



“The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear. For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truth can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don’t allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown! Simon Peter said to Jesus, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” Peter came to this knowledge, which is not “head knowledge” because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply “knew” because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

Readings for the Week of August 23rd, 2020

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
 Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
 Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26
 Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32
 Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51
 Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13
 Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: *Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27*



Prayers for the Sick: Merciful Jesus, onto your Compassionate Heart we recommend Emelda Harris, Shavawna Flugence, Gustavia Thibeaux, Reginald Brown, Florena Landry, John Albert Ledet, Charles Lee, Mayola Williams, Lester Mouton, Mrs. Louvenia L Gibson, Audrey Armelin, Rodney Dupuis, Bessie Johnson, Lorita Jeanbatiste, Rita Lewis, Albert Sam Jacquet, Amy Lawrence, Sylvania Cormier, Christopher Trailer and Natalie Martin.



The next Baptismal class **“Has been canceled until further notice.”**

Mass Intentions

Sat. 5:00 p.m: Hilda Johnson, Alexson Mathieu, Audrey Mathieu, deceased members of the Mathieu & Mouton families, Christopher J Anderson, Wilbert & Thelma Jeanlouis, Harold Anderson Sr & Ethel Mae Decuir, Mazel Norbert, Mildred Davis (*2nd Anniversary*), M/M Paul Joe, Rosalie & Lucius Joe, Eva Belle Jeanbatiste, Rose Mitchell, Charles & Bertha Washington, Willis Jones Sr, Albert “Monkey” Jones, and Zoway Flugence-Jones. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 8:00 a.m: Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 10:00 a.m: Anne Lasseigne, Joseph Leo Sias III, Christopher Anderson and the deceased members of the Decuir & Anderson families, Gregory Bernard, Damian fBernard, and Joseph “Mac” Green. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

God’s Housekeepers:

St. Joseph: Thanks to all of the ladies in **Group A** that cleaned the church on August 22nd, 2020. The next group is **Group B:** Carolyn Domingue, Laura Williams and Barbara Thomas - August 29th, 2020.

St. Anthony — August 2020: (**Group B**) Theresa Cormier, Laura Chretien, Jaleesa Richard, Beverly Rixner, Diann Darby and Lilly Faye Jones.

Your hard work and time dedicated is appreciated!



PSR (Parish School of Religion) Corner:

Classes are on Saturdays from 9am – 12 Noon

1st – 5th Grade

6th - 11th Grade

CLASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Mass	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Ushers
SATURDAY August 29, 2020 5:00pm	Lind Alfred	Dan Foster		
SUNDAY August 30, 2020 8:00am				
SUNDAY August 30, 2020 10:00am	Jennifer Harris	Linda Alfred		

Please Note: Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion; by calling for a replacement when you are scheduled but cannot serve, you honor your commitment and help to ensure that there is no interruption for mass. Thanks!!

PASTORS CORNER

Isaiah 22:19-23 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20
 Jesus challenges us to know him personally as he makes an exclusive, concerned, loving claim upon each one of us. He invites us to discover him, serve him, and love him as Lord and he wants from each one of us our total single-hearted response. He offers an exclusive promise and builds with us the best and unique friendship which indicates that through him and in him alone we will find salvation. From today’s readings we perceive the depth of the riches, wisdom and knowledge of God. We come to the realization that the judgments of God are indeed mysterious and yet contain his deep concern for us. In the Gospel of today we see Jesus making a simple human inquiry about the way they have understood him and whether his mission is successful. He is the God-man, the messiah but he wants to know how his disciples have truly grasped his teachings. Peter responds to him in the name of the disciples that he is the messiah. In return Peter is commissioned by Jesus and is given the authority and leadership in the church. He promises Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven. In the first reading God appoints a new royal official. Only a person who serves God will qualify for that position. Then God says of the chosen that he will place the key of the house of David on his shoulder. Paul in the second reading marvels at the divine goodness, wisdom and knowledge. He invites all to give glory to God forever. He tells the Roman community that everything that exists comes from God and it is for the glory of God. Let us take the time to perceive what our Heavenly Father has done for us so we may grow in the fruit of the Holy Spirit. When our eyes are opened to the mysteries of the Lord, let us take a moment to thank Him for that entire He has done for us, glorifying Him in His Most Holy Name.

Fr. Ryszard Zawadzki, SVD

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Standard Facial Masks \$6

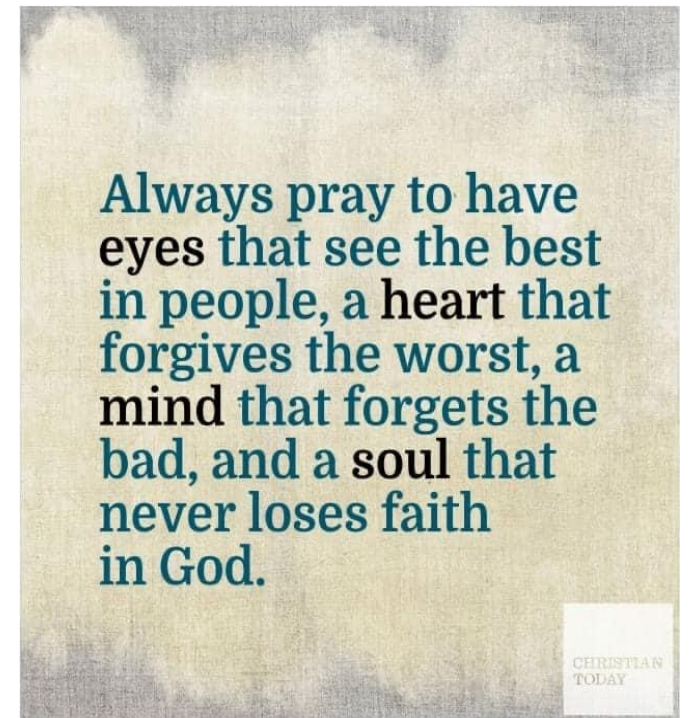
SAINTS \$10

LSU \$10

DALLAS COWBOYS \$10

After each mass

Inspirations for Your Week



The Web Site for St. Joseph/St. Anthony is: stjostant.org

Our Giving

Aug 15th & 16th, 2020

St. Joseph: (60 Envelopes) \$1,323.50

St. Anthony: (12 Envelopes) 131.00

\$1,454.50

“No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord your God has bestowed upon you.”