

**JESUS – THE LIVING BREAD THAT CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN**

How can the greatest sign of unity always seem to create the greatest amount of discord among the followers of Jesus? It is troublesome that disharmony exists even within congregations and denominations, all of whom profess to follow the same risen Christ.

The belief in the body and blood of Jesus has created controversy, even going back to the time of Jesus himself, as reflected in our Gospel reading today. Some who had followed Jesus up to this point will now walk away because this is simply too much to comprehend or believe.

There is no question this is a matter of deep faith. As for believers, it is rather simple. If we believe Jesus turned water into wine and fed the five thousand, if we believe Jesus raised the dead to life and rose up from the tomb himself, why would it be so hard for us, or anyone, to believe that Jesus himself is really and truly present in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup?

Perhaps Jesus made it too easy for us. Perhaps He should have required anyone who wanted to receive Him in Communion to first walk down the aisle barefoot across burning coals or broken glass, thus experiencing great pain and proving their worthiness and true belief. This would appear, then to make our effort match the gift received.

My dear friends, this is not how Jesus operates. He does exact a price, however, and that is the cost of discipleship.

There will be pain and suffering involved – not caused by Him, but caused by the world in which we live.

What Jesus offers us is incredible food for the journey. Jesus offers to come literally into our very being through the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. This is a most awesome gift never to be disrespected by lack of interest or lack of belief on our part.

Either we take Jesus at His word or we do not. The most eloquent preacher in the world cannot make anyone believe Jesus meant what He said when He uttered these words. *I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.* As believers, we take Him at His word.

**BISHOP KIHNEMAN'S HOMILIES**

*Bishop Kihneman's homilies will be available each week in audio form on Nativity BVM Cathedral's website. To access these homilies, visit nativitybvm.podbean.com*

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Mon Jun 19</b>	2 Cor 6:1-10, Mt 5:38-42
<b>Tues Jun 20</b>	2 Cor 8:1-9, Mt 5:43-48
<b>Wed Jun 21</b>	2 Cor 9:6-11, Mt 6:1-6, 16-18, 1 Jn 5:1-5, Mt 22:34-40
<b>Thur Jun 22</b>	2 Cor 11:1-11, Mt 6:7-15
<b>Fri Jun 23</b>	Dt 7:6-11, 1 Jn 4:7-16, Mt 11:25-30
<b>Sat Jun 24</b>	Is 49:1-6, Acts 13:22-26, Lk 1:57-66, 80
<b>Sun Jun 25</b>	Jer 20:10-13, Rom 5:12-15, Mt 10:26-33



**YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Regular Collections	\$	6,980.95
Nativity Maintenance	\$	717.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	643.00
Capital Improvement	\$	1,107.10
Miscellaneous	\$	641.45
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,089.95</b>
<b>CASH NEEDED</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,400.00</b>



We want to extend a very Happy Father's Day wish to all of the Fathers in our Nativity Parish!

**R.C.I.A.**

The Rite of Christian Initiation is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge, in the Roman Catholic Church. The R.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. The Nativity Parish will begin R.C.I.A. classes again in the Fall. Participants will meet weekly for nine months in the Sacred Heart Center. If you are interested, please contact Greg or Penny Payne at 228-365-6348.

**WOMEN'S CURSILLO – JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

The Cursillo weekend is for Catholics who are looking to deepen their faith and love for Christ. Consider giving yourself a gift this year! For more information contact Angela Cannon at 228-365-4385. Cursillo registration forms are located in the back of the church.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE**

Next weekend, June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, the Knights of Columbus will be in our Parish with their annual Tootsie Roll drive. The proceeds go the help local group homes for people with disabilities and special needs. Let's help make this a successful fundraisers for our Knights.

<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
<b>Jun 24 4:00 pm</b> <b>1. Nanette Burke</b> 2. Vicki Howard 3. Gerrie Weldon 4. Ann Kavanagh 5. Gayle Mavar <b>Jun 25 7:00 am</b> <b>1. Jim Shugart</b> 2. Jim Compton 3. Marcia Mayfield <b>9:00 am</b> <b>1. John Sherman</b> 2. Marianne Sherman 3. John Brauchle 4. Barbara Ziz 5. Belinda Corley <b>11:00 am</b> <b>1. Deacon Ben</b> <b>2. Rhonda Clark</b> 3. Linda Welter 4. Sondra Williams 5. Johnny Williams <b>5:30 pm</b> <b>1. Maggie Landry</b> 2. Teresa Ballinger 3. Annette Luther	<b>Jun 24 4:00 pm</b> Michael Bruffey <b>Jun 25 7:00 am</b> Sr. Mary Jo Mike <b>9:00 am</b> Liz Wilkinson <b>11:00 am</b> Daliance Kirkland-Ross <b>5:30 pm</b> Youth Ministry <b>CANTORS</b> <b>Jun 24 4:00 pm</b> <b>Dennis Burke</b> <b>Jun 25 9:00 am</b> <b>Nicholas Rodolfich</b> <b>11:00 am</b> <b>John Welter</b>	<b>Jun 24 4:00 pm</b> Sofia Carreon McKinsy Mathis <b>Jun 25 7:00 am</b> Alec Ryan Wyeth Stewart <b>9:00 am</b> Morgan Newman Rhys Newman Rush Newman Triston Davis <b>11:00 am</b> Hadyn Hollis Greysen Ross McRae Ross Aidan Tarrant <b>5:30 pm</b> Annabelle Landry Veronika Landry Julia Landry

## MASS INTENTIONS

		<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>
Mon	Jun 19	Tommy Sliman	Betty/Paul Boudreaux, Sr.
Tue	Jun 20	Thomas E. Connell	Collins-Sims Fly.
Wed	Jun 21	Mickey Roberts	Clare Sekul Hornsby
Thur	Jun 22	Tommy Sliman	Dr. John R. Sherman, Jr.
Fri	Jun 23	Gaspar/Mary Pesarich	Bobby Weldon
Sat	Jun 24	<b>8</b> Mary Rosella McAuliffe	<b>4</b> Andrew Gilich
Sun	Jun 25	<b>7</b> – Kathleen Hebert	<b>9</b> – F. T. P.
		<b>11</b> – Kathleen Hebert.	<b>5:30</b> Patsy Smolcich

## PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Laura Weiher, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Kay Lawson, Jeanie Harbison, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Lisa Walker Kirkman, Raymond Egers, Betty Hilton, Walter Blessey, Mary Lancaster, Danny Boney, Sr., Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Richard “Red” White, Jack Joachim, Jr., Eugene LaCaze, Don Viator, Mabel Viator, Marian Semski and Michael Zorich.

## NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

\*First Communion pictures are now available to be picked up at Nativity BVM School. The school is open from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

\*Registration continues for the 2017-2018 school year at Nativity BVM School. Although several classes are filled, openings remain in many grades. For more information about our Preschool through Grade 6 programs, please call the school at 432-2269 or visit the school’s website at [www.nativitybvm.org](http://www.nativitybvm.org).

\*Our Summer Saints continue their days of fun and exciting opportunities. Although the program opens at 7:00 a.m. for the “early birds,” the campers and their leaders gather each morning at 9:00 a.m. for prayer and an overview of the day’s activities. The camp is open to children going into PreK 3 through Grade 6. For more information, please call the school at 432-2269 or visit the school’s website at [www.nativitybvm.org](http://www.nativitybvm.org)

## FAMILY REUNION

Father Dennis will be away from the parish on June 24<sup>th</sup> and June 25<sup>th</sup> celebrating the Carver Family Reunion in Bay St. Louis. Thanks are extended to Bishop Morin, Bishop Kihneman and Father Richard-Paul LeCorte for celebrating the Cathedral Masses that weekend.

## PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

When planning a baptism, marriage, or for subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you attend Mass. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of Mass attendance. The parish registration form can be found online at [www.nativitybvmcathedral.org](http://www.nativitybvmcathedral.org)., or at the entrance of the Cathedral in the vestibule.

## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM HURRICANES

Father, may all the elements of nature obey Your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of Your power into praise of Your goodness. Grant this, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 20 -Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC  
 Bingo Mania 5:30 p.m.

June 21 -**Cleaning Team “D”**

- Mass at Seashore Retirement Home, 3:00 p.m.  
 Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.

June 22 Mass at Greenbriar Nursing Home, 10:00 a.m.

## BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for June 20th. Theobald (Scott & Brooke), Walli (John), Wilson (BaBoone & Wilson), Byers (Robert & Jennifer), Davis (Warren & Susie), Hunstiger (Candace) and Jackson (Betsy Boney). **REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

## PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION OF COLTEN SYMMES

Next weekend, on June 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., our diocese will celebrate the priestly ordination of Colten Matthew Symmes. Of course, the ordination will take place at our own Nativity BVM Cathedral. Everyone is encouraged to attend and support our newest young priest. With thanks extended to our Cathedral’s Hospitality Committee, a reception will be held at Nativity Elementary School following the ordination.

## SPECIAL CHOIR PRACTICE

In preparation for the Ordination/Installation Mass on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., we are having a choir practice on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Please come and be a part of this extraordinary and meaningful celebration.