

Second Street Gazette Est. 1728

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☞ IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, PRAY FOR US! ☜



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“I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.”

Some phrases are really tough to translate. Sometimes the translators aren't trying very hard. When those things overlap, you get passages like we have today. In Jesus' parable of the dishonest steward, we have a kind of anti-parable. We have the story of a man who, through fear, puts aside love of money for a greater good. “He praised the dishonest steward because he acted wisely (phronesis).”

When Jesus calls for us

to imitate the steward, He's calling for us to imitate the virtue but not the intention. We ought not to love money for it's own sake but merely to use it with as much disinterest as we can. And so when Jesus calls for us to make friends (“associate ourselves”) with

dishonest wealth (“the wealth of unrighteousness”), He is calling for us to use money rather than love it so that when the world fails, we may be welcomed into the eternal dwellings (“eternal tents”) of heaven. And that leads us to the next words of Jesus (in Lk 16:10), “The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great

ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also

dishonest in great ones.” If we are trapped by love of money, then we will be dishonest in great matters as well! But if we are free of

the love of wealth or power, then we will be ready to be trustworthy in great matters - like saving souls!

It's worth considering after reading about a tough passage like this one, whether or not God ever intended the Bible to be what some Christians make it to be. Does God want every one of us to read and understand the Bible? Does He expect us all to comprehend it? The Church would say that everyone ought to read the scriptures in order to encounter the Holy Spirit - not to understand them as a theologian or a scientist. God speaks through the Scriptures, but His words are a call to heaven, not scholarship.

Very Rev. Ryan Humphries
Father Rector

Rev. Mr. John Whitehead
Reverend Deacon

Tommy Myrick
Director of Sacred Liturgy

Ashley Hebert
Director of Evangelization

Susan Chesal
Office Manager

Dennis Thompson
Director of Campus



PARISH NEWS



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Anyone interested in the Catholic Faith is encouraged to come and speak with Fr. Ryan. There is absolutely no obligation and no cost. Both private and group-based instruction is available. **Our group meetings will begin Sunday, Sept. 22nd @ 10a in the Parish Office.** Call the office for more information.

PARISH DIRECTORY PHOTOS HAPPENING SOON!

We are getting ready to create a new **MBIC Parish Directory** through Lifetouch Photography. All participating families will receive a **free 8x10** professional portrait along with a **printed directory**.

Lifetouch will be here:

Tues-Sat, Oct. 15th-19th
Tu-F 2p-9p & Sa 10a-5p

Wed-Sat, Oct. 30th-Nov. 2nd
W-F 2p-9p & Sa 10:30a-5:30p

Please begin checking these dates & times in your calendars for availabilities, because **registration will begin very soon!** See upcoming bulletins & our parish website for more registration info.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE DINNER IS SEPTEMBER 26th

Our only **Crisis Pregnancy Center** in the area will host its annual **Celebration of Life Fundraising Gala** on **Thursday, Sept. 26** at the **Events Center**. Actor/director **Stephen Baldwin** will be the guest speaker. The program starts at **6:30 p.m.** Baldwin has made a name for himself as a celebrity without compromising his values and committed Christian faith. Tickets are **\$25** and may be purchased by calling **(318)357-8888**.

OCTOBER 4th IS A BASILICAN FEAST DAY

Our next *indulged* **Basilican Feast Day** is **Friday, October 4th** — *The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi*, Patron of the first Catholic Church in Natchitoches. **Oct. 4th** is also **First Friday**, so we'll have the usual **6:30a Mass, Adoration** from the end of Mass **until Benediction** at **5:15p**, then an additional evening **Mass at 6p**. *Both Masses will end with the proper prayers for the indulgence.* All are welcome!

WITHIN the SANCTUARY

Sat, 9/21 - 4pm	Mike Bouchie, (Lector) • Eve James, Mary K. Hicks, Nita Maggio, Joanne Yankowski, (EMHC) • J.&D.Thibodaux, (Altar Boys)
Sun, 9/22 - 9am	Joe Cunningham, Sr., (Lector) • Michael King, Buddy Giering, Alyssa Odom, (EMHC) • S.&T.Lirette, (Altar Boys)
11am	John Laborde, (Lector) • Barbara Laborde, Joseph Sklar, Chris Maggio, (EMHC) • I.Lovemore, D.Thompson, E.Norwood, (Altar Boys)
Sat, 9/28 - 4pm	Levi Thompson, (Lector) • Elaine Bacon, David Bouchie, Carl Henry, Jimmy Gunter, (EMHC) • C.J.Bouchie, M.Thibodaux, (Altar Boys)
Sun, 9/29 - 9am	Sydney Frederick, (Lector) • Ed Smith, Cindy Smith, Emelda Odom, (EMHC) • Reagan & Ryan Cunningham, BB.Behrendsen, (Altar Boys)
11am	Karen Apponey, (Lector) • Graham Ragland, Linda Lee, Tara Whitehead, (EMHC) • V.Maggio, M.Leone, S.Maggio, (Altar Boys)

Insights *from* Second Street

One of the buzzwords when I was in seminary was “pastoral style.” A priest was more “pastoral” if he was more casual at Mass. He was “rigid” if he was more formal. While one was clearly preferred, the idea was that the way in which the priest said Mass didn’t really matter – it was just a choice he made like which suit to wear to work. A type-A personality may wear one kind of suit and a less ambitious personality would choose another.

But that attitude is brand new to Catholicism. When you read basically anything about priesting before the 1960s, you come across a beautiful phrase in Latin, “ars celebrandi.” It translates to the “Art of the Celebration.” Unlike “pastoral style,” “ars celebrandi” doesn’t assume that there are lots of meaningless choices, it assumes that whatever choices exist, exist to add to the whole. The art of celebrating Mass is not about me as the priest and my personal taste! It’s about glorifying God!

Just look at the vestments - the sacred robes the priest wears. There are three basic styles: Roman, Gothic and Conical. None are better than the other... but one may well express a more excellent *Ars Celebrandi* at any given moment. If a priest only has so much money, should he buy the most beautiful vestment he can for that amount, or should he rather insist on a certain style which may be less beautiful? That’s the major reason that I wear so many of the Roman (or fiddle-back) style vestments. I get far more beauty to honor God for my money.

The same can be said of the so-called “digitus.” That’s the practice of keeping my thumb and forefinger together after I’ve consecrated the Holy Eucharist. It’s done to prevent even the smallest crumb or particle from falling to the ground and being desecrated. It’s not a matter of personal style but of honoring and serving God. Sure, it means adjusting my gestures a little, but that’s easy to do for the Lord.

This “ars celebrandi” extends to every aspect of the Holy Mass – from where I cast my eyes, to the location of the linens on the altar. To my mind, it’s the ultimate remedy for “clericalism.” Nothing at Mass should be about my “style”... everything should be about glorifying God! -FrR

The Jargon...

By: Tommy Myrick

It’s easy to see that there have been some changes at Mass. Father is chanting parts of the Mass that we used to rush right through, and there’s an invitation to the congregation to respond. It’s new. It’s different. It’s kind of terrifying. What are we supposed to sing? What’s the melody again? Why are we doing this? The answer is “active participation”.

People are often confused by that phrase. Does that mean we sing everything at Mass, including the hymns? Is that all that we’re required to do? Isn’t that the reason we now have lay people in the Sanctuary as Lectors and EMHC’s? The short answer to all of these questions is “no”.

The first document completed by the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council was the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, in 1963. Briefly put, “Active participation” is meant for Catholics to “pray the Mass” instead of “pray at Mass”. The congregation has a role to play in the worship of God. We are responsible for participating in the Dialogue between the priest and the

people. We have an obligation to be attentive and prayerful at Mass during the readings and prayers. Sometimes that means that we must be actively silent and contemplative.

To quote Pope John Paul II: “Active participation certainly means that, in gesture, word, song, and service, all the members of the community take part in an act of worship, which is anything but inert or passive. Yet active participation does not preclude the active passivity of silence, stillness, and listening; indeed, it demands it.. In a culture which neither favors nor fosters meditative quiet, the art of interior listening is learned only with difficulty. Here we see how the liturgy, though it must always be properly inculturated, must also be countercultural.”

Real “Active Participation” teaches us that the Mass is not about us - It’s about Christ and Christ crucified. We must seek to honor Him with our presence and our actions. When we can do that - then we can really say that we’re actively participating.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Holy Mass

M-F 6:30am
 Sat 8am & 4pm
 Sun 9am & 11am

Confessions

30 mins before weekday Masses
 45 mins before "Sunday" Masses

**In Case of an Emergency for
 the Seriously Ill & Dying**
 (318) 542-3316

Office Hours

M-Th 8am-4pm
 Fri 8am-Noon

Please remember to pray
 for the recently departed.



*May the souls of the faithful
 departed, through the mercies of
 God, rest in peace. Amen.*

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER:

That people today, often overwhelmed by noise, may rediscover the value of silence and listen to the voice of God and their brothers and sisters. And that, Christians suffering persecution in many parts of the world, may by their witness, be prophets of Christ's love.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & SUFFERING:

Lolette Allen, Lauren Bienvenu, Mark Birch, Bill Boone, Tripp Bostick, Dewitt Booty, Chad Bouchie, Flo Brouillette, Bailey Byrd, Carolyn Carter, Emilia Cofio, Johnny Cox, Kim Cunningham, Lela Mae Dalme, Joe Davis, John DeFee, Marguerite Felchle, Alma Fernandez, Reba Friday, Tom Foshee, Anne Giering, Lillian Giering, Sophie Gill, Kitty Guillet, Joyce Hayne, Deborah G. Hernandaz, Pam Kerry, Mary Keyser, Martha LaCaze, Daniel Laroux, Brooklyn Leach, Clay LeGros, Jaden Eli Lodridge, Joseph Longo, Johnnie Mallory, Lisa Mack, Faris Michael, Meg Michael, Mary Moss, Barbie Neuhauser, Shane Niette, Jo Norwood, Mary Odom, Judy Risty, Sharon Roach, Wes Rollo, Makaehan Ross, Shirley Roy, Amanda Rozman, Joseph Ryan, Donna Slaughter, Brent Trichel, Sue Van Hook, Billie Vercher, Jessica Warner, Janine Waters, & Ruthie J. Wallboughly

In Memoriam

(For the week of September 22nd)

Sat 4p: John Joseph Lowrey
 Sun 9a: Thomas E. Porter & Alison Breazeale Webb
 11a: Pro Populo
 Mon 6:30a: Joe Sampite
 8a: Sylvian LeVasseur
 Tues 6:30a: Nicholas Swanson
 Wed 6:30a: Yvonne Campobasso
 Thu 6:30a: Dorthy Benefield
 9a: SMS Students & Faculty
 Fri 6:30a: Red & Sadie Thomas
 Sat 8a: Sadie Stroud

[For the week of]
 [September 22nd:]

SANCTUARY CANDLES:

In Honor of
A Special Intention
 By: The Hebert Family



SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

In Memory of
*Alison B. Webb &
 Kathleen A. Breazeale*
 By: Their Loving Family

The Luminous Mysteries

#1

The Baptism
 of the Lord

#2

The Wedding
 of Cana

#3

The Proclamation
 of the Kingdom

#4

The
 Transfiguration

#5

The Institution
 of the Eucharist

SUNDAY COLLECTION: \$7,000.00
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS RETURN TO THE LORD

MASS READINGS:

Sun:
 Am 8:4-7 • 1 Tm 2:1-8 • Lk 16:1-13

Mon, St. Pio of Pietrelcina:
 Ezz 1:1-6 • Lk 8:16-18

Tue:
 Ezz 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 • Lk 8:19-21

Wed:
 Ezz 9:5-9 • Lk 9:1-6

Thu, Sts. Cosmas & Damian:
 Hg 1:1-8 • Lk 9:7-9

Fri, St. Vincent de Paul:
 Hg 2:1-9 • Lk 9:18-22

Sat, Sts. Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz:
 Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a • Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday next:
 Am 6:1a, 4-7 • 1 Tm 6:11-16 • Lk 16:19-31

Pope Quote

“The reform that’s needed is neither to clericalize nor ask to be clericalized. The layperson is a layperson and has to live as a layperson with the power of baptism, which enables him to be a leaven of the love of God in society itself, to create and sow hope, to proclaim the faith, not from a pulpit but from his everyday life. And, like all of us, the layperson is called to carry his daily cross — the cross of the layperson, not of the priest.”

~ Pope Francis

QUOTES TO LIVE BY

“The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors.”

~ Pope Pius XI

PARISH EVENTS

Wed, 9/25

CCD Classes
 6p @ St. Mary’s School

Fri, 9/27

St. Mary’s Football Game
 7p - Away @ Arcadia

Wed, 10/2

F3 Night & CCD Classes
 5-7p @ St. Mary’s School

Fri, 10/4

Basilican Feast Day/First Friday
 St. Francis of Assisi

Fri, 10/4

St. Mary’s Football Game
 7p - Haughton @ Home

Sat, 10/5

SMS Alumni Weekend

Wed, 10/9

CCD Classes
 6p @ St. Mary’s School

Fri, 10/11

St. Mary’s Football Game
 7p - Away @ Block

Tu-Sa, 10/15-10/19

Parish Directory Photos
 T-F 2p-9p & Sa 10a-5p

Mon-Fri, 10/21-10/25

Diocesan Priests’ Retreat
 NO DAILY MASSES

Tues, 10/29

2014 Pilgrimage Meeting
 6:30p - @ Church Hall