

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

For All Fathers - Happy Father's Day



Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

Let us praise those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support. Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives. Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.

Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step children's love and respect. Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

Kirk Loadman

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

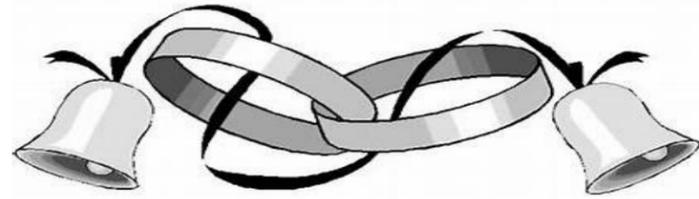
To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....	778-1977
Child Protection Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Communication Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Bea Leonard.....	355-5027
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: Lloyd Doucette, Jr.....	270-6660
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

DAD
FRIEND
Patriarch
Father
PROVIDER
teacher



Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.



FIVE MYTHS ABOUT MARRIAGE

Father Clark is willing to offer the Marriage Enrichment Program this summer. Please let him know if you are interested. Meanwhile, he shares this interesting article that appeared in the Washington Post this past week.

Five myths about marriage: **(1) Common interests keep you together.** The important thing is not what you do together, but how you interact while doing it. Criticism is one of the four destructive behaviors in a marriage. A predictor of compatibility is the ratio of positive to negative interactions, which should be 20-1 in everyday situations. **(2) Never go to bed angry.** Everyone has their own method of problem solving. Sometimes it takes time to work things out. You cannot put a time table on solving an argument. If a couple feel themselves getting overwhelmed during a fight, take a break and come back to it later, even if that means sleeping on it. **(3) Couples therapy is for fixing a broken marriage.** The purpose of counseling is not to salvage a bad marriage or sort out trauma. It is about revealing the truth about a relationship. The average couple waits six years after serious issues arise before getting help. That is often too late. Counseling helps maintain a marriage by teaching "emotional tools" to strengthen a relationship. **(4) Affairs are the main cause of divorce.** 80% of divorced couples name growing apart and the loss of a sense of closeness to their partner as a reason for divorce. Most often, there were serious, if subtle, problems in the marriage before the affair occurred. **(5) Marriage benefits from a "relationship contract."** It is important to do nice things for your partner and do your fair share around the house. An increasing number of couples have decided to formalize that arrangement with a contract, either written or verbal. The problem is that keeping track can lead to resentment. Couples need to act in kind and loving ways, intentionally and attentively, as often as they can. Some things simply cannot be mandated, even by contract.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

We wish a very Happy Father's Day to all the men of our parish who are fathers or who have been like a father to young men and women. Congratulations to biological fathers, adoptive fathers, step fathers, god-fathers, uncles, big brothers, teachers, mentors and all who guide our young people. May God bless you with much happiness and peace! May your generosity and love be returned to you many times over. Thank God for you!



FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary who is providing breakfast for everyone on Father's Day from 7:30 to 10:00 AM in the Parish Activity Center. We appreciate your hospitality and thoughtfulness.



THANK YOU FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank You to all who made our Vacation Bible School such an enjoyable and profitable time. We had approximately 22 children enrolled in the week long camp. We give special thanks to all who made this week possible. Next week, we will include a list of the names of all the staff and volunteers who so generously participated.



LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS!!!!

During these summer months, many people are away or are celebrating family reunions and special occasions on weekends. We ask our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers to please make sure that they have found a replacement if you are going to be away. We will be making up a new schedule for July through December. Please note any changes you would like to make on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please do so even if you have already told Father Clark or another person. We want to double check that we have all requests.

Happy Birthday

BRANDON	COLLINS	6/17
CYNTHIA	DOUCETTE	6/17
KAYKITTY	WILLIS	6/17
WALTER	CALHOUN	6/18
RON	LEWIS	6/18
CYNTHIA	BANKS	6/20
LAUREN	HIVES	6/20
EDWARD	YEARBY	6/20
OPHELIA	FOWLER	6/21
FAB	YOUNG	6/21
DONALD	BATISTE, JR.	6/21
VALENCIA	BREAUX	6/22
MELANIE	DECUIR	6/22
JAMES	ENNIS, JR.	6/22
AJA	FREEMAN	6/22
MALAYA	DOUCET	6/23
STEPHANIE	EASTON	6/23

BISHOP MUENCH'S

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

On Sunday, June 24 at 3:00 PM at Saint Joseph Cathedral, Bishop Muench will celebrate his fiftieth anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. The Diocese is requesting that each parish be represented by five persons at the Mass. If you would like to attend the anniversary Mass as a parish representative, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer. The Mass is open to the public and anyone may attend.



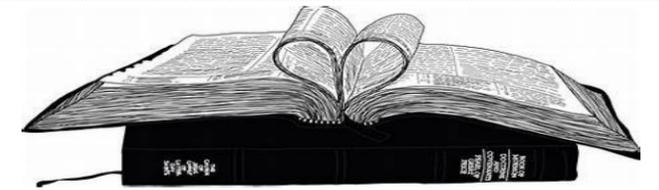
KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER

Any male member of the church is welcomed to join the Knight Choir as they conduct their music ministry as they sing during the month of July. Practices are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm - 7pm. You do not have to be a Knight or be required to join the Knights. For additional information, please contact Gerald Berzat at (225) 276-4674.



ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE

Father Clark is conducting new altar server practice each Friday evening at 6:00-7:00 PM in the church. All young people who have made their First Communion and are in the fourth grade and up are welcome to begin to learn how to serve Mass. Please become a part of this very important ministry!



Mass Readings

June 17th - June 24th

Sunday

Ez. 17:22-24; Psalm 92; 2 Cor. 5:6-10
Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Monday

1 Kings 21:1-16; Psalm 5
Gospel: Matt. 5:38-42

Tuesday

1 Kings 21:17-29; Psalm 51
Gospel: Matt. 5:43-48

Wednesday

2 Kings 2:1, 6-14; Psalm 31
Gospel: Matt. 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Sir. 48:1-14; Psalm 97
Gospel: Matt. 6:7-15

Friday

2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Psalm 132
Gospel: Matt. 6:19-23

Saturday

2 Chr. 24:17-25; Psalm 89
Gospel: Matt. 6:24-34

Sunday

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 139; Acts 13:22-26

Forms for new parishioners or changes are located in the vestibule of the church.

