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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 31, 2021  
VOL. 92, NO. 5



*Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"*

## Worship with Us

### MASSES

Saturday Anticipated Mass 4 pm

Sunday

8:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekdays

(M-T-W-F only) 12:05 pm

Holy Days as announced

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3 to 3:45 pm

Weekdays (M-T-W-F) 11:30-11:50 am

Always on request

## Contact Us

### OFFICE

412 North Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5496

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

8:30 am to 12 noon

### TELEPHONE

225-387-5928

## Personnel and Staff

### BISHOP

Most Rev. Michael G. Duca, J.C.L., D.D.

[bishop@diobr.org](mailto:bishop@diobr.org)

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[music@cathedralbr.org](mailto:music@cathedralbr.org)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I have to admit that the past few weeks have been an **emotional roller coaster** for me, and I'll bet for you as well. The **low point** of course was on January 6, when the rioting mob supporting the previous president **attempted to overthrow the government** of the United States. What type of dictatorship might have been installed in its place remains unknown, since their disorganized illegal efforts failed in the face of our country's swift defense of our democracy. But for a while at least, it was horrifying.

Therefore, the ultimately peaceful transfer of power and **inauguration of President Biden** on January 20 was a high point. This cemented the fact that **we are governed by the Constitution**, and that governmental change and decisions that our leadership make happen in accord with it. While the pace of democracy is sometimes slow, since we may have to wait for a future election to greatly influence events yet to come, this gives the electorate time to evaluate matters and decide what is best. As a country, we need to be confident that **our system of government permits the best decisions to be determined by constitutional leadership**, one put in place by a knowledgeable, properly-motivated electorate. That's the best way to ensure a professional and competent leadership at every level of government.

But there is much still to be concerned with. While there are no perfect people, even Catholics – trust me, I hear confessions all the time! – **it flabbergasts me** that President Biden and so many others in both the Congress and the Executive Branch do not work to **eliminate the tragedy of legalized abortion** in the country. While much of the Democrat party's political emphasis is on caring for persons in need – something quite in line with Catholic values – the unborn are the most in need of something essential, life itself. It is an **illogical and completely immoral** position to hold that others' desires – to make life "easier" for themselves or to benefit financially – somehow outweigh babies' very lives. The psychological and emotional harm – and usually devastating guilt! – suffered by those who mistakenly choose to terminate the life of their child are also things that a caring society tries to eliminate as well.

There are also other strange, indeed wholly wrong ideas circulating these days, like the proposal to allow biological males to masquerade as females (and vice-versa) wherever they wish, including even in restrooms and in sporting events for example. It makes no sense to me. **A caring society does not discriminate unjustly**, and while we're not perfect yet, significant progress has been made. We know that racism cannot be tolerated, for example, and that persons of different sexual orientation and those of disparate economic status still must enjoy the right of equal treatment in secular law. But **some differentiation can be proper** – between sexes, between minors and adults, and between persons of different legal status, to name but a few examples – for **"the common good" in general outweighs individual circumstance**.

*Continued on page 3*

Continued from page 2

Notice that I'm *not* calling for mean-spiritedness in opposing the wrong decisions of anyone. Real progress begins with frank discussions, however, and a sharing of truth as this is known. Imperfect ideas held by intelligent people ought to yield to better ones, if we can bring effective, respectful persuasion to bear. Maybe I'm naïve about this, but deep down I **hope that the new executive administration and the Congress can work together**, choosing the best of all proposals for the future. I certainly wish that the bitter partisanship of recent times gives way to a more traditional willingness to work together for the good of everyone.

Those of you who know me (and who've read my column here in *The Carpenter* for a dozen years now) recognize my reticence at discussing any "political" topic publicly. Priests are responsible for guiding folks to holiness, however, and some mistaken political stances are just not holy. They have to be pointed out.

In the Lord,

## PRE-BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



Expecting a baby? Have you registered for our **pre-Baptismal parents' seminar**? The next one is scheduled for *Monday, February 8*, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Office.

Parents who are preparing for a child's baptism are required to attend one pre-baptismal seminar at least once, and the godparents are invited also.

**Please register beforehand** either by sending an email to [office@cathedralbr.org](mailto:office@cathedralbr.org) or by making a quick phone call to [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) – we need to know how many people will be attending! Please note that social distancing is usually not a problem, as the number of attendees is generally small, but masks are required.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 31

Masses – 8:30 and 10:30 am  
Anointing of the Sick – 11:35 am

### Tuesday, February 2

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life  
Food Pantry – 10 am

### Thursday, February 4

Alexander/Ruch Wedding Rehearsal – 6:30 pm

### Friday, February 5

Alexander/Ruch Wedding – 6 pm

### Saturday, February 6

Farmers' and Arts Markets – 8 am  
Vigil Mass – 4 pm  
Maintenance collection taken up at Mass

## MAINTENANCE COLLECTION



Next weekend, February 6-7, we will take up our monthly collection **For the Maintenance and Repair of the Cathedral**. These funds help us to – maintain our historic Cathedral so that it will stand for generations to come. Thanks for helping us make that possible through your generous gifts!

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK



Our Parish's communal administration of the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** will be held **this Sunday, January 31**, following the 10:30 am Mass. Catholics over the age of 7 who are seriously ill or anticipating significant surgery, or those weakened by old age, are eligible to receive this Sacrament.

The Redemptorist order has graciously loaned us two relics of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R. These are available for veneration during the administration of the Sacrament, and everyone attending receives a special blessing with it.

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

The regular collection over the weekend of January 16-17, along with donations mailed in and made during the week preceding it, came to \$5,659.00 (63 Identified Givers offered \$5,362.00, with the remaining \$297.00 donated anonymously).

The following week's regular collection, dated January 23-24, was \$5,278.00 (\$4,950.00 from 58 Identified Givers, and the remaining \$328.00 in the loose collection). The annual collection *For the Church in Latin America* totaled \$1,240.00 from 17 Identified Givers.

Thank you, as always, for your continued stewardship and generosity in support of our Parish and the greater global community!

Remember that you most conveniently use your bank's **"Bill Pay"** feature to give, or **mail in your contributions**, to our Parish Office, at 412 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5496. But *don't* send cash through the mails!

Special donations are also welcome, whether *memorial gifts* remembering departed loved ones, or gifts honoring living persons. You are **especially** invited to **include the Cathedral in your will** or living trust, helping to provide for our future! On a smaller scale, you can **sponsor one or more floral arrangements** for our weekend and special event Masses.

And finally, there are **lots of other ways** that you can help us with the cost of things: altar linens, missals and lectionaries, vestments, hosts and wine, candles and oil, incense and charcoals, furniture, music materials, dry-cleaning of vestments and choir robes, statuary, and of course regular office supplies are expenses that we encounter throughout the year. In fact this year we have more "disinfecting and sanitizing" expenses due to the Covid-19 virus!

Contact the Parish Office (225-387-5928 or [office@cathedralbr.org](mailto:office@cathedralbr.org)) with any questions.

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS



Many thanks to Hal & Carolyn Lancon for their continued sponsorship of our altar floral arrangements for two weekends of each month *In Memory of the Lancon & Prokop Families*.

If you would like to **donate the floral arrangements** for the altar – perhaps in honor of a special someone or intention, or in memory of a deceased family member or friend – simply contact the Parish Office by calling [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) or by sending an email to [office@cathedralbr.org](mailto:office@cathedralbr.org).

## PRAYER LINE - FEBRUARY 2021

Please take a moment to pray for:

**Hospitalized and/or Sick:** Jim Chenevert, Pam Gauthier, Gail Horton, Eloise Landry, Wan Lee, John Nowak, Mary Lee Redden, Gloria Simmons, Michael Smith and Tori Tassin, and Fr. Kenneth Laird

**Nursing Care:** Frs. Bob Marcel & Jack Nutter

**Other Concerns to Pray For:** Pope Francis and his intentions; Bishop Michael Duca of Baton Rouge and the priests who assist in his shepherd's mission; priestly & religious vocations; the ill, especially with the Covid19 virus; health care workers; all financially harmed in this virus pandemic; military & diplomatic personnel who keep the peace around the world; firefighters, police and others who guard our safety at home; immigrants to our country; victims of crime and terrorism, and their families; sobriety in political discourse; persecuted Christians, especially in the Middle East, China, and North Korea; and that human life be safeguarded from conception until natural death.

*These lists are updated and printed monthly; names stay on the list for two months unless we hear differently! Make corrections by contacting the Parish Office, either via email at [office@cathedralbr.org](mailto:office@cathedralbr.org) or at [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928).*

## “CATHEDRAL CHAT”



Were you able to join us for the **FIRST “Cathedral Chat”** held “virtually” **via Zoom** last Tuesday evening? Don’t worry if you weren’t, because we already have our *next* one scheduled for **Tuesday, February 9 at 6:15 pm**. Our plan is to host these **informal conversations, up to an hour in length, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month**. We hope to explore interesting topics and entertain questions.

To be part of our **Cathedral Chats** contact the Parish Office at [office@cathedralbr.org](mailto:office@cathedralbr.org) or [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) and let us know you’d like to participate. That way we will be able to email you the link to join!

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Remember that this week, January 31 through February 6, we celebrate **Catholic Schools Week** here in the Diocese of Baton Rouge. One way you can participate in this celebration is by keeping teachers, parents and students in your prayers as they continue to navigate these difficult times while doing their work of educating our youth.

Additionally, all are welcome to participate virtually in Bishop Duca’s *Catholic Schools Week* celebration Mass on Wednesday, February 3, at 10 am on [www.youtube.com/c/CatholicLifeTV/live](http://www.youtube.com/c/CatholicLifeTV/live)

## MARRIED IN CHRIST



Our congratulations go out to **Austin Lee Lejeune and Callie Marie Zumo**, who were wed here before Father Michael Alello on Friday evening, January 22.

**May God richly bless them!** And may the life-long marital bond now established between them be a shining example to us all, as we pledge to support them – and their extended family and one day their children – with our ongoing prayers.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR “ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”



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Sun 8 am to 8 pm  
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## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday/Sunday, February 6-7, 2021

	4 pm Fr. Paul Counce	8:30 am Fr. Paul Counce	10:30 am Fr. Paul Counce
<b>Readers</b>	Courtney Debetaz (1) Sylvia Winder (2)	Michele Nardini (1) Erin Fulbright (2)	Tom Acosta (1) Carla Lewis (2)
<b>Servers</b>	David Diez	Colette Clebert Cooper Clebert	Dickie Howze Sean Molony Caitlyn Thompson
<b>Sacristans</b>	Fr. Paul Counce	Erick Swenson	Dickie Howze
<b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b>		Keith & Robin Sehon	

## MONTHLY BIBLE READINGS



If unable to attend Mass each day,  
why not pray its Scriptures?

Mon Feb 1	Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20-24 [25]/Mk 5:1-20
Tue Feb 2	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Wed Feb 3	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a [cf. 17]/Mk 6:1-6
Thu Feb 4	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-4, 9-11 [cf. 10]/Mk 6:7-13
Fri Feb 5	Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc [1a]/Mk 6:14-29
Sat Feb 6	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-6 [1]/Mk 6:30-34
Sun Feb 7	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Mon Feb 8	Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
Tue Feb 9	Gn 1:20-2:4a/Ps 8:4-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13
Wed Feb 10	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thu Feb 11	Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30
Fri Feb 12	Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
Sat Feb 13	Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10
Sun Feb 14	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31-11:1/Mk 1:40-45
Mon Feb 15	Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tue Feb 16	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21
Wed Feb 17	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thu Feb 18	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25
Fri Feb 19	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15
Sat Feb 20	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27-32
Sun Feb 21	Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
Mon Feb 22	1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Tue Feb 23	Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
Wed Feb 24	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
Thu Feb 25	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
Fri Feb 26	Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-4, 5-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
Sat Feb 27	Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
Sun Feb 28	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

## MONTHLY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon Feb 1	12:05 pm	Althea Wheat
Tue Feb 2	12:05 pm	Purgatorial List, the Salario Family, Louis Prejean
Wed Feb 3	12:05 pm	Clark Giffin, Jr.
Fri Feb 5	12:05 pm	Chetta Cangelosi
Sat Feb 6	4 pm	Marion Fritscher, Steven Kolb
Sun Feb 7	8:30 am 10:30 am	Chetta Cangelosi "For the People"
Mon Feb 8	12:05 pm	William S. Koch
Tue Feb 9	12:05 pm	Purgatorial List, the Salario Family, George Gallagher
Wed Feb 10	12:05 pm	Althea Wheat
Fri Feb 12	12:05 pm	Chad Orsot
Sat Feb 13	4 pm	Allen P. Bujol & Simon Maggio Families
Sun Feb 14	8:30 am 10:30 am	Marion Fritscher "For the People"
Wed Feb 17	7 am 12:00 pm 5 pm	The deceased bishops and priests of the Diocese of Baton Rouge Marion Fritscher, Steven Kolb George Rettig
Fri Feb 19	10 am	Chetta Cangelosi
Sat Feb 20	4 pm	August Bajoje
Sun Feb 21	8:30 am 10:30 am	George Rettig "For the People"
Mon Feb 22	12:05 pm	John & Janice Bueche and Family
Tue Feb 23	12:05 pm	Purgatorial List, the Salario Family, George Rettig, William S. Williamson
Wed Feb 24	12:05 pm	Chetta Cangelosi
Fri Feb 26	12:05 pm	Angela Morris Dockum
Sat Feb 27	4 pm	Marion Fritscher
Sun Feb 28	8:30 am 10:30 am	George Rettig "For the People"

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Don't forget to follow us on our social media sites – and let us know if you'd like to help provide content!



Our **Parish Calendar**, weekly issues of *The Carpenter*, and much more information are all available on our website: [www.cathedralbr.org](http://www.cathedralbr.org)

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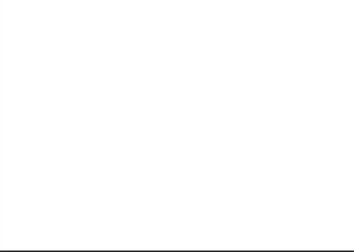
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