



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 CMF, Associate Pastor

Deacon Christopher Doumit, Pastoral Assistant

pastor@stjosephparishonline.org

stjosephparishonline.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass — 4:00 p.m.

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

Thursday — 10:00 a.m. at Saint Catherine Apartments

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. 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/BOOKKEEPER/CEMETERIAN

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

RECORDS CLERK/PLANT MANAGER

Gladys Lasseigne

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Janice Carboni & Miss Amber DeMarco (Saturday — 4:00 p.m.)

Mr. Michael Arceneaux (Sunday — 10:30 a.m.)

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Mr. Ken Theriot and John Thomas Neuville

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

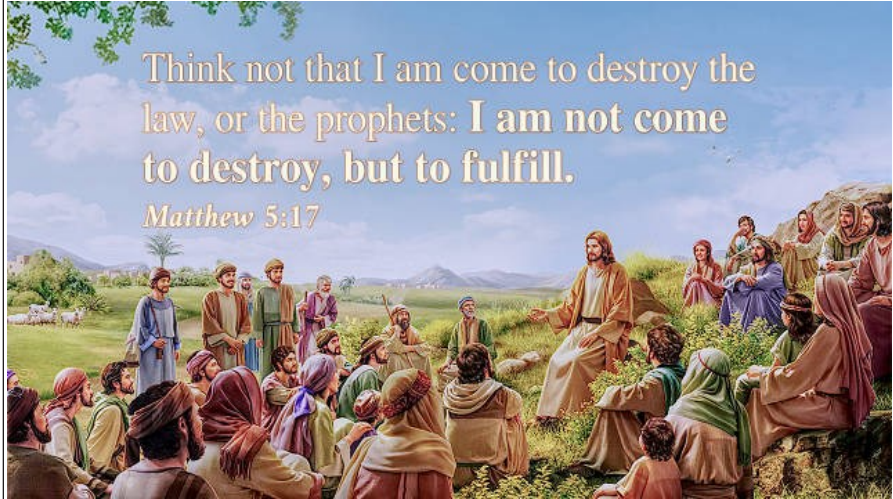
Couples must contact the pastor at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the parish office to schedule a pastoral visit.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Contact the parish office.



O God, Who teach us that
You abide in hearts that are
just and true, grant that we
may be so fashioned by Your
grace as to become a dwelling
pleasing to You.

Please pray for our parish family members who are sick:

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



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, 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, Hayden Ransonet, Trevor Louviere, Vanessa Courville, Wayne Louviere, Austin Willett, Willey Poirier, Inez Barras, Helen

Bastian, Butch and Debbie White, Guy Thibodeaux, Lydia May, Louis "CoCo" Landry Jr, Jerry Fruge, Jimmy Clifton, Rowena Borel, Megan Scully, Maxine Latiolais, Dawn Derouen, Matil LasSalle Romero, Falyn Sonnier, Rickey Sonnier, Caline Provost, Katie Boutte, Patricia Freyou, Lecia Broussard, Jason Walker, Ronald Albert Sr., Michael Theriot, Roshondra Nora, Noah Abraham, Jimmy LeBlanc, Chad Borel, Sophie Bonin, Ashley Hebert, Stephen Dugas, Bonnie Hebert, Jon-Luke Lancon, Jade Delcambre, Doris Prados, Gail Louviere.

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.

February 9, 2020

Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes (60%)	\$ 3,657.00
Regular Sunday Offering Loose (40%)	\$ 2,405.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,385.00
Regular Collection Total	\$ 6,062.00
Difference	-\$ 1,323.00
Completion Loan Balance	\$ 71,319.00
Completion Collection	\$ 91.00
Insurance Balance 2019-2020	\$ 25,200.00
Insurance Collection	\$ 23.00

128 of 1314 families used collection envelopes (10% participation).
212 of 1314 families attended Mass this weekend (16% 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

Mr. and Mrs. Collins Louviere and Kerney and Mr. and Mrs. Will Roberts, Gam and Velma 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 the rectory office at 229-4254

The Bi-Monthly Statue is in the home of

Joel and Fran Dugas

The Weekly Statue is in the home of

Shane and Brandi Walet Family

Saint Joseph Altar Candles are burning for

Pliny Walet Family and Agnes Breaux, Shelton Joseph and Ella Mae Desormeaux Freyou, Deyna Champagne, Chad Romero, Charles and Jackie Poirier, Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious

Flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of

Cheryl Lancon Bradshaw, Edmond and Euline Lancon, Harvey Latiolais .



Lenten Mission with Fr. Brent Smith

March 3 & 4, 2020 at 6:00 pm each night

Presenting on "Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving"

Please pray for our priests, seminarians, deacons and religious

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these special sons and daughters. 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.

February 15	Rev. Michael DeBlanc/Cole Zaunbrecher Dcn. Paul Eleazar/Sr. Michelle Geerken, MHS
February 16	Rev. Edward Degeyter/Pier Zeringue Dcn. Kyle Faber/Sr. Sophie Guidry, MHS
February 17	Rev. Michael Delcambre/Dylan Allen Dcn. Gary Gaudin/Sr. Joan Herpin, MHS
February 18	Rev. Mark Derise/Reed Bellingham Dcn. Perry Guidry/Sr. Ira Lea Meyers, MHS
February 19	Rev. Msgr. Keith DeRouen/Alex Cormier Dcn. Herd Guilbeau/Sr. Anthony Richards, MHS
February 20	Rev. Ferdinand Derrera, SJ/Myles Creek Dcn. Joseph Trahan/Sr. Barbara Nell Laperous, O. Carm
February 21	Rev. Kenneth Domingue/Brent Didier Dcn. Russell Hayes/Sr. Margaret Olhenforst, MHS

Mass Intentions — 2/15-2/21

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Stjo — Francis and Lorena Dupoy and Patrick Lasseigne Family, Ronald Broussard, Louis and Mae Mae Broussard, Edna Walet, Gloria and Sam Delcambre and Family, Suzette Judice, Justin Boudreaux, Elton Bourque Family, Philip Hebert Family, Mrs. Mae Olla V. Louis (D) 96th Birthday, Carl Blouin, Jr. (D) Birthday, Wilker Louis (D), Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Aymar "Poon" and Beulah Dugas, Ide Dugas Family, Alexis Laviolette Family, Wayne LeBlanc, Lily Mae and Alvin LeBlanc, Otto Sr. and Laurence Girouard, Terradot Family, Theresa Girouard Allen, Clarence Champagne Family, Robert Prados Family and Breaux Family, Chad Romero, Deyna Champagne, Audrey Crochet, Jordan Prince and Special Intention, Joseph Dressel, Barry Eldridge and Ned Broussard Families, Melvin Dugas, Roy Sr. and Gladys Benard, Forbus and Myrtle Mestayer Sr., Granger and Mestayer Family, Ronald, Sr. and Mildred Gonsoulin, Leed and Mabel Gondron, Fred Laviolette, Louis and Grace Moran, Virginia Frioux, Lennet and Marie Antoinette Crochet, Clenie and Eve Segura and Billie, Sally Domingue, Cabrol and Domingue Family, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Lloyd Broussard, Claude and Felicie Granger, Nancy Broussard, Clarence and Hilda Landry, Billie and Armande Barrilleaux, Kay Dooley and William and Dolores Dooley, Earl Mestayer, Kim Decuir, Chris and Annie Decuir Family, Benjamin Decuir Family, Ron and Jana Angelle Family, Michael Decuir Family, Ossie Romero, Jr., Sue Crochet.

Sunday 7:00 a.m. Stjo — S. J. "Bute" Granger, Junius and Mary Hebert, Clark Provost, Tracey Defelice Guilbeaux, John Michael Steiner, Jay Gonsoulin Family, Paul Sonnier Family and Clyde Warfel Family, Sandra P. Horton, Loto and Leah Louviere, Antoine "Boy" LeBlanc Family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Albert Sr., Champagne and Landry Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Maude Granger, Benny and Glo Granger, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger, Dr. Raymond Schneider, Elaine Schneider, Skip Schneider, Lolly Harbin, Breaux and Delcambre Families, Lenwood Delcambre, Emus Borel, Gwen Borel, Chataignier Family, Joe and Rita Habetz, Mary Kay Habetz, Tom Voorhies, Oris Cormier, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

10:30 a.m. Stjo — Tony Devillie, Mathilde Romero, Roy LaSalle, Gondran and Devillie Family, Ancestors and Descendants, Loto Louviere, Jr., Gam and Velma Gondron, Clyde Dressel, Judy Dressel Judice, Sylvia Thibodeaux, Shelton Joseph and Ella Mae Desormeaux Freyou, Alvin and Faye Tauzin, Edmonia Tauzin, Marcel and Nadage Broussard, Jimmy Eldridge, Elaine Plessala and

Eldridge Family, Cheryl Segura, Jeanette "Jan" Crochet, Pliny Walet Family, Agnes Breaux, Angus and Florence "Flo" Mestayer, Louis and Elbay Judice, Boots Thomas, Joe Boudreaux and Justin Boudreaux, L.J. and Anita Grivat and Parents Widley Louviere, Anita and Lennet Grivat, Sandra Angelle and Glenn Angelle, Percy Granger, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

Monday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

Tuesday 5:30 p.m. Stjo — Amber (Young mother), the deceased, Destani Armstrong and Family, Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

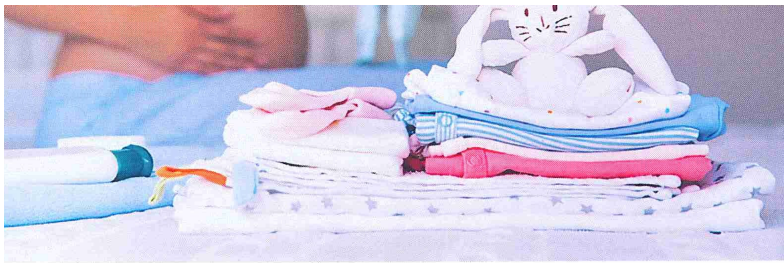
Wednesday 6:45 a.m. OLV — John Michael Steiner, Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

Thursday 5:30 p.m. Stjo — Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

Friday 6:45 a.m. OLV — Joseph L. Bastian, Helen Bastian, Mrs. Naomi H. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Clara Jacquet, Landry and Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Judice and Walet Families, Alvaro Jimenez, Robert Lawrence, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet.

MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Date and Time	Readers	Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
February 22 4:00 p.m.	Linda Dore	Roberta Degeyter Bill Quinlan	Bella Smith Dominic Smith Noah Smith
February 23 7:00 a.m.	Belinda Phillips	Diane Gondron Carolyn Roseberry	Brynn Blanchard Chaz Blanchard
10:30 a.m.	Mike Lawson	Sheila Prioux Raymond Bergeron	Avery Begnaud David Devillier
Ash Wednesday February 26 12:10 p.m.	Fran Dugas	Virginia Pommier Sandra Boudreaux	
6:00 p.m.	Catherine Dugas	Isela Kerne Debbie Oubre	Jack David Martin



Assisting people throughout and after pregnancy

Your contribution will help us to assist parents throughout their pregnancy as well as after the birth of the baby. We offer free services including pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, consulting, referral services, maternal-family education classes and material assistance. Join us and become a "Partner in Life!"

117 E. Pershing Street
 PO Box 10326
 New Iberia, La. 70563
 Phone: (337) 321-6298
 Fax: (337) 321-6548
 unexpectednc@yahoo.com



Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be? We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for

Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what he means for us as Catholics today. St. Joseph's will begin the Jesus study on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:00 pm in St. Joseph's Rectory. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship. Registration is \$40 and can be paid at the rectory. We hope you can join us!

Engaged Couples

Spend a weekend away from the cares and distractions of everyday living. Attend a Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend. The weekend is open to any engaged couple wanting to prepare for a deeper more meaningful life together in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church according to its Church law. Upcoming weekend dates are March 6-8, April 17-19, May 22-24. For cost of weekends, other dates, and to learn more, visit our website at www.lafayettecece.org or contact Paul and Carolyn Trahan at (337)254-8947 or cece.trahan@gmail.com.



Rest in the Care of the Lord

Men of St. Joseph's — Make the most of this Lenten season. Join us, on a retreat at **Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House** in Grand Coteau.

March 19th thru the 22nd, take some important time away to get closer to Jesus Christ! Retreats begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday and end at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Contact Wayne Delcambre for Details: 337.519.0462

MEN'S RETREAT | MARCH 19TH-22ND

Disch-DeClouet Social Service Center

Annual Campaign

The Disch-DeClouet Social Service Center is a non-profit organization staffed by 40 dedicated volunteers. The Center has served the poor and needy of Iberia Parish providing for critical and basic human needs (food, clothing, utility and rent assistance, and other help) for over 40 years. Last year alone, over 12,000 persons - our neighbors - were served.

We are conducting our Annual Campaign which will run through the Lenten Season and we need your help. We ask that you prayerfully consider investing in those less fortunate by sharing your gifts. It is only through your additional financial support that we are able to maintain the level of service that we have been giving for many years.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation and may God bless you for your generosity. Thank you!



— Johnny Indest
 Executive Director

THE ENTHRONEMENT OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Enthroning the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a way to continue on your spiritual journey. The Enthronement is a way to increase your love and devotion for Jesus and bring abundant graces upon you, your family, your friends and all aspects of your life! You can enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your home, your office, over your vocation, over your business...allow Jesus to be King and Head of your life!

Requests of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary

- ♥ Acknowledge Jesus as your King
- ♥ Place an image of the Sacred Heart in your home
- ♥ Consecrate your heart to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- ♥ Make reparation to Jesus for indifference and hostility to Him
- ♥ Live a life of love and confidence in Him
- ♥ Make the Sacred Heart of Jesus better known and loved
- ♥ Increase devotion to the Holy Eucharist
- ♥ Celebrate First Fridays

The Twelve Promises of the Sacred Heart given to St. Margaret Mary

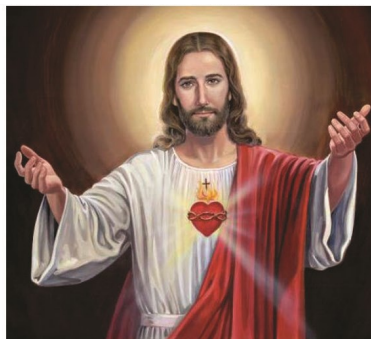
- ♥ I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
- ♥ I will establish peace in their families.
- ♥ I will bless every home in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.
- ♥ I will console them in all their difficulties.
- ♥ I will be their refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
- ♥ I will shed abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
- ♥ Sinners shall find in My Heart a fountain and boundless ocean of mercy.
- ♥ Tepid souls shall become fervent.
- ♥ Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
- ♥ I will give to priests the power of touching the hardest hearts.
- ♥ Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart never to be blotted out.
- ♥ I promise you, in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all who communicate on the First Friday of the month for nine consecutive months the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My displeasure nor without their last Sacraments: "My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment."



**For more information contact:
Malise Buford**

**Apostolate of the Sacred Heart
Coordinator - Lafayette Diocese**

**337-380-1276 — tbuford@cox.net
www.sacredheartapostolate.com**



An Enduring Consensus

For more than 40 years, Americans have supported the Hyde Amendment's ban on federal funding of abortion

by Helen M. Alvaré

Regardless of political party, race, sex and even whether a person identifies as “pro-life” or “pro-choice,” clear points of consensus exist in the abortion debate. Polling by the Knights of Columbus and Marist College Institute for Public Opinion has found year after year that a majority of Americans support substantial restrictions on abortion. And one strong point of agreement is that elective abortions should not be paid for by taxpayer dollars.

The Hyde Amendment, which prohibits federal funding for abortions except in rare circumstances, has passed both houses of Congress since 1976 and secured the signatures of Presidents Reagan, Bush, Clinton, George W. Bush, Obama and Trump. Numerous polls show that this bipartisan consensus persists among U.S. voters today, despite high-profile defections among presidential hopefuls.

The Hyde Amendment first passed in 1976 as an amendment or “rider” to the federal spending law that funds Medicaid, the low-income health insurance program. According to reliable estimates, Medicaid had spent \$300 million on abortions since the *Roe v. Wade* decision three years earlier.

Efforts to pass a constitutional human life amendment were not succeeding, and first-term Illinois Congressman Henry Hyde, a longtime Knight of Columbus, concluded that one way to reduce abortion was to reduce its funding. Proposing the legislation in the House of Representatives in June 1976, he told

lawmakers, “We seek to inhibit the use of federal funds to pay for and thus encourage abortion as an answer to the human and compelling problem of an unwanted child.”

He concluded his impassioned speech with these words: “An innocent, defenseless human life, in a caring and humane society, deserves better than to be flushed down a toilet or burned in an incinerator. The promise of America is that life is not just for the privileged, the planned or the perfect.”



The amendment passed with strong bipartisan support by a vote of 207 to 167. It was immediately challenged but eventually went into effect in 1980, after the Supreme Court confirmed that it did not violate *Roe v. Wade* — since *Roe* didn't promise to fund the constitutional right it announced. The Court also held that the amendment did not represent an “establishment of religion,” which is forbidden by the First Amendment. Opposition to abortion corresponds to the beliefs of many religions, but it is primarily a question of human rights, not of religion.

Because the Hyde Amendment is a “rider” to the funding bill, it requires a vote every year. Hyde shouldered the annual burden of getting his amendment passed through 2006. He

retired in January 2007, after his 15th term, and died the following November at age 83.

Over the years, bipartisan support for the amendment inspired Congress to put abortion limits into other federal health care programs beyond Medicaid, including those covering the military and federal employees.

Despite demands by many Democratic presidential candidates today to repeal the Hyde Amendment, a majority of Americans, including many Democrats, continue to support it. A June 2019 article in the left-leaning magazine *Slate* summarized U.S. voters' opinions: “In every poll, a plurality of Americans opposes public funding of abortions. In every poll but one, that plurality is a majority.”

Slate cited numerous sources, including the most recent Knights of Columbus/Marist poll, which found that 54% opposed tax funding for abortions while only 39% support it. A 2019 *Politico*/Morning Consult poll showed that even among registered Democratic female voters, more support (41%) than oppose (39%) the Hyde Amendment. The article noted, “These polls aren't close. The average gap between the pro-funding and anti-funding positions is 19 percentage points.”

The Hyde Amendment is a reflection of and excellent outlet for Americans' profound moral discomfort with abortion. Because of *Roe v. Wade*, citizens cannot effectively ban the abortion of unborn human lives, but thanks to Hyde, nor are they forced to pay for it. It is up to voters to hold elected officials accountable and ensure this ban on federal funding of abortion continues to be respected.

Helen M. Alvaré is professor of law at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, and co-founder of the movement Women Speak for Themselves.

Standing Firm Before a Slippery Slope

Religious leaders, doctors and disability advocates speak out against physician-assisted suicide

by Peter Wolfgang

Physician-assisted suicide is now legal in nine states and Washington, D.C. Maine is the most recent state to allow it, with the law going into effect January 1. Advocates say such laws show compassion for the dying. In reality, vulnerable populations are facing greater pressure to end their lives. The more assisted suicide is accepted, the more “the right to die” will become, for many, a duty to die.

Despite the legal and cultural forces promoting acceptance of assisted suicide, the Roman Catholic Church is holding fast to the dignity of the human person and the integrity of medicine. And the Church is not alone in condemning these laws; professional medical associations, other religious leaders and advocates for people with disabilities — including the Knights of Columbus — have all vocally opposed physician-assisted suicide in recent months.

Many professional medical organizations, including the World Medical Association and American Medical Association, oppose the killing of the terminally ill or those thought to be terminally ill. On October 26, the WMA reaffirmed its long-held stance on physician-assisted suicide at its 70th general assembly: “The WMA reiterates its strong commitment to the principles of medical ethics and that utmost respect has to be maintained for human life. Therefore, the WMA is firmly opposed to euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide.”

The declaration went on to address physicians’ conscience rights: “No

physician should be forced to participate in euthanasia or assisted suicide, nor should any physician be obliged to make referral decisions to this end.”

Two days later at the Vatican, representatives of the Catholic and Orthodox churches issued a joint statement with Jewish and Muslim leaders on “matters concerning the end of life.” While recognizing the difficult dilemmas of end-of-life decisions, the statement was unequivocal: “Euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide are inherently and consequentially morally and religiously wrong and should be forbidden with no exceptions.”



These two declarations came a couple of weeks after the National Council on Disability underscored the harmful effects of assisted suicide laws on people with disabilities.

In a report titled “The Dangers of Assisted Suicide Laws,” the independent U.S. federal agency warned that “if assisted suicide is legal, some people’s lives, particularly those of people with disabilities, will be ended without their fully informed and free consent, through mistakes, abuse, insufficient knowledge and the unjust lack of better options.”

Following the report’s release October 9, NCD Chairman Neil Romano stated, “Assisted suicide laws are premised on the notion of additional choice for people at the end

of their lives, however in practice, they often remove choices when the low-cost option is ending one’s life.”

Significantly, the study found that unmet service and support needs — not pain — is the primary motivator of assisted suicide.

The agency’s report was particularly critical of the failure of purported safeguards. For example, it noted that insurers have denied treatment to patients but offered to subsidize lethal drugs instead — “potentially leading patients to hasten their own deaths.”

In addition to noting the effects of misdiagnoses and “financial and emotional pressures” on patient choice, the report also analyzed how often doctors referred patients seeking suicide for a psychological evaluation. Though depression often drives these requests, only 3.5% of those who reportedly died under Oregon’s assisted suicide law in 2017 were referred for an evaluation before a prescription for lethal drugs was written. The next year, only 1.8% were referred.

Protecting the weakest and most vulnerable among us defines who we are as Catholics and as Knights of Columbus. We have historically served and defended the poor, persons with disabilities and the sanctity of life, all of which are threatened by the effort to legalize assisted suicide and euthanasia.

In response, we must educate our neighbors and policymakers. We must work across political lines with people who understand that assisted suicide is bad public policy that puts vulnerable populations at risk.

Peter Wolfgang is executive director of the Family Institute of Connecticut (afamily.org) and a member of Knights of Columbus Fathers Duggan-Zebris Council 13424 in Waterbury, Connecticut.

Lenten Calendar of Events

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

February 26

[NOT a Holy Day of Obligation]

Confessions — 6:15 a.m.

Mass with Distribution of Ashes — 6:45 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

Confessions — 11:00 a.m.

Mass with Distribution of Ashes — 12:10 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass with Distribution of Ashes — 6:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

LENT WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Mondays

Confessions — 6:15 a.m.

Mass — 6:45 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

Tuesdays

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass — 5:30 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Wednesdays

Confessions — 6:15 a.m.

Mass — 6:45 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

Thursdays

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass — 5:30 p.m.

Way of the Cross — 6:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Fridays

Confessions — 6:15 a.m.

Mass — 6:45 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

Youth Way of the Cross — 3:30 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass — 5:30 p.m.

Way of the Cross — 6:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

LENT SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, March 3

Parish Mission — 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Brent Smith

Saint Joseph Church

Wednesday, March 4

Parish Mission — 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Brent Smith

Saint Joseph Church

Thursday, March 19

Solemnity of Saint Joseph

[Diocese of Lafayette Year of Saint Joseph Begins]

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass — 6:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Altar and Parish Family Supper — 6:45 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Saturday, March 28

First Communion

Mass — 10:00 a.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Sunday, April 5

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Tenebrae Service — 7:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church

Holy Thursday, April 9

Chrim Mass — 10:30 a.m.

Cathedral of Saint John, Lafayette

Adoration Chapel Closes — 4:45 p.m.

Confessions — 5:00 p.m.

Mass of the Lord's Supper — 6:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph and Our Lady of Victory Church

Nocturnal Adoration — 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph and Our Lady of Victory Church

Good Friday, April 10

Confessions — 2:00 p.m.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion — 3:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph and Our Lady of Victory Church

Holy Saturday, April 11

Easter Vigil Mass — 8:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph and Our Lady of Victory Church

**[Ancient Church Tradition does not allow Masses
before Sunset on this day]**

Easter Sunday, April 12

Mass — 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Saint Joseph Church

[Mass — 9:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church]

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19

Hour of Mercy — 3:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church



DAVID FUNERAL HOMES

229-8338

www.davidfuneralhome.org

GRANGER EYE STUDIO
107 Centre Sarcelle Blvd.
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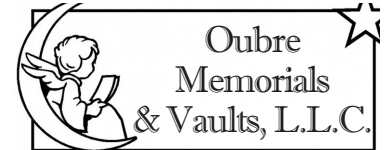
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