

IN MEMORIAM

• Recently Deceased

INTO YOUR HANDS, O LORD, WE HUMBLY ENTRUST OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Nellie Brassette | Julius Daigrepoint | Jane Thevenot | Felton Kidder | Rebecca Jeansonne Villemarette | Beverly Desselle | Audrey Firmin Guillory | Tara Lacombe Ramour | Anita B. Ray | Betty D. Ponthier | Ewell J. Gaspard, Jr. | Zelian J. Armand

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THEIR SOULS AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES

• **Sanctuary Candles:** in memory of the McNeal Family (*church*) and the Tassin Family (*day chapel*).

(ALTAR FLOWERS CAN BE PURCHASED IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR SCHEDULING AND PRICING.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Men's **God is on the Move Prayer Meeting** (Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall – Fifth Ward): Wed., May 15 at 6:00 p.m. Join us for a meal and an evening of fellowship and worship.

-Women's **Bible Study / Book Club:** Fridays at 10:00 a.m., Cottonport Museum. All women (age 18+) are invited to attend. Call 717-3619 for more information.

-Women's **Marian Prayer Group:** third Monday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the rectory garage meeting room.

-AA Meeting / Big Book Study: first and the third Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the SMS multipurpose building. Contact Chester Landry at 318-359-7628.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• SMS END OF YEAR EVENTS

- PK3 AND PK4 CEREMONY – THURS., MAY 16 – 9:00 A.M. (CYO)
- KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION – FRI., MAY 17 – 9:00 A.M. (CYO)
- EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION – SAT., MAY 18 – 10:00 A.M. (CHURCH)

• CORPUS CHRISTI EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION AND PARISH PICNIC – SUN., JUNE 2

• LECTOR FORMATION WORKSHOP – SAT., JUNE 15 AT 8 A.M. (HOSTED BY ST. MARY'S)

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL CURRENTLY SERVING AS LECTORS AS WELL AS THOSE WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN SERVING – REGISTER ONLINE (DIOCESEALEX.ORG) PRIOR TO THE TRAINING.

SICK LIST

LORD, EASE THE SUFFERINGS AND COMFORT THE WEAKNESSES OF YOUR SERVANTS

Roderick Ray | Kim Wixson | Dede Lemoine | Jeremy Andress | Louie Laborde | Kristin Callegari | Barbara Mayeux | Kathryn Ducote | Pat Rabalais | Romona Chenevert

(note: names are published for six weeks – call the church office with additions, deletions, or renewals)

COLLECTIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
\$30,770	\$37,521	\$31,720

(DONATE BY TEXTING **ASSUMPTION** TO **73256**; OR BY THE **E-GIVING** TAB ON THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE; OR BY CASH, CHECK, OR ENVELOPE AT MASS)



SCAN TO DONATE

USING YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA, SCAN THIS QR CODE TO GIVE TO ST. MARY'S – IT'S EASY AND SECURE!

USE THE PULLDOWN MENU TO DONATE TO THE CHURCH OR TO THE SPECIAL DIOCESAN COLLECTION

(note: in the "Memo" section, please specify name of the special diocesan collection).

DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA

-Annual Diocesan Appeal: prayerfully consider giving to the diocesan church – visit diocesealex.org/donate

UPDATE: Our goal as a church parish is \$25,677 – of this amount, 19% of our parishioners have pledged \$13,131 representing approximately half of our goal – please consider giving either online or bring your offering to the church office.

-Safe Environment: All adults who work/volunteer with minors in the church or school must be trained in the Virtus child sexual abuse awareness program. Register by clicking on "Safe Environment" at diocesealex.org or call 318-445-6424 (ext. 213). Once certified, you are required to login to your online account and read your monthly bulletins to maintain certification.

• **Virtus Training:** Wed., May 15 at 6:00 p.m. – St. Joseph Church (church office – Marksville).

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PATRONS

Escudé Funeral Home • 964-2324

Attorney Peter J. Lemoine • 318-717-1995 • *Social Security Disability Law*

Druco Lumber Company • Mansura, LA • 318-964-2214

7Voip • 318-295-9557 • sevenvoip.com • Ron Juneau, Owner

Philip Davis • Independent Associate • philip61.legalshieldassociate.com

T-Jim's Grocery & Market • 318-876-2351 • Jacques Moreau, Owner

Jacob E. Gauthier, DDS • 253-8529 • *Complete Family Dentistry*

Mike's Glass & Tinting, Inc. • 876-3893 • Mike Dobison, Owner

René C. Desselle, DDS • Mansura, LA • 964-2300 • *General Dentistry*

Poret's Thrifty Way Pharmacy (Religious and Other Gifts) • 876-2104

First Insurance Marksville • 253-9202 • *Commercial / Home / Auto / Life*

Bernard's Cajun Sea Fry Seafood Restaurant • Cottonport • 876-2136

Juneau's Cajun Meats • Mansura, LA • Damon & Shelley Juneau, Owners

Rabalais Flooring, LLC • 876-2018 • *For all your flooring needs*

The Cottonport Bank • cottonportbank.com

Cottonport Corner Drug (Gift Boutique & Religious Gifts) • 876-3665

New York Life • 876-3226 • William "Scotty" Scott, Agent

Juanita D. Brouillette, Certified Public Accountant • 876-2725

Knights of Columbus • St. Mary's Council 1199

Catholic Daughters of the Americas • Court Padre Pio 2141

Clark's Collision Center • 876-2980 • Danny Clark, Owner

Roy, Scott, & James • Marksville, LA • 240-7800 • *Injury Attorneys*

Cottonport Family Clinic • 876-3696 • Jamie Garrett, FNP • Buzz Jeansonne, FNP

In Honor of St. Isidore – Patron Saint of Farmers • May 15 – Feast Day

SOLEMNITY OF

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 12, 2024



ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH

820 Front Street • Cottonport, LA 71327 • 318-876-3681
stmaryscottonport.com • Facebook: @saintmaryscottonport
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday • 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m./1:00–4:00 p.m.

Rev. Charles Ray, Pastor • frcray@diocesealex.org
Deacon Doug Moreau • dcndmoreau@diocesealex.org
Stephen Scott, Parish Manager • stmary@diocesealex.org
Priscilla Brouillette, Bookkeeper
Nettie Chenevert, Organist

SCHOOL

850 Front Street • Cottonport, LA 71327 • 318-876-3651
smsangels.org • Facebook: @SMSCottonport
Office Hours: Monday-Friday • 7:30 a.m.–2:45 p.m.
Blaine Dauzat, Principal • principal@stmaryscottonport.com
Casey Armand, Secretary • secretary@stmaryscottonport.com
Paul Newton, Athletic Director

TO MY BELOVED PEOPLE

A sane person would never allow someone else to control or possess their body. But we allow others to possess our minds: worry, anxiety, fear, 'the news,' etc. Don't surrender your mind! Our precious mind is capable of so much. It can contemplate God's goodness; it can be uplifted by beauty; it can identify someone who needs your love. The Divine Will exists and directs the universe with justice and goodness though it is not always apparent if you merely look at the surface of things – but the mind can realize that we inhabit the best possible universe. God gives us the best!

I spend a lot of time contemplating the Ascension. The central window above the altar at our Cathedral depicts it vividly and well. But why did Jesus return to the Father? Justice demands it! We all have our 'place' in the world, and Christ's place is in union with the Father (I will be delivering an additional theological reason for the Ascension in the sermon).

We have enjoyed a good week here in the office (because of Mom's death and Dad's illness, I haven't been in the office too much lately). Hopefully, June will be a month of planning for our future – our future looks exciting! Please pray for my discernment: I want to do the Will of God and nothing more, nothing less.

In Service to Christ and His Church,

Fr. Charlie

TODAY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN; LET OUR HEARTS ASCEND WITH HIM.

St. Augustine

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



On Thursday, May 9, Most Rev. Bishop Robert W. Marshall, Jr. celebrated Holy Mass here at St. Mary's and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to the following young men and women:

Morgan Armand
Natalie Grace Armand
Ross Michael Gaspard
Jacques Paul Juneau
Lorin Margaret Juneau

Hunter Dominic Rabalais
Gabriel Louis Ragusa
Ali Theresa Smith
Cy Thomas Wixson
Macie Elizabeth Woitas

We congratulate them on this milestone of full initiation into the Church!

FOLLOWING IN FAITH

The Solemnity of the Ascension marks an important event in Christianity. It celebrates the day Jesus ascended into heaven after His resurrection. This reminds us that Jesus completed His mission on earth and returned to His Father in heaven. It is a key moment because it leads to the sending of the Holy Spirit. The Ascension encourages us to look forward to Jesus' promise to come again. In the first reading from Acts, we learn about Jesus' final moments with His apostles. Before ascending, He promises that the Holy Spirit will come to them. This Spirit will give them the strength to spread His message across the world. The Ascension is not just about Jesus leaving but also about preparing His followers for their mission. Jesus' ascension shows that His followers are not alone. They have a great task: to tell the world about Jesus. This story teaches us about obedience and trust. Jesus told His apostles to wait in Jerusalem, and they listened. They trusted His words and waited for the Holy Spirit. This teaches us to also trust in God's timing and promises. The second reading from Ephesians talks about how believers should behave. St. Paul tells us to live in a way that is humble and gentle. We should try to keep peace and unity among ourselves. This is important because Jesus' ascension also means that He has given us different gifts. These gifts are for building up the church, not for causing division. St. Paul also explains that Jesus, who went to the lowest places on earth, also ascended above all the heavens. This shows us that Jesus is Lord over all, both in heaven and on earth. Because He ascended, He could fill the church with gifts. These gifts help us grow in faith and bring us closer together. Every believer has a role in strengthening this unity. St. Mark's Gospel tells us about Jesus' last instructions to His disciples. He told them to go out and share the Gospel everywhere. Jesus promised that those who believe and are baptized will be saved. He also said that signs would follow those who believe. These include casting out demons and healing the sick. After giving these instructions, Jesus ascended into heaven. The disciples did as Jesus commanded. They went everywhere and preached. God worked with them, confirming their words through miraculous signs. This shows that even though Jesus ascended, He is still active in the world through His followers. It reminds us that we are called to continue Jesus' work. We should share the good news and live in a way that shows we are His followers. The Ascension is a powerful reminder of Jesus' journey and His plans for us. It teaches us about trust, duty, and the promise of Jesus' return. It also reminds us to use our gifts to help others and spread the Gospel. Even though Jesus has ascended, He is still with us, guiding us through the Holy Spirit. We are to continue His work faithfully, looking forward to the day He returns.

MONDAY, MAY 13 MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

- **Confessions:** 4:45-5:10 p.m.
- **Rosary:** 4:45 p.m.
- **Mass:** 5:15 p.m.
Readings: *Is 61:9-11 / Ps 45 / Lk 11:27-28*
Lector: Lenon Johnson
Intention: Bascom and Sadie Gremillion
- **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** 5:45 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 14 FEAST OF SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

- **Men's Rosary:** 6:00 a.m. – chapel
- **Confessions:** 4:45-5:10 p.m.
- **Rosary:** 4:45 p.m.
- **Mass:** 5:15 p.m.
Readings: *Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 / Ps 113 / Jn 15:9-17*
Lector: Dodi Carrier
Intention: Mr. and Mrs. Amede Decuir

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 MEMORIAL OF SAINT ISIDORE

- **Readings:** *Acts 20:28-38 / Ps 68 / Jn 17:11b-19*
- **SMS Mass:** 8:00 a.m.
Intention: Jimmie, Mary, and Jimbo Roy
- **Rosary:** 4:45 p.m.
- **Confessions:** 4:45-5:10 p.m.
- **Mass:** 5:15 p.m.
Lector: Diann Poret
Intention: Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Jeansonne & Glenn Jeansonne

THURSDAY, MAY 16 THURSDAY OF THE SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

- **ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT:** 6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
TO VISIT THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS...A PROOF OF GRATITUDE, AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE, AND A DUTY OF ADORATION TOWARD CHRIST OUR LORD. – POPE PAUL VI
- **Confessions:** 4:45-5:10 p.m.
- **Mass:** 5:15 p.m.
Readings: *Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 / Ps 16 / Jn 17:20-26*
Lector: Becky Scott
Intention: T-Jim Moreau

SATURDAY, MAY 18 VIGIL FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

- **Confessions:** 4:00-4:25 p.m.
- **Rosary:** 4:10 p.m.
- **Mass:** 4:30 p.m.
Readings: *Acts 2:1-11 / Ps 104 / Gal 5:16-25 / Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15*
Lectors: Aimee Richardson (A) | Lauren Ducote (B)
EMHCs: Pam Clark | Margaret Lachney
Altar Server: Sophie Lemoine
Intentions: Hector & Agnes Normand | Percy & Isabelle Burke | Michael Normand | Ken Gremillion | Conrad G. Ducote | Bascom, Sadie, & Dr. Henry Gremillion | Living & Deceased Harold and Frankie Gauthier Family Members | Blumes Lemoine Family and Pappy Juneau | Jamie Dupuis & Tanner Laborde | David Lemoine | Julius Daigrepoint | Megan Ducote Parra | Merlin & Rosalie Normand | Carol Ann McCann

SUNDAY, MAY 19 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

- **Confessions:** 30 minutes before each Mass
- **Readings:** *Acts 2:1-11 / Ps 104 / Gal 5:16-25 / Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15*
- **Mass:** 7:00 a.m.
Lectors: Margaret Juneau (A) | Monica Sprinkle (B)
EMHCs: Mark Tigner | Nita Brouillette
Altar Servers: Lawson Juneau | Abram Juneau | Brant Juneau
Intention: Living and Deceased C.G. Normand, Sr. Family Members
- **Mass:** 9:30 a.m.
Lectors: Dodi Carrier (A) | Priscilla Brouillette (B)
EMHCs: Becky Scott | Chuck Normand
Altar Servers: Molly Newton | Sadie Newton
Intentions: Dr. Henry Gremillion | Deceased Andress, Descant, and Riche Families | Carmouche & Cullen Families | Tara L. Ramour | Candice M. Newton | David Lemoine | Eddie & Sheila Bordelon | Harvey & Doris McMullen | Francis (Joe) Ducote & Etheal Hess | Joseph Kenneth Rasch
Children's Liturgy Facilitator: Liz Guilbeau
- **Mass:** 5:30 p.m.
Lectors: Sarah Riche (A) | Jacob Gauthier (B)
EMHCs: Connie Dobison | Diann Poret
Altar Servers: Brees Vasquez | River Vasquez
Intention: For the People of St. Mary's (*Pro Populo*)