



## 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 Roland Jeanlouis, Pastoral Associate

[pastor@stjosephparishonline.org](mailto:pastor@stjosephparishonline.org)

[stjosephparishonline.org](http://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 and Friday — 6:45 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory

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

Wednesday — 6:45 a.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. 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.

If possible please conduct parish business by phone or email.

### RECEPTIONIST/BOOKKEEPER/CEMETERIAN

Mrs. Gail Borel — [gail.borel@stjosephparishonline.org](mailto:gail.borel@stjosephparishonline.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Sherry Hebert — [sherry.hebert@stjosephparishonline.org](mailto:sherry.hebert@stjosephparishonline.org)

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Adoration Chapel is open. The Main Church is also accessible from this entrance for your convenience.

### FUNERALS

Please contact the Church Office to make Funeral Service arrangements prior to your appointment with the Funeral Home.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Church Office to make arrangements for your child's Baptism.

### SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact the Church Office six months prior to the desired date of marriage. No dates for marriage are reserved until after the first marriage interview with clergy.

### SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the Church Office to set up an appointment.

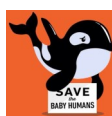


God of might, Giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of Your Name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, You may nurture in us what is good and, by Your watchful care, keep safe what You have nurtured.

### Please pray for our Priests, Seminarians and Deacons

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these special men. 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.

MINISTERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY			
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
September 9 4:00 p.m.	Claudette Thibodeaux	Roberta Degeyter	Volunteers
September 10 7:00 a.m.	Russell Steiner	Carolyn Roseberry	Volunteers
10:30 a.m.	Catherine Lejeune	Monica Delahoussaye	Volunteers



September 3	Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell/Giovanni Ranzino Dcn. Scotty Baudoin
September 4	Fr. Ryszard Kalinowski, SVD/Cole Zaunbrecher Dcn. Harris Bergeron
September 5	Fr. Andrew Killeen/Bennett Bodin Dcn. Glen Bertrand
September 6	Fr. Andrew Kirschman, SJ/Nicholas Broussard Dcn. Jose Blanco
September 7	Fr. Mark Kramer, SJ/Haden Coleman Dcn. Reggie Bollich
September 8	Fr. Clifton Labbe, SVD/Brent Didier Dcn. Dwayne Boudreaux
September 9	Fr. Donovan Labbe/Carter Domingue Dcn. Gerald Bourg

### Please pray for our parish family members who are sick:

Stuart Sandoz, Duffy Domingue, Eric Clements, Trevor Louviere, Austin Willett, Willey Poirrier, Butch White, Lydia May, Rowena Borel, Patricia Freyou, Lecia Broussard, Roshondra Nora, Noah Abraham, Chad Borel, Ashley Hebert, Stephen Dugas, Jade Delcambre, Pat Villermin, Ira Bourque, Brennan Wingfield, Betty Suire, Joe Judice,

Mike Habetz, Jamie Brady, Nona Bourque, Leroy Begnaud, Betty Champagne, Leroy and Gloria Courville, Anna Richard, Wayne LeBlanc, Melvin Broussard, June Granger, Max Borres, Vivian LeBlanc, Beckie LeBaron, Patricia Sorrell, David Dupuy, Hazel LeBlanc, Ava Rose and Olivia James Dworaczyk, Ray Broussard, Anne Adcock Hebert, Shyla

Romero, Bart Doucet, Ellenor Hebert, Jory L. Bernard, Annette Dugas, Kayla Barras Veronie, Jamie Ransonet, Robert LeBlanc, Sr., Kaylee Landry, Randy Dugas, Rudy Delcambre, Ted Habetz, Clarence Theriot, Junelle Jefferies, Robin Neuville, Fred Thibodeaux, Lucy Bernard, Leif Melancon, Charlie Berard, Allen Gondron, Rodney Prioux.

August 27, 2023	
Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes	\$ 4,390.00
Regular Sunday Offering Loose	\$ 3,099.00
Regular Collection Total	\$ 7,489.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,385.00
Difference	+\$ 104.00
Present Loan Balance	\$ 145,679.61
Donation Against Loan Balance	\$ 43.00
Insurance Balance 2023-2024	\$ 39,123.00
Insurance Collection	\$ 481.00

**Altar Flowers were donated in memory of**

Eric Champagne

**The Sanctuary Lamp is burning for**

The Community

**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**

Parishioners

**Saint Joseph Altar Candles are burning for** Vance Breaux Sr., Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Chad Romero, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Steve and Donna Berard Special Intention, Lynn and Theresa Delcambre Ancestors and Descendants, Domingue Family Special Intention, C.L. Romero, Mr. and Mrs. Collins Louviere, Kerney Louviere, Will and Lily Roberts, Dr. James Russell Romero, Anna Mae Judice, Eric Champagne, Special Intention.

## Mass Intentions — 9/2 — 9/8

**Saturday 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. StJo** — Robert Lee Prados, Lucille Breaux Prados, Nola Champagne, Ancestors and Descendants, Clyde Hebert, Lucille Landry Hebert, Audrie Delahoussaye, Ancestors and Descendants, Elivage Prados, Mathilda Prados, Becky Doucet, Ancestors and Descendants, Eric Champagne, Lenwood and Mable Delcambre Family, Orford and Mary Lou Breaux Family, Carroll Delcambre, Suzette Judice, Nancy Meuneir, Mark D. Tauzin, Edmond “Ray” Broussard, JoAnne N. Broussard, Jean and Noelle Laviolette Family, Antoine and Marie Judice Family, Earl and Jeannette Guidry, Louis and Elbay Judice, Rachel Ransonet Romero, Jimmy Clifton, Robert Judice, Sr. Family, John Vedia and Barbara Ann Ozenne Perez, Antoine “Boy” LeBlanc Family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Albert Sr., Lynn and Theresa Delcambre Family, Ancestors and Descendants, Sidney, Margaret, Craig Breaux, Pauline Guidry, Jeremy Savoy, Family, Clyde Hebert, Lucille Landry Hebert, Billie J. Bodin, Lawrence Melancon, Felicie Gaudet, Dr. Harold and Kathleen Heitkamp, Boo Castille, Dr. James Russell Romeo, Robert Judice, Sr., Joe Escagne, Sam and Glo Delcambre, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Roslie LeJeune, John Lacour, Special Intention, Gloria Albert (Special Intention), Ossie Romero, Jr., Daisy and Perfice Armentor, Billy Degeyter, Chester “Butch” Gonsoulin and Parents, Mutchie Ransonet, Sady and Daisy Ransonet, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Nola Champagne, Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Landry and Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Chad Romero, Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Audrey Crochet, Paul Crochet Family, Jordan Prince and Special Intention, Vance Breaux Sr., Sally Domingue, Cabrol and Domingue Family, Dr. John Rellus Hebert, Perry J. Judice, Lorrain Breaux Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Albert Rodriguez, Clarence and Hilda Landry, Otto, Sr. and Laurence Girouard, Terradot Family, Theresa

Girouard Allen, Melvin Dugas, Roy Sr. and Gladys Berard, Lloyd and Anne Broussard, Simon and Felicie Granger, Forbus and Myrtle Mestayer, Kay Dooley and William and Dolores Dooley, Kim Decuir, Leed and Mabel Gondron, Forgotten Souls in Purgatory, Rickie Oubre, Rachel Ransonet Romero, Henry and Renella Pelafigue and Josh, Roland and Pee Wee Broussard, Virginia Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Cloures Dugas, Mr. and Mrs. John Prados, Sr., John Michael Steiner, Jay Gonsoulin Family, Paul Sonnier Family and Clyde Warfel Family, Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry, Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Joe and Rita Habetz, Mary Kay Habetz, Tom Voorhies, Tommy Breaux, Jennings Fournet, Maude Granger and Benny and Glo Granger, Harriette Boudreaux, Mark Tauzin, Jeanne and Albert Broussard Family, Mayor Al, Lora Bloom, Noelle Seneca, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Boudreaux, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger, Dr. Raymond Schneider, Elaine Schneider, Skip Schneider, Lolly Harbin, Lovell Romero, Tim Edler, Ronald Judice, Elaine Villermin, Jan Bourque, Justin Boudreaux, Lawrence Albert, Louto and Anite Gondron Family, C.L. Romero, Rickie Oubre, Kathleen Arceneaux, Debbie Roy, Julie Lanclos, Eric and Freddie Suire, Janice Mestayer, Deanna and Alton Gondron, Rickie Oubre, Larry Crochet, Keri Bonin Boutte, Bonin and Boutte Family, Loretta Judice VanBrooklin, Matthew Thibeaux, Louis Thibeaux Family, Edmond Lancon Family, Viator and Judice Fly, Loto Louviere, Jr., Gam Gondron Family, Clyde Dressel, Judy Judice, Beauregard Judice, Gondron and Deville Family Ancestors and Descendants, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Wayne Guillory and Mathilde Romero, Horace and Sylvia Thibodeaux, Pliny and Carolyn Breaux Walet, Cathy Defelice, Tracey Defelice Guilbeau, Sandra Angelle and Glenn Angelle, Solari Family, Wade & Lou Dupre, Aline Smith, Derrick Taylor, Nellie Hebert Arceneaux, Sara Escamilla, Trenace Songe, Myra Starr, Brian Robichaux, Jane Watkins, Claire Landry, Lee Villarrubia, Milton Martinez, Bishop Warren Boudreaux, Bishop Joseph Latino, Msgr. John Newfield, Msgr. Francis Amedee, Msgr. Andrew Frey, Rev. Albert Richardson, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Fr. Varin Slacke OFM, Deacon Mel Marts, Ruben Rogers, Elizabeth Capps Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Clotilde Rogers, Alfred Crochet, Claude Hebert, Cecile Hebert, Deacon Jay Bergeron, Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sue Crochet, Francis Crochet.

**Sunday 7:00 a.m. StJo** — *Pro Populo* Saint Joseph & Our Lady of Victory

**Monday 6:45 a.m. OLV** — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Brian Derouen.

**Tuesday 5:30 p.m. StJo** — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Lynn and Theresa Delcambre Family, Ancestors and Descendants, Jason Suarez Family, Cameron Barrilleaux Family, Destani Armstong Family.

**Wednesday 6:45 a.m. StJo** — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne, Families Ancestors and Descendants, Judice and Walet Family, Herman Walet, Roy and Michael Thibodeaux, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, John Michael Steiner, Andrew “Toupee” Bonin, Francis Crochet, Jacque Braquet.

**Thursday 5:30 p.m. StJo** — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious,



Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants.

**Friday 6:45 a.m. OLV** — Lloyd and Maudrey Landry, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families Ancestors and Descendants, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priests, Religious, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Judice and Walet Families, Gloria Stoltz, Glenda Guidry, Patricia Gachassin, Anna Mae and Ronald Judice Family, Lorena Dupoy, Janice Mestayer, Glen Martin, Judy Douet, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Lynn and Theresa Delcambre, Ancestors and Descendants.

### Saint Theresse of Lisieux's Prayer for Priests



O Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body. Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood. Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood. Let Your holy love surround them

and shield them from the world's contagion. Bless their labors with abundant fruit and may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown.



**The Catholic Daughters will have their monthly meeting on the second Thursday of each month, at 4:30 p.m. in Saint Theresa Hall.**



Father Crochet will be hosting **Adult Religious Education on Tuesday, September 12 in the Saint Joseph Church Rectory**  
**Everyone is invited. No registration necessary.**

### IBERIA PARISH REGISTRAR OF VOTERS EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

**October 14, 2023 Election**

All dates are 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday September 30, 2023

Monday October 2, 2023

Tuesday October 3, 2023

Wednesday October 4, 2023

Thursday October 5, 2023

Friday October 6, 2023

Saturday October 7, 2023

*Dates are subject to change by the legislature*



St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
**19th Annual**

Family Fun

# TAILGATING COOK-OFF

Cajun Roots 1-3pm

Catholic Mass 4 pm

Side Show 5-9 pm

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

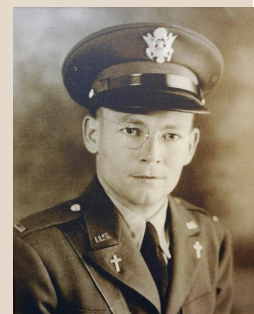
Loreauville Park | Free Admission  
No Ice Chests | No Golf Carts/ATVs

Great Food

Sponsors, Cooking Teams & Cornhole Teams registrations are open!  
Volunteers are Needed for the Ticket Booth!  
Volunteers can sign up by calling Claire Richard (337) 578-4930.  
Email us at [tailgatingcookoff@yahoo.com](mailto:tailgatingcookoff@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Servant of God Joseph Verbis Lafleur Annual Memorial Mass

The *Friends of Lt. Fr. Lafleur* request your presence at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2023, for the celebration of a Memorial Mass at Saint Landry Catholic Church in Opelousas as we commemorate the 79th Anniversary of the death of Lt. Father Joseph Verbis Lafleur, Chaplain-United States Army Air Corps. The Celebrant and Homilist will be Rev. Father Michael Richard, JCL, who serves as Historical Commission Chairperson for the promotion of the Cause. Also in attendance will be Bishop Douglas Deshotel with priests and deacons of the Diocese of Lafayette and surrounding Dioceses.



Joseph Verbis Lafleur was born in Ville Platte on January 24, 1912. Later, he would move with his family to nearby Opelousas, where he faithfully served as an altar boy at Saint Landry Catholic Church during his youth; and where he also celebrated his first Solemn Mass following his ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette in 1938. Fr. Lafleur's first and only diocesan assignment was to Saint Mary Magdalen Church in Abbeville. He soon joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1941 and was sent to serve at Clark Field in the Philippine Islands before the United States entered the War.

Lt. Father Lafleur was taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese and chose to stay with his men rather than be evacuated. His days were spent offering daily Mass in the prison camp, working as a slave laborer with the men, attending to the wounded, hopeless and dying. On September 7, 1944, he and several hundred other prisoners were killed when their transport ship was torpedoed. Father Lafleur's body was never recovered. Statements by survivors report that he was last seen aiding others to escape the sinking ship, refusing to leave the last of them. For his heroic military service, Father Lafleur was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Purple Heart, and Bronze star for his valor. In October of 2017 he was posthumously awarded another Distinguished Service Cross and a second Purple Heart. On September 5, 2020, Lt. Father Joseph Verbis Lafleur's Cause for Beatification and Canonization was opened and he was declared, Servant of God.



# Thank you for BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

DIocese  
OF LAFAYETTE  
Centennial Campaign

FINAL REPORT



**\$4,394,029**

**Catholic Student Centers**

Given the opportunity to grow in their faith and knowledge, Catholic college students can belong to a positive community and come to know God all in one place. It is in this space they find support in understanding how to weave together their spiritual lives with their new social and cultural ones. This personal development is crucial to their formation into mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

Your gifts to the Centennial Campaign have supported this stage in Catholic development. Significant enhancements to the Catholic student centers and chapels at both LSU-Eunice and UL Lafayette are underway to provide an even more inviting and Christ-centered college experience.



**\$10,972,118**

**Local Parish Initiatives**

At the very core of the *Centennial Campaign: Building our Future Together*, are local parishes. This is where we each enter Church and grow closer to God through the Mass and Sacraments. This spiritual home is where we enjoy fellowship and form our children in our Catholic Faith. These churches, begun over the last century by our Catholic ancestors who sacrificed mightily, each face challenges and opportunities. The largest commitment in this Campaign supports our Diocesan parishes so that they may benefit the communities they serve. From facility expansion to renovation, from debt-reduction to an increase in ministries and services, your gifts to the Centennial Campaign have supported your church parish to encourage an abundant and vibrant parish life.



**\$9,054,293**

**Seminarian Education**

**75-80% of our seminarians are formed and educated at St. Joseph's Seminary College and Notre Dame Seminary**

We've asked God for laborers and prayed for vocations. Your response to His fidelity with your generosity ensures that financial resources are available to educate and support those who've answered the Lord's call.

Over the past decade, the Diocese of Lafayette has consistently put forth the strongest number of seminarians per capita in the United States. We were recently listed as one of only thirteen dioceses in the U.S. with a "very healthy" vocational status.

At the start of the campaign, our *Diocesan Seminarian Education Endowment Fund* offered a limited amount annually to our line-item budget for seminarian education. Your gifts significantly strengthened the endowment, providing greater resources to support our seminarians.

Additionally, 75 to 80 percent of our seminarians are formed and educated at St. Joseph's Seminary College in Covington and Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. Because of your gifts to the Centennial Campaign, we've been able to fully fund our partner contribution to their *"I Will Give You Shepherds Seminarian Campaign"* for capital improvements. These extensive renovations provide expanded and upgraded housing and learning facilities for our seminarians as they go through their priestly formation.



**\$8,054,293**

**Priest Retirement**

Having devoted their lives to the service of God and the ministry of His flock, our elderly priests often continue to live their vocation beyond retirement. No longer assigned to a parish, their load is lightened, yet they seek to remain faithful servants. The Diocese pays an equitable pension to our retired priests and provides for those who need assistance later in life.

Through your gifts to the Centennial Campaign, *The Priests Welfare Trust* has been fortified and the Continuum of Care remains active for our "Silver Shepherds." This includes long-term care insurance, a burial policy and a unique partnership with LHC Group that provides for in-home wellness checks. Our retirees are able to stay longer in their own homes as they prefer. If the need arises for group care, that is covered, too.



"You joined thousands of Catholics across the Diocese of Lafayette to ensure a bright future for our diocesan faith community. Thank you for your devotion to preserving the legacy of our Catholic faith."

— MOST REVEREND J. DOUGLAS DESHOTEL, 2023, BISHOP OF LAFAYETTE



**\$3,765,674**

**Catholic Outreach Services**

The establishment of the *Matthew 25 Endowment for Service to the Poor* is rooted in the Bible's call to us to serve others. Focused on capacity-building for parish-based social service ministries, grants are awarded from the interest on this endowment. It is in this gift that you share in feeding, clothing, caring for and welcoming others who find themselves in their greatest moments of need.

Matthew 25 Grants have funded 39 projects since 2022.

**"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."**

— MATTHEW 25:40

Catholic Charities of Acadiana's New Life Center, an emergency shelter and transitional housing for women and children, was at maximum service capacity. The Centennial Campaign contribution with some private donations provided for the establishment of *Emily House*, a newly renovated and expanded facility at a new location.

CCA's *Deaf Action Center* works with persons affected by hearing loss, providing invaluable interpretive services for churches, schools, hospitals, behavioral health facilities, and both district and federal courts. Their aging facility had become a barrier to the services they provided.

Your generosity to the Centennial Campaign fully funded the goals for the Emily House and for the Deaf Action Center's relocation. It also provided a substantial gift to the St. Joseph Hardship Fund for Covid Relief.



Diocese of Lafayette	Saint Joseph Church
Total Goal — \$ 42,500,000	242 Donors
Total Paid — \$ 36,240,407	Total Goal — \$ 460,000
Rebates paid out — \$ 10,972,118	Total Pledged — \$ 572,205
	Total Paid — \$ 422,938
	74% of Pledges were paid
	92% of Goal was met

*Dear Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for the abundant blessings that you've bestowed upon us. Your grace and mercy are limitless.*

*Thank you, Father, for your unfailing and eternal love. We humbly pray that we may become more like you.*

*Please continue to lead our Church and Diocese in supporting the works of Christ according to your will.*

*Let us always seek to imitate you, to be a reflection of you, and to see you in one another.*

*We beseech you, Lord, to continue to show us your way with your gentle hand of guidance and your everlasting love.*

*Amen*

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE



# The Month of September is Dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows

**The Fifteen Prayers of Saint Bridget of Sweden are an excellent form of prayer to begin during the month of September. The books can be found at all entrances to the Church.**



These Prayers and these Promises have been copied from a book printed in Toulouse in 1740. Pope Pius IX took cognizance of these Prayers with the prologue; he approved them May 31, 1862, recognizing them as true and for the good of souls.

As Saint Bridget for a long time wanted to know the number of blows Our Lord received during His Passion, He one day appeared to her and said: "I received 5480 blows on My Body. If you wish to honor them in some way, say 15 Our Fathers and 15 Hail Marys with the following Prayers (which He taught her) for a whole year. When the year is up,

you will have honored each one of My Wounds.

He further made the following promises to anyone who recited these Prayers for a whole year:

1. I will deliver 15 souls of his lineage from Purgatory.
2. 15 souls of his lineage will be confirmed and preserved in grace.
3. 15 sinners of his lineage will be converted.
4. Whoever recites these Prayers will attain the first degree of perfection.
5. 15 days before his death I will give him My Precious Body in order that he may escape eternal starvation; I will give him My Precious Blood to drink lest he thirst eternally.
6. 15 days before his death he will feel a deep contrition for all his sins and will have a perfect knowledge of them.
7. I will place before him the sign of My Victorious Cross for his help and defense against the attacks of his enemies.
8. Before his death I shall come with My Dearest Beloved Mother.
9. I shall graciously receive his soul, and will lead it into eternal joys. And having led it there I shall give him a special draught from the fountain of My Deity, something I will not for those who have not recited My Prayers.
10. Let it be known that whoever may have been living in a state of mortal sin for 30 years, but who will recite devoutly, or have the intention to recite these Prayers, the Lord will forgive him all his sins.
11. I shall protect him from strong temptations.
12. I shall preserve and guard his 5 senses.
13. I shall preserve him from a sudden death.
14. His soul will be delivered from eternal death.
15. He will obtain all he asks for from God and the Blessed Virgin.
16. If he has lived all his life doing his own will and he is to die the next day, his life will be prolonged.
17. Every time one recites these Prayers he gains 100 days indulgence.
18. He is assured of being joined to the supreme Choir of Angels.
19. Whoever teaches these Prayers to another, will have continuous joy and merit which will endure eternally.
20. There where these Prayers are being said or will be said in the future God is present with His grace.

## Saint Augustine's Two Trees

by Robert Royal

This past Monday we celebrated the Feast of Saint Augustine — and also my late mother's birthday. I don't think she ever read a word of Augustine's, but she may have caught wind of Saint Monica's tears over her young son (as recounted in **Confessions**) ... and made the connection to her own son's adolescent waverings. In any case, when you read Augustine, it's almost impossible not to see parallels with your own life, and in a deeply personal way. Aquinas is primarily the great master of the mind, Augustine the passionate guide to the heart.

The very first page of **Confessions**, of course, contains his much-quoted line: "You made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." You can read that as simply a pious expression, and no harm. (When I teach Augustine, though, I warn students not to assume they already know what "heart" signifies here.) If you read on, you get a profound exposition — amidst a story of worldly temptations and ambitions, intellectual and spiritual confusions, as powerful then as they are now — of what those seemingly simple words mean.

Social commentators sometimes talk about how "the world has lost its story," meaning we no longer know *why* we exist as persons or societies. At bottom, the story we've lost is the Biblical view of history. As a result, the stories we substituted for it — enlightenment, national greatness, economic progress, even science — which depended on there being a sense and direction to life, no longer have any real substance.

And it shows. Desperate attempts at establishing "identity" by latching on to race and gender "communities," or engaging in environmental or political crusades, are in the end, modern manifestations of unquiet hearts.

In a way, even a massive work like **City of God**, written to refute the charge that Rome's abandoning of the pagan gods for Christianity led to its sacking in 410 by the Visigoths, reflects Augustine's belief that our confidence in our own powers, independent of God, to establish perfect justice on earth is just another delusion we hope will quiet our restlessness.

Augustine's **Confessions** first narrates what it's like to lose the world's true story and flail around. He weaves much philosophy and theology — and astute psychology — into the drama of his own life and conversion, which involved some of the great figures of his time — prominent philosophers, religious leaders, politicians, Saint Ambrose, even the Roman emperor, many friends and ordinary folk.

But his personal story finally makes sense only when he recovers the larger story, a natural subject for fiction writers. Louis de Wohl, half a century ago, wrote a still-interesting novel about Augustine, **The Restless Flame**. And the young Augustine's concubine, unnamed in **Confessions**, has received imaginative treatment in Suzanne Wolfe's **The Confessions of X**.

Fr. Aidan Nichols O. P., with a humility rare among great scholars, bluntly admits, "With the possible exception of Cicero, more is known about Saint Augustine than about any other figure from Antiquity. We know far too much about him for that knowledge to be readily manageable."

Yet Nichols, in **The Singing Masters: Church Fathers from Greek East and Latin West**, manages marvelously.

Still, what's to be learned from a man who died 1600 years ago, in a time and place so different from our own that it takes a serious effort — of imagination as well as study — just to begin to understand what he was all about?

Well, perhaps the first thing is that despite all those differences there's much that speaks, with sharp immediacy, to us because — *pace* the proud progressives of all ages — many human things don't change.

Fr. Nichols sums it up as a tale of "two trees."

The first, the pear tree that Augustine and his teenage posse stole fruit from, early in **Confessions**, not because they were hungry, or the pears were good (they weren't), but out of casual perversity. The deepest refutation of what we now call being "woke" is the classical and Christian belief that human hearts, all human hearts including the most "woke," waver between good and — to use the tight term — evil.

In the ancient world, people were so aware of evil that a religion developed —

Manichaeism — that posited two gods, one good and one evil. Augustine spent around a decade embroiled in this false faith until he thought his way through — and out. But many others did not. Fr. Nichols says, "The fullest set of Manichee writings are in Chinese, testifying that the 'Religion of Light' spread quite as far eastward as it did westward. From Algeria to China, it was Christianity's main competitor until the rise of Islam."

The pear tree, like the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil, tells a deep story. Ultimately, it isn't society, or economic conditions, or your family that explain your bad behavior, because any imperfections to be found among them stem from the same human source: restless hearts attracted to good and evil.

But there's another tree in the story. At the moment of his conversion, "I flung myself down, how, I *know* not, under a certain fig-tree," says Augustine. (Bk. VIII) Fr. Nichols notices what many of us might overlook: that the second tree is a fig tree, and it was from fig leaves that Adam and Eve fashioned themselves coverings after they sinned and felt naked.

Augustine no doubt had this in mind. And so what's about to happen is precisely a reversal of the direction that we took that fatal day in Eden.

Which happens every time someone is converted — turns in the right direction, recovers the world's story, which is also our own personal story, and finds peace of heart.

Robert Royal is editor-in-chief of *The Catholic Thing* and president of the Faith & Reason Institute in Washington, D.C. His most recent books are **Columbus and the Crisis of the West** and **A Deeper Vision: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition in the Twentieth Century**.





## Is Our Government “Adequate” For Today’s Citizenry? by John M. Grondelski

We live in a time when Caesar (at least in his “democratic” versions) professes to be agnostic about God. It’s also a time when growing numbers of people couldn’t tell you where the idea of “God and Caesar” comes from. So when we Christians talk about “rendering” each his due, we are speaking a language Caesar and his minions no longer understand. The issue is whether we are talking *to* or *past* each other.

Closely allied to that question is whether the citizenry we have can make sense of our system of government. Writing to the Massachusetts Militia in 1798, John Adams made his famous observation that “our Constitution was made for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

Adams could assume our Constitution was made for religious people because, 18<sup>th</sup> Century Enlightenment thought notwithstanding, a critical mass of American thought still coasted along on remnants of faith and morals that ultimately came from Catholicism. But like many other revolutionaries who claimed to be just reformers, the Founders assumed (wrongly) that the theological adjustments they made would not affect the rest of the order in which they operated. Removing the God of Creation *and Redemption* and replacing Him with the real absence of Deism is not going to give you the robust God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Jesus.

That one cannot tinker “over here” without affecting “over there” was already evident with Luther. He abandoned a real order of being and good in favor of nominalism. In that perspective, there was nothing intrinsically “good” or “evil” about “good” or “evil.” They were merely commands that reflect God’s omnipotent will. God goes from a Creator of reality to a divine labeler: truth is good, lying is bad.

But when people’s faith in God wanes, less-than-omnipotent men usually step into the void and, in this case, took over the divine labeling function. From there the trip to moral relativism (and its dictatorship) is faster than you can say “intersectional gender binary safe space!”

And when the God of Providence goes on an extended vacation, leaving a windup clockmaker’s universe behind, who misses Him after a while? It’s not God leading

history; history suddenly has its own “arc” that “bends” (consciously? semi-consciously? unconsciously?) towards “justice” (meaning whatever *cause du jour* you want to stick that name on).

Justice William Douglas observed in *Zorach v. Clauson* that “we are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being.” But what if those institutions that presuppose God are administered by and serve people who are *not* religious? Does that Constitution still even make sense?

Let me offer an observation. One way in which the American Constitution has historically been considered a masterpiece is in its checks and balances. In many ways, the system was designed to hinder rather than help doing things. If things were to get done, they would take time, deliberation, and effort to build consensus across a variety of interests and a diversity of principles and representation, not all of which were reducible to “one man, one vote.”

Arguably, the genius of Constitutional checks and balances had a religious origin: the doctrine of Original Sin. The Founders wanted to check what people could do because they were aware that people are more prone to do evil rather than good, to be selfish rather than selfless. The occasional Deist enlightenment thinker like Jefferson might have warmed to Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s illusions that civilization, not sin, warps man. But the mainstream Founders — especially those who took their Protestantism seriously — held to a more realistic (albeit pessimistic) vision of human possibilities after the Fall.

In our day, when Original Sin is regarded as a religious superstition, history is on automatic pilot, and all dogs and people go to Heaven, do checks and balances still make sense?

Are they not, rather, vestiges of “privilege” (especially for dead white American males) frustrating all the “good” things government could do if “minority rule” were not restraining it?

Is the idea that consensus has to be built not only by headcount but across geography and geographical differences, with all their local interests (the reason both the U.S. Senate and Electoral College exist) just another artifact frustrating equality and majority rule?

Is the very idea of a written Constitution that constrains what people can do today by measuring it against powers and limits

devised by people long dead alien to democracy — especially when those limits are interpreted not according to current predilections but on the basis of what they meant when people put them once-upon-a-time into force?

Christianity believes in a past, present, and future. The past — the time of the Old and New Testaments — is normative for measuring the present and sets the trajectory for the future. But does “passing on what you have received” make sense to a generation almost irretrievably mired in the immediate present?

Can our Constitution and the system of government it frames — one that “presupposes a moral and religious People” — survive if and when Nones acquire a critical mass?

The Founders’ generation extended the life of the religious remnants informing their culture by supporting at least some amalgam of “civil religion” that looked like mainstream, nondenominational Protestantism. That “religion” is now gone, as is the Protestant Mainline. For various reasons, as many observers have noted, the “Catholic Moment” that might have filled that vacuum never arrived.

While there still may be time to return to these issues, the warning light is on, and the car is cruising on fumes. Current religious trends are not encouraging. If the near total secularization of our people occurs, can our system of government — one “wholly inadequate” to a non-religious people — survive?

We may soon find ourselves testing that possibility.

John Grondelski (Ph.D., Fordham) is a former associate dean of the School of Theology, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. All views herein are exclusively his.





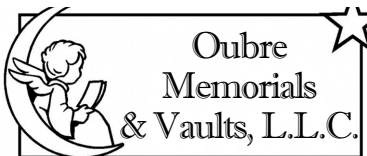
Serving Breakfast  
& Lunch

Tuesday-Friday  
5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday  
7:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday  
& Saturday Evenings  
5:00-9:00 p.m.

105 N. Main  
Street  
Loreauville



806 W. Washington St.  
New Iberia, LA 70560-4212

337-367-9260

**SOUTHERN GULF**  
HEATING & COOLING, LLC.  
MARINE, COMMERCIAL, & RESIDENTIAL

John Roseberry  
Co-Owner  
2014 N. Freeway Blvd  
New Iberia, LA 70560

Office (337) 967-9052  
Cell (337) 967-9263  
johnr@southerngulf.net

**R & R Glass Works**  
**Repairs & Installation**  
**Ricky Bourque, parishioner**  
**365-9311**

**St. Michael's**  
**SIGNS**

"Signs of All Kinds!"

Lynn & Theresa Delcambre, Owners  
Office: 229-4500 Fax: 229-4772



EQUIPMENT CENTER

"Acadiana's KUBOTA Headquarters Since 1973"

1511 Center Street • New Iberia, LA  
PH: 337-367-5296 • FX: 337-365-2163  
2402 Carmel Drive • Lafayette, LA  
PH: 337-233-5591 • FX: 337-332-6719



120 Main Street  
Loreauville, LA 70552  
Todd Simon – Owner  
229-6386

PLATE LUNCHES SOLD DAILY

**Specialty Storm Shutters**

Scott R. Guidry • 229-9792  
Operable & Decorative

**GRANGER**  
EYE STUDIO

107 Centre Sarcelle Blvd.  
Youngsville, LA 70592  
337-451-4511

Dr. Gary J. Granger, O.D.

HEALTHY EYES. CLEAR VISION.  
MUSIC TO YOUR EYES.

**Dugas Auto Repair**  
Service is our Business!  
Larry Louviere, Owner  
833 Center Street  
New Iberia, LA  
(337) 369-6482 wk  
(337) 369-1123 fax



229-8338  
www.davidfuneralhome.org

**CommunityFirst**  
**Bank**

www.cfirsrbank.com

302 N. Main St., Loreauville  
229-8000

**Bryan Judice**  
**Appraisals, LLC**

Louisiana State Certified  
Appraiser #0992  
FHA Approved

117 Crepe Myrtle Lane  
New Iberia, LA 70563

Office: 337-380-1866  
Fax: 337-229-8706

**BILLY GOAT**  
WELDING & FABRICATION

337-247-5081

STAINLESS STEEL – ALUMINUM – IRON

"Put this ole goat to work"

ALL LANDRY  
OWNER

**Dana Dugas**  
**Affordable Homes**  
4300 Hwy. 90  
New Iberia, Louisiana  
Phone: 367-6246



On Location / Turn  
Key  
-Metal Roofing

**THE**  
**CORNER**  
**GROCERY**

229-3033

1001 N. Main Street - Loreauville

Mon-Sat: 6 AM - 7 PM Sunday: 7 AM - 7 PM

Certified Angus Beef • Daily Plate Lunches • Sunday Bar-b-que  
Fresh Boudin & Cracklin • Homemade Hamburgers • Bulk Ice Machine  
Hunting & Fishing Licenses • Louisiana Lotto • Mobil Gas

For all your grocery needs and much more, come on by and see us.

**PREMIER**  
LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL LLC

RANDY RANSONET, Owner  
3125 Hwy 90 East  
Broussard, Louisiana  
337-837-1050

**T&R**  
**REPAIRS LLC**

229-6912

Small engine repair and care

**PRO-DRIVE**  
SHALLOW WATER OUTBOARDS

337-229-0034

www.prodriveoutboards.com

**Dillon Lasseigne**

**DMK Lawn**  
Services LLC

Call/Text (337) 321-3701  
Mowing, edging, trimming • Free estimates

**THE**  
**Bridge**  
CEMETERY

152 S. Richelieu Circle, New Iberia

337-380-3043

Robert "Bob" Hope  
Old School Construction/Carpenter  
380-3134

**PELLERIN**  
Funeral Home & Cremation Service

502 Jefferson Terrace Blvd.  
New Iberia, Louisiana 70560  
(337) 365-3331