

St. Francis of Assisi

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



JULY 31, 2022 • 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES

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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.

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)

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Clarence Celestine
Janice Demouchet
Ricky Gary Sr.
Margaret Noel
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Nataki Faulk

TRUSTEES
Melazie Jacobs
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Members of Carver High School Class of **1964** will celebrate their 58th Annual Mass on August 21, 2022 at 9:30AM Mass.



July 31—Glenn Jean Batiste Jr.
August 01—Caleb Griffin
August 02—Cedric Babineaux, Aderic Babineaux, Nelton Calais, Briley Davis, Jonathan LeBlanc, Ella Mae Williams
August 03—Terri Robicheaux Skylar Thomas, Raymond Vavasseur
August 04—Dion Williams, Destin Noel, Paul Caven
August 05—Beatrice Celestine, Keionta James, Rita Demouchette, AnJahnee Wilridge, Ian Wiltz
August 06—Gertie Broussard, Kelyia Wiltz, Shirley Martinez, Keiandre Davis
August 07—Willie Mae Abraham, Willie Abraham, Phillip Bonhomme Sr., Dana Broussard

Happy Birthday

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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 Alexis Alexander
 Fannie Alexander
 Joseph M. Alexander
 Agnes Amest
 Fr. Daniel Bastianelli, SSJ
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 Brooke Joseph
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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

H & R Block—BreauX Bridge

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MASS ATTENDANCE

JULY 23	4:30 P.M.	69
JULY 24	7:00 A.M.	75
JULY 24	9:30 A.M.	74
	TOTAL	218

COLLECTION—07/24/22
\$3,406.00

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

For what profit comes to man from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which he has labored under the sun? (Ecc 2:22)



PSALM

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 90)



SECOND READING

If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. (Col 3:1-2)



GOSPEL

"God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'" (Lk 12:20)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What makes us feel secure? Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation. We worry more! We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace.

Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line? A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God.

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 31—Rev. Andrew Schumacher

August 01—Pope Francis

August 02—Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

August 03—Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel

August 04—Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell

August 05—Rev. Clinton Sensat

August 06—Rev. Bryce Sibley, STL

August 07—Rev. Walter Sidney, SJ

“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 if I feel nervous about going to the sacrament?

Remember, first, that in the sacrament you are fundamentally talking to God through the priest.

God loves you, wishes to forgive you, and desires to embrace you with the joy with which the prodigal son was embraced in Jesus’ parable (Lk 15:11-32).

Moreover, know that you will not say anything that the priest has not heard before. Do not be afraid. If you are nervous, please just tell the priest that you’re nervous and he will help you.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 31, 2022

Sunday: Eccl 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

Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36

Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 [12b]/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 31, 2022

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

Monday: St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

Thursday: St. John Vianney, Priest

Friday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

Saturday: The Transfiguration of the Lord

Next Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Greed is more present and powerful in our lives than we care to admit. We like our “stuff” and are hesitant to part with it. What we convince ourselves that we really need, we really do not. If everything we own is taken away from us tomorrow, life will continue. We will find happiness again. How many relationships are ruined because of inheritance issues? Our possessions cannot come with us when we die. Why do we foolishly think that we cannot live without them here? Wealth and happiness do not have physical origins. True wealth and happiness are gifts of God’s kingdom and matters of heart and soul. We are much more than what we possess, and greed is more real and operative than we think. Let us begin our journey to detachment with an honest admission. We often place more importance on things than on people and God. Ask God to accept our conflicted hearts and give us the courage to do things differently.

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