



St. Mary of False River

A Eucharistic Community Since 1728

† St. Mary's Church 1823 • St. Francis Chapel 1728 †



AUGUST 6, 2017 - THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

"Leave the Mountain"

Our walk with Jesus is full of contrasts: human and divine, grace and nature, sin and mercy. The *Transfiguration* by Raphael Sanzio, like the Scripture that inspires it, is also full of contrasts. The composition is in two registers. Up above we have the heavenly glory of Christ enveloped in a fantastic aura of divine light symbolizing his divine Sonship. The power of the experience leaves the disciples prostrate while the two Old Testament figures of Moses and Elijah float in suspended adoration. Down below, we have the other apostles, dealing ineffectively with a possessed boy. There is obvious chaos, with fingers pointing everywhere and faces turning in all directions. There is the serenity of heavenly white against the diabolic and earthly darkness. This contrast is present in our own lives. We feel a call to the beauty of God's life, we want it wholeheartedly, and we resolve to make that beauty a reality. But we also know that when we come down the mountain and into our daily lives, we struggle with confusion, temptation, and earthly concerns. It is easy in Christ's glorious presence, but when we get into traffic, our offices, or the trials of raising toddlers or teenagers, it isn't so simple. Here is where we need the power of God's mercy and love. Peter

wanted to stay in Christ's presence and enjoy it, soak it up, remain, and never go down the mountain again. He heard the Father's voice, knew he should listen to the Son, and was resolved to do so! Although he wants to stay, listen, and learn, Christ touches him and tells him to not fear, get up, and get going. We need to go down the mountain and into our lives. That is where the faith and love we learn from Jesus in prayer is needed. He lets us see his glory so we can go down and bring that glory into a needy world.

For Reflection:

Do you spend enough time in prayer to face your daily activities with serenity? Are there days when you would rather stay in prayer than face your earthly commitments?

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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"This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain" (2 Peter 1:17-18).

Readings
MONDAY
Nm 11:4b-15 • Mt 14:13-21
TUESDAY
St. Dominic
Nm 12:1-13 • Mt 14:22-36
WEDNESDAY
Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35
Mt 15:21-28
THURSDAY
St. Lawrence
2 Cor 9:6-10 • Jn 12:24-26
FRIDAY
St. Clare
Dt 4:32-40 • Mt 16:24-28
SATURDAY
Dt 6:4-13 • Mt 17:14-20
NEXT SUNDAY
1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a • Rom 9:1-5
Mt 14:22-33

<p>Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Robert H. Berggreen, M.A., M. Ed., M. Div. Parochial Vicar: Rev. Nicholas J. "Jack" Nutter, III Deacon: Tom Robinson Deacon: Mike Thompson Parish Ministry: Sr. Mary Anne Hebert Co-Directors of Religious Education: Tim & Trudy Aguilard Youth Minister: Jennifer Bollich</p> <p>Address: 348 West Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana 70760 Telephone Numbers: Parish Office: 638-9665 Fax: 638-6346 Rectory: 638-6070 Religious Education & Youth Ministry: 638-6508</p> <p>E-Mail Address: stmaryfr@bellsouth.net Web Site: www.stmarysfr.org Youth Website: www.stmaryfryouth.com</p> <p>Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Monday through Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon - Friday</p> <p>Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 7:00 a.m. (St. Francis Chapel) 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Weekday Mass Schedule: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 7:00 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday: 12 noon</p>	<p>Reconciliation: 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday; weekdays 5 minutes before Mass; or by appointment</p> <p>Children's Church: 11:00 a.m. Mass every Sunday (Sept.-May)</p> <p>Nursery: During 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses</p> <p>Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesday following 12 noon Mass</p> <p>Perpetual Adoration: Every hour of every day in Perpetual Adoration Chapel</p> <p>Anointing of the Sick and Communion for the Sick: Call parish office to make arrangements</p> <p>Baptisms: Celebrated monthly except during Lent and Advent. Please contact the parish office; a seminar for parents and godparents is required; deadline to register for seminar is preceding Friday.</p> <p>Marriages: Contact priest prior to making plans; at least six months preparation is necessary.</p> <p>PARISH REGISTRATION FORMS ARE IN THE REAR OF CHURCH. PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOUR ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGES, OR IF YOU MOVE OUT OF THE PARISH.</p> <p>THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING BULLETIN ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY AT NOON. ARTICLES CAN BE FAXED TO 638-6346, OR E-MAILED TO stmaryfr@bellsouth.net.</p>
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FROM THE PASTOR:

Some Further Thoughts on Prayer

“Is there something wrong with me, Father? I just can’t seem to feel spiritual. I don’t get any lift from prayer; in fact I find it awfully hard to pray. I never seem to get any pious or keyed-up feeling in church. For me, religion is pretty much a plodding, unexciting form of drudgery. Am I lacking in faith?”

Every priest is presented with this type of question from time to time. It is a question which indicates a lack of understanding of the basic nature of religion. Our primary duty in life is to love God. It is for this that God made us—to love Him. It is here that we can fall into error, through judging our love for God by the intensity of our emotional response, as we judge our love for other humans. Emotional response is an integral part of human love. Love for God, however, has its source in the will, quite independently of the emotions.

To love God means simply to esteem Him above all things else, to give Him the supreme position in our scale of values. In practice it means that whatever God wants, we also want. We shall allow nothing or no one to take precedence over God and we shall make His will the norm by which we live. In short, our love for God will prove itself by our obedience to God. If a person has thus fixed his will upon God, then he loves God. Indeed, he has a very high degree of love for God even though, emotionally, he may feel quite cold towards God.

We all recognize that there is a wide variation in temperaments. Some persons are by nature cold and reserved, others are warm and ebullient, with all gradations in between. Psychologists still are uncertain as to how much of this variation is due to the differing environments of infancy and childhood, and how much is due to differences in the glandular and nervous systems. Whatever the roots of the diversity may be, it is plain that we may take no credit for the temperament which is ours.

Obviously it is not a *bad* thing if our love for God overflows into our emotions. With some persons this does happen, and when it happens it can be looked upon as a bonus, a dividend for which we should give due thanks to God. Spiritual delight can make prayer pleasurable and religious observances a joy rather than a penance. However, we must be very sure that underneath the emotion there is the solid substratum of will. Otherwise, there is the danger that when emotion subsides, attachment to God also may weaken or disappear.

All things else being equal, the person who finds it difficult to pray will gain more merit by his prayer than does the

person who finds prayer pleasurable. The harder it is to do something for God, the more credit accrues to us for the doing. Again, this does not mean that spiritual elation is to be condemned. It means only that we may not safely judge the extent of our spiritual progress by our emotional temperature.

One other observation may be useful. A person may be tempted to excuse himself from prayer because he does not feel like praying, he is not in the mood for prayer. At such times he must remind himself that the fundamental purpose of prayer is not to give ourselves an emotional lift. We pray primarily because prayer is an essential duty we owe to God, a duty of creature to Creator. The duty remains, regardless of whether or not we find comfort or inspiration in prayer. In other words, I pray first of all for God’s sake, not for mine.

No matter how spiritually arid we may feel, we still have the obligation to acknowledge in prayer God’s infinite greatness and goodness. We still have the obligation to thank God for His graces and to beg His forgiveness for our sins.

We need to pray. We have to pray. It is an obligation that we cannot escape. It is not only that we as creatures owe obeisance to our Creator. We do. But, even more essentially, it is by prayer that we maintain our union with God and keep our soul open to the flow of His grace. Prayer is as vital to our spiritual life as his air hose is to the physical life of the deep sea diver.

It would be utter nonsense for anyone to say, “I haven’t time to pray.” This is a matter of life or death—spiritual life or death. Time must be made for prayer, even if the daily paper must be neglected, or TV, or the smart phone, or social activities, or recreation. We never say, “I haven’t time to eat.” We may miss one or the other meal, but we soon make up for it. We know that we have to eat if we wish to continue living—physical life—and so we do.

Fortunately, we know that prayer is not always a struggle. If we have prayed regularly and with perseverance, there have been some wonderful moments when we have felt the intimate nearness of God. We have found new courage and strength. We have gained new insights. We have seen ourselves more clearly through God’s eyes. We have discerned the direction in which we should walk. It is worth a dozen distracted prayer-times to experience one such clear-eyed vision as this.

Msgr. Berpene

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

PLEASE REFER TO THE FRONT OF THE BULLETIN FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULED MASSES AND SERVICES.

Sun., Aug. 6 2nd Collection Building Fund
 Mon., Aug. 7 **7:00 am - Mass**
 7:30 pm - Men's Bible Study (PO)
 Tue., Aug. 8 **12 noon - Mass**
 Wed., Aug. 9 9:30 am - Needlework Group (PO)
10:00 am - Mass at LaCour House
12 noon - Mass & Novena
 6:30 pm - Choir Practice (CH)
 6:30 pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting (PH)
 Thu., Aug. 10 **7:00 am - Mass**
 Fri., Aug. 11 **7:00 am - Mass**
6:00 pm - St. Philomena Mass (St. Ann)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun., Aug. 6 Parishioners of St. Mary; Lynn Anderson; M/M Percy Aguilard & Lester; Bill & Mary Ann Averill; John Kelson James Bonaventure; Shane Brewer; Myles Bueche & Grandparents; Blake Chustz; Diane G. Fields; Natalie Firmin; Andrew Grezaffi, Sr. & Zel Guerin Grezaffi; Eugene Guidroz & Children; M/M Felix Guidroz; Michael & Cody Holmes; Nolan Jarreau, Jr.; M/M Nolan Jarreau, Sr.; Nancy Kindy; Cecilia LeBlanc; Morris LeBlanc; Betty LeJeune; J. Edward Lieux; Joyce Morgan; HERRISE MORRISON; George Thomas; Mary Triola; Bill & Dolly Wesley
 Mon., Aug. 7 Wilson & William Scicca; Margaret D'Abadie Ewing
 Tue., Aug. 8 Olivia O'Connor
 Wed., Aug. 9 Andre Fuselier
 Thu., Aug. 10 Antoine & Lizzie Langlois; George & Hazel Powers; Gertrude Schexnayder; Lynn Schexnayder
 Fri., Aug. 11 Jeremy Ducote; Diane G. Fields
 Sat., Aug. 12 Albert Babin & Family; Marilyn Babin; Eva Ballard; Verna Bankston; Gilbert & Lois Baum; John Gilbert Baum, Jr.; E. J. & Nellie Bizette & Family; Irene D. Bizette; Glenn & Elizabeth Connor; Alvin & Edna David; Jeff & Bill David; Agnes Deville; Mike Donovan; Dozle Jarreau; John M. "Bock" Jewell; Juanita Jewell; Eddie Landry & Family; Curtis Lindsly; Robert Loupe; M/M Johnnie Major; Laddie Potmesil; Helen Sementak Rabalais
 Sun., Aug. 13 Parishioners of St. Mary; Lynn Anderson; Lynn Bates; John Kelson James Bonaventure; Shane Brewer; Myles Bueche & Grandparents; Lisa Dauzat; Jeremy Ducote; Wayne & Sandra Garon; Douglas Gremillion; Nancy Kindy; Cecilia LeBlanc; Lillian Major; Ovide Mix; Morris Melancon; M/M F. A. Smith; George Thomas; Kackie Thomas; Mary Triola

Sympathy

We offer our prayers and sincere condolences to the family of **Ava LaGrone**. May they experience the peace of the Lord.

Wedding

Congratulations and our prayers of support to **Joseph Clement Devereux and Maria Jeanne LaGrone**, who made their commitment of love in the Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday, July 29.



Flowers on the altar this weekend were given in memory of **Shane Brewer** by Wilford & Kim Porche.

RESERVED PEW FOR PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED

Beginning Saturday, Aug. 12, due to the need, all pews after the break will be reserved for those who use walkers or canes. Eucharistic Ministers will walk down the front of the pew to distribute the Blessed Sacrament so that you do not have to move if you sit in that pew.

ADORATION CHAPEL



Adorers of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel attest to the following favors received: "Thank you, Lord, for dying on the cross so that I can know real freedom from sin and become the person you have called me to be!"

CAN YOU WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME? Committed adorers are needed:

Sunday - 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. (VACANT)
 - 3:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. (VACANT)
 - 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. (VACANT)
 - 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon (VACANT)
 - 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. (VACANT)
Tuesday - 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. (VACANT)
 - 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (VACANT)
 - 2:00 pm to 3:00 p.m. (VACANT)
Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (VACANT)

THERE ARE NUMEROUS OTHER TIMES AVAILABLE WHEN PARTNERS ARE NEEDED. If you can commit to spending one of these hours with Jesus, or serve as a substitute, please call, Freida Whitney at 638-6508.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

• Offertory collection last weekend:

Identified Contributors	\$6,951.00
Non-Identified Contributors	1,097.00
On-Line Giving	1,407.00
TOTAL	\$9,455.00

AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET WEEKLY BUDGET: \$13,565.00

- Additional contributions to the Building Fund - \$922.00
- Contributions to the Capital Campaign Fund for July 2017 - \$29, 670.77

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

There is a second collection this weekend for the Building Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

Altar Server Training for NEW Altar Servers

Children in Grades 4 and above are invited and encouraged to commit to the ministry of Altar Serving. If interested, please make note of the following events in church:

Tuesday, Aug. 22 • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm - General Meeting
 Wednesday, Aug. 23 • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm - 1st. Training
 Training begins every Tuesday, Aug. 29 • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Parents do not have to attend, but are certainly invited. If your child is interested, an Altar Server Registration form must be completed prior to the meeting. If your child is not a CESPC 4th grader, Contact Lynn at 638-9665 or stmaryfr@bellsouth.net and the form can be emailed to you. Parents who complete the Registration form, giving approval, have the option of allowing a Diocesan approved volunteer walk their child with the group from CESPC to St. Mary for the above dates. The final date of training will be determined by the number of children and announced at a future date.

ST. PHILOMENA MASS

Friday, Aug. 11 • 6:00 pm • St. Ann in Morganza

The third annual Mass of commemoration of St. Philomena, Virgin and Martyr, will be offered in the Extraordinary (Latin) form at St. Ann in Morganza by Fr. Brent Maher. St. Ann's observance of the Feast of St. Philomena is one of several worldwide to be officially commemorated by the Universal Archconfraternity of St. Philomena, based at her shrine in Mugnano del Cardinale, Avellino, Italy.



YOUTH NEWS

**Check the Bulletin for Information Coming
Soon on These Youth Events**

Youth Mass • Youth Night • American Heritage Girls
Pro-Vita Dinner • 2018 March for Life Registration

For questions about these and other SMYG events, please call
Jennifer Bollich at 938-2879.

ATTENTION PARENTS!!

**Registration Forms Have Been Mailed out for
Parish School of Religion &
Sacramental Preparation Programs
(1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist & Confirmation)
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, AUGUST 11**

Parents with students who are returning to one of our programs from last year, should receive their registration forms soon. If you are the parent of a child entering 1st grade not going to Catholic of Pointe Coupee, or a student leaving Catholic and going to another school, please call the Parish Office and give us your child's information so we can mail you the required forms. Please remember, we will need a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate for our records. Please call 225-638-9665 or 225-638-6508 if you have any questions.

PRAYER LIST



If you wish to place a name on the prayer list or retain a name after the four week period, please call Freida Whitney in the Parish Office at 638-6508.

Please pray for all military persons and their families, anyone with a medical issue, those struggling with any personal or family problems and, especially, for the following people:

Joseph "Boy" Ballard; Dallas Barron; Cathie Bayham; Andrea Bergeron; Bonaventure & LeJeune Families; Margaret Celestin; Aly Chatagnier; Betty Colar; Rosemary Cox; Karen Davis; Al & Charlotte Fabre; Angie Fulmer; Gabriel Gandy; Courtney Garon; Natta Gebhart; Robert Geier, Jr.; Francisco Gorresquieta; Mona Guidry; Audrey Guidroz; Kim Gustin; Mark Hale; Susan Hill Hoffmann; Jeff Hurme; Catherine Jackson; Mary L. Jarreau; Lucas & Katie Jewell; Louis & Fay Johnson; Reid Johnson; Juno Rose; Jack Kellerman; Sr. Rita Lambert, CSJ; Thomas Landry; Rae Ann Langlois; Blanche Lindsly; Catherine Lindsly; Becky Maggio; Joyce Miller; Buddy Morel; Wayne Meaux; Shannon McNulty; Barbara, Henry & Marty Navarre; Rebecca Olinde; Deanie Perkins; Devon Powell; Wilbur Reed; Gloria Robbins; Debbie Russell; Jackie Saizan; Hunter Scarbrough; Mavis Sonnier

RETREATS AND ACTIVITIES AT ROSARYVILLE

For more information or to register, call Rosaryville at 225-294-5039 or sdavis@oppeace.org or at www.rosaryvillela.com.

Aug. 24 - 27 (Thu.-Sun.) - Preached Ignatian Silent Retreat

Presenter: Becky Eldredge and Stephanie Clouatre David
Stop and enjoy a weekend of reflection, rediscovery, and refreshment. The Spiritual Exercises are a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola to help people deepen their relationship with God.

SOCIAL CONCERNS CORNER

STUFF THE BINS

NOW UNTIL SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

We have placed collection bins for much needed school supplies at all the doors of Church and in the Adoration Chapel. Any and all school supplies are welcome including: pens, pencils, colors, notebooks, school scissors book sacks, rulers, paper towels, kleenex and wipes, etc. Gift cards from Walmart for teachers to purchase supplies as the need arises throughout the school year may be dropped off at the Parish Office.

HOPE MINISTRY AND UNIFORM FOR KIDS

Every summer HOPE Ministry hosts the Uniform for Kids (UFK), which is a program of St. Vincent de Paul. UFK provides needy children, who apply and qualify, two new uniforms to begin the school year. The uniforms are distributed in July. HOPE Ministry needs the support of the community to buy the uniforms at a discounted price from St. Vincent de Paul. Anyone interested in donating should write a check to HOPE Ministry and put under memo: UFK and mail to HOPE Ministry, PO Box 45, New Roads, LA 70760, or send check to St. Vincent de Paul, PO Box 127, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, and put on memo line "UFK for Pointe Coupee Parish."

UPCOMING RETREATS & DAYS OF PRAYER AT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS RETREAT CENTER

Retreat weekends and days of prayer are available at the Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center (formerly the Metairie Cenacle). For information contact the retreat center: retreats@arch-no.org or shalligan@arch-no.org, or by phone 866-937-9170.

Oct. 27-29 (Fri.-Sun.) - Jesus Is Interested in Us

Presenter: Rev. Richard Buhler, SJ

Jesus searches for ways to come into our lives. Fr. Buhler will share some prayer suggestions to help us invite Him into our hearts and minds.

(1) Nov. 3-5 (Fri.-Sun.) - God's Power Within Us

Presenter: Rev. Paul Hart

In this retreat we will come to realize that God has given us the will to fight sin and evil in the world and in our own lives. His power to love, to forgive, to serve and to choose to live in peace are all given to us to help us get to heaven.

(2) Nov. 3-5 (Fri.-Sun.) - Retreat for Young Women-In God's Image (For women in their early 20's to early 40's)

Presenters: Yvonne Hymel; Jane Hebert; Charlene Rovira

We have been created in the image and likeness of God. In this silent retreat, participants will be helped to experience this reality in a more profound way, using art, music, nature, movement meditation, reflection, guided imagery, group interaction and more. **For more information on this retreat, or to register online visit, www.retreatsforyoungwomen.com.**

"By Jesus' transfiguration he invites us to gaze at him. And looking at Jesus purifies our eyes and prepares them for eternal life, for the vision of heaven. Perhaps our eyes are a little sick because we see so many things that are not of Jesus, things that are even against Jesus: worldly things, things that do not benefit the light of the soul. And in this way, this light is slowly extinguished, and without knowing it, we end up in interior darkness, in spiritual darkness, in a darkened faith: darkness, because we are unaccustomed to looking and imagining the things of Jesus."

—Homily, second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2014

-Pope Francis