

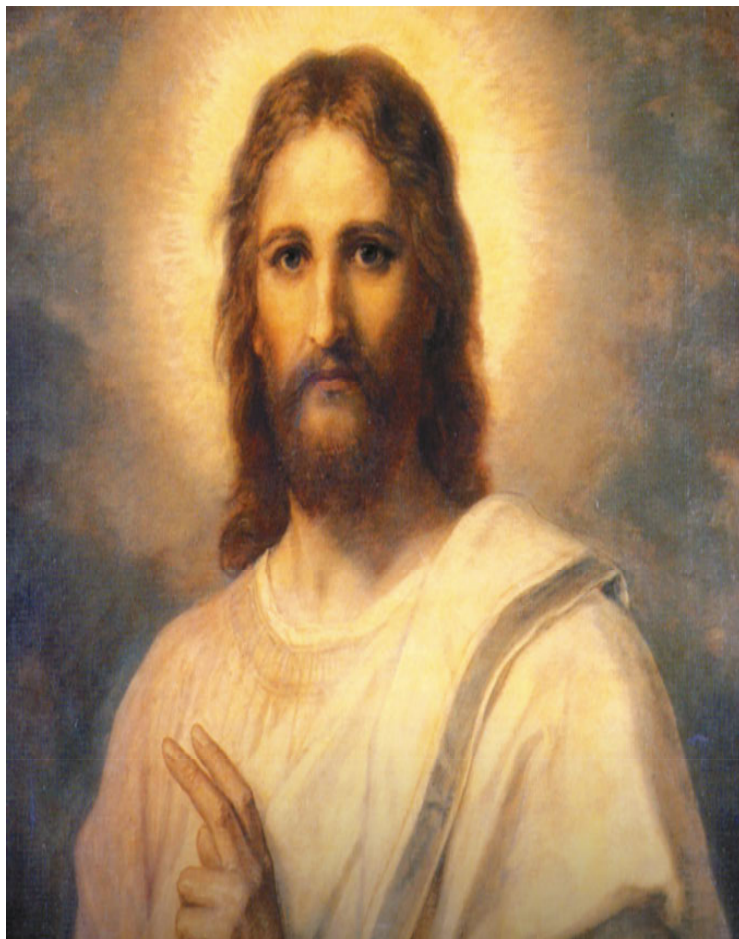
# St. Francis of Assisi

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



**JULY 24, 2022 • 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES**

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**Rev. George-Bede Ajuruchi, SSJ**  
[gebee78@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

Saturday 3:45–4:15 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)

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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

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MASS ATTENDANCE

<b>JULY 16</b>	<b>4:30 P.M.</b>
<b>JULY 17</b>	<b>7:00 A.M.</b>
<b>JULY 17</b>	<b>9:30 A.M.</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>

**COLLECTION—07/17/22**  
**\$2,630.00**

- July 24**—Mary Fontenette, Wilbert LeBlanc Sr
- July 25**—Silas T. Noel
- July 26**—Felix Arceneaux, Dalton Calais, Lisa Sylvester
- July 27**—Clinton Aubrey, Mark Broussard, Kenneth Joseph Jr., Kallie Lewis, Cordelia Ledet, Ceola M. Potier
- July 28**—Verda Alexander, Naji Clay, Linda Robicheaux
- July 29**—
- July 30**—Tra'zyriah Augustus, Patricia Martinez
- July 31**—Glenn Jean Batiste Jr.

**Happy Birthday**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- |                             |                       |                        |                     |                        |
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| Alice Alexander             | William Bossier       | Rae Ann Landry         | Rachel Menard       | Symone Rawls           |
| Alexis Alexander            | Rose Charles          | Mary Louis Landry      | Anna Mae Metoyer    | Anthony Sylvester      |
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| Agnes Amest                 | Helen Derouselle      | Lucille Mallery        | Irene B. Noel       | Amy Thompson           |
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| Hebert Joseph               | Ro Risa Rena Pearce   | Zaylon Pierre          | Mrs. Clifton Pete   | Joseph Matthew Noel Jr |
| Brooke Joseph               | Rashawna Jean-Batiste | Rose Mary Davis        | Msgr. Ron Broussard | Cecelia Soularie       |
| Taylon Roy                  | Raven Jean-Batiste    | Clayton P. Ledet       | Indiana Ledet       | Leroy Jones            |
| Gerald Dugas                | Rose A. Noel          | Margaret Zenon         | Mary R. Lewis       | Ada Landry             |
|                             | Dorothy Prejean       | Carmorita Roy          |                     |                        |



### FIRST READING

"Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" He replied, "For the sake of those ten, I will not destroy it." (Gn 18:32)



### PSALM

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. (Ps 138)



### SECOND READING

He brought you to life along with him, having forgiven us all our transgressions. (Col 2:13)



### GOSPEL

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Lk 11:9-10)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Meister Eckhart asks, "Who is the man whose prayers God always hears?" He answers, "God hears the man who appeals to God as God. When, however, man appeals to God, hoping for some worldly good, he is not appealing to God at all, but to what he is asking of God. He is trying to make God his servant. On this point, St. Augustine says: 'You pray to what you love, for true whole prayer is nothing but love!' Thus, we pray to what we love, and no one rightly prays to God but he who prays for God and has nothing on his mind but God." We struggle with what we want God to do and how we want our prayer validated. Meister Eckhart is correct. We often want God to be our servant. We further struggle with trusting that God knows what we need and that His will is best.

God's will is not some predetermined outcome of events that we must simply suggest. "Thy will be done" is not an invocation beckoning us to accept a particular state of affairs passively. Rather, it is the humble and confident placement of ourselves in the presence of the God we seek, whom we call "Father." We must remember that God is the God of life and light. It is from nothing that God brings something and from the darkness that God brings life. Prayer allows us to seek the One we love with the assurance that all will be well regardless of what course the events of our lives take. God is not about passive submission but the humble trust of love.

That's what makes the Lord's Prayer the perfect prayer. It provides us with proper disposition and focus, putting in line all of the essential relationships of our lives. It celebrates and fosters the ever-deepening relationship of trust we have with our Creator. It also calls us to keep open the doors of love between our brothers and sisters with the power that comes with forgiveness. If in one's darkest hour they can find the resolve to fervently pray this perfect prayer of Jesus' conviction, then there is no doubt that God will hear their plea, reach out in love, and bring them ever closer to His heart. What more does one need to weather the storms of life besides faith, hope, and love? These are God's most perfect gifts and all we really need.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## Food for Thought

Be Slow in Judging others.

"My boss drove a luxury car every day, and it was my duty to greet and open the gates for him as I worked as a watchman in his villa. But he never responded to my greetings. One day he saw me opening the garbage bags outside the mansion in search of any leftover food. But, as usual, he never even looked at me; it was as if he never saw anything!

The next day, I saw a paper bag at the same place, but it was clean, and the food inside was covered well. It was fresh, and good food like someone had just brought it from the supermarket. I didn't bother about where it came from; I just took the paper bag and was so happy about it. Every day, I found this paper bag at the same place with fresh vegetables and all we needed for the home. This became my daily routine. I was eating and sharing this food with my wife and kids. I was wondering who this fool could be, to forget his paper bag full of fresh food every day? One day there was a big problem in the villa, and I was told my boss had died. Too many guests came to the mansion that day, and I didn't get any food that day, so I thought that one of the guests must have taken it. But the same thing happened on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th day. It went on like this for a few weeks, and I found it challenging to provide food for my family, so I decided to ask my boss's wife for a raise in my salary or else I would quit my job as a watchman.

After I told her, she was shocked and asked me how I had never complained about my salary for the last two years till only after the death of her husband? And why was the pay no more enough for me now? I gave her so many excuses, but she was never convinced! Finally, in the end, I decided to tell her the truth. I told her the entire story of the bag of groceries and how it was my daily provision. She then asked me when this stopped? I told her after the death of her husband. And then, I realized at the moment that I stopped seeing the paper bag immediately after the death of my boss. Why didn't I ever think of this before? That it was my boss who was providing this for me? I guess it was because I never thought that a person who never replied to my greetings could ever be this generous!

His wife started crying, and I told her to please stop crying and that I was sorry for asking for a raise. I didn't know that your husband was providing me with the meals. I'll remain as a watchman and be happy to provide my service. But the wife told me, "I'm crying because I've finally found the 7th person my husband gave this bag full of food. I knew my husband was giving seven people every day, I had already found the six people, and I was searching for the 7th person all these days. And today, I found out."

From that day onwards, I started to receive the bag full of food again, but this time his son was bringing it to my house and giving it to my hand. But he never replied whenever I thanked him, just like his dad! One day, I told him THANK YOU in a thunderous voice! He replied to me to please not be offended when he doesn't reply because he has a hearing problem, just like his dad!"

Oh! We have often been wrong in judging others without knowing the true story behind their actions. Be kind and courteous in dealing with others, for everyone is fighting a hard battle. Be careful; not everything is about you. Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Before you assume, you better ask and don't just jump to conclusions. Our hasty decisions can only keep us away from ever discovering the truth.

## 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*

*July 24—Rev. David Rozas*

*July 25—Rev. Michael Russo*

*July 26—Rev. Francois Sainte-Marie, MIC*

*July 27—Rev. Donald Saunders, SJ*

*July 28—Rev. Garrett Savoie*

*July 29—Rev. William Schambough*

*July 30—Rev. Gary Schexnayder*

*July 31—Rev. Andrew Schumacher*

*“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 is the priest's role in the sacrament of confession?

“When he celebrates the sacrament of Penance, the priest is fulfilling the ministry of the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost sheep, of the Good Samaritan who binds up wounds, of the Father who awaits the prodigal son and welcomes him on his return, and of the just and impartial judge whose judgment is both just and merciful.”

“The priest is the sign and the instrument of God's merciful love for the sinner.”

The priest is called, practically, to lead “the penitent with patience toward healing and full maturity. He must pray and do penance for his penitent, entrusting him to the Lord's mercy” (CCC 1465-66).

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 24, 2022

**Sunday:** Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 [3a]/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

**Monday:** 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

**Tuesday:** Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Mt 13:36-43

**Wednesday:** Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17-18/Mt 13:44-46

**Thursday:** Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Mt 13:47-53

**Friday:** Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

**Saturday:** Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12

**Next Sunday:** Ecd 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 [1]/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 24, 2022

**Sunday:** 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Sharbel Makhlof, Priest

**Monday:** St. James, Apostle

**Tuesday:** Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Friday:** St. Martha

**Saturday:** St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**Next Sunday:** 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

Ultimately, what does God promise to give us when we pray? The short answer to that question is God. God promises to give Himself to us in prayer. Prayer is about union with God, not receiving favors. When God comes to us in prayer, His presence comes with faith, hope, and love. When we find these virtues enhanced and nurtured, we know that our prayer has been heard and answered. When we seek out, listen to, and live by these virtues we find ourselves led back to God and more united with the Divine Presence. We struggle with what we want God to do and how we want our prayer validated. That's what makes Jesus' prayer, the Our Father, so perfect. It celebrates a deepening intimate relationship of trust between our Creator and us. When we persistently cry out for God in love, how can that prayer go unanswered?

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