

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 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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

EUCHARISTIC 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.

MINISTERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	
July 6 4:00 p.m.	Roberta Degeyter	Sandra Boudreaux	Volunteers	
July 7 7:00 a.m.	Sandy Sonnier	Carolyn Roseberry	Volunteers	
10:30 a.m.	Catherine LeJeune	Debbie Oubre	Volunteers	









O God, Who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright Light of Truth.

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.

June 30	Rev. William Schambough/Seth Dupre Den, Richard Picard		
July 1	Pope Francis/Rev. Blake Dubroc, Dir. Of Seminarians and Vocations		
July 1	Dcn. William Pollingue		
I.J. 0	Most. Rev. J. Douglas Deshotel, DD/Seminary Faculty,		
July 2	Parents and Benefactors/Dcn. Kyle Polozola		
Laber 2	Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell/John Michael Fruge, Jr.		
July 3	Dcn. John Wayne (Jake) Prejean		
Table 4	Rev. Bryce Sibley/Brother John Paul Fruge		
July 4	Dcn. Charles Richard		
TL 5	Rev. Gregory Simien/Brother Francis Xavier Gyles		
July 5	Dcn. Thomas Richard		
L-L-C	Very Rev. Brent Smith, VF/Cody Hebert		
July 6	Dcn. Steve Rogers		

Please pray for our parish family members who are sick:

Stuart Sandoz, Waylon Williams, Duffy Domingue, Eric Clements, Trevor Louviere, Austin Willett, Willey Poirrier, Butch White, Patricia Freyou, Lecia Broussard, Ashley Hebert, Stephen Dugas, Jade Delcambre, Pat Villermin, Brennan Wingfield, Betty Suire, Joe Judice, Mike Habetz, Nona Bourque, Leroy Begnaud, Betty Champagne, Leroy and Gloria

Courville, Wayne LeBlanc, Melvin Broussard, June Granger, Max Borres, Vivian LeBlanc, Beckie LeBaron, Patricia Sorrell, David Dupuy, Ava Rose and Olivia James Dworaczyk, Ray Broussard, Shyla Romero, Bart Doucet, Ellenor Hebert, Jory L. Bernard, Annette Dugas, Kayla Barras Veronie, Jamie Ransonet, Robert LeBlanc, Sr., Randy Dugas, Rudy Delcambre,

Ted Habetz, Clarence Theriot, Junelle Jefferies, Robin Neuville, Fred Thibodeaux, Lucy Bernard, Leif Melancon, Charlie Berard, Brad and James Clifton, Holly LeBlanc, Judy Theriot, Carl LeBlanc, Sophie Bonin Reese, Nelda Breaux, Mike Shield, Bernard Hebert, Jillian Faye Boudreaux, Marty LeBlanc, Bill Gonsoulin, Mark Ruly, Kaylee Landry.

June 23, 2024	
Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes	\$ 4,989.00
Regular Sunday Offering Loose	\$ 2,675.00
Regular Collection Total	\$ 7,664.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,385.00
Difference	+\$ 279.00
Present Loan Balance	\$ 129,096.61
Donation Against Loan Balance	\$ 50.00
Insurance Balance 2023-2024	\$ 30,616.00
Insurance Collection	\$ 242.00

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning For the Community

Flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of: Rogers and Jackie Courville, Mash Doucet, Roland Thibodeaux, Harry St. Pierre.

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

Saint Joseph Altar Candles are burning for: Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Vance Breaux, Sr., Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Chad Romero, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Shanie Edler Decuir, Steve and Donna Berard Special Intention, Domingue Family, Mr. and Mrs Collins Louviere, Kerney Louviere, Brook Burch, Will and Lily Roberts, Gene Louviere, Johnny Guinn, Justin Boudreaux, Katie Boutte, Lynn and Theresa Delcambre Ancestors and Descendants.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. StJo — Walter and Doris M. Judice, Joseph Donald "Don" Crochet, Earline Crochet, Dona Belle Mestayer, Robert Judice, Sr., Judice and Laviolette Families, Dr. James Russell Romero, Elton "Red" Boutte, Russell "Heavy" Derise, Herman and Pliny Walet, Dr. John Rellus Hebert, Perry J. Judice, Loraine Breaux Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Rachel Ransonet Romero, Jimmy Clifton, Brad and James Clifton (Rec.), John Howard Valls, John Valls, Jr., Elaine Hernandez Valls, Antoine "Boy" LeBlanc Family, Johnny and Rose Albert, Sidney Breaux Family, Craig Breaux, Pauline Guidry, John Vedia and Barbara Ann Ozenne Perez, Joe Escagne, Leed and Mable Gondron, Carl Wayne Judice, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Ronald Albert, 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, Sam and Glo Delcambre, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Albert Rodriguez, 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, Carl Wayne Judice, Leed and Mabel Gondron, Allen Gondron, Lilly and Billy Fontenot, Justin Boudreaux, Shanie Edler Decuir, Tim Edler, Edler Family, Ira and Jan Bourque Family, Joe Boudreaux, Mildred LeBlanc, Shanie Edler Decuir, Lynn Dugas, Sr., Meaghan Scully Langlois, Bobby Holtzclaw, Kathleen and Debbie Arceneaux, Elodie Patterson, Arceneaux and Mestayer Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Lula Mae Delahoussaye, Derek LeBlanc, Gerald "Goo Goo" Breaux, Mr. and Mrs. Clodis Huval, Mr. and Mrs. Alexis Delahoussaye Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Prosper, Lovell Romero, Henry and Renella and Josh Pelafigue, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, 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, Mr. and Mrs. John Prados, Maude Granger and Benny and Glo Granger, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger, Ossie Romero Jr., Daisy and Perfice Armentor, Shelton Joseph Freyou, Ella Desormeaux Freyou, Tim Edler, Hubert Richard Family and Eddie Edler Family, Rickie Oubre, Louto Louviere, Jr., Gam and Velma Gondron Family, Doris Roslie LeJeune Family, John Lacour Family, Special Intention, Larry Crochet, Matthew Thibeaux, Edmond Lancon Family, Louis Thibeaux Family, Keri Bonin Boutte, Bonin and Boutte Family, Clyde Dressel, Judy Judice, Beauregard Judice, Gondron and Deville Family Ancestors and Descendants, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Horace and Sylvia Thibodeaux, Sandra Angelle and Glenn Angelle, Granger Family, Wade & Lou Dupre, Gus Dupre, Barbara Sonnier, Steve Michel, Aline Smith, Dannette Taylor, 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, Rev. Kurian Kanat, 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.

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.

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, Huey Olivier Family, Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, John Michael Steiner, Justen Arceneaux, Roy and Michael Thibodeaux, Andrew "Toupee" Bonin, Bonin and Crochet Families.

Thursday 5:30 p.m. StJo — Rachael Ransonet Romero, Lilly May Richard, Shanie Edler Decuir, Tim Edler, 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, Suzette Judice, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants.

First Friday 6:45 a.m. StJo — Judice and Walet Families, Gam and Velam Gondron, Donna and Steve Berard, Ancestors and Descendants, Rhule, Mable and Wayne Gondron, 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.

First Saturday 8:00 a.m. OLV — Donna and Steve Berard, Ancestors and Descendants, 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, Wade & Lou Dupre, Gus Dupre, Barbara Sonnier, Steve Michel, Aline Smith, Dannette Taylor, Dernick 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, Rev. Kurian Kanat, 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.

America as a Place of Spiritual Renewal by Connor Scully

The American Church is often at the center of ridicule and criticism from those at the top. But Cardinal Sarah highly praised the American Church in his lecture titled "The Catholic Church's Enduring Answer To The Practical Atheism Of Our Age."

Practical atheism, as defined by His Eminence, is "a loss of sense of the Gospel and of the centrality of Jesus Christ." The practical atheist does not take the Faith seriously; he pushes it aside rather than keeping it as the center of his life. To him, the Faith is "treated as a hindrance to dialogue."

Throughout his talk, Cardinal Sarah mentioned how this is clearly seen in the shepherds of the European Church, especially in Germany. Those in Europe who are called by Our Lord to lead souls to Christ by proclaiming the Truth in how they live and what they preach are instead focused on how to appear more attractive and appealing to the world.

The German Synodal Way is an excellent example of this phenomenon, where there is a deep focus on "modernizing" and "catching up with the times." Dogma and our Tradition appear to be a hurdle to overcome rather than something sacred that must be defended. The debates on females receiving holy orders and accepting unnatural ways of life are examples of this disordered focus.

Cardinal Sarah mentions how a "false freedom and conformism" to the world is growing within the Church. This "false freedom" is the misconstrued notion that we have the freedom to change doctrine. Attempts to change doctrine (an impossibility) are done in order to conform with what is happening around us. Calls for female priests and LGBTQ+ acceptance are only being made because that is what the outside world sees to be right and just under the banner of "equality."

This inordinate focus on appeasing the world can also be seen in the practical atheist's obsession with "welcoming" and "accompanying" The cardinal sharply criticized this movement, saying, "Welcoming everyone means ignoring Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium." And how right he

The cardinal made numerous references to the Church in Europe as dying and, in some places, dead. Europe's spiritual decline is a symptom of this practical atheism, where bowing down to the demands of the world has replaced defending the Teachings of the Church. But he stressed that hope is not lost.

The American Church can be a bastion of hope, saving the European Church and strengthening the universal Church more broadly. The practical atheism that has taken over Europe and is spreading in our own country can only be defeated by an authentic spiritual renewal. Cardinal Sarah believes America has the ingredients to lead that renewal, and I wholeheartedly agree.

It is no secret that there is a decline in Mass attendance and a catechetical crisis in the most foundational principles of the Faith in the United States. This is vividly seen in Joe Biden, whom His Eminence referred to as a "cafeteria Catholic," joining Cardinal Gregory's criticism of the president this past April. Biden is an example of a Catholic who agrees more with the general population than his own Faith, something a large portion of Catholics in this country fall victim to Cardinal Sarah characterized this trend by saying, "Catholics here are often American first, Catholic second."

But despite these obstacles, the American Church is not the "dying and dead" Europe. The first reason His Eminence gives is our bishops. The orthodoxy of American bishops is a great source of spiritual strength that Europe is unfortunately lacking.

Cardinal Sarah praised that our episcopal leadership "is generally committed to the Gospel, faith in Jesus Christ, and a preservation of our Sacred Tradition." While there are bad apples, I completely agree with the cardinal's assertion on the orthodoxy of the American Church's leadership, in part because of my personal experience with bishops both here and in Europe.

When I was a seminarian in the Diocese of Cleveland (a smaller diocese known for its liberal leanings), I saw this "commitment to the Gospel" in Bishop Edward Malesic, who last year made headlines for his policies against gender ideology in Catholic schools.

He, like so many bishops we rarely hear about, truly believes the Faith and is concerned first and foremost with the salvation of souls. I remember when His Excellency spoke to a local news outlet on the seminary's audience with the Holy Father. Rather than fawning over the pope, he used his brief time to spread the Faith. He stated, "Our faith is about a Man Who was sent to us from God, Who is God's Son and is God Himself, Who died for the sake of our sins." He went on to stress how the viewer, too, can rise from the dead like Christ "if we simply follow Him."

It is my belief that most bishops across the country are like Bishop Malesic — focused more on saving souls than appearing the world, and rarely making the headlines. I saw the same care for souls in Archbishop Schnurr when I was a novice in Cincinnati.

In England, my experience was far different. I was studying at the University of Bristol in the Diocese of Clifton, ... with the Lord Bishop's

abrupt decision ... to have an "LGBT+ Mass" occur every third Sunday of the month at a local parish. This is an example of a much larger trend within that diocese.

What I experienced in Bristol is all too common throughout Europe: a rejection of orthodoxy by succumbing to what the world demands. While similar incidents are found in America, they are not nearly as widespread as in Europe . . .

This same commitment to orthodoxy is (naturally) seen in the priests and laity of the American Church. Cardinal Sarah applauded the dynamism of faith here, mentioning our reformed seminaries, successful lay apostolates, good young priests, and vibrant Catholic families.

... As Cardinal Sarah concluded, he mentioned how "America is big and powerful politically, economically, and culturally." He stressed: "with this comes great responsibility." His Eminence instructed that the "[Universal] Church needs to draw life from places like Africa and America where the faith is not dead." The places where the Faith is alive are the sources for this spiritual renewal, necessary to combat the practical atheism of our age.

America has the ingredients to lead this charge against practical atheism within the Church and our culture. We are blessed to have so many sound bishops who understand that doctrine cannot be changed, and they are ordaining men to the priesthood who understand the same truths. Lay apostolates are thriving across the country, working to share the fullness of the Faith with those in their communities . . .

In the heat of constant criticism of the American Church, may we remember how truly blessed we are to have such a lively Catholicism, something that is missing throughout Europe. May we, too, be inspired by Cardinal Sarah's assertion that our country can be a place of spiritual renewal and allow his praise to motivate us to be good stewards of this great responsibility that he speaks of. By doing so, it can be our vibrant Church that exterminates the practical atheism within the universal Church through a mighty spiritual renewal based upon a courageous witness to the fullness of the Faith.

Connor Scully works in development and fundraising for a nonprofit in the Washington, D.C., area. He has spent the last couple of years discerning with the Diocese of Cleveland and a religious community in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. He studied Politics and International Relations at the University of Bristol.



You are invited to make an Appointment for your Home Exorcism and Blessing. Make it happen! Call the Parish Office at 229-4254

Why So Much Ado About the Ten Commandments? by John M. Grondelski, Ph.D.

It's not just that the Ten Commandments are tainted because of their historical religious origins. They're even more dangerous because they question the dictatorship of relativism that has increasingly dominated American education.

Governor Jeff Landry's signing of the law requiring Louisiana public school classrooms to display the text of the Ten Commandments once again brings together a volatile combination: religion and schools. It's already generating a collective meltdown on the Left.

Contrary to the simplistic way the mainstream press will likely feature the problem ("Is there 'separation of church and state' or not?") a critical observer will find multiple layers of issues among the questions the new law poses.

They can be grouped into three big clusters: law and religion, the nature of public schools, and assumptions about morality.

Law and religion

To start by invoking the First Amendment — especially caricatures of the First Amendment as protecting Americans *from* religion — might already be jumping the gun. Before we get to 1791 and the Bill of Rights, we need to go back — much further back — to, say, about 1200 B.C. and the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are laws. They originate in and have a religious context—they are part of the expectations God had towards Israel as expressed in His Covenant with Israel, where "you will be My people and I will be your God" (Exodus 6:7). So, no doubt, the Commandments consciously intend to express God's expectations of His people

At the same time, they are *not just* religious conditions for Israel. When, in his letter to the Romans, Saint Paul wants to make the argument that all men do evil and all are sinners (a proposition empirical experience seems to demonstrate quite well, even without the corroboration of revelation) he faces a problem. One could say *Israel* did evil because it was the explicit recipient of those Commandments. It could, therefore, be accused of knowing them, but violating them. But how could one make a similar claim of, say, Rufus the Roman, who never heard of Moses or his tablets?

Paul is undeterred, arguing that what Israel received in divine revelation, everyman

receives in "the Law written on men's hearts" (Romans 2:15). It is a law every man is aware he has at one time violated. He is aware because every man has the experience of obligation ("I ought to do X," "I ought not to do Y") yet he also experiences his betrayal of obligation ("I did what I ought not to have done," "I did not do what I should have"). As these experiences are the lot of everyman (i.e., every man experiences guilt), one can only explain it as man is accountable to a Law of which he is not the author. As the young Karol Wojtyła (the future Pope Saint John Paul II) argued in his analysis of the human experience of obligation, man is not the author of that Law because, if he was, he could dispense himself. He could waive the duty. But he finds he cannot. The persistence of that sense of guilt indicates that what he violated was more than just his own, selfimposed expectations.

That Law "written on the heart" is Natural Law, the universal human awareness that "I ought to do good and avoid evil." But that awareness is not limited to just that very abstract principle. It does not take a refined moral genius to conclude that "evil" acts include things like killing, lying, being unfaithful (or wanting to if I could get away with it), and stealing (or wanting to, if I could pull it off). The natural awareness of the status, role, and work of parents leads without too much mental strain to the conclusion that mothers and fathers should be honored. You've basically got the second tablet of the Ten Commandments — Commandments IV-X — right there.

But what about that first tablet, the one about man's relationship to God? Is that an optional extra, limited only to those recipients who respond in faith to God's revelation? No. Years ago, philosopher J. Budziszewski wrote a book, titled What We Can't Not Know: A Guide, in which, among other things, he makes the point that the first tablet is not discretionary. Man has a natural knowledge of God. The God Who causes, designs, orders, grades, and moves the spheres may not clearly be the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, but He's not non-existent — He Who Isn't – either. Man's natural knowledge of God prompts him to an awareness of something beyond himself. An honest man must admit he is not — even if he wants to be — his own Alpha and Omega.

Likewise, man's own life prioritizations point to an awareness of a *supreme* being or value. As philosopher Zbigniew Stawrowski argues, every man has someone or something that is his absolute, that stands in first place and to which all else in his life is ordered. It may be the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. It may be other "gods" besides Yahweh. It may even be one's self. It may even be one's absolute commitment to relativism. However you slice it, though, there is *one* principle around which a man orders everything else. That is his god. It may be the True God or it may be an idol, but the "god" principle is unavoidable. There's really no such thing as an atheist.

If man's natural knowledge, however undeveloped, points him to something or someone beyond himself, and his actions and experience show he cannot avoid having an Ultimate, the first tablet of the Ten Commandments cannot be broken off vithout doing damage to man's own reality as a creature, as Budziszewski notes. Man can only try to flee the Ultimate question at the cost of denying some of his most primordial knowledge and experience, i.e., at the price of warping himself.

So, Commandments I-III also form a part of natural human knowledge.

What the Ten Commandments write naturally into everyman's heart are not esoteric doctrines. They are the most fundamental principles of Truth and Justice that undergird every positive human law, that provide the spine to every human legal system. That's why we cannot simply write off the Ten Commandments as a set of sectarian moral rules and jump immediately to the First Amendment to dispatch them. The Commandments came in but do not presuppose particular revelation: "Thou shalt not kill" does not entail a specific and sectarian revelation like "Thou shalt make a pilgrimage to Mecca once in one's lifetime, if possible."

I make that comparison not to depreciate Islam but to insist that the Ten Commandments, though they originated in a Jewish cradle and are part of the Judaeo-Christian heritage, are not particular revelations limited to one religion in the same way as, say, the Five Pillars of Islam. In that sense, although the Ten Commandments originate in a particular religious context, they are arguably a universal revelation to everyone.

And that fact is why, contrary to the "all religions are the same" crowd, that we cannot simply thrust the Ten Commandments and select Analects (sayings of Confucius) and a sampling of Upanishads (concepts of Hinduism) and say, "take your pick in the comparative religion buffet." Neither do they have the same total universality nor the same foundational role in making American culture what it is. To lump it all together is as dishonest as the caricatures of Christmas Nativity scenes featuring, in the name of

"inclusion," the Baby Jesus being adored by Santa Claus while the Three Kings try to park their camels next to the reindeers by the light of a crescent moon and Star of David. The only place that mishmash makes any sense is on some liberals' cars' bumper stickers.

Given the foundational nature of the Commandments, it's always why postmodern attempts to amputate Western legal traditions from their Judaeo-Christian roots - e.g., the attempts of the EU Treaties to claim beings heirs of Athens and Rome while pretending Jerusalem never happened — are likewise false. It is also why attempts to torture the First Amendment — historically demonstrable to have been written to protect religion in its public "free exercise," not a guarantee of freedom from and public banishment of religion — are wrongheaded. Happily, the Supreme Court seems to be in the process of retreating from such an understanding, though the pullback clearly stokes some elites' anxieties.

Now we can get to the First Amendment. Aware that the Ten Commandments were not just "some" set of religious rules the Founders intended to measure against the Constitution as much as the values axis on which they saw their world and constructed the Constitution, we come to see how risible is the idea that the Constitution should be invoked to stifle their public presentation and discussion. It's particularly ludicrous that attempts to suppress the Ten Commandments invoke the First Amendment in which — as Rev. Richard John Neuhaus never failed to point out — the first right listed in the First Amendment is freedom of religion.

The paradox is compounded when the Amendment that both protects freedom of religion and guarantees freedom of speech is then invoked to gag public talk about the Ten Commandments. The irony is finally multiplied when we remember, as has just been pointed out, that the principles of the Ten Commandments are accessible to everyman independently of particular revelation. If those basic principles of natural law are naturally knowable, why should their public discussion be suppressed because of some imagined guilt-by-religious-association?

The nature of public schools

Louisiana's law does not just implicate religion. It questions the nature of the public school classroom at a moment its identity is under great pressure, to the fear of certain of its partisans. The post-COVID ascendance of the "parent's revolution," asking why if education is for *all* children that educational funding is monopolized by *some* schools, has

questioned the privileged status the public school has enjoyed. That pressure is compounded by parents intent on wresting back — even if Merrick Garland thinks they're "domestic terrorists" — the right to set their children's moral and values perspectives, no matter what woke social engineers using the public school system want.

Contrary to the bill of goods publicly sold by its partisans, various scholars have argued that the American public school has never been the neutral public space its proponents claimed. Sure, they said public schools promoted a "common American vision and identity," but that Weltanschauung (world view) was hardly alien to what the American elite of the moment prized. For a long time, it was the guarantor of that peculiar Protestant mishmash called "American civil religion." With the arrival of John Dewey, it became the experimental lab for all kinds of pedagogical fashions (that usually resulted in more educationally stunted students).

Today, the public school has become ground zero for "Dear Colleague" instructions that advance the latest of the woke agenda in all its transmutations.

But while all those philosophies and visions were welcome in the American public school classroom, the traditionally orthodox Judaeo-Christian vision — the animating principle of many if not most Americans — is the one worldview guardians of the public schools keep hermetically out with the resoluteness of an East German border guard. The "parent revolution" is calling that shell game, which is why the contemporary fight over who determines the educational agenda is so joined. Those who have used the American public school as their cultural tool do not want to lose that power. And that's why the deplorables of Louisiana, clinging to their Bibles, guns, shrimp po-boys, and Ten Commandments, are seen as such a danger.

It's not just a question of whether the Ten Commandments can hang in a classroom. It's a question of who will set what worldview that guides what happens in that classroom.

Reintroducing the Ten Commandments poses a further question: why must we pretend that the Bible, an arguably equally formative force in American culture, should be the only book banned in schools? Why can a teacher read **All Boys Aren't Blue** and **Gender Queer** but wouldn't dare quote the Old Testament books of Proverbs or Genesis?

Assumptions about morality

One reason the teacher wouldn't dare quote the Bible, and why the presence of the Ten Commandments represents so mortal a threat, is their head-on challenge to the assumptions about the nature of morality held by the elite and typically propagated in the public school. The Ten Commandments does not offer relativism. "Thou shalt not ..." period, is probably a novel ethical concept to many students and perhaps not a few teachers.

It is also an ethical concept that collides with "non-judgmental," "inclusive," depends" morality often promoted in today's public schools, including by the pornographic literature not banned in those schools (although they can't be read verbatim at school board meetings). Kids being bright, exposure to the morally absolute vision of the Ten Commandments likely will elicit the dread kid question: "Why?" "Why do the Ten Commandments say you can't but Gender Queer says you can?" "Why do I hear at home or in Sunday School that I can't do X but you're saying I should 'explore' my options?" "Who am I supposed to follow or believe?" "Why shouldn't I tell my parents about this?"

It's not just that the Ten Commandments are tainted because of their historical religious origins. They're even more dangerous because they question the dictatorship of relativism that has increasingly dominated American education, a trend arguably advancing in tandem with the replacement of hard education by child warehouse social engineering. That can only further expose and intensify parental opposition to what they have been seeing and don't like in today's schools.

And if the Ten Commandments become "institutionalized furniture" in the classroom, they run the risk of getting at least some students to keep those ethical questions on the permanent agenda. That could be very dangerous.

Set against these perspectives, it's apparent why the kinetic potential of the Ten Commandments in the public school classroom are seen as such threats. There's just so much at stake — on all sides — in what they represent and what they could engender.

John M. Grondelski (Ph.D., Fordham) was former associate dean of the School of Theology, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. He publishes regularly in the National Catholic Register and in theological journals.

July 1 1883 Eloi Broussard 1885 (unknown) Gaudet 1895 Mathilde Vincent 1915 Gertrude Broussard 1930 Adonis Broussard 1975 Harold Melancon 1981 Mable Boudreaux 1994 Burley Hebert 2007 Arsene Garbarino

July 2 1888 Lusignar Landry 1899 Mrs. D.Dauterive 1899 Mrs. Euphimen LeBlanc 1907 Ursille Vincent 1918 Thérèse Blanchard 1925 Asphasie Williams 1978 Joshua Gonsoulin 1990 Francis Crochet, Jr. 2001 Vernice Prados 2004 Richard Delaune Sr. 2011 Wayne Prince

July 3

1873 Amelia Joseph 1893 Josephine (unknown) 1899 Leufray Guidry 1902 Alfred Prioux 1903 Célina Lee 1919 Infant Broussard 1921 Irene Jones 1940 Alcée Bonin 1950 Loreta Horton 1952 Ronald Narcisse 1955 Antoine Blanchard 1963 Joseph Trahan 2016 Lee LeBlanc 2018 Mary Helen Julien

July 4

1889 Clémentine Hebert Diez 1889 Josephine John 1896 Infant Simon 1901 Destas Stiley 1904 Rev. Joesph Corntois 1908 Marcelline Oubre 1917 Austide Bern 1917 Mrs. M. O. Neuville 1927 Maudry Chevis 1933 Hélène Segura 1943 David Fontenette 1945 Maurice Provost 1961 Keith Crochet 1978 Delma Bozon 1995 George Louviere 1997 Tance Domingue 2006 Trey Judice 2012 Lilly Mae Richard

July 5

1895 Alexandre Ambroise 1899 Laurena Jones 1907 Philomene Norbert 1919 Infant Vital 1941 Augustine Antoine 1985 Harold Landry 2022 Ray Broussard

July 6

1878 Odile Borel 1919 Junius Guilbeau 1927 Joseph Ramson 1934 Sidney Pierre 1936 John Williams 1938 Preston Alexander 1963 Sidney Plessala Sr. 2008 Lee Dee Goellner 2009 Clyde Newell 2015 Marie Neuville 2019 Lanielle Boudreaux

July 7

1873 Sylvanie (unknown) 1875 Félicie Dugas 1887 Gustave Broussard 1895 Anette Berard 1902 Hélène Broussard 1924 Henri Doucet 1932 Howard Gardner

1937 Infant Brown 1979 Carroll Cook 1981 Leslie Dressel 1997 Elder Mevers 2011 Murphy Romero 2013 JoAnn Breaux

July 8

1873 Marie (unknown) 1896 V. Chartegnier 1897 Ms. B. Bérard 1909 Mrs. Adadide 1912 Mrs.St Cvr Dugas 1920 Mrs. G. Crawson 1927 Wifred Jones 1941 Gustave Oubre 1959 Joy Mayon 1963 Stanley Ransonet 1977 Mrs. Louis Borel 1978 Mrs. Anatole Bonin 2002 Una Landry 2006 Lloyd Berard

July 9

1878 Odile Broussard 1890 Albert Broussard 1907 Mrs. L. Broussard 1924 Mrs. Oscar Bonin 1924 Wickliff Barras 1934 Marie Prados 1942 Alice Landry 1942 Infant Antoine 1962 Mrs. O. Courville 1971 Aurelion Berthelot 2005 Michael Viator

July 10

1884 Edmond Joseph 1897 Mrs. Aug Oubre 1899 Eve Jacob 1924 Amelie Julien 1927 Murrel Mestayer 1935 Marie Gonsoulin 1968 Mrs. A. Granger

July 11

1904 Louis Eldridge 1916 L. G. Broussard 1930 Octave Trahan 1936 Pierre Jean Louis 1958 Alfred Granger 1959 Joe Dugas 1961 Stanley Mestaver 1964 Bertin Mestaver 1974 Merlin Walet 2011 Gladys Berard 2016 Aimee Peltier

July 12 1899 Idéa Antoine 1899 Infant Charles 1918 Milda Broussard 1918 Mrs. Octave LeBlanc 1924 Euselien Barrilleaux 1927 Victor Hebert 1934 Laurent Pierre 1965 Arile Louviere 1966 Dumas Judice 1981 John Eldridge Ir. 1989 Antoine Vaughn 1991 Harry LeCamus

July 13

1886 Pierre Bernard 1889 Caroline William 1895 Charles Darby 1906 Silvio Bonin 1912 Felicie Laubert 1920 Emile Boutté 1922 Clarence Blanchard 1923 L. May Sanders 1927 Lucille Mestaver 1928 Carnelia Collins 1930 Henderson Simon 1934 Antoine Dugas 1936 Cecile Breause 1937 John Leroy 1944 Robert Latiolais 1960 Horace Segura 1964 Albert Broussard

1968 C. Judice 1986 Louis Borel 1995 Joseph Moore 2002 Irene Singleton 2012 Jeanette Walet 2020 Řachel Sparrow

July 14

1883 Marie Bonin 1893 (unknown) Antoine 1893 A. Guidry 1901 Marie Bonin 1905 Iules Castillo 1908 Jeanette Jean Pierre 1918 F. Dugas 1934 Edna Antoine 1936 Celina Louis 1942 Leo Decoux 1953 Félicie Vaughn 1954 Charles Berard 1962 Roy Carline 1998 Emerite Thibodeaux

July 15

1901 Antoine Judice 1908 Joseph Oubre 1926 Eva Tozain 1934 Rena Landry 1936 Murphy Anthony 1960 Harold Dugas 1976 Yola Eldridge 2021 Paul Crochet 2021 Gregory Mestayer 2022 Marlene Smith

July 16

Amèlie 1873 Julie (unknown) 18886 Constance Durand 1886 Caesar Borel 1889 Dominique Collet 1890 Charles Broussard 1919 Carnelia Vital 1939 Rita Vital 1943 Virgie Olivier 1951 Sully Oubre 2005 Rena Robin 2017 Ola Hebert 2019 Tracey Guilbeaux 2020 Joseph Huval

July 17 1885 V. Bernard 1895 Elise Champeau 1901 Charles Dugas 1906 Norbert Junne 1906 Leah Guillotte 1912 Cesaire Bonin 1929 Holland Granger 1936 Eusebe Verret 1947 Fernand Antoine 1956 Aristille Faucheaux 1971 Randy Mayon 1984 Louis Dugas 1990 George Gondron, Jr. 2021 David Hebert 2021 Joan Herring

July 18 1891 Sylvie Louis 1895 Paul Choureau 1899 Charles William 1901 Whitney Dominic 1927 Piola Antoine 1948 Marie Dugas 1958 Amelia Jewell 1980 Whitney LeBlanc 2006 Lena Prince 2008 Homer Dugas

July 19

1883 Alvea Zepherin 1884 (unknown) Crochet 1901 Leonard Brarconnet 1924 Olive Julien 1924 Morerrasse Dugas 1933 Léon Decuir 1959 Rev. Francis Gerboud 1972 Mrs. Laurent Braquet 1986 Louda Dressel

1996 Jody Laviolette 2001 George Stoltz 2004 Gus Broggi 2020 Senec Louviere 2020 James Steiner, Sr.

July 20

1884 Norma Broussard 1885 Harrison Landry 1885 Sylvie Ste. Marie 1899 Lezin LeCamus 1899 Infant Dugas 1908 Daniel Simon 1911 Joseph Molbert 1916 Pierre Molbert 1955 Alexander Guidry 1957 Eusebe Breaux 1966 Clarence Decoulis 1969 Mrs. Otto Dressel 1992 Lewis Oubre 1993 Deneigh Cormier 2003 Melvin Dugas

July 21

1891 Handerson Duggin 1899 Infant Abraham 1899 Infant Braud 1903 Marie Provost 1907 A. Broussard 1931 Junius Courville 1937 Francis Eldridge 1938 George Bonin 1973 Marie Pollard 1983 Skerty LeCamus 1988 Lucy Molbert 2015 Leroy Prados 2021Raymond Bonnet, Sr.

July 22

1896 Infant Broussard 1921 Elize Louis 1927 Leon Narcisse 1944 Octave Judice 1946 Perry Walet 1949 Ozinee Borel 1974 George Rebert 1993 Gerald Breaux 1995 Lucy Mestayer 2004 Clet Dugas, Jr. 2014 Yvonne Tauzin Judice

July 23

1891 Louis St. Martin 1909 Bellicide Pepper 1910 Stella Walet 1929 Constance LeCamus 1939 Marie Dupois 1953 Genevieve Dugas 1972 Louis Walet 1983 Scott Dautreuil 1989 Mrs. Abel Louviere 1996 Darrel Eldridge 2011 Ronald Gonsoulin Sr. 2013 Martha Rodriguez 2013 Martha McDonald

July 24

1887 Honorine William 1887 Geneviève Tuwell 1902 Ella Gonsoulin 1912 Elie Dugas 1919 Rose Gonsoulin 1922 James Emile Verret 1950 Henry Borel 1969 Mrs. Lionel Dugas 1987 Junius Bonin 2005 Emma Judice 2010 June LeCamus 2013 Judy Gonsoulin 2015 Slade Louviere, Sr. 2015 Chad LeBlanc 2017 Dr. James Russell Romero

July 25 1885 Belizaire Bonin 1893 Alice Gregoire 1894 Eulabie Charles 1909 Beatrice Sias 1913 Jacques Broussard 1932 Infant John

1934 Cecilia Bienvenu 1946 Celina Crochet 1955 Delma Judice 1968 William "Beeps" Ryan 1997 Rita Chataignier 2006 Ioseph Habetz 2016 Wanda Horton 2020 Antoine Broussard 2020 Alma Jo Landry

July 26 1894 Henri Vaughn 1928 Cecile Simon 1932 Armand Broussard 1934 Joseph Olivier 1939 Bernice Joseph 1944 Clara Williams 1944 Marie Alexandre 1950 Arnold Broussard 1952 Weldon Williams 1993 May Barras 2017 Martha Louviere 2020 Dr. J. Rellus Hebert, Sr.

July 27

1873 Julien Ambroise 1889 Harry Johnson 1914 Mrs. H. Chataignier 1923 Michael Dugas 1937 Virginia Polite 1966 Mildred Ransonet 1983 Clay Broussard 1997 Michael Cooper 2006 Irene LeBlanc 2016 Evelyn Granger 2019 Gertrude Oubre

July 28

1878 Mathilde Michel 1904 Infant Vaughn 1930 Ms. Altee Vincent 1960 Oscar Richard 1995 Doris Louviere 2005 Angelle Louviere 2010 Gladys Tauzin 2011 Elroy Decuir 2023 Pauline Horton

July 29

1873 Ursin (unknown) 1940 Rosa Barras 1981 Walter Indice 1985 Earl Eldridge 2002 Rita Frioux 2015 Olympe Borel 2016 Mary "Shookie" Judice

July 30

1874 Louisa Jean Baptiste 1886 Henri Carline 1917 Pauline Guidry 1952 Robert Moulis 1964 Alphonse Barilleaux 1991 Antoine Landry 1997 James Lacouture

July 31

1882 Adonis Toquite 1883 Leon Jacques Bonin 1891 Eusèbe Tage 1891 Etienne Hamilton 1895 J. B. Blanchard 1910 Uffernon Broussard 1920 Marie Boutté 1934 Marie Vaughn 1936 Loretta Benoit 1938 Anatole Bonin 1939 Ada Decuir 1949 Ivy Oubre 1951 Barry Breaux 1968 Mrs. Fernand Breaux 1981 Brandy Broussard 2005 Theresa Girouard 2018 Jackie Courville 2021 Marsha Guillot



July Birthdays

July 1 Charles Babineaux Expert Bonin

Egbert Bonin Rory Patin Brandy Thomas

July 2

Theresa Amy Aubrey Hebert Myla Hebert Elby Lancon, Jr. Thomas Landry Jonathan Mora Celina Thibodeaux

July 3

Monique Broussard Koi Dauphine Danielle Landry

July 4

Kamryn Bourque Paul Cook Lucas Escagne Alyx Frederick Hallei Vaughn

July 5

Lori Barras
Paul Boggs
Lexi Crochet
Catrina Dworaczyk
John Lagan, Jr.
Hayes Rebert
Jackie Schexnayder
Darlene Vaughn
Leonard Vaughn

July 6

Emily Boudreaux Luke Devillier

July 7

Emily Broussard Robert Burke, Sr. Baylie DeRouen Casey Grivat Alexander Guidry Sawyer Judice Maureen Molbert Scott Ransonet Gabriel Trevizo Karson Trevizo Caitlyn Valadez

July 8

Brant Eldridge Aubry Molbert Heidi Viator



July 9

Latrell Babineaux Matthew Degeyter Rylee Dionne Levi Guidry Joseph Lavigueur Jerritt Louviere Kaleb Neuville Gary Prince Harley Viator

July 10

Joey Begnaud Beth Boudreaux Jillian Boudreaux Chet Martin

July 11

Patrick Bonin, Jr. William Buteau Landen Dugas John Girouard Michele Marks Finn Theriot

July 12

Donald Albert Kaleb Albert Maci Bonin Bernice Borel Kai Bourque Ryan Breau Evan Cavagnaro Nikki Huval Noah LaBiche Laura Mooney

July 13

Christopher Bigler Finley Cox Walter Gondron Colby Prados

July 14

Ryan Gondron Ricky Judice

July 15

Charlie Berard Lola Boudreaux Harvey Braquet Reece Hayes Emily Hulin Ralph Kleyla Gary Marks Brad Poche, Jr. Brailyn Richard

July 16

Irving Boudreaux Marak Breaux Trevor Chastant Mary Lynne Dugas Kameron LeBlanc Benjamin Lopez Easton Louviere Brixon Romero Abby Songne Happy Birthday!

May God richly bless you on your special day. It is our privilege to remember you at the altar during the celebration of Holy Mass as we offer the Victim.

Father Crochet and Father Godwin

July 17

Myla Bonin
Tori Bonin
Gage Broussard
James Clifton
Joel Dugas
Lance Dugas
Bailey Hebert
Wilson LeBlanc
Peyten Louviere
Taylore Louviere
Jordan Melancon
Rheagan Randolph
Kevin Salsman

July 18

Kyle Broussard Margaret Coco Andrew Dugas Aubree Judice Cordell Ruiz Evin Theriot

July 19

Amelie Charpentier Camille Oubre Belinda Phillips

July 20

Bronwyn Badeaux Eloise Beyt Amelie Clifton Buddy Coco Gabriel Horton Alfred Landry Kayleigh Louviere Emmi Moore Landree Nornis Steve Rebert, III

July 21

Paige Boutte James Faucheaux Luke Owens Benjamin Waldmann Evan Walet

July 22

Kirk Crochet Jayden Kelone Mason Richter

July 23

Anne Albert Drake Bodin Jonah Comacho Percy Cole Payton Foti Tristan Girouard Briggs Hotard Gabriele LeJeune

July 24

Nellie Bodin Laya Fields Elizabeth Foco

July 25

Chad Belaire, Jr. Harper Blanchard Bailun Breaux Cassidy Courville Stacey Hebert Ryken Hoffpauir Mackie Landry Greyson McClendon Hallie Mitchell Jackie Poirrier Celeste Seneca Lindsey Stephens

July 26

Bryson Berard Braxton Bergeron Troy Blanchard Kamille Boudreaux Ross Domingue Ayden Douet Jacques Lasseigne Laik Louviere Michael Norris Freda Romero Ava Theriot

July 27

Madison Ard
Beau Borel
Addilyn Bouton
Mallori Bouton
Michael Clifton
Demi Comeaux
Mae Dooley
Khloie Eldridge
Michael Frederick, Jr.
Stephen LaBry
Lillian Landry
Crystal Melancon
Patrick Sarkies
Allie Schaubert

July 28

Susan Clifton Angela Crochet Coy Duplantis Tory Schaubert Curtis Toffier

July 29

Easton Andrus Blanc Berard Emmeline Buteau Ja'kyrii Butler Jude Duplechain Barry Thibodeaux

July 30

Cullen Broussard Grant Champagne Diane Gondron Drake Huval Benjamin Perez Caroline Seneca Russell Steiner Brian Theriot

July 31

Allison Broussard Christie Guillot Kyla Hunter Conor Ransonet Erin Ransonet Elijah Schaubert Misty Sonnier

If your name does not occur in our birthday list, please call the parish office so that we can update our census information.

JF (III)

Rass



















