



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 22, 2009

It is I, I, who wipe out, for my own sake, your offenses; your sins I remember no more.

We are a Sacrificial Giving Parish, Giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure
Our offertory collection for last Sunday was \$7,143.65.
(For 2007-2008 our average weekly expenses were \$6,509.00.)

In Memory of Allan Brasseaux (2nd Anniversary) By: Joyce Brasseaux & Family

Ash Wednesday: February 25th, is the first day of our Lenten Journey. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses:

6:15, 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Following church liturgical guidelines, ashes will be distributed only during these Liturgies.

The Season of Lent

Church Regulations on Fast & Abstinence

Fast: All Catholics 18 years of age but not yet 59 observe fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. One may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted to maintain strength according to ones needs. The eating of solid food between meals is not permitted.

Abstinence: We do not eat meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is observed by all Catholics 14 years of age and older.

Lent is a time for **prayer** and **penance**. The "Works of Mercy" offers many opportunities to: visit the sick, help the hungry and homeless, comfort the sorrowful, counsel the doubtful, pray for and admonish the sinner, forgive all injuries, and pray for the living and dead.

Altar Flowers: We are in the process of making a schedule for 2009. If anyone would like to donate flowers for the altar on Sundays, please call Darrell at the church office. Even if you donated flowers during the last few years and would like to continue, please call and let us know.

LENTEN PRAYER GROUP

The season of Lent is a time for commitment to prayer and spiritual growth. You are invited to join a group for guided prayer and faith sharing.

Participants will commit to daily prayer and will meet on Monday evenings (7:00 to 8:00 PM) during Lent. We will gather in the Holy Family Day Chapel of St. Charles church in Grand Coteau.

The first session will be on Monday, March 2nd. The last meeting will be on Easter Monday, April 13th.

We will use "Not by Bread Alone" as our help for daily prayer. This small book is published by the Liturgical Press and offers reflections on the daily Bible readings of the Lenten Masses.

If you intend to participate please call the church office and give us your name so we can plan more accurately for the program.

St. Ignatius School in Grand Coteau is currently accepting enrollment applications for the 2009-2010 school year. If interested please contact the office at 662-3325.

Altar Servers are reminded to pick up a copy of the new schedule on the table at the entrance of the church.

Activities of the Week Feb. 23-March 1

M 23	4:00 PM Vigil Mass Choir Practice
T 24	<i>Mardi Gras Holiday</i>
W 25	Ash Wednesday
TH 26	5:45 PM 10:30 Mass Choir Practice 7:00 PM Adult Sacrament Class
FR 27	7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
SA 28	

Minister Schedule-Feb. 28-March 1

Vigil -Lector	Al & Dyanne LeBlanc
Communion	Jim & Barbara Burleigh, Ivy Lavergne Kalina Cormier, Mary Menard
Altar Server	Nicholas Smith, Meghan & Emma Bush
7:30 -Lector	Cheri Dubroc & Joe Landry
Communion	Theresa Cormier, Darrell Burleigh Gary Dubroc, Jackie Savoie, Joe Landry
Altar Server	Taneshia Cormier & Carlie Pierre
10:30 -Lector	Barbara & Simon Broussard
Communion	Frank & Avis Domingue, Polly Etienne Angela Boone, Nancy Bourque
Altar Server	Cody, Caitlyn & Caleb Williams

Church Cleaners for Feb. 28-March 1

Denise Baloney Shanda Guidry
Diane Meche Tommie Miller
Natasha & Caitlin Williams
Perry & Brenda Kennerson

The meeting for the **Sacrament of the Eucharist** (First Communion) is **March 5, 2009** at **7:00 p.m.** in St. Charles Chapel. In order for you to receive your books for this sacrament, you and your child must have completed the following:

- attend the meeting March 5th at 7:00 PM
- successfully completed The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- paid your book fee of \$25
- turned in a copy of child's baptismal certificate

If you have any questions, please contact the Religious Education office at 662-5271.

Academy of the Sacred Heart Annual Lenten Day of Recollection

The Alumnae Association of the Academy of the Sacred Heart will host a Day of Recollection on **Thursday, March 12, 2009**, from **9 a.m.-3 p.m.** in the Academy Chapel. Fr. Chester Arceneaux will serve as retreat director.

The day of Recollection is open to individuals of all religious backgrounds and faiths. This is an excellent opportunity for a day of quiet inner focus for business people, parents, and others unable to find time for a longer spiritual retreat. There is no fee to participate. Donations are appreciated. The Alumnae Association for the Academy will provide beverages, and participants should bring a bag lunch. For further information call 662-5275.

FORGIVEN

The people of Israel, even in New Testament times, thought of God in a very personal, intimate, and relationship-oriented manner. In our modern times, we have inherited categories about God from Greek philosophy: God as all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present. Not that God isn't these things, but if we think of God primarily that way, when we get to the end of Isaiah today ("your sins I remember no more"), we are a bit confounded. How can an all-knowing God forget anything? Isaiah's listeners would have been more inclined to rejoice at what a wonderful, loving relationship God had with them. God—who had the power to forgive their sins—forgave sins, and then completely forgot them! Jesus, in today's Gospel, is also more interested in the paralyzed man knowing that wonderful, loving, healing presence of God than he is in satisfying the scribes' pre-conceived notions about God. How often it is we, not God, who remain paralyzed by our past sinfulness, even when we have been forgiven by God and reconciled with others. Let us, instead, give God glory by picking ourselves up from our paralyzed past, and journey on as disciples of Jesus.

Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House in Grand Coteau scheduled retreats:

Mid-week Retreats for Women

March 9-11, 2009 June 29-July 1, 2009
April 6-8, 2009 November 2-4, 2009

Weekend Retreats for Women

September 10-13, 2009
April 30-May 3, 2009 September 17-20, 2009
May 7-9, 2009 October 15-18, 2009
May 28-31, 2009 November 12-15, 2009
August 6-9, 2009 December 3-6, 2009

Married Couples Retreat

April 24-26, 2009 June 26-28, 2009
October 23-25, 2009

For more information on any of the above retreats, please contact Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House at 337-662-5410.

Contact Congress by the Internet

Would you like to tell a congressman your wishes for their actions on pro-life issues? Please look at the following internet sites for opportunities to do this.

www.nchla.org (National Committee for a Human Life Amendment)

www.prolifelouisiana.org; www.fightfoca.com
www.bdfund.org (Bioethics Defense Fund);

To send an e-mail to President Obama go to: the American Family Association website at: <https://secure.afa.net/afa/activism/TakeAction.asp?id=342>

2009 LENTEN SCHEDULE

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CHURCH

Grand Coteau, LA

STATIONS OF THE CROSS and BENEDICTION

At 7:00 PM the Friday nights of Lent

February	27	Led by Fr. Jim Lambert, S.J.
March	6	Led by Knights of Peter Claver, Council #34
March	13	Led by Six-Steps to Easter students
March	20	Led by Six-Steps to Easter students
March	27	Led by Deacon Herd Guilbeau
April	3	Led by Deacon Sam Henry

We will pray the Stations of the Cross, and the service will conclude with
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

LENTEN CONFESSION SERVICE

Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00 PM

LENTEN GUIDED PRAYER

For all who wish to increase their prayer life during Lent there will be a meeting each Monday evening (beginning March 2) for faith sharing and guidance in daily prayer during the week. The group will meet at 7:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel (south wing of St. Charles Church) for about one hour. The prayer booklet "Daily Reflections for LENT" will be used.

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Saturday Vigil Celebration: April 4th at 5:00 PM

Sunday Celebrations at: 7:30 & 10:30 AM at St. Charles in Grand Coteau
9:00 at Christ the King Mission in Bellevue

HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM

April 9 th	HOLY THURSDAY	7:00 PM	Celebration of the Lord's Supper
April 10 th	GOOD FRIDAY	3:00 PM	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
April 11 th	HOLY SATURDAY	8:00 PM	Celebration of the Easter Vigil
April 12 th	EASTER SUNDAY	<u>Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord</u>	
	Masses at:	7:30 AM	St. Charles Church, Grand Coteau
		9:00 AM	Christ the King Mission, Bellevue
		10:30 AM	St. Charles Church, Grand Coteau