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ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 13, 2021
VOL. 92, NO. 24



The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed that,
when it is sown in the ground,
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.

But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants,
and puts forth large branches,
so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.

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

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bishop@diobr.org

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



My dear Parishioners and Friends,

Easily the most-frequently-asked question I've had to field over the past month (since I announced my move away from St. Joseph Cathedral Parish) has been "Have you started packing yet?" Well, honestly, **I started moving some time ago**. I managed to buy and fix up a little condo across town almost three years ago, and although I've only been able to get away to it for one or two nights a week since January of 2019, I've done my best to bring a box of stuff over almost every week since then. That's 50 boxes a year, at least! So a lot of my stuff is there already.

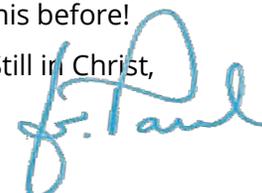
Of course, I will need to get the final few pieces of furniture, plus mostly books and clothes, over there, but the end is in sight! I do want to **thank everyone** in advance for your willingness to help with this. I will be happy to enlist your help when that might be needed.

Naturally, I should probably be taking this opportunity to sort through my belongings and begin giving some of it away. I have an awful lot of theology and canon law books, of course (my vocational specialties), as well as cookbooks (my hobby). But I also have one medium-size bookcase full of fiction and non-fiction that has just entertained me over the years. I try to **re-read a few of these every so often**, and invariably enjoy that almost as much as I did the first time. If you've never gone back to one of those good books you enjoyed in high school or college you might be surprised that they often provide even more "reading pleasure" now. After all, we were less mature back then - even though we didn't think so at the time!

I'm also **trying to plan life** after July 1. The most important task ahead of me in the coming year certainly will be "**mentoring**" my **eventual replacement in the Tribunal** office. *Miss Claire Breaux* was hired about five years ago, and proved to be so capable that the diocese then sent her up to Washington, DC, to obtain her licentiate degree in canon law. She gets back this month! She will be able to be a judge and indeed take over as director of the Tribunal - sooner rather than later, I hope! But it wouldn't have been fair to just drop her into the job and ride into the sunset immediately: when I returned with my canonical degree back in 1988 I was given a year of "on the job training" and it was invaluable. So I'll do the same: help her get settled, assist with some hiring and technology issues that are looming, show her how the diocesan budget works, introduce her to the wide range of tasks that go with the job, teach her the unwritten rules (every job has 'em!!), and so forth. When she finally says she's "ready to ride without training wheels," well, then, I'll be able to back away.

So if you have some spare time, **pray in the year to come** for both her and me! Neither one of us has done this before!

Still in Christ,



PRE-BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



Parents, are you expecting? Have you made arrangements with the Parish Office for your baby's baptism yet? You can do so by calling [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) or emailing office@cathedralbr.org.

Remember, the Church expects you to attend a **pre-Baptismal parents' seminar**, and the next one scheduled here is set for this coming *Monday, June 14*, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Office. The godparents are welcome also, so please be sure to extend an invitation to them as well.

Please register beforehand either by sending an email to 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.

FATHERS' DAY BAKE SALE!



Please plan to stop by **next weekend, June 19-20**, and shop the *Ladies of the Cathedral* annual **Fathers' Day Bake Sale**. You can buy some scrumptious sweets and treats to help you celebrate with dad, grandad, or any other "father figure" in your life!

Your support for the Bake Sale also helps the various local charities assisted by the Ladies. These benefit St. Joseph Parish and the wider local community throughout the year. Of course, enjoying yummy home-made cakes, cookies, brownies, breads, and more, is its own reward as well!

Ladies, we greatly appreciate all you do for us and for others!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, June 13

Masses – 8:30 and 10:30 am

Monday, June 14

Baptism Preparation Seminar – 6:30 pm

Thursday, June 17

Land/Laiche Wedding Rehearsal – 5 pm

Friday, June 18

Land/Laiche Wedding – 6 pm

Saturday, June 19

Farmers' Market – 8 am

LoC "Bake Sale" after the 4 pm Mass!

"FILL A PRESCRIPTION FOR THE NEEDY"



Once again this year, you can help the **St. Vincent de Paul Free Community Pharmacy**. This weekend, June 12-13, simply remove the label from an empty prescription bottle at home and bring it with you to church with a monetary gift inside!

Make a check payable to the *St. Vincent de Paul Society*, but cash is okay too. There will be a special container in the back of church, or you can place it into the collection basket. Thank you for supporting this wonderful program, which provides free medications to those who cannot afford them!

SAINTLY QUOTE

"The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that He, in His goodness, sends to us day after day."

- *St. Gianna Molla*

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

The regular offertory collection for the weekend of May 29-30 along with donations mailed in during the preceding week, came to a total of \$9,117.00 (\$8,688.00 of this given by 61 Identified Givers, with the other \$429.00 offered by others in the unidentified, "loose collection").

Collection totals for the weekend of June 5-6 came to \$8,477.00 (94 Identified Givers offering \$7,869.00 and the remaining \$608.00 offered anonymously). Our monthly collection *For the Repair and Maintenance of the Cathedral* brought in \$4,929.00 from 44 Identified Givers. Thank you, as always, for your continuing good stewardship!

Remember that, most conveniently, you can use your bank's "**Bill Pay**" feature to give, or **mail in your contributions** directly 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.

If you have any questions, or for more information, at your convenience just contact Ms. Lorie Watson, our Director of Administration, at the Parish Office (either [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) or office@cathedralbr.org)!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Not only our own parishioners and friends but Catholics from throughout the Diocese of Baton Rouge are welcome to choose their Cathedral for the celebration of the Sacraments. These important spiritual events are always scheduled through our Parish Office (you can simply call us at [225-387-5928](tel:225-387-5928) or email us at office@cathedralbr.org).

INFANT BAPTISM

A pre-baptismal preparation seminar is required of parents, as well as their scheduling the baptism with the Parish Office.

ADULT BAPTISM

Preparation for full adult Sacramental Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) occurs as part of the Parish's RCIA process throughout the year.

FIRST PENANCE & FIRST EUCHARIST

Second graders, no matter where they attend elementary school, are prepared for these Sacraments within a special program here.

CONFIRMATION

In advance of the annual "Feast of the Holy Spirit" on Pentecost, special, brief preparation programs are held here each Spring, one for our parish's teenagers who are in the eleventh grade, and another for other adults who wish to be confirmed.

MATRIMONY

Various Church regulations require at least six months of preparation for any wedding. Our advice is to call well in advance of that time to reserve a wedding date and receive information: our facilities are often booked in advance 12 to 18 months ahead-of-time!

One's own parish priest or deacon is expected to supervise the mandatory Catholic pre-nuptial preparation and officiate at the wedding ceremony here. Our own wedding coordinator will be in charge of the rehearsal and wedding too.

A VOCATION VIEW



This weekend's Gospel likens the Kingdom of God to a small but powerful mustard seed. **Christ has sown the seed of your vocation within you.** Might it be to grow in holiness as a priest or deacon, or in consecrated life?

If you feel God is calling you, contact our diocesan Director of Vocations recruitment, *Father Josh Johnson*, by telephoning him at **225-336-8778**, by emailing him at jjohnson@diobr.org, or by going to www.diobr.org/vocations on the internet.

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PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

*Generous God,
You show us the way that leads to everlasting life.
Through holy baptism you have called us to proclaim the Good News.
Guide and give wisdom to those discerning a priestly or religious vocation.
Bless and strengthen those who have made a lifetime commitment of service in the Church.
Enrich our Church with dedicated married and single people, as well as with priests, deacons, and consecrated religious.
Filled with your Holy Spirit, we ask this blessing that we, your holy people, may follow Jesus, our Good Shepherd, now and always.
Amen.*

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday/Sunday, June 19-20, 2021

	4 pm Fr. Paul Counce	8:30 am Fr. Paul Counce	10:30 am Bishop Michael Duca
Ministers of Holy Communion	Wayne Hampton	Lorie Watson	Deacon Gary Mooney Mary Acosta
Readers	Mary Bennett (1) Joseph Maggio (2)	Buddy Morris (1) Carolyn Morris (2)	Margaret Hart (1) Geri Munson (2)
Servers	David Diez	Kate Lee	Dickie Howze Sean Molony Caitlyn Thompson
Sacristans	Fr. Paul Counce	Erick Swenson	Dickie Howze
Coffee & Donuts		<i>Visit the "Ladies of the Cathedral" Bake Sale instead!</i>	

CHOIR ON SUMMER BREAK



Our wonderful **Cathedral Choir** (which we unfortunately didn't get to enjoy much over the past year, thanks to Covid!) is now on its well-deserved **summer vacation**. While we will miss their music until the fall – except for Father Paul's Farewell Mass on June 27! – this gives us an opportunity to do more congregational singing – now that we are better able to do so without masks! – and also to focus on the Mass in a more intimate and introspective way.

Enjoy this opportunity for deeper reflection, and hear the Word of God with your entire heart and soul!

THANK YOU!

Our "Ladies of the Cathedral" extend their **thanks** to all who assisted with their annual *Baby Shower*. The expectant mothers, and their soon-to-be newborn babies, who are housed at the *Sanctuary for Life* (a local home for unwed mothers operated by *Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Baton Rouge*) are most grateful for your support.

MARRIED IN CHRIST



Congratulations go out to **Zachary Spafford Goodnow and Catherine Mary Messina**, who married here at the Cathedral on Friday evening, June 4, before Father Tom Ranzino.

May God's favor be upon them! Please continue to support them, their extended family – and one day their children – with your ongoing prayers.

HURRICANE PROTECTION



Well, we have now entered the beginning of what we call "hurricane season" along the Gulf Coast. The many months ahead hold the potential for danger and destruction. After experiencing such an active and damaging storm season last year in our state, please **pray for divine protection, either by using your own words or using our traditional State prayer:**

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children.

The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.

You are still the Master of land and sea.

We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father.

Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

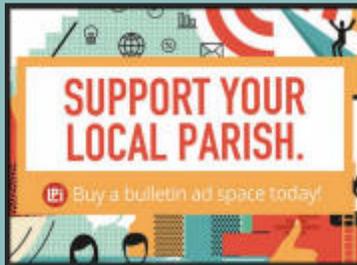
O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son, to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a storm-less eternity awaits us. Amen.

[Composed by the Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981), Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956-1973), following Hurricane Audrey in 1957]

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Ladies of the Cathedral

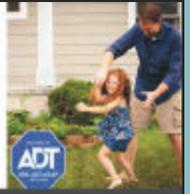
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in our parish and community
service activities

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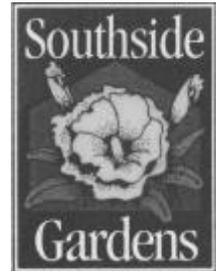
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