

**Ask Father #2****Did Our Lady have other Children?**

No, Mary the Mother of God had only one biological child, Jesus. The ancient belief of the church is that Mary is a perpetual virgin. Her bodily integrity remained intact before, during, and after the birth of Christ. The perpetual virginity of Our Lady cannot be demonstrated from sacred scripture but is widely attested to by the church fathers and was defined by the council of Constantinople II. Mary's Perpetual Virginity is reflected daily in the church's liturgy. Calling Mary the ever-virgin in the liturgy makes use of the theological principle of *lex orandi, lex credenda* [the law of prayer, is the law faith]. Because the liturgy calls Mary the ever-virgin, the church presumes this to be correct because of tie between the Holy Spirit and the liturgy.

This becomes a question because of the bible's reference to the brothers and sisters of Jesus; Mk 3, 6; 1 Cor 9; Gal 1. In these passages, Jesus is described as having several brothers and sisters and some are given by name. Andrew, one of the names given, becomes a leader of the Church in Jerusalem. There are two ways to interpret this passage. First, there is a tradition that Joseph was an older widower with many children. Mary was then betrothed to him so that he would provide for her and she would help him care for his children. Second, in the ancient Greek that Jesus and his contemporaries spoke, there is no distinction between a biological sibling and a close relative like a cousin. So, what our translation of the New Testament calls Jesus' brothers and sisters are most likely the children of Mary or Joseph's siblings, possibly the woman Matthew calls the other Mary. C.f. CCC499-501

**Why is purgatory not emphasized in our teachings?**

It is but it does not always take center stage. First, purgatory is the final purification of all those who die in God's grace and friendship but are not perfectly prepared for heaven. Purgatory is NOT a place, but an experience. We can correctly say that a person is in purgatory in the same manner that we say a person is in recovery. Sure, recovery may reference a specific place in a hospital, but it also identifies the person's condition. Thus, the actual location of those souls in purgatory is undefined and not as important as their condition. Those in purgatory are being purified of all their attachment to this world and to sin. A process that is painful but tempered by the assurance of heaven. They are aided by our prayers. Our prayers are no substitute for a life of following Christ or penance performed in this life, but prayers give them more accesses to the grace they need to be purified. Also once purged, they join the ranks of the saints and pray for us. Second, purgatory is not so much not talked about as it is not talked about as much as in the past. Every mass is said for the living and the dead. Churches' still take stipends to have Masses said for the dead. Purgatory is covered in the Catechism. C.f. CCC1030-1032

Thanks to all who submitted questions. Submit your questions to [askfralex@gmail.com](mailto:askfralex@gmail.com)  
Fr. Alex

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**For the Week of August 21, 2017 – August 27, 2017**

**Tuesday, August 22-**

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

**Wednesday, August 23-**

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

**Thursday, August 24-**

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Allie Bascle (B), John Arceneaux (DA).

**Friday, August 25-**

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

**Saturday, August 26-**

**4:00P.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Wilbert, Elsie & Linda Hebert, Salome & Matthew Matherne, Wilbert Dupre Sr., Macon, Edna & Roland Bascle, Remy & Bessie Reulet, Billy & Mark Pellegrin, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Boquet & Fly., Mr. & Mrs. Aubin Pinell & Fly., Albert Pinell Sr., Ferdinand & Irene Boquet, Oris & Hilda Bergeron, Jane Champagne, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Jerry & Mathew Arceneaux, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Beatrice & Dennis Eschete, 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 & Lanny Naquin, Russell Portier Sr., Raymond McKee, Holy Souls, Special Intentions, Laurelle Wolf, Clarice Bascle, Eldred & MayBelle Ellender, Kelly Bascle (B).

**Sunday, August 27-**

**8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Clyde, Andrew Sr. & Edna Pitre, David Naquin Sr., Clyde, Elizabeth & Curtis Lirette, Elmer, Earline, Robert & Kevin Lirette, Keith Dupre, Lawrence & Eula Mazerac, Mary Eve & Vayne Bascle, Lionel Bascle Fly., Arthe' Breaux Family, Arthur Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Irby Petit, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Cindy R. Broussard, Erous & Eric Eschete, Herman Walker Jr., Gilbert & Rita Bergeron Fly., Vin LeBlanc & Fly., Marla Mazerac, Brandon Pellegrin.

**10:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:** Parishioners of St. Ann, Joyce, Deborah, Celina & Herbert Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont, Mary, Sterling Sr. & Sterling Authement Jr., Geraldine Dupre, Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., Veronica Trahan, Ann Hebert, Terry Lirette, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Renee Lirette & Jordan Bergeron (Wedding).

**MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 20th**

**Sanctuary Light** - Beverly Theriot by Paulette & Roland Henry;

Mr. & Mrs. Ruble Hebert by Wayne & Judy Duhon;

**3 Altar Candles** - Lee Lapeyrouse Sr. (B) by Stacey & Heidi LeBlanc;

**CLEANING LIST: August 20th** - Paula Neil, Sally Anderson, Stacy Belisle, Cindy Stutts

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**August 12 & 13 , 2017 Collection:** Envelopes: \$4,822.00 + Loose: \$443.00 = \$5,265.00

**Maintenance Collection:** Envelopes: \$1,421.00 + Loose: \$196.00 = \$1,617.00

Thank you for your generosity!

**CCD NEWS:** No CCD Classes on Monday & Tuesday, August 21 & 22, 2017.

\*\*\*The **9th Grade CCD Class** is in charge of the 10am Mass on Sunday, August 20th.

**St. Ann CCD Schedule times:**

**K - 5th grades:** Tuesday, 6:00 - 7:00pm

**6th, 7th, 8th & 9th grades:** Monday, 7:00 - 8:15pm

**10th & 11th grades:** Monday, 7:00 - 8:30pm

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Saturday, September 9, 2017 - 11th Grade Retreat**

**Saturday, September 30, 2017 - 10th Grade Retreat**

**Friday, January 5, 2018 - Confirmation Practice**

**Saturday, January 6, 2018 - Confirmation**

\*\*\*PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!

**YOUTH NEWS: SEEKING MONETARY DONATIONS:**

St. Ann Youth Ministry is on the move!! We are attempting to organize our youth closet with shelving units and make our youth room a place that we can comfortably have small group sessions, with sofas, bean bag chairs, and a TV. Any monetary donations to help us complete those two spaces would be greatly appreciated!! Checks can be made out to "St. Ann Youth Fund", and can be brought to the church office or placed in the offertory basket. THANK YOU!!!

**ST. ANN COUNCIL #8932 BBQ DINNER**

**Sunday, September 17, 2017**

**From 10:30am to 12:30pm**

1/2 Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad & Bread

Tickets are \$10.00. Take out or eat in.

**ST. ANN PARISH NEEDS CHOIR MEMBERS!!!**

The Adult Choir (which sings at 4:00pm and 8:00am Masses) are in desperate need of more choir members. If you would like to help us in this ministry at either of these Masses, please contact the Parish Office at 594-3548 - or you can call Peggy at 594-7111 or Mary at 594-2531. Our choir practice is every Wednesday in Church at 5:00pm. Please consider joining us in this important ministry.

**THE DECORATION TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!**

This team works alongside the Ladies Altar Society and the St. Ann's Social Committee to coordinate the flowers, plants, Altar Clothes, Banners, the votive candles at Easter, all the decorations inside and outside at Christmas in the Church and the Parish Center throughout the Liturgical Year. We need women and men for this ministry because it can include building things, climbing ladders to put lights in tall trees, and carrying the Church Nativity Set into Church and in front of the Parish Center. If you would like to help with this important ministry in St. Ann Parish, please call the Parish Office at 594-3548 or call Mary at 594-2531. There will be an important meeting in October to plan for Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. Please look for the date and time in future bulletin announcements.

**How did we get the Bible? Why do we confess to a priest? What do we really believe about the Eucharist?**

Do you have a desire to more fully understand the faith you believe?

Do you have questions about the Catholic Church that have not yet been answered?

This September, every church throughout the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux will be offering an 8-week video study on the most commonly asked questions about the Catholic faith.

This study, entitled, ‘*Why We Believe | Rediscover Your Faith*’, will be made available online for all parishioners.

Sign-Ups begin this weekend.

You can learn more and sign up on our diocesan website at [htdiocese.org/WhyWeBelieve](http://htdiocese.org/WhyWeBelieve).

**THE DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAux BLUE MASS**

**Praying for all who protect our community and country**

Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 11:00am at Cathedral of St. Francis in Houma

Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, D.D., Presider

Reception follows at KC Hall

**~~~ ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ~~~**

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux is inviting all couples married in the Catholic Church who are celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th (and beyond) anniversary during 2017. The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration Prayer Service will be held Sunday, October 22, 2017 at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral at 2:00PM. A reception will immediately follow in the courtyard. If you wish to participate in this program, contact your church parish before August 25, 2017 to register.

**All registered anniversary couples will receive an inscribed diocesan certificate at St. Ann Parish during the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, October 14, 2017. A reception for these couples and their families will follow in the St. Ann Parish Center. Please call the St. Ann Administration Office at 594-3548 to participate in this event.**

**\*~\*~\*~ BAPTISMS ~\*~\*~\***

*Levi Thomas Hebert, child of Alec & Celeste Lapeyrouse Hebert;*

**~~~~~ GRANT THEM ETERNAL REST ~~~~~**

*Remember those who have passed on into the Kingdom of Our Father.*

*~ Floyd John Tabor ~ Marie Hilda LeBouef ~ Joyce Arceneaux LeBlanc ~*

*We pray that their families may find comfort and consolation through faith.*

MASSES	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	COMMENTATOR/ LECTOR	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
<u>August 19 &amp; 20</u>				
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Marianne, Brian,			
<b>4:00P.M.</b>	June, Adrian,	Elia, Cheryl	Hunter, Tyler	Steve B, Dave, Ollie
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Jesse, Christine,			
<b>8:00A.M.</b>	Dana, Doug	Nick, Ken C.	Lee, Trenton	Jesse, Paula, Leward, Peggy
<b>10:00A.M.</b>	Connie, Ivy, Leslie, Paula	9th Grade CCD	Brianna, Zack, Bailey, Peyton	9th Grade CCD
<u>August 26 &amp; 27</u>				
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Sue, Steve,			
<b>4:00P.M.</b>	Volunteer, Yvonne	Connie, Randolph	Mason, Donte'	Steve H, Jan, Lane
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Bert, Doug,			
<b>8:00A.M.</b>	Irma, Cecil	Christine, David	Lucas, Caleb	Doug, Numa, Claude
<b>10:00A.M.</b>	Paula, Mindy, Debra L, Leroy	Lisa, Alyse	Anna, Kailey, Hailey, Grace L	Kenneth, Joseph

