

Ministers of the Liturgy September 19 & 20, 2015

Saturday - 4 P.M.

Intention: Alumnae of St. Stephen High School,
Mary Cali Kerth & Jacob Kerth, Sr.,
Rose Marie Greco Federico, Marie O'Malley,
Merle & Charles Dittmer, Joseph Segari,
Patrick C. McKinney, Eve Vavrck (L),
Carlo (Kelly) Sabella, Flora Maria Be,
Joyce Sirgo, George Spaulding, Paul Borrello (L)
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
A. & P. Delaup
Cantor: Trish Genco

Sunday - 9 A.M.

Intention: Parishioners
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
J. & G. Rojas, C. Rispoli, B. Soletto
Song Leaders: Traditional Choir

Sunday - 11 A.M.

Intention: Dianne Z. Harrison, Jason Young,
Frank E. Golemi, Melvin Ducote, Kelvin Ducote,
Hubert LaBorde, Donald Bordelon, Anthony Angello,
Hilton Daigle, Jr., Charles Sciortino, Gerald Mocklin,
Joseph Donald Bernard, John G. Scala
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
S. Gordon, L. Peters, C. & T. Pitre
Song Leaders: Contemporary Choir

Sunday - 6 P.M.

Intention: Rev. Patrick Smith
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
M. Drawe, D. Powers
Cantor: Lauren Gisclair
Pianist: Beth Kettenring

Weekday Masses (9/21-25)

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| Monday | 7:00 a.m. | Don Rowan, Sr. |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Iva Borrello (L) |
| Tuesday | 7:00 a.m. | Special Intention (L) |
| Wednesday | 7:00 a.m. | Louis & Edith Pfister |
| | 8:20 a.m. | Nick Incardona, Jr. & Sr. |
| Thursday | 7:00 a.m. | Mary Comberrel |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Rev. Patrick Smith |
| Friday | 7:00 a.m. | Special Intention (L) |



Confirmation Meeting

Attention High School Sophomores and Juniors and anyone interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are currently forming the Confirmation Class of 2016. Anyone who is currently a sophomore or older, **and their parents**, should attend an informational meeting and prayer service on **Sunday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria**. Registration forms are in the back of Church. They may be returned to either the School or Parish Office. **Please note, the Archdiocese of New Orleans requires two consecutive years of religious instruction before Confirmation.** For more information, please contact Cecilia Wilson at 504-782-8943 or by email at cwilson@stbenilde.com.

"A Shower of Rose"

A special mass in honor of Saint Thérèse will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Kenner. Prayers and Confession at 10 a.m. Music at 10:30 a.m. International violinist Daniela Castro and cellist Raudol Palacios accompanied by vocalist Christina Casey. Procession of children and Mass at 11 a.m. Veneration of Saint Thérèse relics and Blessing of Roses by Fr. Miles. Please bring fresh roses. Arrive early for best seating.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Sept. 26/27

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| 4 p.m. | K. Hartdegan, D. Martin |
| 9 a.m. | D. Childers, P. Cifreo, R. Meche, P. Manfre |
| 11 a.m. | J. Ackermann, J. Wright, N. Bostick, L. Frey |
| 6 p.m. | J. Zeringue, T. Kettenring |



Adoration Chapel Adoration
Light in memory of
Stuart and Gloria Fourroux

Adoration Chapel Candles
in memory of
Dianne Z. Harrison



*Altar
Care*

Altar Ladies

Week of September 20
J. LeBoeuf, J. Rojas, T. Gsell

Linens

Large - F. Alvarez Small - M. Oleksik

Last Week's Collection

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| Envelopes | \$3,633.01 |
| Loose | 2,588.83 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 445.00 |
| Msgr. Richaud Endowment Fund..... | 60.00 |
| Totalling | \$6,726.84 |

Fr. Cooper's Corner

Catechetical Sunday 2015

This Sunday, we mark Catechetical Sunday – an opportunity to celebrate, pray for and bless those men and women who use their time, their talent and their love to teach the faith. If you think you have a good idea of who these people are, think again.

About 5 years ago, I was on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. And one of the women on our pilgrimage was a new convert. She had joined the Church at Easter, just a few months before. I was curious about what led her to convert; she wasn't married, none of her family was Catholic, and she was from an area of the country, where Catholics don't exactly grow on trees. So on one of our long bus trips, I asked her, "What made you want to become Catholic?"

What she said surprised me – and moved me. "It was my boss," she said. "He's a Catholic. And he's one of the kindest people I know. He's just a good, good man. I saw how he treated his family, his wife, his children, how he dealt so fairly and decently with everyone. And he was happy." And she told me: "The more I got to know him, the more I wanted what he had."

That's stayed with me ever since. "I wanted what he had." I've thought about that from time to time and wondered: would anyone ever say something like that about me? Would my life and example ever have that kind of an impact on someone? And this particular Sunday, I realize: whether he knew it or not, that young woman's boss was a catechist. He was passing on the faith, teaching it, just by the way he lived.

Which brings me to my broader point: if you want to know the most important catechists in this parish, just look around you. In fact, just look in the mirror ...because every one of us is a catechist. Every one of us, by virtue of our baptism, is charged with proclaiming the Gospel. Every one of us is bearing witness. We are teaching. We may not do it with a lesson plan or textbooks. We may not all explain the sacraments to children in a classroom. But we live out the sacraments we have received in the classroom of the world. Every one of us is teaching the faith by who we are and how we live.

So we need to ask ourselves: what am I teaching? Am I showing compassion? Am I modeling patience? Sacrifice? Prayer? Fidelity to the faith? Am I teaching others how to love as Christ did? Or, am I teaching something else? Am I being pious on Sunday, then petty on Monday? Am I living the faith that I received – or merely going through the motions?

As I learned from that young woman on our pilgrimage, what we choose to do, or choose not to do, can have a profound effect – on ourselves, and on those around us, in ways we might not even imagine. St. Paul couldn't be clearer: "Conduct yourselves," he writes, "in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ." In other words, make the Gospel present to others. Make *Christ* present. As Paul puts it: "Christ will be magnified in my body."

The catechists we pray for this day are a key part of that legacy – they are the ones who are most visibly passing on the faith to our children and grandchildren, sacrificing their time to hand on what they know and love. They're helping to insure that decades from now this church will still be filled as it is today – that more voices will be raised in song, that more hearts will be lifting their prayers and petitions to God from these pews, that new members of the Body of Christ will come forward to share the Eucharistic banquet, long after we are gone. But those teachers of the faith aren't the only ones. It is also up to each one of us.

This Catechetical Sunday, let us recommit ourselves to our vocation as teachers of the faith – the vocation marked on each of us at our baptism. Let us vow to proclaim the Good News, to be heralds of the Gospel, to be messengers of healing and hope. We need to strive, very simply, to make our lives examples of what it means to be a Catholic Christian: To love without conditions. To pray without ceasing. To be compassion and mercy in a world full of desperation and fear. In short: let us live to *magnify Christ*, and to *make God apparent*. If we do that, who knows? Maybe someone might one day even say of us: "***I want what they have.***"

Collection Totals

On September 6 & 7, the regular and second collection for Repairs and Maintenance totaled \$11,382.



Church Cleaning Crew

Looking for a way to burn some calories, commune with Jesus, beautify our church, and fill a desperate need at the same time? Come help us vacuum - it is only a 30-45 minute obligation each month! Call Anita at 504-874-1210.

Married Couples Retreat

A Weekend for Prayer: Refreshment for Married Couples will be offered September 25 - 27, at the Archdiocesan Retreat Center, 5500 St. Mary Street, Metairie. The weekend will provide retreatants with time for individual prayer and reflection as well as couple prayer and silence. It will be a time of refreshment, renewal and reawakening to the great call of God to spouses to become one in every way. Presented by Lloyd and Jan Tate Actual Cost: \$550.00 per couple Minimum Offering: \$350.00. To register or for more information please contact Susan Halligan at shalligan@arch-no.org. or 504-267- 9604.

Adoration Chapel

We are in great need of committed adorers in our Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel. We have open times throughout the day and night. If you would like more information, or would like to commit to one hour of quiet prayer with the Lord once a week, please call Joy at 504-834-5525.