

WITH THANKS AND GRATITUDE

I wish to thank everyone for your prayers and get well wishes after my recent open-heart surgery. My recuperation is progressing nicely. The doctors and home health nurses are pleased with the steady progress. August 28th will mark one month since surgery. After checking with my doctors, it seems that I can resume my sacramental and pastoral work on September 1st. I have missed each and every one of you during this time of recovery. I look forward to being with you...and praying with you...again. Father Dennis.

WHOEVER HUMBLER HIMSELF WILL BE EXALTED.

The message of today's readings calls to mind a few modern sayings linking words and behavior. "if you are going to talk the talk, you need to walk the walk." Or, perhaps more familiar, "practice what you preach."

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a gathered crowd and his disciples that the scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. They were to do and observe all the things that the scribes and Pharisees instructed them to do. Jesus follows this, however, with the statement that the people were not to follow the example of the scribes and the Pharisees in their behavior because they failed to practice what they preached. They tied up heavy burdens and placed them on the shoulders of others without putting forth any effort to lessen them, and their conduct was motivated to win praise and recognition from others.

We might ask ourselves: How often do we lead our lives like the scribes and Pharisees? Do we fail to practice what we preach? How often do we pose and posture or seek recognition? If we are honest, the number of times is more than we might think or like. So how do we change that?

Our first reading, the story of Ruth, provides some insight into an answer. Her behavior is in stark contrast to the selfishness of the scribes and Pharisees. Ruth was a foreigner in the land of Israel, but stayed with her mother-in-law to help her after their husbands died. Ruth was faithful and humble. Her desire to do what was right and good was more important to her than her personal gain. God rewarded Ruth for her goodness and generous heart, and provided food for her and Naomi, and eventually a good husband for Ruth – Boaz.

The difference in the two stories is the reliance of God, and not self-promotion or self-interest. God has the ability to do amazing things when we do not stand in his way! Let us go forth today and strive to be more like generous Ruth, and less like a proud Pharisee. Let us humble ourselves before God, and let him be exalted.

RCIA.

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 will begin on Tuesday, September 12th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. 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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FAMILY

Mon Aug 28	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10, Mt 23:13-22, 1 Jn 4:7-16, Mt 23:8-12
Tues Aug 29	1 Thes 2:1-8, Mk 6:17-29, Jer 1:17-19
Wed Aug 30	! Thes 2:9-13, Mt 23:27-32
Thur Aug 31	1 Thes 3:7-13, Mt 24:42-51
Fri Sep 1	1 Thes 4:1-8, Mt 25:1-13
Sat Sep 2	1 Thes 4:9-11, Mt 25:14-30
Sun Sep 3	Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Mt 16:21-27



YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

<i>Regular Collections</i>	\$	9,052.75
<i>Assumption of Mary</i>	\$	951.81
<i>Nativity Maintenance</i>	\$	1,045.00
<i>Nativity Elem.</i>	\$	159.00
<i>Capital Improve.</i>	\$	964.00
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$	543.00
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$	12,715.56
CASH NEEDED	\$	14,400.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES:

The Sanctuary Choir will resume their rehearsal schedule with a "Start-Up of the Year – Potluck Dinner" this coming Wednesday, August 30th in the Sacred Heart Academy Activity Center at 6:00 p.m. This will be followed by our first rehearsal in the Music Balcony of the Church at 7:00 p.m.

We invite all interested parties to come share in our meal and the time of fellowship to catch-up and visit with one another. Those individuals that are considering joining the Music Ministry Family are encouraged to join us at either this time or at 7:00 p.m. for our rehearsal. There are "NO" requirements to joining our program. Come and give us/give the experience a try! You may find this Ministry to be a true blessing to you, as you become a true blessing to the Music & Fine Arts Ministry of the Church.

If you are interested in this or any of the possible Music and Fine Arts Ministries of the Cathedral, please feel free to contact Terry D. Maddox at: Office: 228-967-7230, Cell: 251-406-1454 &/or terrydalemaddox@gmail.com

CCD REGISTRATION!

CCD Registration for all students in Kindergarten through 11th grade in our Inter-Parish CCD program will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 6, from 5:30-6:30 at the Sacred Heart Center behind Nativity Cathedral. Please bring any Sacramental information you may have for your child. The registration fee is \$30.00 for the first child and \$20.00 for any additional children in the family. Our CCD teachers are looking forward to welcoming new and returning students to our program! Please contact Barbara Ziz at 228-918-9778 Thanks!

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Sep 2 4:00 pm 1. Gerrie Weldon 2. Ann Kavanagh 3. Helen Languirand 4. Liz Joachim 5. Kaline Lloyd Sep 3 7:00 am 1. Jim Shugart 2. Dale Dorcik 3. Vicki Howard 9:00 am 1. Belinda Corley 2. John Brauchle 3. Linda Bourgeois 4. Barbara Ziz 5. Linda Welter 11:00 am 1. Deacon Ben 2. Rhonda Clark 3. Susan Toche 4. Judy Steckler 5. Sandy Steckler 5:30 pm 1. Annette Luther 2. Kristy Arguelles 3. Teresa Ballinger	Sep 2 4:00 pm Rose Anne Kimbell Sep 3 7:00 am Jim Compton 9:00 am Liz Wilkinson 11:00 am Johnny Williams 5:30 pm Maggie Landry CANTORS Sep 2 4:00 pm Phil Frisby Sep 3 9:00 am John Welter 11:00 am Rocky Greathouse	Sep 2 4:00 pm Keegan Cuevas Sabree Sander Sep 3 7:00 am MaKayla Pfarrer McKinzey Mathis 9:00 am Trent Fulton Sofia Carreon Annabelle Tarrant Brennan Tarrant 11:00 am Hadyn Hollis Greysen Ross McRae Ross 5:30 pm Annabelle Landry Veronika Landry Julia Landry

MASS INTENTIONS

		6:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Mon	Aug 28	Collins-Sims Fly.	Aquina Simons
Tue	Aug 29	Evelyn Collins	Bobby Walker
Wed	Aug 30	Chester Balias Fly.	Kathleen Hebert
Thur	Aug 31	Patsy Smolcich	Bobby Walker
Fri	Sep 1	Hebert/Bertha McDonnell	Collins-Sims Fly.
Sat	Sep 2	8 Mary Collins Wilson	4 Ray Yenewine
Sun	Sep 3	7 -Joseph Hoang	9 - F. T. P.
		11 Jeanne Harbison	5:30 Anthony Walter Davidson, Jr.

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Father Dennis Carver, Chip Donovan, Candy Widener, John Pat Skremetti, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Kay Lawson, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Lisa Walker Kirkman, Raymond Egers, Betty Hilton, Walter Blessey, Mary Lancaster, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Richard "Red" White, Jack Joachim, Jr., Eugene LaCaze, , Mabel Viator, Marian Semski and Michael Zorich. and Karen Skremetta.

THE SACNTUARY LAMP IS LIT THIS WEEK:

In loving memory of Charles Romero from his wife and children.

NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*All are welcome to join the children and staff of Nativity School in honoring our Local Heroes...our police, fire and city workers...on Tuesday, August 29th at 9:00 a.m.

Following a time of prayer and celebration, we invite you to join us for conversation and refreshments.

*Mr. Terry Maddox, the Nativity Cathedral Music Minister, is working with our Children's Choir and Cantor Corps. We are grateful to him and to Mrs. Nanette Burke who will be assisting him this year. Mr. Terry will also be teaching music twice each month to each grade. What a wonderful opportunity for our children.

*Nativity School is again proud to be able to offer an opportunity for children to become involved in theater. Mrs. Wanda Stewart, assisted by Mrs. Kelly Pennell, is once again conducting our Arts Alive Program for children in grades 3-6. They are already preparing for their first production in late October.

*The first drawing for the \$3,000 Nativity School Raffle will be held on Thursday, September 7th. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please contact any Nativity School parent, call the school office (432-2269) or purchase through the school's website (www.nativitybvm.org)

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

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

Aug 29 -Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC

Bingo Mania 5:30 p.m.

Aug 30 - **Cleaning Team "B"**

MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND

ENTRANCE HYMN #192

OFFERTORY #423

COMMUNION #344

SENDING #391

BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for Aug 29TH: Bradberry (Thomas & Catherine), Cloud (Brandon & Emily), Collins (Shaniel & Shelly Ann), Corley (James & Karen), Gnapp (Robert & Erica), Hargrove (Roger & Stephanie) and Ladnier (Samantha). **REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENT

The Biloxi diocese has announced plans for a new Formation Class for the Permanent Diaconate to begin in the fall of 2018. Pre-selection information sessions will be conducted from 8:30 until Noon on the following days:

Saturday, Sept. 9th, St. Joseph Parish, Gulfport

Saturday, Sept. 19th, St. Elizabeth Seton, Ocean Springs.

For interested men, attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory, and your wife is required to attend. For additional information, please call 228-702-2107.