

Ask Father #7 - This morning I find myself without a question to answer, so I would like to talk about THE most uncomfortable topic in all of Catholicism. Not abortion, not contraception, not liturgy, not social justice, today I am going to talk about tithing. Tithing comes from the Hebrew scriptures as part of the legal responsibilities of the people. The people were instructed to give a tenth of their produce or income from the year or its equivalent in money. This tenth of the harvest was what God would use to support his priests. Theologically the land and its produce were gifts from the Lord, and the people could keep nine-tenths of its produce. The portion that was the Lord's would go to the portion of the people who were his own. So, the Levites who served in the temple and places of sacrifice would receive God's portion of the harvest. While Catholics are not bound to the strict tenth of their income, this is a good place to start.

Catechism of the Catholic Church provides five precepts which are the corner stones of catholic life. From these precepts, we are given our obligations to attend Mass on Sunday, receive the Eucharist, go to Confession, observe the days of prayer and fasting, and "the fifth precept ('You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church') means that the faithful are obliged to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability (CCC 495)." The Code of Canon Law explains that these funds provide "what is necessary for divine worship, for the works of the apostolate and of charity, and for the decent support of ministers (CCL 222)."

I want to focus on two elements of these quotes: first, that the church does specify an amount for our giving and second, what those funds are used for. As to the donation amount, even St. Paul who was thoroughly Jewish tells Christians that their giving should be out of what they can afford (1 Cor 16:2). He balances this with "Consider this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor 9:5-8)." He balances giving what we can with the reality that God rewards generosity. However, how do we get practical with all this advice. Mother Angelica served as spiritual advisor to most of the United States during her time on television, she would always say to keep us between your gas and electric bill. Her plea was not to leave EWTN as an after thought but to set them up as part of our ordinary expenses. When you make your budget this year, put St. Ann in your budget so that you do not have to worry about it during the year. Take this time of year when you are already considering your finances to think and pray about what you can give.

I find knowing what we are giving too helps our generosity. Your contributions on Sunday help cover all the costs that St. Ann incurs as we celebrate the liturgy, educate our young people through CCD, support the needy, pay our staff as well as myself, and provide for all our outreach. All of this you have provided for through your donations. I am not asking you to give more as much I wish you would. I am asking you to consider what St. Ann has provided you this year, what the year has been like for you financially, and how you might adjust your giving prudently. If you have appreciated our work this year, I believe that we can do so much more together.

Submit your questions to askfralex@gmail.com

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alex Gaudet

MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of January 15, 2017 – January 21, 2017

Tuesday, January 16 -

8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Rai & Thaddeus Pellegrin.

Wednesday, January 17-

8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Jerry Bascle.

Thursday, January 18-

8:00A.M.- All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Rev. James L. Caillouet (DA), Nicholas Bascle (B), Jerry Tolleson.

Friday, January 19-

8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Rai Pellegrin (B).

Saturday, January 20-

4:00P.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Horace & Camille Boquet Fly., Ramos & Coralie Hornsby, Jimmie & Virgie Prosperie, Dennis & Beatrice Eschete, Laurelle Wolf, Vin & Joyce LeBlanc, Edna, Macon & Roland Bascle, Remy & Bessie Reulet, Mark & Billy Pellegrin, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Eldred & Maybelle Ellender, Jacob LeCompte Sr., Kenneth, Paul & Josie Domangue, Ramona & Alton Malcom, Larry & Troy Foret, Carla Lyons, Nikie Hebert, Nicole Staffley, Johnny Adam Switch, Celeste, May, Rosevelt LeCompte, Jr. & Sr., Paul Chauvin, Mercedeze & Lloyd Duplantis, Miriam, C.J. & Lanny Naquin, Russell Portier Sr., Raymond McGehee, Katie Savoie, Holy Souls, Special Intentions, Wilbert & Elsie Hebert, Linda Ann Hebert, Salome H. Matherne, Matthew S. Matherne, Peter W. Hebert, Samuel Dominic Hebert, Wilbert Dupre Sr., Jerry & Mathew Arceneaux.

Sunday, January 21-

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, Marla Mazerac, Brandon Pellegrin, Joyce & Vin LeBlanc, Clinton & Wilma Picou, Toby Price, Melanie Boquet, Erous & Eric Eschete, Rita & Gilbert Bergeron Fly., Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., Veronica Trahan, Ann Hebert, Terry Lirette, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Alec & Celeste Hebert (WA), Madge Hebert (B), George Derrington (DA), Norman "Judge" Falgout Jr.

10:00A.M. - YOUTH MASS - 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, Lacey Price.

MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 14th

Sanctuary Light - Carmen, Ann & Michael Boquet by Family;

Altar Bread - Eldred & Maybelle Ellender by Family;

CLEANING LIST: January 14th- Kathie B, Betty Leonard, Johnnie Occhionero, Annabelle Trosclair

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 6 & 7, 2018 Collection: Envelopes: \$4,475.00 + Loose: \$369.00 = \$4,844.00

Maintenance Collection: Envelopes: \$246.00 + Loose: \$137.00 = \$383.00 January Total

Thank you for your generosity!

CCD NEWS: No CCD Classes are scheduled on Monday & Tuesday, January 15th & 16th.

St. Ann celebrated Confirmation on January 6, 2018. Twenty-nine young people confirmed. The Confirmation Team did a great job preparing them for this sacrament. Bishop Fabre gave a powerful homily encouraging them not to follow the temptations of the world but to follow Christ and do His work. There was a reception following the Mass, we have the Social Committee to thank for their time and effort putting that together. Thank you to Fr. Alex for his guidance and support.

We would like to thank the parents for sharing their children with us! Most of all thanks to the 29 newly confirmed for their "Yes".

YOUTH NEWS:

*** **PARENTING CLASSES** offered at St. Ann during Tuesday night CCD Classes January 23rd from 6-7:15pm. Babysitting will be provided.

*****WE NEED BABYSITTERS!!!** Can you help?? We are offering babysitting for many of our youth activities. High school teens and adults are needed. If you can help, call or text Lisa Lapeyrouse at 985-852-2007, and we will put you on a team.

JUNIOR HIGH FAITH EXPERIENCE

Please pray for our young people and adult volunteers as they attend Junior High Faith Experience on Saturday, January 13, 2018.

Knights of Columbus St. Ann Council #8932

Knight of the Month- Bro. Nick Prosperie

Family of the Month- Bro. Randolph & Kathie Bascle

VANDEBILT REGISTRATION

Vandebilt Catholic High School 2018-2019 Registration will be held Feb. 2-23, 2018. Placement Test for incoming 8th graders will be administered on the VCHS campus on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018. You must register for the Placement Test through the school office. If you would like to schedule a private tour, please call 985-876-2551 to speak with Mrs. Kayla Vicknair, Dean of Admissions and Student Activities.

MARIA IMMACOLATA CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Join us for our 2018-2019 School Year Open House for PreK through 7th Grade

Tuesday, January 30th at 324 Estate Drive in Houma, La. Tour our campus anytime from 9am - 1pm

DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAU POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Lucy Catholic Church is seeking a part-time music minister.

Houma-Thibodaux Diocese is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant for the Catholic Foundation of South Louisiana. These job listings are on the bulletin board at the entrance of the Church.

~~~ **BAPTISMS** ~~~

***AnnaLeece Faith & Ainslee Lynn, children of Kenny Billiot & Jodie Vining;***

| <b>MASSES</b>                     | <b>MINISTERS<br/>OF THE EUCHARIST</b> | <b>COMMENTATOR/<br/>LECTOR</b> | <b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>         | <b>USHERS</b>        |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>January 13 &amp; 14</u></b> |                                       |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                   | Randolph, Kathie,                     |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>4:00P.M.</b>                   | June, Adrian                          | Hayes, Elia                    | Mason, Donte'                | Steve H, Jan         |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                     | Bert, Jesse,                          |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>8:00A.M.</b>                   | Cecil, Irma                           | Nick, Doug                     | Lee, Trenton                 | Jesse, Paula, Peggy  |
| <b>10:00A.M.</b>                  | Mindy, Debra L, Connie, Ivy           | Lisa, Alyse                    | Zack, Bailey, Peyton, Anna   | Kenneth, Joseph      |
| <b><u>January 20 &amp; 21</u></b> |                                       |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                   | Brian, Marianne,                      |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>4:00P.M.</b>                   | Yvonne, Dave                          | Connie N, Hayes                | Grace A, Rebecca             | Steve B, Dave, Ollie |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                     | Patsy, Dana,                          |                                |                              |                      |
| <b>8:00A.M.</b>                   | Tim, Mona                             | Doug, Nick                     | Lucas, Caleb                 | Doug, Numa, Claude   |
| <b>10:00A.M.</b>                  | Leslie, Paula, David, Melissa         | Youth                          | Luke, Henry, David, Kirkland | Lanny, Youth         |

