

### Carnival and Catholicism

We are now in the midst of the Mardi Gras season. Parades are rolling, king cakes fill the stores, and lent is on the horizon. In the reveling, we can feel a need to get the most out of the season, and at the same time, experience others whose reveling is more akin to carousing. Carnival can leave a bitter taste for those trying to live the Christian life and raise their families. Yet, the parades and parties provide irreplaceable, lifelong memories for our children and provide some much need relaxation for adults. Can we find a place where Mardi Gras and Catholicism get along?

Some are uneasy around Mardi Gras, and see it as an intrusive secular co-opting of an older religious celebration. It invites drunkenness, carousing, and other unsavory behaviors unsuitable for living a good life. The reality that our reveling can get out of hand is undeniable; however, there is no reason to presume that all of Mardi Gras is lost. The problem is not so much with Carnival as it is with humans. We need by our nature a mixture of work and rest. When our mixture of work and rest is upset or absent, all manner of disfunction invade our lives.

Mardi Gras offers us a time to step away from our ordinary lives and to restore our normal energies. When the rest becomes an escape from our lives, it disorders our priorities. Instead of serving our stronger return to our work, it becomes the goal. However, when leisure becomes our goal, we lose our taste for work and begin to lose direction for the future. We begin to work for the weekend instead of working for toward goals that benefit the common good. In a word, our life starts to lack meaning outside of new and more powerful pleasure experiences which in turn become less and less meaningful and pleasant. We begin to feel empty inside and lost; a living hell that many are subject to and cannot escape.

However, life maintains its purpose when recreation is rightly ordered. Our family and work come first, and our recreation restores us to work at them with greater strength. The ordinary wear of daily life can leave us totally spent. Mardi Gras, with its reveling, food, and family, can do a lot to restore us both for ordinary life and for lent. As I said with the secular celebrations of Christmas, I encourage you with Mardi Gras. Go to the parades, go to the cookouts, and enjoy all the good things this season has to offer but do not take them as a goal in themselves. Use them to restore yourself so that you can be readier for the penance of lent. There will always be more fun and more food. Have what is good for now and leave the rest for later. There will be time.

As these shorts weeks of Carnival proceed, we should consider what our Lenten penance will look like. A wonderful place to start is by looking back on what my life has been like these past few months. Is there some part of my life that is out of proportion or excessive? Or is there some aspect of the Christian life that is absent from mine? We can use the weeks of lent to set right these aspects of our life. I wish you and your families a happy Mardi Gras.

**For More:**

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/homilies/2007/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_hom\\_20070909\\_wien.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/homilies/2007/documents/hf_ben-xvi_hom_20070909_wien.html)

## MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of February 5, 2017 – February 11, 2017

### Tuesday, February 6 -

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Rai & Thaddeus Pellegrin, Thelma N. Ledet, Tommy Bascle (B).

### Wednesday, February 7-

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Rev. Paul J. Gaudin (DA), Rev. Msgr. Emile J. Fossier (B).

### Thursday, February 8-

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Michael & Beverly LeBlanc (WA), Wilson Giroir (B).

### Friday, February 9-

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Rhea P. Voisin (B).

### Saturday, February 10-

**4:00P.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Mary Ellen Brunet Hebert (DA), Dennis & Beatrice Eschete, Laurelle Wolf, Carmen, Rhea P. Voisin & Eddie Voisin Jr. (WA), Bill Sheffield, Mable Falgout, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Eldred & Maybelle Ellender, Albert Pinell Sr., Allen & Cyril Boquet, Jerry & Gertrude Aucoin, Wilbert & Elsie Hebert, Linda Ann Hebert, Salome H. Matherne, Matthew S. Matherne, Peter W. Hebert, Samuel Dominic Hebert, Jacob LeCompte Sr., Kenneth, Paul & Josie Domangue, Ramona & Alton Malcom, Larry & Troy Foret, Carla Lyons, Nikie Hebert, Nicole Staffley, Johnny Adam Switch, Celeste, May, Roosevelt LeCompte Jr. & Sr., Paul Chauvin, Mercedes & Lloyd Duplantis, Miriam, C.J. & Lanny Naquin, Russell Portier Sr., Raymond McGehee, Katie Savoie, Holy Souls, Special Intentions, Wilbert Dupre Sr., Jerry & Mathew Arceneaux, Charley Redmond.

### Sunday, February 11-

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Mary Eve & Vayne Bascle, Lionel Bascle Fly., Arthe' Breaux Fly., Arthur Lee Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Irby Petit, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Lawrence & Eula Mazerac, Cindy R. Broussard, Cooper Hebert (B), Joyce & Vin LeBlanc, Eula Mae Rodrigue, Paul Rodrigue, Roland Rodrigue, Rita & Gilbert Bergeron Fly., Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., Veronica Trahan, Ann Hebert, Terry Lirette, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Norman "Judge" Falgout Jr., Sue Bueche.

**10:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Joyce, Debbie, Celina & Herbert Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont, Sterling Sr., Mary & Sterling Authement Jr., Geraldine Dupre, Joyce Bergeron, Lacey Price.

## MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4th

Sanctuary Light - Rhea P. Voisin by Belinda Authement & Nancy Rodrigue;

**CLEANING LIST:** February 4th- Paula Neil, Sally Anderson, Stacy Belisle, Cindy Stutts

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

**January 27 & 28, 2018 Collection:** Envelopes: \$2,825.80 + Loose: \$400.00 = \$3,225.80

**Maintenance Collection:** \$731.00 + \$40.00 (This week) = \$771.00 January Total

Collection for the Church in Latin America: \$798.00

The **Second Collection** on the weekend of February 4th is for the Maintenance of St. Ann Parish

Thank you for your generosity!

**CCD NEWS:** CCD Classes are as scheduled on Monday & Tuesday, February 5th & 6th.

\*\* Registration for the 2018-2019 School Year has begun during class times. You can also access Registration Forms online at [stannbourg.org](http://stannbourg.org).

\*\*\* **Operation Rice Bowl** has been sent out with the CCD students during our last class in an effort to reach all families in St. Ann Parish. Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl offers powerful stories about our brothers and sisters in need around the world whose lives are being transformed through our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Catholics across the United States, through CRS Rice Bowls, can effectively fight global hunger and address injustice, bringing Christ's love to those who are suffering. You may visit [crsricebowls.org](http://crsricebowls.org) for more information.

#### **YOUTH NEWS:**

**We still have spots open for Steubenville on the Bayou June 15-17, 2018!** Check with Mrs. Lisa for paperwork and registration fees.

#### ***MASS SCHEDULE DURING LENT***

***Ash Wednesday - 8am & 6pm***

***Weekday Masses: Monday@ 6pm; Tuesday - Thursday @ 8am; Friday@ 5:45pm***

***Way of the Cross for Children: Friday@ 5pm; Way of the Cross: Friday @ 5:45pm;***

***Holy Thursday (March 29th) @ 7pm;***

***Good Friday (March 30th) Inside & Outside Way of the Cross & Passion begins @ 2:30pm;***

***Way of the Cross in Church @ 6pm***

***"The Light is On For You"(Confessions throughout Diocese): Wednesday, March 21st, 5-7pm;***

***Fr. Alex will also offer Confession during Lent on Thursdays from 4 - 8pm;***

#### **2018 Annual Bishop's Appeal - Partners in Hope**

Our Diocese continues to celebrate hope as we enter into our Partners in Hope Annual Bishop's Appeal, encouraging all to join us as we serve in the Lord's mission together. It is HOPE that inspires us to join together as one Diocese and to be successful in all that we do. We ask that you join us as a partner in hope to make a difference in the lives of others across our Diocese. When you make a gift to the Annual Bishop's Appeal as a Partner In Hope, you are directly supporting our retired priests, the office of Adult Formation, youth formation and family ministries. Each of these ministries directly impacts our parishioners, and it is your generosity that allows our Diocese to continue ministering to you. As in years past, your gift will go towards your church parishes goals, and all parishes who exceed their appeal goal will receive a percentage back to support the parish. Please prayerfully consider a gift to support your parish and our Diocesan Annual Bishop's Appeal as a Partner in Hope.

If you would like information about the 2018 Appeal, please contact the Appeal Office at 985-850-3116 or email [aponson@htdiocese.org](mailto:aponson@htdiocese.org)

**Senate to Vote next week on the "Pain Capable unborn Child Protection Act"**- This bill would protect abortion babies in the womb who are capable of feeling pain. Please contact your Senator asking to vote

in favor of this legislation (S.1922). You can find out how to do this and get the right wording by going to: *ProtectTheUnborn.net*

**"WHY WE WORSHIP"**

The "Why We Believe" and "Why We Confess" video series are still available online at *hdiocese.org/whyweworship*. Visit the site and register to receive a password to view the videos. While you're there, watch the informative videos with Fr. Brice Higginbotham, Strategic Planning updates with Fr. Mark Toups, "Q & A" with Fr. Josh Rodrigue, interviews with our Parish Priests, and other good resources.

Coming soon *"Why We Worship / Rediscover The Mass. Look for it during Lent- 2018.*

**ST. ANN CONTRIBUTIONS TAX STATEMENTS**

Tax statements are available for your tax preparation upon request from Mrs. Penne at the St. Ann's Administration Office. Call Mrs. Penne at 594-3548.

**Position Announcement -** The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux is seeking a full-time employee for the ministry of Executive Assistant to the Bishop. For consideration please submit a cover letter, including salary requirements, and a resume to *hr@hdiocese.org*. The job responsibilities, duties, and requirements are posted on the board at the entrance of the church.

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor Chapel, Chauvin, La. - Thursday Nights of Lent at 6:45pm**

"The Way of the Cross Through the Eyes of Mary"

- February 22nd, Nancy Smith: Meditation on Stations 1, 2, & 3
- March 1st, Sadie Bonvillian: Meditation on Stations 4, 5, & 6
- March 8th, Fr. Glynn LeCompte: Meditation on Stations 7, 8 & 9
- March 15th, Deacon Lee Crochet: Meditation on Stations 10, 11 & 12
- March 22nd, Melanie Babin: Meditation on Stations 13, 14 & 15

MASSES	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	COMMENTATOR/LECTOR	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
<b><u>February 3 &amp; 4</u></b>				
<b>SATURDAY</b>	June, Yvonne,			
<b>4:00P.M.</b>	Brian, Marianne	Hayes, Randolph	Mason, Tyler	Steve B, Dave, Ollie
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Patsy, Tim,			
<b>8:00A.M.</b>	Mona, Dana	Nick, David	Lucas, Caleb	Dickie, Bob, Carol
<b>10:00A.M.</b>	Gerald, Melody, David, Melissa	Anna, Lisa	Alexander, Gavin, Peyton, Kaylee	Lanny, Volunteer
<b><u>February 10 &amp; 11</u></b>				
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Adrian, Dave,			
<b>4:00P.M.</b>	Randolph, Kathie	Elia, Cheryl	Donte', Grace	Steve H, Jan
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Monique, Carol,			
<b>8:00A.M.</b>	Cecil, Irma	Doug, Hayes	Lee, Trenton	Jesse, Paula, Peggy
<b>10:00A.M.</b>	Connie, Ivy, Leroy, Ashley	Cindy, Anna	Zack, Bailey, Anna, Cole	Kenneth, Joseph

