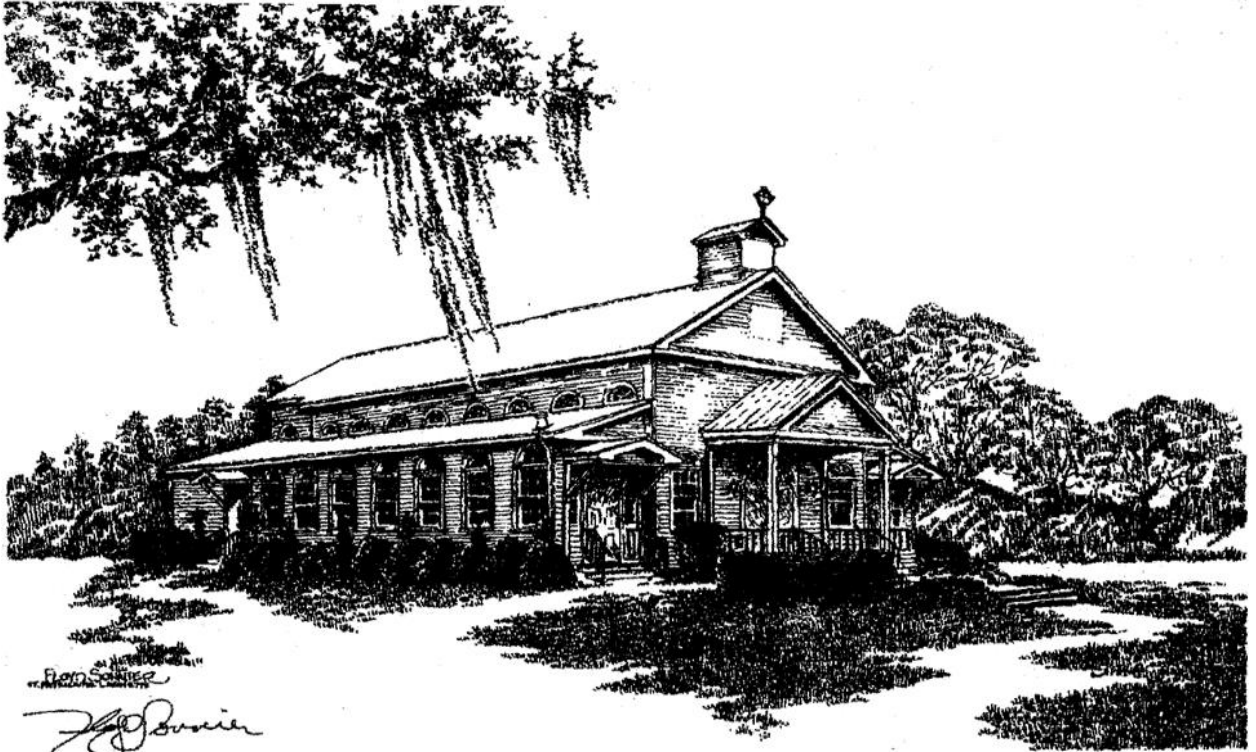


St. Patrick Catholic Church

February 19, 2023 – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



L'Église St. Patrick

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Fri 8 a.m.-12 noon

Holy Mass

Saturday: 4 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 & 10 a.m.
Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday: 3:20-3:50 p.m.
Weekdays: 7-7:25 a.m.

Fr. Joshua Guillory
Pastor

Adoration Chapel
in parish hall
at 107 Petro St.,
across from church

Monica Mullins
Secretary
Sharon Savoie
Sacristan

406 E. Pinhook Road
Lafayette, LA 70501-8727
Phone: (337) 237-0988

www.stpat.org
stpat.org@gmail.com

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 18

4 p.m.: John P. Zagar; Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Rolfes; Dr. & Mrs. Walter Comeaux, Jr.; Mr & Mrs. James Laurent, Jr.; Jack Boudreaux; Bob Bourgeois; Ronnie Savoie

Sunday, February 19

8:30 a.m.: Jerry Hays; Fr. Rex Broussard

10 a.m.: Parishioners of St Patrick

Monday, February 20

7:30 a.m.: Louis Delahoussaye

Shrove Tuesday, February 21

7:30 a.m.:

Ash Wednesday, February 22

7:30 a.m.: Dr. Tommy Comeaux & Dorinne; Col. Clark Comeaux & Catherine (*living*); Col. Kimberley Fedele (*living*)

Thursday, February 23

7:30 a.m.:

Friday, February 24

7:30 a.m.: Kreamer family

Life and Legacy of Pope Benedict XVI

February 24-25, St Thomas More High School. Sponsored by the Aquinas Institute. Keynote speakers: Fr. Bryce Sibley, Dr. Joshua Brumsfield, Dr. Jordan Haddad. Tickets \$30. Details and registration at aquinaslafayette.org.

Louisiana Black Advocates for Life

LBAL is a committed pro-life group working to promote a culture of life in Louisiana's black community. More details and information can be found at lblackadvocates.com.

Civil Rights in Louisiana

Learn about the struggle for civil rights in Louisiana by visiting the online resource louisianacivilrightstrail.com.

Fight the New Drug

Fight the New Drug (FTND) is a non-religious, education-focused organization that seeks to give visibility to the harm of pornography. Visit fightthenewdrug.org for articles, videos, podcasts, and more.

Integrity Restored

Integrity Restored is a Catholic organization that offers education and resources to combat pornography use. Visit them at integrityrestored.com.

Healing Hearts Counseling Center

A Catholic support group *for women* whose relationships have been harmed by the pornography or sexual addiction of a spouse or loved one. Weekly meetings, from 12-1:30 p.m., or in the evenings by appointment. Strict confidentiality is observed by all members. Contact 337-404-6113 for more information.

Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

~ Psalm 119:37

Mardi Gras, Church office closure

St Patrick's parish office will be closed on Tuesday, February 21 in observance of Mardi Gras.

Ash Wednesday Mass

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick Church at the regular Mass time, 7:30 a.m. No other Masses will be celebrated at St Patrick on Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday collection

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, a special collection will be taken up during Mass. As part of our Lenten almsgiving, all proceeds will go directly to Catholic Charities of Acadiana.

Let us pray for:

Adam Guidry, nephew of parishioner Monica Guidry, who has been diagnosed with ALS.

Parishioners Raymond Garry and Larry Lewis, who ask for prayers for their health concerns.

Oscar "Bo" Phillips, brother of parishioner Ken Phillips, who is at Heart Hospital.

Parishioners George and Lily Billeaud. George has recently been diagnosed with brain cancer.

Parishioner Michael Doumit, who had knee surgery on February 13.

Christy Maraist, sister of parishioner Vida Lege, who has suffered strokes and a heart attack.

Parishioner Brenda Demette, who celebrated her birthday this past Friday.

Please let us know of your prayer intentions.

Collect for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out in both word and deed that which is pleasing to you.

St Maximos, abbot, On charity († 662)

Love is a right attitude of mind which prefers nothing to the knowledge of God. We cannot attain lasting possession of such love while still attached to anything worldly. Anyone who really loves God prefers to know and experience God rather than creatures. The whole set and longing of his mind is ever directed toward God, who is far superior to all creation. If one truly loves God, he must love his neighbor as well. Such a one cannot hoard his wealth. Rather, like God himself, he generously gives from his own resources to help others in their need, the only distinction being the person's need. He does not distinguish between the good and the bad, the just and the unjust. Yet his own goodness of will makes him prefer the one who strives after virtue to the one who is depraved. A charitable mind is displayed not simply in giving money; it is manifested still more by personal service and by the communication of God's word to others. Do not say: "Faith alone in our Lord Jesus Christ can save me." By itself faith accomplishes nothing, for even the devils believe and shudder. No, faith must be joined to an active love of God expressed in good works. The charitable man is distinguished by forbearance and patience toward his neighbor and by the right use of material things.

Last week's stewardship

Offerings.....\$4,161

Thank you for your generous support!

From the Pastor's Desk

Over the past two weeks I have written on what is necessary in order to receive the Eucharist in holy communion: first, you must be Catholic; second, you must be in a state of grace interiorly; third, you must not be prohibited from receiving communion. *Last week*, I wrote about the necessity of being in an interior state of grace in order to receive holy communion. *This week*, we look at the necessity of not being prohibited from participating in communion.

There are some exterior circumstances that prohibit a Catholic from receiving holy communion. For instance, children under the age of reason; those who have not observed the eucharistic fast; those who have already received communion twice in one day; a Catholic who is married only civilly; the excommunicated. But the best known of these circumstances is the case of divorced Catholics who remarry outside the Church.

From the outset, it must be said that Catholics who are married outside the Church are *not* excommunicated. It cannot be repeated enough that the difficulty – at least from the point of view of receiving holy communion – is not so much the fact of divorce, but the public remarriage, a decision that runs counter to the explicit witness of Scripture and the teaching of Christ himself on the nature of marriage. Marriage creates a bond that can be dissolved only by death. To marry another while still bound by a prior marriage is to be in what is termed a state of manifest grave sin. It is a violation of the Lord's commandment not to commit adultery. Those in "irregular unions" are openly and publicly in a gravely sinful situation. For this reason, they may not receive holy communion.

But neither may those who cohabit outside of marriage. Neither may Catholics who are married only civilly. Neither may the owner-operators of a gravely immoral business.

Neither may those who take public positions in contradiction to Christian holiness in matters of grave moral import.

It must be borne in mind that the prohibition against receiving communion in these cases is not a penalty or a punishment. It is a consequence of a public and exterior circumstance in contradiction with the holiness of life demanded of the Christian who is called to communion with Christ.

However, Catholics who are prohibited from receiving the Eucharist should not think that they cannot or ought not attend Mass simply because they may not receive communion.

It is helpful here to remember that we are bound to gather in worship to celebrate the Eucharist each Sunday, while we are bound to receive the Eucharist in holy communion *only once per year*. There is no obligation to receive communion each time we come to Mass.

This is hugely important and widely forgotten. And it can be a real relief for people to know that their Church – and their fellow Catholics – expect them to gather for the celebration of the Eucharist each Sunday, no matter their state in life, even if they may not receive communion. Not so long ago this was widely known and widely practiced. Catholics, even regularly practicing ones, would rarely receive communion each Sunday, though they never missed Sunday Mass. Rather they received communion only when fully spiritually prepared and after a careful confession.

This simple, practical fact of Catholic life may prove helpful when discussing this difficult and delicate matter with loved ones. Remind them that their Church, and their fellow Catholics, want them to gather for the worship of God in the Sunday Eucharist even if they may not partake of holy communion. Who knows how God's grace may work in such souls to deliver them and to give them peace! For with God, all things are possible (Mt 19:26).

Fr. Guillory