# St. Francis of Assisi







#### MAY 22, 2022 • 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Rev. George-Bede Ajuruchi, SSJ gebee78@yahoo.com

**THE JOSEPHITES** 

Betty John - *Volunteer Secretary* CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-12 noon

MASS SCHEDULE WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m. Sunday 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

**WEEKDAY MASS** Tuesday-Friday 7:00 a.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT In the Rectory Chapel Friday, 8:00a.m. to Friday 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS Tuesday through Friday 7:30–8:00 a.m. Saturday3:45–4:15 p.m. Sunday 8:45–9:15 a.m. and any time upon request.

**BAPTISMS** If you are seeking information about Baptisms please contact Mrs. Melazie Jacobs at 332-1788.

> RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Classes September through April Sundays 8:00–9:00 a.m. (Grades 1–6) Sundays 10:45–11:45 a.m. (Grades 7–11)

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Lisa Alexander Clarence Celestine Janice Demouchet Ricky Gary Sr. Margaret Noel Anna Ferraro Nataki Faulk TRUSTEES Melazie Jacobs Raymond Auguillard

#### **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH**

#### BREAUX BRIDGE, LA



May 22—Braylon Goodie, Willie Luckett, Megan Roberts, Josephine Thibodeaux

May 23—Quintille Cormier, Danielle Fontenette, Otelia Leblanc, Tyler Ledet

May 24—Leroy Jones, Michelle Alexander, Eva Mouton, Brandon Williams, Jessica Wiltz

May 25—Larence Blanchard, Jessica Davis, Trayvion Gabriel, Aaron Noel Jr.

May 26—Joseph Broussard, Louis Green, Wilbert Narcisse

May 27—Kendrick Broussard, Annie Francis

May 28—Andrew Leblanc, Jai'Don Martin, Melvin Williams

May 29-Samantha Joe, Gloria Vavasseur, Jasmine Wiltz



Ida Abraham Alice Alexander Alexis Alexander Fannie Alexander Joseph M. Alexander Agnes Amest Fr. Daniel Bastianelli, SSJ Hebert Joseph Brooke Joseph Taylon Roy Gerald Dugas William Alexander William Bossier Rose Charles Stephanie Cormier Clara Mae Demouchet Helen Derouselle Beatrice Felix Ro Risa Rena Pearce Rashawna Jean-Batiste Raven Jean-Batiste Rose A. Noel Dorthy Prejean Mary Anne Jean Batiste Rae Ann Landry Mary Louis Landry Dorothy Lewis Joseph Lewis Lucille Mallery Jeanette Demouchet Zaylon Pierre Rose Mary Davis Clayton P. Ledet Margaret Zenon

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Hilda Martinez Rachel Menard Anna Mae Metoyer A'Mani Marie Noel Claudell Noel Irene B. Noel Rose Noel Mrs. Clifton Pete Msgr. Ron Broussard Indiana Ledet Mary R. Lewis Lorraine Alexander Symone Rawls Anthony Sylvester Bell St. Julien Genevieve Thibodeaux Amy Thompson Audrey Wiltz Joseph Matthew Noel Jr Cecelia Soularie Leroy Jones Ada Landry

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults(RCIA) desires to bring the Light of the Holy Spirit to everyone we encounter, and we ask the faith filled Christians here at St. Francis of Assisi to be part of our Evangelization process. Let us embark on a journey of Light following our Lord who will give us the "Light of Life".

For more information call Cassandra Griffin at 337-257-1942 or Betty John at 337-442-1177.



#### WEEKLY BULLETIN

#### **Buck & Johnny's**

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#### MASS ATTENDANCE

COLLECTION		05/15/2
	TOTAL	220
MAY 15	9:30 A.M.	<u>93</u>
MAY 15	7:00 A.M.	64
MAY 14	4:30 P.M.	63

### COLLECTION—05/15/22 \$4,145.00

#### **6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



FIRST READING 'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities.' (Acts 15:28)

**PSALM** O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67) Or Alleluia.

#### SECOND READING

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. (Rev 21:10)

#### GOSPEL

"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." (Jn 14:26)

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## **WORSHIP & MEDITATION**



#### GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Jesus tells his disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you." The peace that Jesus gives is far different than the kind that comes from the absence of war, conflict, or affliction. The peace that God offers is found alongside suffering and hardship, not necessarily in their absence. St. Teresa of Avila offers us a bit of wisdom regarding peace: "May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise, and love. It is there for each and every one of us."

In order for us to experience the divine peace that Jesus offers, we have to allow God's presence to settle into our bones! It is only when this happens that we can be truly taught by the Holy Spirit to discern the true path to peace and find ourselves with untroubled hearts. The world and our lives are so unpredictable and changeable. If we look for a source of lasting and real peace only there, our search will never be satisfied. Something will always unsettle and disturb us. The Jewish disciples could really relate to what Jesus was saying about peace (shalom). They already knew that it was more a matter of achieving wholeness and wellbeing than anything else.

Wholeness and wellbeing are precisely what is uncovered when we begin to really see and know the height, depth, and breadth of God's presence and promise. The elegance of God's Divine life flows through our blood and the marrow in our bones. It is that close and deep. As we breathe in and exhale God's life, peace becomes what we know within and what is exhaled out. This remains in the midst of intense conflict, persecution, suffering, rejection, and even death.

#### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

#### ENCOURAGING THE ENCOURAGER

I remember brother John today. We called him Brother J. Everyone knew him in our church then, especially members of the parish's Charismatic Movement prayer group. He was an encourager. If he knew of someone with a need, he would not rest until he met it or until he got someone who could. He was not a priest, nor was he one of the leaders in the Charismatic Movement, but he would have passed for any of those. He visited, counseled, and prayed for people. No one could miss our prayer meetings two weeks in a row without having Brother J visit him. He was one smiling, energetic brother who was always smiling and available. He did not seem to have a care in the world. As busy as he always was helping people, I never heard him complain about anyone. I had seen him respond to the most abrasive insults with good-natured jokes and sweet laughter.

I returned from school when I was in college, and at my first prayer meeting, I noticed that Brother J was not there. I asked some of his 'friends' why, and they could not give me a definite answer. One said maybe he had traveled to see his family. Another said maybe he was busy doing something important. All I got was a bunch of "maybes" and more maybes from his 'besties.' I asked some guys who had been helped by brother J, and they could not tell me anything useful. Even those in leader-ship could not tell me anything important.

During the week, I decided to look for Brother J. It took me two days to find his house. I was shocked. This gracious brother was living in the most inhospitable condition. A boy showed me his room, the room he used to live in. Brother J had died four months earlier. None of his brethren was aware. Not even those he helped. This gracious brother had fallen on hard times in the past eighteen months and had lost so much. This made him move to this terrible neighborhood of gangs, living in unsanitary conditions. He had been asthmatic, but his trials and living conditions aggravated his ill health. Brother J was sick and was in his room for a week. He died in that room.

The boy that took me to his room told me Brother J sent him to one of the brothers in his church group at the height of his sickness. That one said he would tell the others. My investigation revealed that he told a couple of people, and they all agreed to visit him sometime. They never did. His neighbors took his body to the morgue and did what they could to find his extended family members. Brother J had been quietly forgotten by the people he loved. I cried.

My dear friends, do not ever think that the people around you who seem to be very strong do not need encouragement. The brethren who neglected Brother J were probably good people who took his strength for granted. They believed Brother J was usually fine and would be okay this time as well. You know that smooth presumption that makes you think, "I know it is too late, and daddy should be home by now, but I am sure he can take care of himself. Let us go to sleep"?

Encouragers need encouragement. To encourage you, they sometimes have to ignore their own troubles, which may be much bigger than yours. You may think they are very rich, but they may have issues in their lives that money cannot handle. You may think they are always happy, but they are only smiling for you. They may be trying to lift you up while they are down. Those who are strong for others sometimes need someone to be strong for them. The people you go to when you feel like giving up on life, when you are neck deep in financial or marital challenges, who leave everything to spend hours with you on the phone, pray with you, visit you and nurse your battered confidence back to health, they need encouragement too.

Your mother, father, brother, or pastor may be the strongest person you have ever known. Most times, what they have shielded you from had hit them hard in the past and left some marks on them. You do not know about these because they chose not to tell you. Sometimes the minor errors they commit are due to the pressures on them. You sometimes judge them too harshly because you have not been where they have been.

I call on you today to encourage your encouragers. Call them and thank them. Tell them how much you appreciate them. Tell them you have not taken them for granted and pray for them. Some of us are alive today because of those who left their challenges to attend to our troubles. Do not abandon your Brother J. He is probably battling a giant now that a word from you can help him defeat. Letting him know you care for him may be all he or she needs to hear. Don't be offended if he seems to have withdrawn from you. He is probably hiding his challenges from you, not wanting to burden you with his troubles.

Again, encourage your encourager. Remain blessed.

#### PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

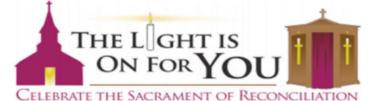
"Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen May 22—Rev. Msgr. H. A. Larroque, JCL May 23-Rev. Korey LaVergne May 24—Rev. Bernard Lebiedz, OSB May 25-Rev. Clyde LeBlanc, SJ May 26-Rev. Steven LeBlanc May 27-Rev. Chaplain Col. Louis LeDoux May 28-Rev. Mark Ledoux May 29-Rev. Lambertus Lein, SVD "For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins." (Hb. 5:1)



#### Baptism Requirements for St. Francis of Assisi

Parents or guardian requesting Baptism must pick up a copy of the Baptism Requirements from the office.

All information must be turned in by the week before Baptism.



## What are the consequences of a mortal sin?

A mortal sin "results in the loss of charity and the privation of sanctifying grace, that is, of the state of grace. If it is not redeemed by repentance and God's forgiveness, it causes exclusion from Christ's kingdom and the eternal death of hell, for our freedom has the power to make choices for ever, with no turning back" (*CCC 1861*).

This is why it is so important for mortal sins to be confessed to a priest as soon as possible.

## WEEKLY PRAYER

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 22, 2022**

Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/In 14:23-29 Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ln 16:5-11 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15 Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Jn 16:16-20 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/ /Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/|n 16:20-23 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/ Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28 Next Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or

Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53 Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9 [1a, 9a]/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/ Jn 17:20-26

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 22, 2022**

Sunday:	6th Sunday of Easter; St. Rita of Cascia, Religious	
Wednesday:	St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin	
Thursday:	St. Philip Neri, Priest	
Friday:	St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	
Next Sunday:	7th Sunday of Easter; The Ascension of the Lord; St. Paul VI, Pope; World Communications Day	

#### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

Everyone wants to experience peace. When we look to the world to provide this for us, we can easily get disappointed. We associate peace with an absence of war and conflict, good relationships between neighbors and coworkers, the achievement of success and even the absence of noise! While all of these are worthy endeavors, pursuing them exclusively as a path to experiencing peace sets us up for failure. When we look for peace outside of ourselves, it will never be found. True and lasting peace is something that comes from within and not something we can produce on our own or receive from others. Peace is discovered when we experience an inner wholeness and harmony. It is born of a sense of connectedness with a God who is larger and greater than ourselves, gifting us with His presence. It is the only the peace offered by the Risen Christ that can settle our hearts and calm our fears. Regardless of the degree of turmoil around us, this sense of completeness that Jesus gives anchors our boats and prevents us from sinking.

