

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK  
 Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.

**LENTEN PRAYER COMPANIONS**

During the season of Lent, we invite all the members of the church to draw a name of a fellow parishioner and promise to pray for them during Lent. You will keep the identity of your prayer companion secret until Easter Sunday when you will give an Easter card to your companion and let them know that you have been praying for them. If you would like to participate, please fill out a card with your name and address and place it in the box provided. We will draw names at the Masses on the weekend of March 2-3.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH LECTURE: FAITH, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND THE LOUISIANA CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

On Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 PM at Saint Aloysius Parish Hall, Chancellor John K. Pierre of the Southern University Law Center will give a talk entitled, "Faith, Social Justice, and the Louisiana Civil Rights Movement." He will be focusing on the local history of the struggle for civil rights. This talk is sponsored by the Racial Harmony Commission of the Diocese of Baton Rouge.

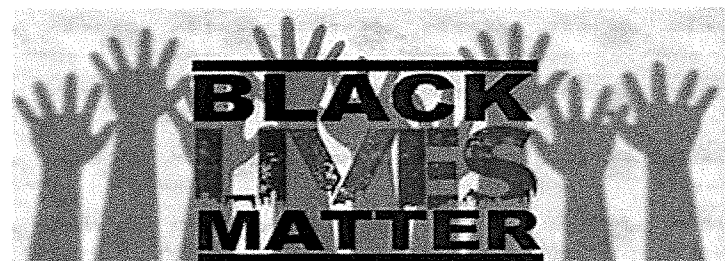
**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**

Father Clark is looking ahead to the schedule for Ash Wednesday. We want to offer enough Masses so that we can accommodate everyone in the Parish Activity Center. Initial plans are for 7:30 AM Mass (Activity Center), 12:10 PM Mass (MLK Catholic Student Center), and 7:00 PM (Activity Center) and the addition of a Liturgy of the Word (without Communion) at 5:00 PM in the Activity Center in order to ease the crowd at 7:00 PM. Please let Father Clark know what you think of this schedule? Which Mass or service would you attend? Would you come to the 5:00 PM service?

**INTERESTING ARTICLE IN AMERICA MAGAZINE:**

**"What Black Lives Matter Can Teach Catholics about Racial Justice"**

The following article in the current issue of *America* magazine, a Jesuit review of current events offers much food for thought. You may access it at <https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2019/02/01/what-black-lives-matter-can-teach-catholics-about-racial-justice>



**Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES**

This Sunday, February 17, at 2:00 PM we will show the Black Panther at the MLK Catholic Student Center. There will be snacks served. Wakanda dress is encouraged! **Door prizes!**

**OUR LENTEN REVIVAL**

Our Lenten Revival with Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Paul the Apostle Churches will take place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 11, 12, and 13. Bishop Ferd Cheri, the Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans, will be our revival preacher. Make plans now to attend all three nights and bring a friend!

**THE KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER LADIES AUXILIARY**

The Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Wilfred B. Ricard Court 116, is accepting Scholarship Award Applications for 2019.

Applications are available in the entrance of the Church and in the Church Secretary's office located in the Ministry Building. Completed applications are due April 23, 2019. For additional information contact Barbara Dunbar at (225) 266-3354.

**TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE BY CLERGY**

If you or someone you know needs to report an incidence of sexual abuse by clergy or a diocesan employee, you or they should call Ms. Amy Cordon, the Diocesan Coordinator for Victim Assistance. **The 24 hour Victim Assistance Hotline is 225-242-0250.**

**KNIGHTS AND LADIES LENTEN FISH DINNERS**

The Knights of Peter Claver and the Ladies Auxiliary are selling Lenten Fish Dinners beginning March 8 on the Fridays of Lent from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Parish Activity Center. The dinner includes fried catfish, potato salad, sweet peas and a dessert. **The cost is \$8.00.**



**Happy Birthday**

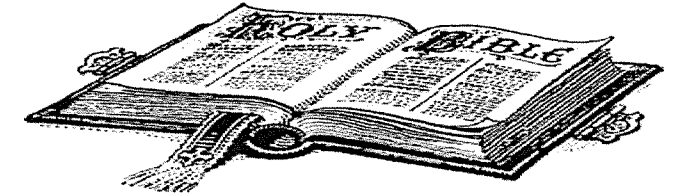
HAROLD	MARCELLUS	2/17
JOYCE	METEVIA	2/17
FRANCES	CROGRAM	2/18
JOSEPH	DOUCETTE	2/18
KENNETH	HARRIS	2/18
RONALD	BELLIAZERE	2/19
SOPHIE	DUBRIEL	2/19
JUANITA	RICHARD	2/20
ZION	STEWART	2/20
ZANETTA	AUGUSTINE	2/21
LEROY	POYDRAS	2/21
STEPHEN	BRISCO JR.	2/22
ERIC	TOLES	2/22
JULIET	BETTS	2/23
BRYON	JACKSON, JR.	2/23
JANIYAH	LEWIS	2/23
TERRI	WHITE	2/23

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR THE PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION**

Beginning this Sunday, February 17, the children and youth of the Parish School of Religion will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) between the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Masses. These celebrations will continue each Sunday through Lent. The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers us a grace filled way to reflect on our lives, receive healing and forgiveness, and ask ourselves what we can do to become a better person. Change and growth are always possible for us!

**BIBLE STUDY EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 7:00-8:00 PM**

Bible Study takes place each Monday evening at 7:00-8:00 PM in the Parish Ministry Building. We study, discuss and pray about the reading for the next Sunday. We are able to spend the week reflecting on the Sunday readings so that they will mean more to us when we come to church on Sunday. Everyone is welcome. Bring your Bible—preferably a New American Bible, revised edition. (Looking ahead, we will NOT have Bible Study on Monday, March 4 due to the Mardi Gras holidays.)



**Mass Readings February 17th - February 24th Sunday**

Jer. 17:5-8; Psalm 1; 1 Cor. 15:12, 16-20  
 Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

**Monday**

Gen. 4:1-15, 25; Psalm 50  
 Gospel: Mark 8:11-13

**Tuesday**

Gen. 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Psalm 29  
 Gospel: Mark 8:14-21

**Wednesday**

Gen. 8:6-13, 20-22; Psalm 116  
 Gospel: Mark 8:22-26

**Thursday**

Gen. 9:1-13; Psalm 102  
 Gospel: Mark 8:27-33

**Friday**

**Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle**  
 1 Peter 5:1-4; Psalm 23  
 Gospel: Matt. 16:13-19

**Saturday**

Heb. 11:1-7; Psalm 145  
 Gospel: Mark 9:2-13

**Sunday**

1 Sam. 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Psalm 103; 1 Cor. 15:45-49  
 Gospel: Luke 6:27-38



**SR. THEA BOWMAN TALK TO U.S. BISHOPS**

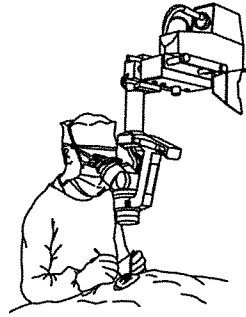
Last Sunday, Father Clark referred to Sister Thea Bowman's, a candidate for Sainthood in the Catholic Church, talk to the US Catholic Bishops in 1989. It is a powerful and engaging presentation on what it means to be Black and Catholic in the United States. If you would like to watch this talk on You Tube, you may access it at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2S0tD6qFIA>

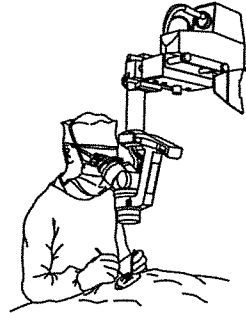
Or you may simply search "Sister Thea Bowman and US Catholic Bishops" on the search bar of You Tube.

## THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

### Dr. J. Robert Gladden



Dr. Robert Gladden



**Dr. J. Robert Gladden** forged a great path for other Black orthopedic surgeons after becoming the first board-certified African-American surgeon on Jan. 22, 1949.

Gladden was born Oct. 29, 1911 in Charlotte, N.C. He first entered college at Long Island University, and earned a medical degree from Meharry Medical College. Studying his field at Howard University, he became the first orthopedic resident at the institution. The American Board of Orthopedic Surgery certified Gladden in 1949, and in 1951, he became the first African-American to be elected a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Adding to these achievements, Dr. Gladden was the first non-white physician to perform surgery in King George's Hospital in Bermuda.

Gladden worked most of his life as the chief of orthopedic surgery at Howard University, and was an influential figure in his field by way of lectures and journal entries. Gladden remained at the Howard post until 1964. He passed in 1969 at the age of 58.

#### Sacraments

##### RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

**BAPTISMS:** To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

**FUNERAL:** Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

**VISITING THE SICK:** If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

**MARRIAGES:** Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. Please make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

**ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION:** Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

**RCIA:** Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE:** Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory

#### To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....	778-1977
Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen .....	218-8292 / 284-5970
Child Protection Coord:.....	Andrea Toles
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....	936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder .....	428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....	775-7067
Lectors: Yvonne Jackson.....	362-0897
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....	775-5824
Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....	229-6076
Pantry/Food and Vouchers: .....	774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr. ....	362-0907
Traditional Choir: Theresa Carmen.....	921-7315
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

#### This Week's Prayer

Lord, help me take stock of your gifts to me. I'm good at things that appear to be so insignificant. Chances are you can use any one of them, no matter how simple it appears, to help others. Remind me that it's not what I do but my doing that ultimately matters. Amen.

