
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12, 2008

I can do all things in him who
strengthens me.



We are a Sacrificial Giving Parish, Giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure

Our offertory for this past weekend was \$7,888.63.

(For 2007-2008 our average weekly expenses were \$6,509.00.)

Bulletin Sponsor: In Memory of Mrs. Gertie Thibodeaux (1st Anniversary)
By: Family

Altar Flowers

October 18-19 In Memory of Alvin (Black) & Shirley Breaux

By: Barbara Burleigh & Janice Fox

The 19th annual **St. Ignatius Rainbeau Festival** will be held **Sunday, October 19th** on the school grounds. The festival will run from 10am to 4pm and will feature games, food, bingo, a silent auction and a DJ. Chances will be sold for a \$1,500 cash drawing to be held in November. Fun for the whole family! Come out and support our Parish's Catholic School.

Sunday Masses on October 19th will be celebrated in St. Charles Chapel.

The **African American Catholic Youth Congress** will be held on **Saturday, November 22, 2007** at St. Thomas Moore Catholic High School in Lafayette. ALL youth ages 13 and up are invited to attend. Please contact Paula Jordan at (337) 351-4532 for more information

The **Grand Coteau Rx Screening Center** is now open on **Thursdays** from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are available to answer your questions regarding eligibility for free prescriptions and to complete the application process, if you are eligible. Please stop by or call the screening center on Thursday mornings at 662-5271. The volunteers are eager to assist you.

Happy 60th Birthday Darrell!!

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, October 24-26

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release, and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions in order to begin the process of restoration, renewal, and healing. Rachel's Vineyard can help you experience God's love and compassion on a profound level.

If you or someone you know is suffering from abortion's aftermath, please call 261-5607 to inquire about this retreat and for further information.

Senior Citizens will gather at Thensted Center on Friday, October 17th at 10:00 AM

Religious Ed Commission Meeting is Tuesday, October 14th at 7:00 PM in the Religion Center Building.

Activities of the Week October 13-19

M 13	5:00 PM Vigil Mass Choir Practice
T 14	6:00 PM 7:30 Choir Practice 7:00 PM Religious Ed Meeting
W 15	
TH 16	5:45 PM 10:30 Mass Choir Practice
FR 17	Seniors Citizens gather at Thensted
SA 18	

Minister Schedule-October 18-19

Vigil -Lector	Deborah Alpough & Ivy Lavergne
Communion	Deacon Sam Henry, Jackie Savoie Gerry Richard, Warren Norton Mildred Boast
Altar Server	Nicholas Smith
7:30 -Lector	Cierra & Joseph Ewell Meche
Communion	Deacon Herd Guilbeau, Joe Landry, Pemella Williams, Melba Courtney Tommie Miller
Altar Server	Taneisha Cormier
10:30 -Lector	Lydia Boxie & Stephanie Richard
Communion	Deacon Herd Guilbeau, Tim Trant, Doris Etienne, Keith & Ginger Myers
Altar Servers	Morgan Boone, Andrew Smith, Jillian Lyons

Church Cleaners for October 18-19

Earline Taylor Susan Dugal Lou Santillo
Margie & Michael McClendon

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday

Our prayers and Eucharistic celebration next Sunday are directed in a special way toward the countless people throughout the Missions who are waiting for the proclamation of the Gospel, those who are thirsting for hope and love. Our offerings, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, will support more than 1,1150 local churches throughout Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America.

THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

The mountain of the Lord described in today's first reading is a place where there is no more hunger, no more weeping, and no more division of any kind. We need to pause and ponder these images every now and then, especially given the fact that we live in such a fractured world. The responsorial psalm continues to paint a picture of a place where only goodness and kindness flourish. These readings describe the heavenly banquet, to which God calls each of us through baptism and continues to call us throughout our lives. Let us "RSVP" to God's invitation and live our lives consistent with gospel values so that one day we will be welcomed to the table of the kingdom.

A Prayer for our Nation as we Prepare to Elect our Leaders

O God, we acknowledge you today as Lord, not only of individuals, but also of nations and governments. We thank you for the privilege of being able to organize ourselves politically and of knowing that political loyalty does not have to mean disloyalty to you.

We thank you for your law, which our Founding Fathers acknowledged and recognized as higher than any human law.

We thank you for the opportunity that this election year puts before us, to exercise our solemn duty not only to vote, but also to influence others to vote—and to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened. Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation, their response to you requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world but rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken your people to a commitment for the rights and dignity of each person—especially those who are most vulnerable, the unborn and the frail elderly. Help us to elect leaders who will work to build a country where the hungry and the homeless are assisted, the immigrant is welcomed, the environment is protected, and all legitimate paths to peace are pursued.

Lord, we rejoice today that we are citizens of your kingdom. May that make us all the more committed to being faithful citizens on earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Growing in Faith

Please look at our parish web-site (www.st-charles-borromeo-org) for the October issue of the GROWING IN FAITH series. There is also a link to the "For Your Marriage" resource that you might find very helpful.

Engaged Couples: Spend a weekend away from the cares and distractions of everyday living. Attend a Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend in preparation for your marriage. Upcoming weekend dates are November 14-16, January 9-11. For other dates and to learn more visit our website at www.ceelafayette.org or call Tom and Geraldine Rizzuto at 337-984-7954.

Conscience and the Catholic Voter

by Bishop William Lori, chair of the US Catholic Bishops Committee on Doctrine

As this election year proceeds, politics bombards us from all sides. If we wish, we can know every campaign tactic and antic instantaneously. Yet the issues facing our nation and world go far beyond campaign theatrics. That is why it is especially important for us to be informed about the issues which confront us in national, state, and local elections, and to understand how they pertain to the common good and to the human dignity of each person.

In other words, a well-formed conscience is “standard operating equipment” for participating well in the political process. ... As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us, conscience is “a judgment of reason by which the human person recognized the moral quality of a concrete act” (CCC, #1796). The human conscience does not create right and wrong but rather perceives it. ...

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us during his recent visit to the United States that “America’s quest for freedom has been guided by the conviction that the principles governing political and social life are intimately linked to a moral order based on the dominion of God the Creator.” This conviction is at the heart of our democracy. It allows us to recognize the self-evident truth that all men and women are created equal and that the source of our human rights is not the government but the Creator. ... The moral order protects and fosters human dignity. In turn, human freedom is given us so we may choose what is true and good. ...

Pope Benedict has called upon us to build what he and Pope John Paul II have called “a civilization of love,” a civilization where the rights and dignity of each person - especially those who are most vulnerable, the unborn and the frail elderly - are respected from the moment of conception until natural death; where the family, based on the love of husband and wife, welcomes children into the world and imparts to them the truths and values that make good citizens; where the hungry and homeless are assisted, the immigrant welcomed, the environment protected, and all legitimate paths to peace are pursued. It is in light of this task of ours that we evaluate the moral quality of what is proposed by candidates and public officials, and work proactively for the ongoing transformation of our society. ...

It is because faith and reason lead us to respect human life at all its stages that we seek to address in morally sound and effective ways not only abortion but also other serious threats to human life and dignity such as: racism, use of the death penalty, resorting to unjust war, failure to help those suffering from hunger, homelessness, lack of health care, and unjust immigration policies. These are all serious matters, and if we are serious about building a civilization of love we will address them. ...

It would be refreshing if we could find candidates whose records, party platforms, and personal commitments embody the full range of the Church’s social teaching. Unfortunately that seldom happens. That is why we must have a well-formed conscience capable of giving each issue its proper moral weight and making other important distinctions and judgments. ... A candidate should not go unchallenged if he or she adopts positions that undermine human dignity in any way. ... Sometimes voters face two “anti-life” candidates. It may be that they are unable to vote for either. Or, after careful reflection, a voter may decide to vote for the candidate less likely to pursue a morally flawed position and more likely to advance other authentic human goods.

Pope Benedict praised Americans for their generosity and optimism and for the role which religion continues to play in our society. He called us to be true to our founding ideals and principles and to maintain the truths and values that flow from faith and reason into the public square. Now is the time to respond to his challenge.

Bishop Lori is Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport (Connecticut) and Chair of the US Council of Catholic Bishops Committee on Doctrine. This one-page summary was made by Fr. Jim Lambert for St. Charles Borromeo Church, Grand Coteau, LA. The full-length version of Bishop Lori’s article is posted at -- <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rfp/lori.pdf>.