

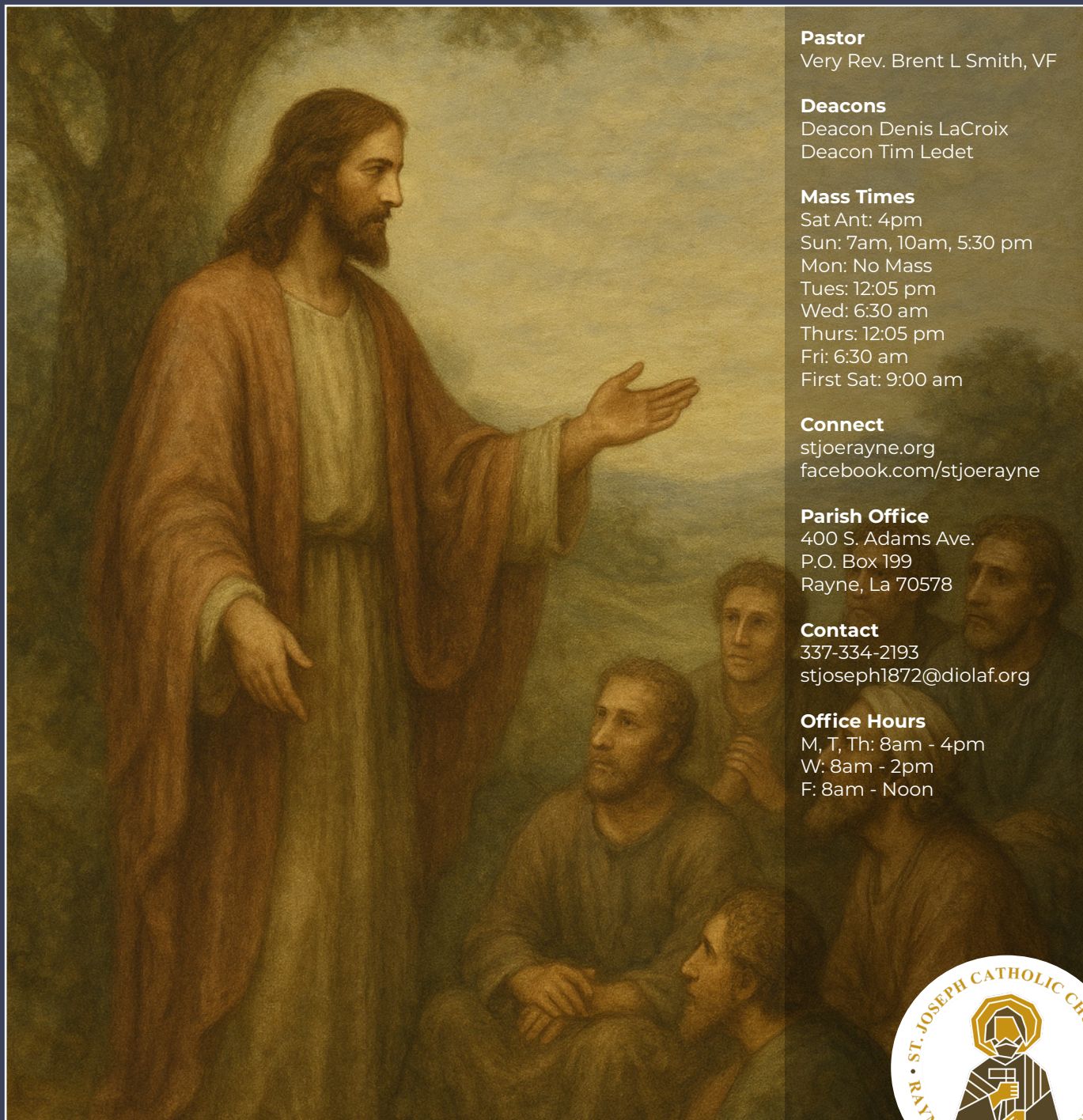
st. Joseph

Roman Catholic Church

Est. 1872

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025



Pastor

Very Rev. Brent L Smith, VF

Deacons

Deacon Denis LaCroix
Deacon Tim Ledet

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





THE MISSION OF ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH *is to form disciples who come to know, love and experience God in His truth, beauty and goodness, and then share with others what we have come to know.*




O, COME LET US ADORE HIM




Sign up today for Eucharistic Adoration
<https://rayne.weadorehim.com>

Your generosity contributes to our mission:
 Providing opportunities for others to Encounter Christ, Share His love
 & Become more like Him.




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online
giving

To give electronically, use the camera on your phone,
 hover over the code above and tap the link that pops up.






**Rayne
Catholic
Elementary**

*Our students will learn together, work together, and pray
 together in answering the call to a faith-filled life of service.*

MRS. ALICIA ARDOIN, PRINCIPAL
 FR. BRENT SMITH, PASTOR

main office | 337.334.5657
 cafeteria | 337.334.3247
 fax | 337.334.3301


**NOTRE DAME
HIGH SCHOOL
of ACADIA PARISH**

.....home of the PIONEERS

EDUCATING ITS STUDENTS IN MIND, BODY, &
 SOUL WITH THE LOVE OF JESUS, THE DISCIPLINE
 OF JOSEPH, & THE FAITH OF MARY

WENDALL PRUDHOMME, PRINCIPAL
 FR. BRENT SMITH, CHANCELLOR

main office | 337.783.3519
 athletics | 337.783.8776
 fax | 337.788.2115




**PASTORAL CARE
Service**

In an effort to provide timely pastoral
 care to our St. Joseph parishioners
 who are suffering from an extended
 illness or an extended hospital stay
 or receiving palliative care,
 we ask the family to please notify the
 Parish Office to arrange a visit
 from our clergy.



OUR CLERGY:

- ✓ Very Rev. Brent L. Smith, VF
- ✓ Denis LaCroix – Deacon

CONTACT US AT:

337-334-2193
stjoseph1872@diolaf.org

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!

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.

Serve in the Liturgy

Do you love God's holy word? Do you love the Holy Eucharist? We need you as a Lector proclaiming his Word. We need you as an Extraordinary Minister bringing Christ's Body and Blood to his people. Call André Landaiche for more information. 337-250-1332

Holy Hour Sign Up

Sign up for Adoration
rayne.weadorehim.com

Weekly Offertory



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Offertory week of 08/24/25 - \$9616.16
Weekly Budget - (\$12596.15)
Over/Under Budget - (\$2979.99)

2nd Collection next weekend is for St. Joseph Parish Insurance Fund

Prayers for the Sick

Connie Credeur Anderson, Melissa Arnaud, Marie G. Benoit, Obrey "Toboy" Benoit, Jr, Rosa Benoit, Shannon Benoit, Laura Boudreaux, Fr. Allen Breaux, Flo Broussard, Naomi Faul Carriere, Courtney Comeaux, Kinley Comeaux, Tony Comeaux, Gail Crisp, Joseph Mel Daigle, Dolores Deville, Peggy Deville, Harry Dogie, Abigail Leonards Duthu, Linda Durio, Tom Ehni, Cheryl Fabacher, Donald Faulk, Racy Guidry Foreman, Katie Fruge, Kathy Pellerin Fruge, Debra Fusilier, Barbara & Tanya Gaspard, Laura Gautreaux, Lurline Guidry, Raymond, Keylonna, & Denean Guidry, Rose Guidry, Monica Harrington, Karen Hebert, Wayne Hebert, Sammy & Dana Hernandez, Martha Hodge, Charlotte Istre, Janelle Kibodeaux, Harper Lancon, Sandra Lavergne, Nanette Simoneaux LeBlanc, Dina Lejeune, Carla Lormond, Noreima Lowenstein, Patsy Meaux, Judy Melancon, Mary Melancon, Berna Menard, Loretta Miller, Patrick Miller, Bonnie Sue Navarre, Kristin Navarre, Dorothy Nelams, Brannon O'Connor, Sandy Parks, Amelia Grace Pellerin, Mary Alice Petitjean, Deacon Richard Picard, Shirley Quebodeaux, Clyde Reed, Clifford Richard, Edward Richard, Emmett Richards, Dee Rogers, Glenda Meaux Rogers, Quentin Rowe, Hayden Ruffner, Theresa Savoie, Linton Seaux, Myrtle Servat, Ashley & Kade Siebold, Angela Stelly, Kraig Stutes, Ronald Stutes, Juanette Suire, Dylan Terro, Veronica Terro, Christina Thevenet, Joel Thevenet, Horace Thibodeaux, Rita Trahan, Chris Van Pelt, Rebecca "Becca" Vidrine, Josh Wyble, Linda Zaunbrecher

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 , Robert & Roy Myers

Pieta Lamp

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

Dorothy Richard

Baptisms

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

Asher Anthony Carriere
Elliott Scott LeJeune

Dearly Departed

Our faith community remembers in prayer our dearly departed.

Karl James Leon
Vernice Gautreaux
William Andrew Habetz

Prayer Before Receiving Holy Communion

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen. St. John Chrysostom

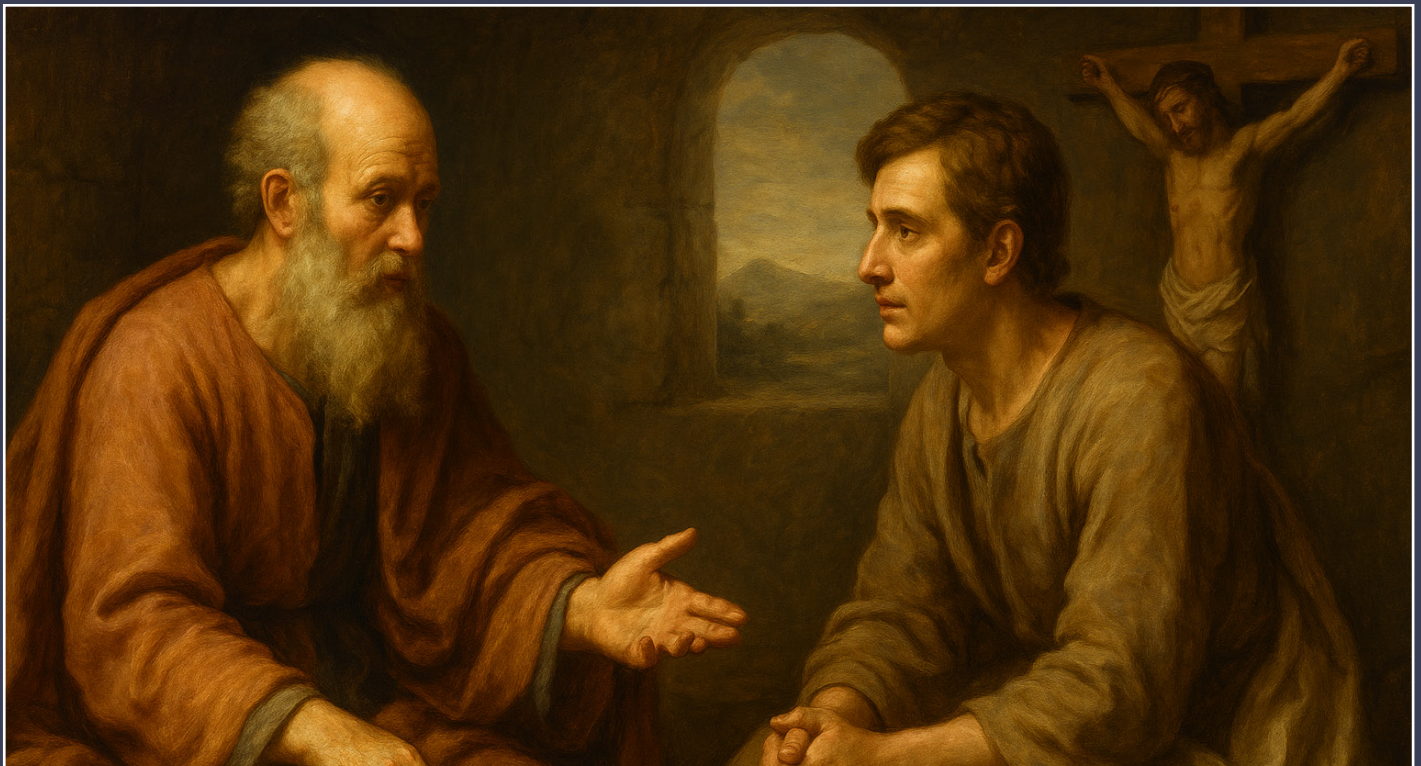
Free to Love

St. Paul must have understood today's Gospel very well. Like Jesus, he knew what being a disciple would cost. It landed him in prison. Yet he seems to have no regrets; he accepts that imprisonment as part of his discipleship. Also like Jesus, he is not afraid to ask others to take that discipleship seriously. And he is not ashamed to ask a favor: Would Philemon accept his runaway slave, Onesimus, back into his home? Not just as a slave, but as a member of his family. He shamelessly calls himself a prisoner for Christ five times in the short letter (three times in our reading). If that didn't tug Philemon's heartstrings, Paul also calls himself an old man.

In the Gospel, Jesus talks about the cost of discipleship. Paul takes that a step further; he reminds us to accept that cost freely. He could have ordered his friend to free the slave. Paul was an apostle, a leader in the early church. Instead of giving an order, he called on Philemon to respond freely to his request. Perhaps we can learn from that example.

Like Paul, when Jesus commands us to love one another, he leaves us free to accept that challenge. Remember, he always says, "Love one another, as I have loved you" (John 13:34). Jesus was never compelled to cure anyone or forgive their sins. No one ordered him to feed the hungry with loaves and fishes or raise Lazarus from the dead. Yet how often do we go to church because we were told we have to? Do we volunteer for the picnic only because the pastor twists our arm? Or do we love Jesus so much that we volunteer to help without being asked? Do we love Jesus enough to invite others to follow him? We can live life just doing what we have to. Or when Jesus offers us a new motive—love for God because God loves us—we can choose to follow him freely. In John's Gospel, there is no Agony in the Garden. He shows us that Jesus chose to obey his Father and willingly took up the cross. Let us ask the Spirit to fill us with the freedom to love.

Tom Schmidt



Attention Ladies! Encourage the man in your life to attend
(That Man is YOU!)

TMIY

It helps men be better husbands,
fathers, brothers, friends and
authentic men of God.

**Starting September 2nd
on Tuesday mornings**

Sign up by using the QR Code or click
<https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/812138>



CARLO ACUTIS PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

September 7

Two modern saints to be canonized have been greatly anticipated due to the great devotion among the faithful.

Bishops Services Appeal

BSA as of July 31, 2025

Goal \$46269.00

Total Collected as of July 31, 2025 \$38012.00

Balance of \$8257.00

% of Goal is 82%

There is a God, and I'm Not Him

Humility has been front and center in the readings these last two Sundays. Humility is often a misunderstood and maligned idea, but the readings today and last Sunday shed some light on what humility really means.

Last Sunday, we were advised not to exaggerate our abilities or consider ourselves more important than we are. Humility isn't pretending we are worse or lowlier than we actually are, either. It is being honest about our strengths and limitations, both with ourselves and others, recognizing that all our gifts ultimately come from God.

This Sunday, we hear another aspect of humility: knowing our place in relation to God. How can we, in our limited human perspective, imagine that we know what God should do? That anything we know wasn't first revealed to us by God? That anything we have didn't come, directly or indirectly, from God? Furthermore, that anything we have, even relationships with loved ones, can be anything more than a pale comparison to the unfathomable gifts God gives and will give us?

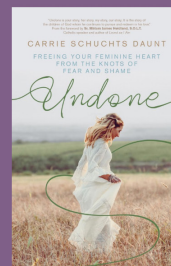
One way I've heard people sum up this aspect of humility is by saying, "There is a God, and I am not Him!" There's a kind of freedom in this aspect of humility - I can let God be God and take care of the things that are beyond my ability and understanding. I can turn to Him when my limited strength fails me and I cannot finish building my tower, and let Him guide me. I might even find that, if I would have had the humility to consult God first, I would have been building a bridge instead of a tower.

By J.M. Pallas



Undone

A Book Study for Women



Grow closer to God and connect with other women through prayer, reflection, and meaningful conversation during this **4-6 week study**.

All are welcome.
Come journey deeper.

📅 Begins **September 13th**

🕒 Saturdays • 8:00-9:30am

📍 Family Life Center

Please purchase the book before the first session.

To sign up, contact:

Josette Leblanc **Shawn Lacroix**
josette@stjoerayne.org murphylacroix1@gmail.com

Katrina Benoit
katrina@stjohnstmargaret.com



GET INVOLVED!

Faith Formation

Elementary, Middle & High School
Shelby Fusilier | shelby@stjoerayne.org

Rayne Catholic Elementary

www.raynecatholic.org | 337-334-5657
Principal | Alicia Ardoin

Babyberries

For children not of school age
Fridays, 9am, FLC, September-April
Josette LeBlanc | josette@stjoerayne.org

Elderberries

Meet on Wednesdays 8-12, FLC
Carroll Menard | jmenard433@cox.net

Music Ministry

Denise Brignac | cbic318@aol.com

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus is a Fraternal Organization of Catholic men from our parish, 18 years or older, dedicated to serving our church
Daniel Simoneaux | bigsim002@gmail.com

Catholic Daughters

Ladies 18 or older - second Thursday of the month
Tammy Clark | tclark3570@hotmail.com

Ultreya

Thursdays, 6:30-8:00, Cry Room
Neal Duhon | nduhon@msn.com

Lay Carmelites

Cathy Breau | cathyrbreaux@gmail.com

Men's Bible Study

Deacon Denis Lacroix | dcnlacroix@gmail.com
Fridays 7:00-8:00am, FLC
Damian D'Augereaux |
Thursdays 5:30-7:00am, FLC

Come Lord Jesus

Bible Study
Mary Terro | mtvip40@yahoo.com
Debra Fusilier | debra 3757@aol.com

Homebound Communion

Deacon Denis LaCroix | dcnlacroix@gmail.com

ACTS

For more information

Grayson Benoit | 337-523-7497

OCIA

For adults wishing to become Catholic or complete their sacraments
Father Brent Smith | bsmith@diolaf.org | 337-334-2193

Lectors/Extraordinary Ministers/Altar Servers

Andre' Landaiche | alandaiche@gmail.com

Sacristans

Brenda Hooper | bjh5802@gmail.com
Helen Johnson | dezyndsurv@yahoo.com

Ushers

Jack McIntyre | jmcintyreii@hotmail.com

Small Group Initiative

Get involved in parish life by joining a small group today! Short-term & seasonal group opportunities available
For more info: Mandy Miller | mandy@stjoerayne.org

To sign up for a Holy Hour:

<https://rayne.weadorehim.com/en>



Welcome to the Church

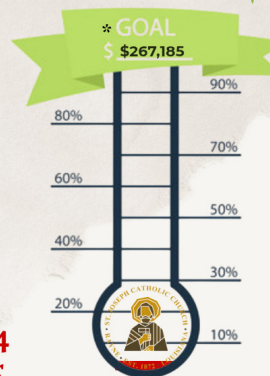
Welcome to the Catholic Church, Asher Anthony Carrier!
Asher is the son of Macy Dailey & Gage Carrier.



FUNDRAISER FOR REPAIRS TO BELL TOWER AND RECTORY

NEW EXPENSE AND IMMEDIATE REPAIRS
NEEDED: Multiple leaks in church roof and gutters to be resealed

Update



*This project is ongoing. Cost estimates may change. Kindly scan the QR code, drop a donation in the collection basket or stop by the parish office to support our fundraising effort.



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