loved without the presence of other human souls.

Because for us to love God back is mere justice. We did absolutely nothing to deserve a single day of life, much less an immortal soul and the possibility of Heaven. When we love God directly, we are acting justly, but also in our own interest because of the promise of greater happiness on Earth and the megaprize of eternal happiness after death. But, there was nothing in it for God when he loved us into creation. His Divine love is gratuitous and disinterested, whereas our love for Him is fitting and self-interested.

So, in order to give us the opportunity to love divinely, He placed us among other souls whom we could love without any prospect of

reward. We can only love God the way He wants us to by loving other people who cannot benefit us.

And that is the reason why Christian Community is so important: communities are a target-rich environment for us to love selflessly. Forming Christian Community – communities of fellowship, brotherhood, and Christian charity – **isn't a nice optional thing to do after work. It's why we are here.**

So much for the why, what about the how? **It's a mistake to think that a lot of external activity could substitute for the harder work of personal holiness.** God builds communities through holy people, or at least through people working at being holy. **There's no escaping it or substituting for it:** you have to be holy to build the kingdom.

A good way to start loving God divinely is by generously loving your spouse, children, parents, siblings, and friends. It is doubtful that we will love anyone else if we fail to love the ones closest to us.

Love is the key, love is the secret weapon. Forget about how you feel. Love is not a feeling; it's a decision to prefer the good of others. Make a habit of this and you will start changing things around you and your work will be amplified.

So here are some practical things to do to become holier and form Christian Community. Jordan Peterson has 12 rules for **Life**, and **Chris Pratt** has 9. I'll split the difference and offer 10.5 rules:

1. Get married soon. Scott Hahn calls marriage the First Society – which is just a word for big community. This presumes that you don't have a consecrated vocation after opening your heart and asking God hundreds of times if that's what He wants. But chances are good that you have a vocation to marriage. Do not put your vocation off for career reasons, or because you need a second master's degree or don't think you can afford children or because of some nonsense about finding yourself or – worst reason ever – sowing your wild oats. Sowing those oats will yield weeds, haunt your life and taint your marriage. If you don't know someone you think you might marry, God has that person picked out. So pray, keep your eyes open, and go where that person might be. Make it your first priority – way above your job.

2. Be open to children. Don't try to game this, calculating how much money you will need for a two-bedroom apartment or a minivan or summer camps or college tuition; plunge into the vocation of marriage and be fruitful. A great start in practicing selfless love is taking care of an ungrateful, selfish baby who demands your attention constantly and

instantly. Whatever benefit you may eventually derive from your infant will feel a long way off when you are pacing the floor with her from 2 to 4 in the morning. Adding Christian children to society is the most enduring impact you will probably have on building Christian Community. Mark Steyn has said that history belongs to those who show up; so have them be your descendants.

3. Make friends and invest in them. If you're married those will most likely be other married friends. If you are single, you will see your single friends getting married, so join them. Real friends burden each other, and we should want them to do that. Networks of friends are the knitting work of Christian Community.

4. Put others first in everything. Practice **Mother Teresa's recipe for JOY by ordering your thoughts and actions according to the letters of that word: Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last – J.O.Y.** The more you forget yourself the more joyful you will be. God uses Ju-jitsu. The more you seek the good of others, the more He takes care of the you you forgot. God's way of taking care of you will also include suffering; it's His way of getting closer, so don't imagine He's abandoned you when bad things happen.

5. You have to learn how to pray like everything depends upon it, because it does. Pray intensely and regularly. Not just before an exam or interview or after you messed up. Pray before you've messed up and you'll do it less often. If you already have an active prayer life, build on it; you're probably just a piker compared to what God has in mind for you. If you're normal, which is to say, your prayer life is sporadic, feckless and tepid, then make a plan, get help from a priest, and get started on it today.

6. Pick a good parish and be active in it. Most of us have choices among parishes, so choose wisely and go all in. Do whatever Father asks of you. Priests need the support and affirmation of energetic faithful families and individuals.

7. **Don't be lukewarm.** It's boring, detestable to God and unattractive to other lukewarm souls. The priest at our parish once asked everyone: who says grace before meals? Then he asked: who says grace at restaurants. Sure it's a little thing, but Jesus told us "everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven." You combat lukewarmness by prayer, the sacraments, and doing things you don't feel like doing. Fighting lukewarmness doesn't mean being

brash or argumentative. That's an ersatz form of piety and is ineffective. Be zealous in the way you love people. They will feel the difference and then will listen to you about Christ and the Church.

8. Overcome fear or sloth with a decision to love. If you dread parties or public speaking, you can dispel those temptations by deciding to love all the people in the room. Try it.

9. Make a defining habit of listening – especially to boring people, God has something to tell you through them. Listen and try to help other souls at every turn. Help them to get jobs, fix their computer, move into a new apartment. Some will exploit you, but who cares? You'll be more like Christ and He will doubly help you.

10. Show up for things. Woody Allen was right about this: 80 percent of life is showing up. Go to fundraisers, family gatherings, funerals, and the hundred things that God leads you to. Go when you don't feel like going, you don't have as much time as you think. Within the limits of your family and work obligations, get out there. Don't wimp out with a text the day before, telling yourself that others will be there and you won't be missed. God will miss you.

10½: Take care of your body and your grooming. Don't think you have to be a semi-bathed eccentric to be holy. Be that person who is fit, clean, decently dressed and is a pleasure to be around. Good grooming isn't for you it's for others.

That's my listicle. It's not comprehensive, but everything here I learned the hard way. You form Christian Community by deciding to love other people, and by being holy, generous and vulnerable. Do that, and God will work miracles through you, guaranteed.

Douglas Dewey is President of the Wethersfield Institute for Catholic Thought, in Manhattan, which was founded by the late Chauncey Stillman in 1984. He and his wife live in Westchester County, New York where they preside over a slowly emptying nest of ten children.





CENTURY OF LOVE



News of the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana

August 2018

www.diolaf.org

God is Made Glorious in His Saints: Saints in Acadiana

Of all the holy men and women who have stepped foot in the Diocese of Lafayette, there is one Saint of the Church whose influence and lasting effect on the Diocese is unparalleled. Bishop Edward O'Donnell called her "the patron saint of the Lafayette Diocese." That woman is Mother Katherine Drexel, who was declared a Saint of the Church by Pope St. John Paul II in October 2000. Drexel inherited an incredible sum of money from her father and in 1887 a young Katharine received a private audience with Pope Leo XIII in Rome. It was there that she asked the Holy Father to send missionaries to the Native Americans. Pope Leo responded, "Why not, my child, yourself become a missionary?"

This question led Katharine to dedicate her life in service to the needs of African Americans and Native Americans. At the prompting of her spiritual director, she founded a religious community named the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in 1891. In 1917, Drexel first became involved in what would become the Diocese of Lafayette when she donated over \$10,000 for the creation of a Church and School for African Americans in New Iberia. The parish



Pictured above left to right:
Saint Katharine Drexel, Saint Mother Teresa.

was named after her recently deceased brother-in-law named Edward. Once the Diocese of Lafayette was created, Bishop Jeanmard was quick to ask Mother Drexel for financial help to enact his vision of outreach to the African American community. Drexel's first trip to Lafayette was in 1923 when Bishop Jeanmard gave her a personal tour to emphasize the work that needed to be done. In time, Mother Drexel would establish 24 rural schools for African-Americans in the Diocese, all at her own expense. She was also instrumental in the founding of several

parishes throughout Acadiana and with bringing many Blessed Sacrament Sisters to the Diocese as well. At the time of her death in 1955, the Diocese of Lafayette was receiving around \$20,000 a year from her in support of African American schools and parishes.

The only other canonized Saint to step foot in Acadiana was Saint Mother Teresa, who came to visit Lafayette in July of 1986. Her visit was to establish a home for four of her Missionaries of Charity to live and work among the poor in Lafayette. But her visit also served as a spiritual boost to the Diocese in the midst of the scandals of the 1980s. She held a gigantic rally in the Cajundome, which was filled with a capacity crowd of over 15,000. Mother Teresa's connection to Fr. Joseph Brennan led her to spend some time in prayer at St. Genevieve Church, where a mural of Mother Teresa now recognizes this Saint's visit to Acadiana.



CENTURY OF LOVE



News of the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana

August 2018

www.diolaf.org

Two local "saints" have arisen through the first 100 years of the Diocese. The first is Fr. Joseph Verbis Lafleur. Fr. Lafleur was born in Ville Platte and moved to Opelousas as a young man. He entered seminary at the age of 15, and after his studies he was ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Lafayette on April 2, 1938. His first assignment was as the associate pastor at St. Mary Magdalen in Abbeville. In the summer of 1941, he joined the Army as World War II was raging around the world. He arrived in the Philippines just a few weeks before it was attacked on December 8, 1941.

For his bravery in the battle that ensued, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. Captured with many others, he became a Prisoner of War and lived in many Japanese POW



Pictured above left to right:
Father Joseph Verbis Lafleur, Charlene Richard.

camps for over two years. On September 7, 1944, Fr. Lafleur gave his life as his POW transport ship was attacked by Americans. He was last seen helping other servicemen evacuate the ship as it was sinking. His witness of priestly zeal, courage, and sacrifice have left a strong impression upon those with whom he served and upon the people of Acadiana. Annually, a Mass is celebrated in his honor on September 7, at St. Landry Church in Opelousas.

Our "little Cajun Saint" is the well-known Charlene Richard. A young woman of only 12 years old who died after a quick

battle with acute Lymphatic Leukemia. In the summer of 1959, as she was admitted to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, she received counsel from Fr. Joseph Brennan, who spoke to her about the power of offering her suffering for others. The young Charlene accepted this idea with incredible joy, and spent her dying days offering up her suffering for the others who were suffering at the hospital and elsewhere. Before she died on August 11, she promised that she would continue praying

for others. The witness of her heroic virtue in the midst of great suffering was remarkable. Many people began to make pilgrimages to her gravesite in Richard, Louisiana and a number of people have attested to her intercession on behalf of those who are ill. Annually, a large Mass is celebrated at St. Edward Church in

Richard on the anniversary of her death.





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