



st. Joseph

Roman Catholic Church

Est. 1872

Pastor

Rev. Brent L. Smith

Mass Times

Sat Ant: 4pm

Sun: 7am, 10am, 5:30 pm

Mon: NO MASS

Tues: 12:05 pm

Wed: 6:30 am

Thurs: 12:05 pm

Fri: 6:30 am

First Sat: 9:00 am

Connect

stjoerayne.org

facebook.com/stjoerayne

Parish Office

400 S. Adams Ave.

P.O. Box 199

Rayne, La 70578

Contact

337-334-2193

stjoseph1872@diolaf.org

Office Hours

M, T, Th: 8am - 4pm

W: 8am - 2pm

F: 8am - Noon

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 08, 2022



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Easter*

MAY
8
2022

For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne
will shepherd them
and lead them to springs of life-giving water.

Revelation 7:17



WE BELONG TO GOD

In the time of Jesus, when multiple flocks of sheep would be gathered, protecting the flock depended heavily on the shepherd's personal recognition of individual sheep, by sight and sound. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses this imagery to speak of how Jesus—with the Father—protects those whom God loves—that is, everyone. Forces that pull us away from God are ultimately no match for the fierce love that God has for us. Our favor with God does not depend on our behaving properly, or gaining theological knowledge, or holding precise beliefs. Our stance with God is primarily about God's insistence that we belong to God, and to no other. Belonging to God, we know that however much we mess up, we are not lost. Belonging to God eventually draws us into a life of care for each other. Belonging to God, we can safely grow into a fuller belonging.

LIGHT TO THE GENTILES

Today's passage from the Acts of the Apostles is one of several turning points in the self-understanding of the early Church. Paul evokes the image of "A light to the Gentiles." Some thought that Gentiles, non-Jews, were somehow marginal in God's eyes. The Gentiles in Paul's audience rejoice, because they now see that they are not "second class" members of God's family, but fully part of God's beloved people. The story continues by noting the resistance from those who enjoy "first class" status in the community, as inclusion of the Gentiles was perceived as a threat to their self-image and privilege.

The book of Acts continues to challenge today's societies, churches, and organizations. Luke's vision of God's family, united as equal heirs to the Kingdom of God, confronts our many barriers of wealth, race, gender, and much more. We are invited to give witness to this vision in our life together as the Church.

WHITE ROBES

Our reading from the Book of Revelation presents the image of God's people before God's throne, wearing robes that are washed white in the blood of the Lamb. A robe, especially when worn in God's presence, is meant to express the real truth about the person. A white robe indicates their purity. The washing in the blood of the Lamb (Jesus) suggests that the people have met much suffering and, in some manner, have participated in the suffering of Jesus.

These passages were written to a people experiencing great tribulations in living their faith. But the author of Revelation does not suggest that anyone should seek out suffering for its own sake. He does not make suffering somehow a necessary entry pass for salvation. Our sufferings come from many sources, and suffering is a profound mystery. The image of washing in blood suggests that God is present within our suffering. God accompanies our suffering, leads us toward refreshment, and will wipe every tear from our eyes.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 13:14, 43–52
Psalm 100:1–2, 3, 5
Revelation 7:9, 14b–17
John 10:27–30

Men's Bible Study

Fridays at 7am
In the FLC

Sacraments

Reconciliation/Confession

30 minutes prior to Mass or any other time by appointment.

Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled through the Parish Office. Please call 334-2193 to schedule the sacrament. Preparation Classes are held the 4th Sunday of each month after 10 AM Mass.

Marriage

Call the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance of desired wedding date to schedule an appointment and begin the preparation process.

Funerals

Funeral home personnel will contact the parish office for you to make all the necessary arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the parish office to schedule the sacrament of anointing.

St. Joseph Church
Electronic Offering

ONLINE

OFFERTORY

SCAN THE CODE TO GIVE



venmo



Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Offertory

Offertory of 04/17/2022 \$13,066.61

2nd Collection next weekend is for Bishop Services Appeal Fund

The Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly to proclaim the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Tabernacle. This week we dedicate the flame to:

Lois, Roy, Charles & Kenny Myers
Jesse Mae Foreman
Gannol R. Zaunbrecher

The Pieta Lamp

Mother of Sorrows, You who held Jesus in your arms, please intercede with your Divine Son on behalf of:

Jaime Gardiner Henderson
Vivian Boudreaux
LeBodier & Onezima Lavergne

Baptisms

We welcome those who entered our Catholic faith through the waters of Baptism:

No baptisms this week.

Weddings

We joyfully share in the Sacramental union of:

No weddings this week.

Dearly Departed

Our faith community remembers in prayer our dearly departed.

Woodley Joseph Comeaux

Prayers for the Sick

Dale Alleman, Natalie Alleman, Helen Boudreaux, Nessie Boudreaux, Ricky Boudreaux, Zora Boudreaux, Willie Bourque, Bradley Breaux, Darla Bryson, Nola Comeaux, Preston Comeaux, Denise Constantin, Marvin Constantin, Phoebe Deshotel, Susan Dollison, Kerry Doucet, Theresa Cramer Doucet, Margie Dubois, Zubaida Elahi, Diego Escandon, Martha Fontenot, Paula Fontenot, Shannon Fontenot, Debra Fusilier, Barbara & Tanya Gaspard, Laura Gautreaux, Eula Granger, Laurie Guenther, Keylonna Guidry, Raymond & Deanean Guidry, Karen Hebert, Sammy Hernandez, Martha Hodge, Lloyd Jeffers, Candi Hebert Latino, Leslie Leger, Tara P. Logsdon, Merella McFalls, Richard Melancon & Family, Jessica F. Miller, Loretta Miller, Judy Mouton, Ronnie Myers, Kristian Navarre, Mark Navarre, Francis Pellissier, Claudia "Pie" Richard, Darrell (Bubba) Richard, Jr., Judy Richard, Hayden Ruffner, Myrtle Servat, Jeanette Simoneaux, Carita Sonnier, Mary Trahan, Rose Venable, Linda Viale, Becca Guidry Vidrine, Marguerite Wyble

DID YOU KNOW?

The Sisters of Mt. Carmel were assigned to St. Joseph Parish in 1891. The convent was blessed by Fr. Blaise Branche and two Benedictine Friars in January 1892 and opened its doors for the first time in February 1892.

THE FIRST 150 YEARS

FORMED: Catholic Faith On Demand

St. Joseph has purchased a parish account at Formed.org. There you will have access to Hundreds of Hours of Watching, Reading, and Listening to the Best Catholic Content online.

Go to www.formed.org/signup and search for St. Joseph to **sign up for free!**

CALLING ALL GREEN THUMBS!

ST. JOSEPH Garden Club

Fr. Brent is seeking volunteers to beautify and maintain our church with flowers and plants.

If interested, please call the Parish Office. 337.334.2193

Garden Mausoleum

We are pleased to announce that arrangements have been completed with American Cemetery Consultants LLC to build the beautiful new Garden Mausoleum in St. Joseph Cemetery. The program has the full approval of His Excellency, the Most Reverend J. Douglas Deshotel, D.D., Bishop of Lafayette.

Sales representatives of American Cemetery Consultants will be contacting families in the Rayne area over the next few weeks to answer questions about the mausoleum and determine who is interested. The number of crypts selected before construction will determine the size of the mausoleum. Spaces are reserved on a first come basis; therefore, anyone seeking information should either mail in the postage paid reply card from the brochure mailer that was mailed to your home or call (337) 347-6989.

NEW GARDEN MAUSOLEUM UPDATE



We wish to thank everyone for the warm reception given to Joe Blanchard, Keith Boudreaux, and Tommy Lyons, who are visiting families in Rayne concerning the St. Joseph Cemetery New Mausoleum. The active survey part of the program is scheduled to be completed in the next few weeks. Therefore, all families that have not made a final decision are reminded that this will be the last opportunity to make financial arrangements with American Cemetery Consultants. If you have not been contacted about the new mausoleum, and are interested, only a short time remains on our survey period. Only those families that contract for spaces now will be assured burial places in the Memorial. Remember, the final size of the building will be determined by the number of families that select spaces during this part of the program. **ACT NOW!!** Call 337-347-6989



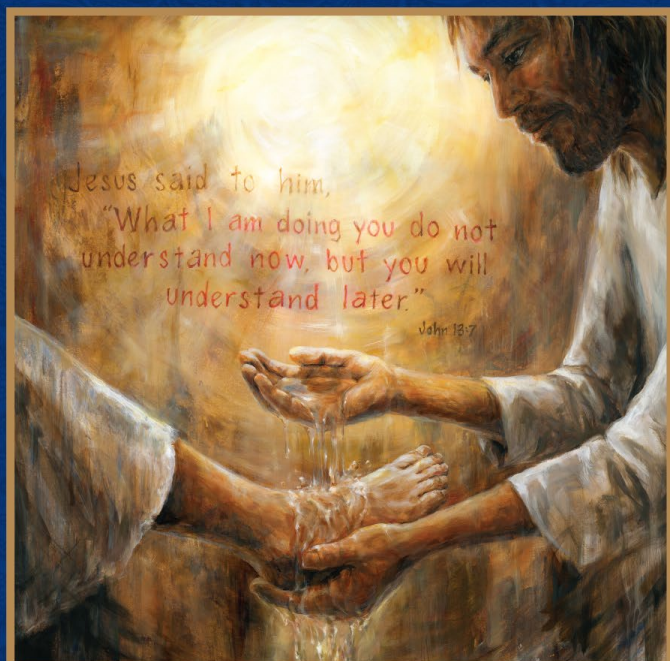
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MAY
8
2022

For the Lamb who is in
the center of the throne
will shepherd them
and lead them to springs
of life-giving water.

Revelation 7:17

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF *Easter*



PLEASE
DONATE!



Text DIOCESE to 50155 or scan this
QR code to make your donation

Ministers Schedule

May 2022

Sat. 4pm: Lector - Cathy Breaux Extraordinary Ministers - Mary Comeaux, Ramona Besse Altar Servers - 4 o'clock Team **Sun. 7am:** Lector - Connie Speyrer Extraordinary Ministers - Betty Bellard, Phil Speyrer, Albert Johnson Altar Servers - 7 am Team **Sun. 10am:** Lector - Paul Molbert Extraordinary Ministers - Liz Deaville, Charmaigne Lawless, Gracie Mouton - Choir Altar Servers - 10 am Team **Sun. 5:30pm:** Lector - Charmin Broussard Extraordinary Ministers - Bryan Guidry, Andy Richard, Emma Landaiche Altar Servers - 5:30 Team



Divine Mercy Ministry for the Dying

If you know someone who is in imminent danger of death, call the number below for a Divine Mercy chaplet to be prayed for that individual.

337-237-5059

A Diocesan Ministry of St. Pius X
Catholic Church available for all,
Catholic and non-Catholic

Adoration Sign Up

Sign up for Adoration

rayne.weadorehim.com

First Friday Mass & Adoration

The first Friday of the month is often marked by special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) reported visions of Jesus Christ directing her to promote devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on nine consecutive First Fridays in reparation for sins and in order to show love to Jesus. In return for this act of devotion, which usually includes Mass, Communion, confession and even an hour of Eucharistic Adoration, our blessed Savior reputedly promised St. Margaret Mary the following blessings:

"In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour."

Please join us every first Friday of the month for 6:30am Mass followed by Adoration from 7-8am. Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours!

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin the Holy Season of Lent, we are called to fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Let us remember in our prayers the people of Ukraine who are suffering the ravages of a brutal war of aggression by Russia. We see every day how this brutality is affecting men, women, children, the elderly and infirm. Children and the elderly are being forced from their homes in an attempt to flee destruction.

None of us can imagine our lives being upended as the Ukrainian people are enduring. In the middle of winter they are without heat, electricity, food and medicine. Many of the elderly, walking with crutches, must tread through snow, water and mud trying to find safety. We cannot help but be moved to have compassion for our fellow human beings. Please remember them in your prayers. Pray also that national leaders will be moved to seek peaceful means to resolve their differences.

Many have asked how they could help monetarily. Donations will be used to provide food, medicine and even warm clothes. If anyone wishes to help, donations may be given to your pastor or to me at the Diocesan Offices, 1408 Carmel Drive, Lafayette, LA 70501, marked "Ukrainian Relief". The United States Conference of Bishops has a close relationship with the Ukrainian Bishops and any donations will be forwarded to them for relief efforts.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel
Bishop of Lafayette

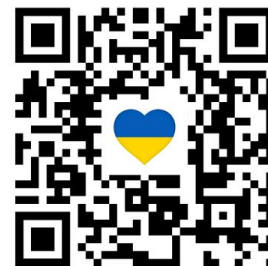


Diocese of Lafayette

FOOD | MEDICINE | CLOTHES

UKRAINIAN RELIEF

ALL DONATIONS COLLECTED WILL GO TO THE
DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE TO UKRAINIAN BISHOPS
BY WAY OF THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
BISHOPS



SCAN TO GIVE

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Joseph Catholic Church #467550
400 South Adams Ave.
Rayne La 70578

PHONE

337-207-0291

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