



## 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.



Almighty ever-living God, we humbly implore Your Majesty that, just as Your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by Your Grace, we may be presented to You with minds made pure.

### MINISTERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
February 8 4:00 p.m.	Emily Beganaud	Linda Landry	Volunteers
February 9 7:00 a.m.	Samuel Schexnayder	Jackie Schexnayder	Volunteers
10:30 a.m.	Catherine Lejeune	Debbie Oubre	Volunteers



### 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.

February 2	Bishop Douglas Deshotel/Seminary Faculty, Parents Dcn. Kyle Polozola
February 3	Bishop Eminentus Michael Jarrell/Eli Weil Dcn. John Wayne (Jake) Prejean
February 4	Rev. William Schambough/Cole Zaubrecher Dcn. Charles Richard
February 5	Rev. Gary Schexnayder/Matthew Authement Dcn. Thomas Richard
February 6	Rev. Andrew Schumacher/Roy Bertrand IV Dcn. Steve Rogers
February 7	Rev. Clinton Sensat/Bennett Bodin Dcn. Samuel Russo
February 8	Rev. Bryce Sibley, STL./Reid Bourgeois Dcn. John G. Sarkies

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

Stuart Sandoz, Brett Hebert, 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 Beganud, Betty Champagne, Leroy and Gloria Courville, Wayne LeBlanc, Melvin Broussard, 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 Veronic, Jamie Ransonet, Randy Dugas, Rudy Delcambre, Ted Habetz, Clarence Theriot, Junelle Jefferies, Fred Thibodeaux, Lucy Bernard, Leif Melancon,

Charlie Berard, Brad and James Clifton, Holly LeBlanc, Judy Theriot, Carl LeBlanc, Sophie Bonin Reese, Nelda Breaux, Bernard Hebert, Jillian Faye Boudreaux, Marty LeBlanc, Bill Gonsoulin, Mark Ruly, Robert, Sr. and Julie LeBlanc, Michael Theriot, Hayes Enlund, Steve Thibeaux, Davi Clifton, Jimmy Wilson, Bobbie Boutte, Genie and Karen Dugas, Steve Miguez.

January 26, 2025	
Regular Sunday Offering Envelopes	\$ 5,027.00
Regular Sunday Offering Loose	\$ 3,025.00
Regular Collection Total	\$ 8,052.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,385.00
Difference	+\$ 667.00
Present Loan Balance	\$ 83,774.61
Donation Against Loan Balance	\$ 1,055.00
Insurance Balance 2024-2025	\$ 46,305.83
Insurance Collection	\$ 641.00

**Flowers of the Altar are in loving memory of**  
Deceased Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

**The Sanctuary Lamp is burning for**  
The Community

**Blessed Virgin Mary Altar Candle is burning for**  
Special Intention

**Saint Joseph Altar Candle is burning for**  
The Community

**Other Candles are burning for:** Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Albert Rodriguez, Vance Breaux, Sr., Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Trey Romero, Chad Romero, Mark and Penny Landry Ancestors and Descendants, and Souls in Purgatory, Pope, Priest, Religious, Domingue Family, C. L. Romero, Collins and Doris Louviere, Kerney and Gene Louviere, Brooke Burch, Will and Lily Roberts.

**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*

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. StJo** — Boo Castille, Debbie Hebert, Charpentier Family, Sam and Glo Delcambre, John Delcambre, Louis and Marietta Prince, C. L. Romero, Walter and Doris M. Judice, Cal Berard, Lucille B. Romero, Doris and Carroll Boutte Family, Living and Deceased, Octave Judice, Gerdie Judice and Family, Joey Theriot, Robin Neuville, Melvin Dugas, Roy, Sr. and Gladys Berard, Donald "Don" Crochet, Earline Crochet, Steven Crochet, John Vedia Perez, Barbara Ann Ozenne Perez Family, Robin Neuville, Sidney Breaux Family, Pauline and Craig, Adam "Coo" and Jeanette Crochet, Robert Judice, Sr., Judice and Laviolette Families, Elton "Red" Boutte, Brandon Boutte, Antoine "Boy" LeBlanc Family, Johnny and Rose Albert, Huey Olivier Family Ancestors and Descendants, Michael and Christine Arceneaux, Ancestors and Descendants, Billy Degeyter, Chester "Butch" Gonsoulin, 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, Trey Romero, Chad Romero, Deyna Champagne, Harold Champagne, Audrey Crochet, Paul Crochet Family, Jordan Prince and Special Intention, Vance Breaux Sr., Duffy Domingue, Cabrol and Domingue Families, Martha Escagne Rodriguez, Albert Rodriguez, 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, Pliny Walet, Carolyn "Caro" Walet, Lawrence Walet, Special Intention, Mary Doumit Barrilleaux, Kelly Louviere, Abel Louviere, Theodore Thibodeaux Family, Wanda D. Broussard, Ronald, Louis and Mae Mae Broussard, John Michael Steiner, John Delcambre, Larry Crochet, Robin Neuville, Sandi and Glenn Angelle, Betty Romero, Romero and Babin Families, Lynn and Theresa Delcambre, Ancestors and Descendants, Neil Breaux, Shanie Edler Decuir, Tim Edler, Richard Family, Arceneaux and Mestayer Families, Ancestors and Descendants, Lovell Romero, Henry and Renella and Josh Pelafique, Clarence and Nola Champagne Families, Ancestors and Descendants, 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, Maude Granger and Mr. and Mrs. Amos Louviere, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Granger, Shelton Joseph Freyou, Ella Desormeaux Freyou, Rickie Oubre, Loto Louviere, Jr., Gam and Velma Gondron Family, Larry Crochet, Matthew Thibeaux, Edmond Lancon Family, Louis Thibeaux Family, Keri Bonin Boutte, Bonin and Boutte Family, Clyde Dressel, Judy Judice, Beaugerard Judice, Gondron and Deville Family Ancestors and Descendants, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Horace and Sylvia Thibodeaux, Wade & Lou Dupre, Gus Dupre, David Guidry, Cherie LeCompte, 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, Rev. Greg Downs, 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** — Robin, Stan and Van Judice, 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** — John Delcambre, Donna and Steve Berard, Ancestors and Descendants, 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** — Robin, Stan and Van Judice, Michael and Roy Thibodeaux, 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, Andrew "Toupee" Bonin, Bonin and Crochet Families, Lindsay Davidson.

**Thursday 5:30 p.m. StJo** — June Granger, 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 Friday 6:45 a.m. OLV** — Rhule, Mabel and Wayne Gondron, Donna and Steve Berard, Ancestors and Descendants, Judice and Walet Families, 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.



*It's about the prayer and not about the painting.*

## Painting with Prayer

Father Bill John Melancon will be hosting a painting session on Sunday, February 02, 2025, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

The location is Saint Theresa Hall at Saint Joseph Catholic Church

117 S. Main Street, Loreauville, Louisiana.

No prior art skills are required. The cost is \$40 per person, which includes all supplies for painting a plaque of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

This session is limited to 25 participants, and all attendees must pre-register.

To register, please call the Rectory Office at (337) 229-4254.



## Lay Responsibilities and the Order of Charity by Michael Pakaluk

I take it that charity has to be freely given by the person who shows charity. If I steal someone's credit card and purchase all kinds of goods with it for a homeless person, I am not showing charity, because that other person never gave his consent.

If we are being strict about it — and why not be strict? — the \$100 million that the U.S. bishops received in Federal money last year to resettle refugees was not theirs and does not even exist. At least, you'd need a good argument for why that sum shouldn't be assigned to the Federal government's roughly \$2 trillion dollar deficit last year. So, not only does the money not exist, many of the people who will be obliged to pay it, your grandchildren and mine, may still not exist. They certainly did not give their consent.

Charity should be ordered. There is something called an “order of charity.” Giving that is disordered is not charity.

If I am reading the USCCB's financials correctly, the bishops added in \$4 million of their own to resettle refugees, from monies taken in weekly collection, for a total of \$104 million. One cannot argue from this (as *The Pillar* has done) that they took a loss on the program, because it was their free decision to add the \$4 million. And who knows what amount they would otherwise have spent if they had not received the \$100 million?

But for the program to be in the strict sense a work of charity — and, again, why not be strict? — they would need to have persuaded parishioners to give 25 times more than the \$4 million they were already giving to assist refugee resettlement. Who believes that they could have succeeded in doing this, when — for instance parochial schools are woefully underfunded? There is an order of charity.

Vice President J.D. Vance wondered aloud on CBS *Face the Nation* last week whether the bishops' criticism of Trump's executive orders on immigration wasn't motivated by their desire to protect their bottom line. The claim I take it is not, of course, that they pocket any of the Federal grant but rather: Who wouldn't want a flow-through stream of \$100 million?

The bishops take a 20 percent cut of that money before passing it on to lower-level entities that deal with the refugees (grant for purposes of argument that they are all “refugees” and not merely economic

migrants). Let's say optimistically that those entities take a 20 percent cut too. Let's say, also optimistically, that the Federal government took a 20 percent cut before the money even got to the bishops. Then of the roughly \$120 million that never existed and was taken from my descendants without their consent, only half of it anyway gets to actual refugees. \$60 million evaporates for no lasting good purpose, if it does not underwrite mischievous purposes.

If you are beginning to wonder what any of this has to do with charity and Matthew 25, you are not alone. Doubts have already been raised about “the Church as NGO” by Popes John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and Francis.

Whether the bishops or some bishops like to see the consequences of \$100 million in flow-through monies may be the least of the worries. In administering the Federal funds, the bishops made themselves agents of the government and collaborators in the Biden administration's policies. If they are agents and collaborators, by no reasonable standard accepted anywhere else can they be accounted disinterested or dispassionate.

Moreover, recipients of Federal funds know that with grants come strings. It proves very difficult to avoid falling into an across-the-board culture of compliance. Do all of the subsidiary entities, in their expenditure of these funds, follow a Christian inspiration, or do they rather follow Federal codes of compliance? The question answers itself.

Does a culture of compliance in one domain have overflow effects in other domains? This question remains to be investigated. An entity receiving many millions of dollars in Federal monies will typically find it difficult to reject Federal mandates for, say, vaccination or closures.

Then, there is distortion of mission. The USCCB spends something like \$1 million per year on evangelization and catechesis, \$1 million on Catholic education, and \$2 million on pro-life work. It certainly gives no appearance of being a major advocate of tax relief for Catholic parents who want to send their children to Catholic schools. And yet Vatican II teaches explicitly that parents do not enjoy a right to religious liberty if they have to pay twice to educate their children.

One unintended side-effect of the glorious tradition of Catholic social teaching is that respect for differences of opinion in matters of prudence has suffered. When

people thought of “Catholic teaching” as involving matters of doctrine contained in the Deposit of Faith, the Church was careful to say what was *de fide* and what was a matter of free theological opinion.

Paradoxically, although Vatican II taught clearly that the ordering of secular affairs falls under the competence of the laity, who by their own lights should apply general principles for the common good, this primary mode of “lay participation” seems often not welcome.

A principle of the Catholic Church on immigration is that prosperous nations “to the extent they are able,” should welcome immigrants and refugees. (CCC 2241) What precisely is at issue today is to what extent we are able.

That we are able comfortably to welcome what has been the historic norm of 1 percent of the general population in legal immigration per year — well, perhaps we are not even “able” to do this right now. We are absurdly polarized, and our government is *de facto* bankrupt. Families and neighborhoods are broken. Are we even “prosperous,” if prosperity is more than wealth?

The same Lord who taught “receive the stranger” also said a house divided against itself cannot stand and “physician, heal thyself.”

Michael Pakaluk, an Aristotle scholar and Ordinarius of the Pontifical Academy of Saint Thomas Aquinas, is a professor in the Busch School of Business at the Catholic University of America. He lives in Hyattsville, Maryland with his wife Catherine, also a professor at the Busch School, and their eight children. His acclaimed book on the Gospel of Mark is **The Memoirs of St Peter**. His most recent book, **Mary's Voice in the Gospel of John: A New Translation with Commentary**, is now available. His new book (coming in March), **Be Good Bankers: The Economic Interpretation of Matthew's Gospel**, is available for preorder now from Regnery Gateway. Professor Pakaluk was appointed to the Pontifical Academy of Saint Thomas Aquinas by Pope Benedict XVI. You can follow him on X, @michaelpakaluk.



## Catholics, Hippocrates, and Reforming American Medicine by George Weigel

The willful participation of physicians and other medical professionals in the practice of abortion flatly contradicts the Hippocratic Oath.

I am the odd man out in a family of medical folk. My maternal grandfather was a physician; his daughter, my mother, was a medical technologist; my mother-in-law, a nurse. My brother is a physician; so is one of my daughters, and so is her husband. An aunt was a registered nurse, and my niece is a hospital nutritionist. Beyond the family circle, I have many friends practicing the medical arts, including America's most distinguished psychiatrist, Paul McHugh.

I've also been blessed by the work of great physicians, whose skills and dedication have gotten me beyond the biblical allotment of "three score and ten" (Psalm 90:10).

Decades of life with and around doctors, nurses, and other medical practitioners have thus given me a deep regard for American medicine, which I believe to be the best in the world. And it's precisely that regard that now leads me to a deep concern about the condition of medicine in these United States — which, like the other professions, is beset by the plague of wokery, and by physicians' cooperation with what Pope Saint John Paul II aptly called the "culture of death" in the 1995 encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*.

The willful participation of physicians and other medical professionals in the practice of abortion flatly contradicts the Hippocratic Oath — long the moral framework for sound medical practice — in its original form. Indeed, some medical schools have been changing the Oath's wording in order to accommodate the politically correct view of abortion. Why, one wonders, haven't more doctors, nurses, and health care workers been at the forefront of the pro-life movement, not only in pressing for legislation protective of unborn life but in counseling frightened women, often abandoned by irresponsible and sexually predatory men, to seek alternatives to killing their children? Thank God for the medical professionals who staff America's crisis pregnancy centers. But what about the majority of their colleagues, who acquiesce in the modern slaughter of the innocents or, worse, participate in it?

The same degradation of medicine occurs when doctors, nurses, and others involved in health care participate in euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide, a ghoulish practice that now marches under the Orwellian banner of "MAID" — Medical Assistance (or Aid) in Dying. Hippocrates weeps. Isn't the entire point of the profession of healing to affirm life, sustain life, and resist death whenever possible? This past September, the London-based *Spectator* published an instructive article, "A Chillingly Seductive Glimpse of Assisted Dying," which should be required reading in medical schools, in part because it illustrates how MAID numbs the natural human sensibilities of physicians and nurses.

"Follow the science" has become a mantra in certain quarters since Plague Time in 2020-2021. Evidently, however, some science isn't welcome — like the science that demonstrates beyond reasonable dispute that "sex-reassignment" interventions *do not lead* to long-term improvements in mental health, and that mutilating the bodies of the young surgically or through puberty blockers should be called child abuse, not medicine. If England's National

Health Service can *figure this out* by following the science, why can't the American Academy of Pediatrics?

And then there is medical education, once known for its rigor but now catering to snowflakes, as in this notice from a prominent medical school promoting a putatively admirable service for its students — "Wellness Wednesdays: A monthly event offering students a chance to unwind and recharge with such activities as arts and crafts, live student performances, and wellness services like seated massages..."

I don't know about you, but if I'm bringing a convulsing child with a 105-degree fever into the local emergency room at 2 a.m., I'm not interested in the attending ER doctor sending out for Legos, singing rap ditties from *Hamilton*, or getting a "seated massage" in order to handle the stress of the situation.

American medicine and American medical education are in need of serious reform. Getting the federal government's healthcare agencies out of the DEI swamps and the gender-fluidity wilderness is only a start, welcome as that is. American medicine needs to rediscover its soul and its conscience. Well-catechized Catholic medical professionals are uniquely equipped to aid in that rediscovery. The *Catholic Medical Association* has a considerable role to play here. So do Catholic chaplains at American medical schools.

Given the wokery at the root of so many of these dysfunctions in American medicine — a tyranny enforced by cancel culture — Catholic medical reformers will need a lot of courage, as well as patience, tactical savvy, and impeccable scientific credentials. But then, courage is one of the four Cardinal Virtues, isn't it?

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of Washington's Ethics and Public Policy Center, where he holds the William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies. He is the author of over twenty books, including **Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II** (1999), **The End and the Beginning: Pope John Paul II—The Victory of Freedom, the Last Years, the Legacy** (2010), and **The Irony of Modern Catholic History: How the Church Rediscovered Itself and Challenged the Modern World to Reform**. His most recent books are **The Next Pope: The Office of Peter and a Church in Mission** (2020), **Not Forgotten: Elegies for, and Reminiscences of, a Diverse Cast of Characters, Most of Them Admirable** (Ignatius, 2021), and **To Sanctify the World: The Vital Legacy of Vatican II** (Basic Books, 2022).





## The Ecclesial Body's Authority by Fr. Paul D. Scalia

The Acts of the Apostles recounts Saint Paul's conversion three different times. Some details vary, but one is constant. When Saul of Tarsus, lying on the ground outside Damascus, looks into the blinding light and asks who it is, the response is the same in each telling: "I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting." Saul was forever changed by that revelation.

*I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.* Our Lord makes no distinction between Himself and His Church. Paul discovered that Christ and His Church are so profoundly one that to persecute the Church is to persecute Christ. He had struck at Christ's Church and found that he was striking Christ Himself. Years later he wrote to the Corinthians, "Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it." (I Corinthians 12:27) The doctrine of the Body of Christ was one Paul learned directly and painfully.

This doctrine is the fundamental and most ancient way to understand the Church. As in Saint Paul's day, so also now, the doctrine of the Body of Christ keeps us from various errors about the Church. The first of which is how exactly the Church is related to Christ. Most people don't see an intrinsic relation between Christ and the Church. Christ is one thing, the Church another. At best, the Church is merely the community that gathered to continue His memory. At worst, it's a bunch of Pharisees who coopted Jesus' message of [insert your agenda here]. The doctrine of the Body of Christ teaches differently.

It's more than a metaphor to speak of Christ as Head and the Church as His Body. It's not "as if" Christ is the Head or that the Church is "like" Christ's Body. Nor is their connection the legal union of a contract or the moral union of a shared purpose. Christ and the Church have an organic oneness, as between a head and body or a vine and its branches. The Church is the extension of Christ Himself throughout the world and throughout history.

One effect of this doctrine is to deliver us from the anti-hierarchy heresy of our culture. Since this Church organism is both Head and Body, there is

an actual hierarchy as there is in the union between your head and body. The head governs. But Christ the Head doesn't rule over the Church tyrannically. He governs the Church the way your head rules your body, as one organism. This is an organic hierarchy, not one imposed.

Christ entrusted His Headship first to Peter and the Apostles and now exercises it through their successors, the pope and bishops. They must exercise this headship — no one else can. Of course, there are advisors and consultors and all the rest. But at the end of the day, the Church is not governed by committee or council or synod but by the Shepherds who watch over it in place of the Apostles.

This doctrine is also a healthy corrective to our culture's fascination with equality. The burden of Paul's words to the Corinthians is that no member of the body is less a member than the others. There's a fundamental equality because every member of the Body was "in one Spirit ... baptized into one body."

Our egalitarian age loves to emphasize this equality but omits an important aspect of it. Namely, that the equality of the members means also an equal obligation to holiness. Nobody is off the hook. Equality in the Church is a Truth that shouldn't be used to tear down the hierarchy, but to remind all the baptized of their obligation to strive for sanctity.

To the fractious Corinthians Saint Paul emphasizes the oneness of the Body of Christ. "As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ." This oneness is based on the supernatural not the natural. It doesn't come from common descent, mutual social interests, or a shared political purpose. It's not something willed by us or imposed by external forces. It comes from being incorporated into one Body by one Baptism in one Spirit.

This oneness means that each member has responsibilities to the whole. There are no independent limbs in the Body of Christ any more than there are in your own body. Each of us has a responsibility to the others. Thus, "If

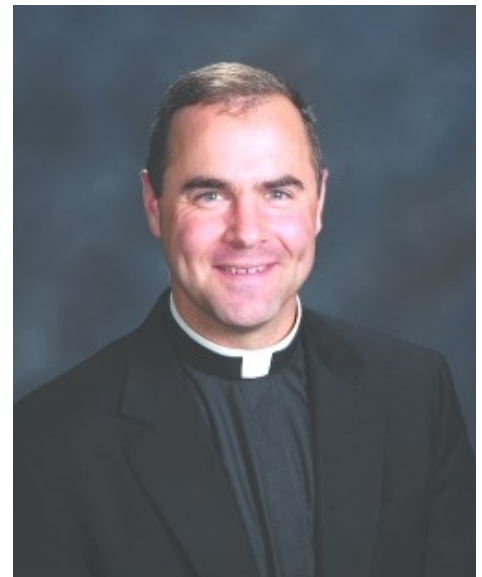
one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

Finally, the Body of Christ has authentic diversity. We must tread carefully here because the modern world's use of "diversity" has so damaged that word. Diversity in the Church is that of a body. The body cannot have just one kind of limb. For a body to work properly, it must have different members, each fulfilling its proper role. Only a body can have a diversity that doesn't divide.

The Church's members look ridiculous when they forget that. When priests forget their priesthood and the laity forget their mission in the world. When shepherds act like sheep and the sheep like shepherds. Each member has its role, and the body suffers if that role is neglected.

The Body of Christ has an authority all its own in the world. When Her members live their baptismal calling properly, the Church is manifest as She truly is, Christ's continuing Presence in the world. Along the way, the world finds in the Church what it seeks elsewhere and in all the wrong ways: hierarchy without inequality, equality without mediocrity, diversity without division, unity without uniformity.

Fr. Paul Scalia is a priest of the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, where he serves as Episcopal Vicar for Clergy and Pastor of Saint James in Falls Church. He is the author of **That Nothing May Be Lost: Reflections on Catholic Doctrine and Devotion** and the editor of **Sermons in Times of Crisis: Twelve Homilies to Stir Your Soul**.



# February Birthdays

## February 1

Angel Bonin  
Dustin Charpentier  
Kaidey Duplechain  
Nash Lassalle  
Ava Louviere  
Helen Toffier  
Hannah Zimmerman

## February 2

Alison Arceneaux  
Gage Bourque  
Chase Clifton  
Gabrielle Lopez  
Blaise Romero  
August Segura  
Josie Stiles  
Stevie Williams

## February 3

Esmé Badeaux  
Chad Baudry  
Mindy Belaire  
Landon Courville  
Blake Douet  
Kyle East  
Lillie Landry  
Peyton Ledford  
Tyler Mitchell

## February 4

Avery Begnaud  
Braedon Berard  
Stacie Bourque  
Barbara Boutte  
Beth Huval  
Derick Huval  
Kelton Musmeche  
Analise Romero  
Pamela Romero  
Cathy Veazy  
Erin Worsham

## February 5

Jana Angelle  
Dawn Boudreaux  
Andrew Champagne  
Cole Delahoussaye  
Reese Dugas  
Linda Escagne  
Spencer Gondron  
Kennedy Landry  
Caitlin Miguez  
Livi Ronsonet  
Emmaline Theriot

## February 6

Bryan Stephens

## February 7

April Blanchard  
Dianne LeBlanc  
Ella Robin  
Debra Shackelford  
Isabella Viator

## February 8

Jasmine Armentor  
Ashley Courville  
Courtney Dugas  
Eliana Gilbile  
Lucas Landry  
Dylan Laviolette  
Gaelyn Lopez  
Benny Mestayer  
Colton Ransonet  
Sandy Sonnier  
Rhetta Viator

## February 9

Beau Blanchard  
Brody Charpentier  
Russell Erikson  
Scott Guidry  
Joshua Matt  
Janet Thibodeaux

## February 10

Marie Allard  
Cody Faucheux  
Joshua Girouard  
Brittaney Glynn  
Landon Guillot  
Brittany Hebert  
Kennedi Schaubert

## February 11

Shelby McIntyre  
Scarlett Segura  
Tara Segura

## February 12

Macie Buteaux  
Remi Courville  
Michael Lawson  
Lauren Louviere  
Mary Louviere

## February 13

Gary Boudreaux, Jr.  
Gail Hebert  
Ed Pommier

## February 14

Kelsey Gondron  
Alec Richard  
Brantley Schaubert

## February 15

Happy Birthday!

May God richly bless you on your special day.

It will be our privilege to remember you at the altar during the celebration of Holy Mass as we offer the Victim.

*Father Crochet and Father Godwin*

Kandis Guillot  
Fisher Hotard  
Ramsey Hulin  
Jacob Mestayer  
Jordan Rebert  
Carson Scott  
Alayna Theriot  
Alex Tucker

## February 16

Audrey Barrientez  
Sydney Breaux  
Tammy Breaux  
Anjelle Graves  
Blayze Landry  
Hayden Landry

## February 17

Bailey Albert  
Noah Barthelemy  
Buddy Chastant  
Brooke Garrett  
Reese Snoddy

## February 18

Basil Borel  
Jonathan Norris  
Hunter Prados

## February 19

Brandi Angelle  
Dylan Blanchard  
Whitney Boudreaux  
Devon Dressel  
Brad Judice  
Maine Latiolais  
Ava Mayer  
Alison Saunier

## February 20

Jonathan Boudreaux  
Allison Broussard  
Andrew Broussard  
Kelly Dugas  
Mackenzie Frederick  
Jenna Latiolais  
Kelsi Romero  
Samuel Schexnayder  
Michael Thibodeaux

## February 21

Jennifer Broussard  
Gabrielle Daniels  
Cassie Landry

## February 22

Scott Angelle  
Roy Breaux, Jr.  
Marcus Broussard

Ashley Comb  
Emma-Claire Latiolais  
Jory Neuville  
Emma Stoute

## February 23

Seth Bienvenu  
Ruby Borel  
Kyzin Broussard  
Bevyn Landry  
René LeBlanc  
Graham Leleux  
Finn Marcantel  
Jami Moore  
Nanci Pellerin  
Cole Romero  
Dale Theriot  
Emma Waguespack

## February 24

James Glynn, Jr.  
Jagger Lancon  
Ellis Landry  
Isabella Menard

## February 25

Jason Badeaux  
Robin Bergeron  
Casey Comeaux  
Randolph Galentine  
Mary Hymel  
Maddie Richard

## February 26

Whiney Boudreaux  
Kevin Courville  
Sister Tracy Dugas  
Mia Hebert  
Seth Landry

## February 27

Kelbie Badeaux  
Cindy Guidry  
Luke Provost

## February 28

Duane Boutte  
Corey Derouen  
Ross Girouard  
Gloria Romero  
Aaron Stanfield  
Michael Thibeaux

## February 29

Henry Ansley, Jr.  
Virginia Judice  
Danielle Viator

# Necrology

## February 1

1897 Claude Gonsoulin  
1902 Anastasia Guidry  
1927 Marie Breaux  
1930 Irma Molbert  
1938 Emile Gregoire  
1938 Celine Verret  
1940 Roy Simon  
1959 Rev. Victore Faure  
2013 Herbert Robin  
2019 Robert Braquet

## February 2

1892 Leilia Mitchel  
1902 Augustine Blanchard  
1903 Armand Breaux  
1911 Rosa Alexandre  
1919 Noelic Broussard  
1921 Mary Louis  
1926 Andre Braquet  
1953 Harry Jewel  
1982 Raymond Schneider  
2005 Elmo Ransonet  
2018 Mary Ann Provost

## February 3

1881 Mathilde Ransonet  
1895 Alexandre Vital  
1910 Lillian Breaux  
1919 Infant Gonsoulin  
1933 Helene Suard  
1971 Davis Broussard  
1980 Elizabeth Prados  
1999 Camille Weber  
2001 Mae Ransonet  
2014 Murphy Landry

## February 4

1901 Ms. Joseph Verret  
1924 Ms. Fuzzeku Landry  
1933 Maxille Lewis  
1938 Infant Guillotte  
1938 Edwin Judice  
1939 Willie Rias  
1948 Antoine Escagne  
1984 Edwin Burke  
1987 Lilly Gonsoulin  
1989 Anna Mae Vaughn  
1994 Albert Broussard  
2005 James Richard St.  
2009 Melba Dugas  
2022 Chester Gonsoulin  
2024 Shane LaCour

## February 5

1876 Emilie LaBouve  
1885 Alexandre Chouveau  
1906 Ardes Bpmon  
1911 St. Cyr Dugas  
1916 Mme. Broussard  
1916 Joseph Prince  
1919 E. Lee  
1921 Constance Judice  
1949 Ulger Archange  
1985 Lavonne LaSalle  
2006 Shelton LeCamus  
2009 Yolande LeBlanc

## February 6

1893 Louis LeCamus  
1904 Anne Gonsoulin  
1905 Helaire Escoubas  
1918 Ms. Celestine Landry  
1925 Martha Warrick  
1934 Anne Girouard  
1935 Jeanette Estillette  
1936 Euseide Albert  
1942 Albert Olivier  
1963 Eloï Hebert  
1965 Louise Borel  
1976 George Andrus  
1978 Clyde Dressel  
1980 Baby Mestayer  
2022 Lavern Girouard

## February 7

1911 Julmas Dupieric  
1928 Anna Belle DeMaye  
1946 Edgar Broussard  
1949 John Bonin  
1966 Anthony Lamperez  
2014 Jacque Braquet  
2017 Russell Ruiz, Jr.  
2024 Melanie Tripeaux

## February 8

1900 Ms. Octave LeBlanc  
1953 Adonis Gonsoulin  
1955 James Persilver  
1978 Aline Bonin  
1983 Lona Broussard  
1984 Henrietta Broussard  
2001 Michael Lawson Jr.  
2005 Lennet Grivat Sr.  
2010 Barry Eldridge

## February 9

1894 Infant Provost  
1906 Infant Gondran  
1908 Helene Bastien  
1923 Ms. Ben Lissard  
1929 Winston Lewis  
1937 Paul Dressel  
1942 Euphrase Broussard  
1960 Philomene Decuir  
1963 Irma Bonin  
1966 Gilman Dupre  
1973 Milton McDuff  
1989 Anthony Berard  
1990 Eliza Patin  
1997 Bertha Braquet  
2013 Bentley Smith  
2019 Maurice Provost

## February 10

1901 Infant Dugas  
1916 Estella Antoine  
1918 Infant Gonsoulin  
1918 Louis Arnaud  
1936 Robert Dauterive  
1958 Euphemon Bonin  
1961 Lydia Walet  
1963 Dale Vaughn  
1967 Antonia Gouter  
1993 Clifford Broussard  
2008 Eula Judice  
2014 Jennifer Bienvenue  
2017 Loren Pierre

## February 11

1877 Constance Berard  
1895 Amalie Broussard  
1922 Josephine Jones  
1935 Price Oubre  
1948 Felicie Dugas  
1965 Dorestan Price  
1969 Elizabeth Gonsoulin  
1972 Andrew Bonin Sr.  
1975 Elizabeth Breaux  
1976 Annette Judice  
1979 Junius Frioux  
1990 Juliette Melancon  
2022 Guernice Dugas  
2023 Harriet Boudreaux

## February 12

1880 Dozite Breaux  
1884 Anna Ste. Cyr  
1889 Anatole Broussard  
1893 Lucien Crone  
1910 Effee Decuir  
1922 Ms. Henri Braquet  
1925 Feresia Price  
1927 Florida Vital  
1936 Adele Broussard  
1940 Edmee Dugas  
1944 Joseph Segura  
1945 Lillian Bohue  
1953 Clementine Riley  
1963 Martin Amy

1963 Julia LaBouve  
1974 Percy VanBrooklin  
1993 Rita Walet  
2011 Patrice Hebert  
2024 Walter Latiolais

## February 13

1884 Rosette ?  
1900 Infant Broussard  
1903 Syles John  
1918 Euphemie Decuir  
1923 Ms. Simon Eldridge  
1925 Oride Gondron  
1935 Elaina Frederick  
1935 Mathilde Girouard  
1939 Rosa Johnson  
1940 Alice Sieber  
1971 Annette Verret  
1975 Verne Pixley  
1986 Calvin Braquet  
2002 Gertrude Vaughn  
2015 Cheryl Segura  
2015 Ervin Knatt  
2020 Gene Champeaux

## February 14

1883 Marie Stewart  
1894 Casimere Johnny  
1918 Emile Broussard  
1921 Constance Judice  
1926 Edgar Oubre  
1933 Doris Latiolais  
1933 Joseph Dorey  
1953 Steven Domingue  
1956 Thomas Gonsoulin  
1993 Robert Doerle  
2002 Edmonia Tauzin  
2003 Sheryl Pelous

## February 15

1896 Infant Johnson  
1900 Ms. Joseph Blanchard  
1903 Ladger Crossing  
1929 Infant Judice  
1942 Aurelia Dugas  
1953 Bertha Arnaud  
1968 Sidney Prince  
1995 Lezin Rodriguez  
1998 Rose Bourque  
2007 Connor Sons  
2013 Suzette Judice  
2013 Jules Vital  
2015 Delinda Anthony

## February 16

1900 Infant Provost  
1905 Veolor Prince  
1905 Emile Borest  
1914 Infant Ste. Marie  
1916 Infant Boudreaux  
1924 Zeolide Darby  
1934 Marscana Decuir  
1936 Laurence Didier  
1945 Henry Broussard  
1955 Adelia Bonin  
1960 Doulva Barrilleaux  
1992 Wayne Gondron  
2013 Kelly Louviere  
2014 Louis Broussard

## February 17

1909 Collin Proult  
1953 Mary Mestayer  
1960 Bettina Suire  
1966 Edalie Moulondon  
1966 Onesia LeCamus  
1972 Emerite Gondron  
1978 Claire Eldridge  
1981 Desire Lissard  
1986 Louise Crochet  
2020 Paul Melvin Judice

## February 18

1901 Ms. Aurilieu Breaux  
1902 Alzina Simon  
1903 Jeanne Simon  
1916 Anna Lockwood  
1917 Ms. Oscar Louviere  
1930 Maudry Doucette  
1933 Adonis Broussard  
1942 Eudolie Dugas  
1949 Adolphe Olivier  
1981 Gerdic Judice  
1990 Elise Vincent  
2005 Clifford Gonsoulin  
2015 Brandy Vital  
2018 Charles Birus, Sr.

## February 19

1901 Adolphe Gonsoulin  
1907 Joacin Antoine  
1935 Mary Porter  
1943 Lue Landry  
1958 Louis Bonin  
1979 Grace Breaux  
1984 Ms. Felix Breaux  
1990 Louto Boutte  
1993 Walter Granger Jr.  
2001 Harvey Latiolais  
2010 Joyce Albert  
2011 Lloyd Tripeaux  
2021 Vance Breaux, Sr.  
2021 Loretta Girouard  
2023 Robert Judice

## February 20

1876 Albert LeBlanc  
1905 Willey Gardner  
1905 Joseph Blanchard  
1909 Alice LeCamus  
1924 Camille Lewis  
1926 Adeline Dugas  
1946 Emerite Molbert  
1979 Anthony Chataigner  
1982 Euphemon Vincent  
1985 Etienne Romero  
1985 Clarence Tauzin  
1997 Agnes Bellot  
1998 William Audibert  
1999 Mae Crochet  
2005 Earl Boutte  
2008 Kevin Mayea  
2012 Sidney Horton Jr.  
2014 Delonis Rochon  
2022 Deckam Breaux

## February 21

1889 Loreau Auzer  
1892 Charlotte Hamilton  
1906 Elise Dugas  
1908 Gustave Warrick  
1912 Elda Crochet  
1914 Marie Dugas  
1918 Carmelite Louviere  
1922 Eva Dugas  
1926 Constance Gondron  
1936 Lydia Fauchaux  
1938 Lucile Ransonet  
1942 Louis Grand  
1945 Eddie Terradot  
1957 Joseph Broussard  
1985 Edwin Gonsoulin  
2011 Rita Viator  
2022 Leroy Van Brocklin

## February 22

1885 Manguente Louviere  
1892 Moyer Provost  
1892 Carmelite LeBlanc  
1917 Eusebe Provost  
1923 Ms. Sidney Prince  
1931 Julia Fallis  
1933 Gustave Bonin  
1936 Irene Fontenette  
1941 Anthony Walet  
1960 Louise Braquet  
1961 Gustave Berard

1966 Carrie Gonsoulin  
1969 Ms. Lee Dugas  
1970 Tony Broussard  
1989 Antoine Braquet  
2002 Lillian Erikson

## February 23

1900 Ms. Vincent  
1917 Victorine Geofroy  
1928 Ms. Charles Blanchard  
1936 Ethel Fauchaux  
1943 Sully Dugas  
1958 Antonin Brquet  
1972 Shane Broussard  
1978 Ernestine Broussard  
1979 Otto Bonin  
1993 Emile Dressel Jr.  
2017 Ermus Borel  
2020 Elise Judice

## February 24

1901 M. Marcelite  
1911 Laurence Norbert  
1923 Ms. Laurent Bonin  
1931 Leo Jones  
1934 Alfred Bonin  
1959 Lena Boutte  
2011 Wilfred Lancon  
2018 Steven Boudreaux

## February 25

1908 Infant Blanchard  
1915 Abel Decuir  
1939 Letitia Broussard  
1968 Joseph Landry  
2002 Clalia Crochet  
2019 Anna Mae Gachassin

## February 26

1898 Charles Fontenot  
1956 Norbert Provost  
1963 Helene Grivat  
1969 Laurent Bayard  
1978 Rose Plessela  
1992 Oscar Courville  
2001 Raymond Borel

## February 27

1873 ? Julien  
1904 Leon John  
1913 Annette Gardner  
1919 Celestine Simon  
1932 Elizabeth Dugas  
1933 Edeole Broussard  
1941 Louisiane Clovis  
1958 Samuel Frioux  
1961 Willie Judice  
1972 Marcelite Broussard  
1976 Elisie Vaughn  
1996 Mae Derouen  
1999 James Jenkins  
2011 Elgin Romero  
2019 Mercedes Louviere

## February 28

1893 Infant Dugas  
1897 Camile Hebert  
1929 Felius Gatch  
1930 Emma Dugas  
1934 Elina Dugas  
1939 Edmond Dugas  
1958 Alice Braquet  
1960 Beverly Chataigner  
1976 Olympe Blanchard  
1986 Lamar Nassans  
1996 Christopher Calcutt  
2006 Lorphus Cabrol  
2023 Emile Davis Jr.

## February 29

1912 Ernest Antoine  
1916 Bertrand Brquet  
1980 Marie Bonin  
1988 Rivers Provost  
2012 Clayson Dugas



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