

Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church

1303 St. Jude Avenue

New Iberia, LA • 70560 ~

Phone: 337-365-5481 Fax: 337-365-5483

Email: olphni@gmail.com ~ Website: www.olphni.net

Weekend Mass Schedule:

1st Saturday: 8:00am

Saturday: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm

Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 12:15pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:15pm

Confessions: 30 minutes before each Mass;

Saturday: 3:00 pm-3:45 pm, and by appointment.



*I am the living bread
that came down
from heaven;
whoever eats
this bread will
live forever.*

John 6:51

STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Bill John Melancon

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Korey R. LaVergne

Deacon Durk Viator

Trustees:

Michael Bonin

Anne Minvielle

Catholic High School

Advisory Council Representative:

April Byrom

Bookkeeper—Joan Berard

Office Assistant—Charlene Guillot

Adm.Asst./ Safe Environment/

Middle School Formation

Peggy Tauzin

Elementary School Formation

Anna Breaux

Receptionist—Anne-Claire Viator

Bulletin Editor/Office Assistant

Sandy Babineaux

Sacristan

Karen “Kerrie” Laviolette

Custodian

Roxanne Hebert

Office Hours

Monday

11:00 am - 12:00 pm,

1:00 pm- 4:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

8:30 am - 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday

8:30 am- 12:00 pm

AUGUST

12 2018

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WHOSE SON ARE YOU ANYWAY?

In rhetorical speech, which includes preaching and teaching, three elements are important: the *mythos*, or the message; the *logos*, or the words used; and the *ethos*, or the qualifications of the speaker. The message may be clear, the words may be elegant and persuasive, but if the speaker is not seen as someone who is qualified to speak on the subject, the speech will not be convincing.

In today's Gospel, the people are questioning Jesus' credentials. "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph?" (John 6:42). "He's a local boy, where did he get this knowledge?" Jesus answers them with his teaching about God as true Father. If you know who your teacher is, you know what your message should be. Jesus' important words about the Eucharist are grounded in his self-knowledge as "the one who is from God" (John 6:46). Those who are from God know God and listen to the word of God. They will recognize Jesus as speaking, doing, and being that Word. The *ethos* of the hearer is on the line as well.

TAUGHT BY GOD

The people who know God as "Father," that is, intimately and in deep and loving relationship, will recognize Jesus as the One who reveals God to us, even if the message is challenging. For any speech to be understood and accepted, there has to be an audience, and that audience has to hear, understand, and be able to accept what is being said. Jesus makes the point that if we know God, as he does, we will see and understand that, just as God fed the people in the desert, God feeds us and sustains us with the Bread of Life, the Eucharist, which is Christ the Lord. He is not only the speaker, but the word and the message as well. This Bread is the gift of a loving and faithful God who gave us life and sustains it.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Elijah looked and there at his head was a hearth cake and a jug of water (1 Kings 19:4-8).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love (Ephesians 4:30 — 5:2).

Gospel — Jesus said, "I am the living bread; whoever eats this bread will live forever" (John 6:41-51).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: **Vigil:** 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

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STRENGTHENED BY THE BREAD OF LIFE

Today we resume the "Bread of Life" discourse from John's Gospel that began two weeks ago. He makes reference to the Jews' ancestors who ate manna in the desert. These days we would think primarily of Israel wandering in the desert, but faithful Jews would also have known the story of Elijah that we hear today. Strengthened by food and drink in the desert, the angel of the Lord sends him on his forty-day and forty-night journey (the biblical number for a preparation time). Like the food given to Elijah in the desert, Jesus tells his listeners that he is bread for the life of the world. It is very important that we not stop listening to Jesus after his promise of eternal life—a marvelous promise, but this "reward" is not the only reason we feast on the Bread of Life. We also come to the table to be made strong for the journey of mission, that the whole world might have life in the fullness of Christ. We are compelled, if we have eaten of the bread of life, to go forth in service to all.

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YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

Dear Eleanor,

Thanks for the birthday card. Now that I'm 83 I realize that life is filled with experiences to savor and I'm trying to recognize these moments and cherish them now. I'm reading more and dusting less. I sit in the yard and admire the view without fussing about weeds in the garden. I'm spending more time with my family and friends, and less time doing chores. I'm not "saving" anything: I use the good china and crystal to celebrate every possible event, such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first amaryllis blossom. I put on my favorite perfume every day and wear my good blazer to the market. "Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now. It's fun to say "Keep the change" to someone, to give a large tip to a person with a dreary job. I've discovered that giving my time and attention to someone in trouble makes me forget my aches and pains, so I signed up as a Saint Vincent de Paul volunteer. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to life. It's little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew how limited my hours are: angry that I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days; sorry that I didn't tell the people closest to me often enough how much I truly loved them. Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God. And every morning when I open my eyes, I thank God because life is so wonderful.

Love,

Rose

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MASS INTENTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SATURDAY, August 11th

4:00pm—Ruel H. Robbins/ Milton “Bill” LaBiche/
Virginia “Tootie” LeMaire/ Ella & Walter F. Shipp,
Dr. & Mrs. Rene Broussard/ Ella Mae Sedotal/
Joey Glenn Broussard/ Danny & Nolan Meche/
Lawless Dore/ Betty & Howard Lasseigne/
Mark deClouet/ Ryan Segura/ Arnold”Bud”Pellerin/
M/M Alvin Menard/ Sidney Louviere/
Glory Delahoussaye, Saul & Junius Delahoussaye/
Paula & Ulysse Segura/ Al Barrilleaux/
Patrick Broussard/ Norris P. Rader, Sr./
Deceased Members of Patsy Rader Family/
Mildred & Dudley Boudreaux/Fr. Travis Abadie

5:30pm—Jim Semar/ Fr. Travis Abadie

SUNDAY, August 12th

7:00am—Fr. Lawrence Abara/Cheryl Gonsoulin

9:00 am— All Parishioners of OLPH

11:00 am—Ernest Freyou/Albert Pisani/
Alton & Delta Chataignier, Mousey & Eileen Derouen/
John W. Kilchrist/ Dorville Boudreaux Family,
George Freyou Family/ M/M Ulysse Gonsoulin, Jr.,
Rodney Gonsoulin/Eugene & Ruby Duhon/
Errol & Jeanette Robichaux Family/Tony Gassiot/
For the Souls in Purgatory/Patricia Verret/
Henry “Hank” Fontenot/ Irving Derouen/
Father Lawrence Abara

MONDAY, August 13th—Angelus @ noon

12:15pm--Donald L. Robertson/
Fr. Ambrose Akalawu

TUESDAY, August 14th —Novena to OLPH @ 5:00pm

6:00pm Vigil —Danny & Nolan Meche/
Fr. Alexander Albert

WEDNESDAY, August 15th

6:00am—Fr. Anthony Anala/
12:15pm—Ernest Freyou/ Fr. Anthony Anala

7:00pm—Phyllis Duplantis & Family/
Fr. Anthony Anala

THURSDAY, August 16th

5:15pm— Loto Louviere/
Very Rev. Chester Arcenaux

FRIDAY, August 17th—Angelus @ noon

12:15pm— M/M T.G. Kleinpeter, Dolan, Billie,
& Family, Marcel Hebert Family, M/M T.C. Trahan/
Fr. Michael Arnaud

In Prayerful Remembrance of
our beloved deceased.
Please pray for the soul of
Mark Tenney
who recently died and for those
who mourn for him.



Registration for religion classes for grades 1-11 (THIS INCLUDES CONFIRMATION)

Registration will be after all Masses in the PLC on Saturday, August 11 & Sunday August 12 for all grades in Faith Formation. Forms are available: At the registration site; All entrances to the church; On the Website; In the parish office. **REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 12TH.** Faith Formation for grades 1st thru 10th will begin September 9th. Classes will held on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:45. Preparation for Confirmation will be on Monday evenings & will be presented by Father LaVergne.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 11th

4:00 pm—Layne & Bennet Boudreaux

5:30 pm—Makeira Lancelin,
Jayden Lancelin

Sunday, August 12th

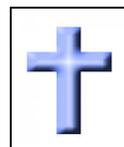
7:00 am— Marcus Jacob

9:00 am— Ensley Landry

11:00 am— Zoe Robinson
Wyatt Bergeron



The Sanctuary Lamp will
burn in Memory of
Ben Babineaux,
Skyla Babineaux



The Vocation Cross will be in the
home of **Nellie Leger**
the week of August 12th, 2018.

A Memorial Donation was made in Memory
of **Yolanda White Stokes** by
Marcella White and Ja’Dan Stokes

What a way to start a marriage! Jane no sooner arrived at her new home than she discovered she might lose it. Her husband, Christophe, had not only inherited the title of baron but enormous debts as well. But Jane had not come to the marriage empty-handed. She brought with her a deep [faith](#) instilled by her father who made daily religious discussion fun, allowing the [children](#) to talk about anything -- even controversial topics.



She also brought a good-hearted way that made a friend comment, "Even stupid jokes were funny when she told them." These qualities helped the twenty-year-old French [woman](#) take charge by personally organizing and supervising every detail of the estate, a method which not only brought the finances under control but won her employees' hearts as well. Despite the early financial worries, she and her husband shared "one heart and one soul." They were devoted to each other and to their four children. One way Jane shared her blessings was by giving bread and soup personally to the poor who came to her door. Often people who had just received food from her would pretend to leave, go around the house and get back in line for more. When asked why she let these people get away with this, Jane said, "What if [God](#) turned me away when I came back to him again and again with the same request?" Her [happiness](#) was shattered when Christophe was killed in a hunting accident. Before he died, her husband forgave the [man](#) who shot him, saying to the man, "Don't commit the [sin](#) of hating yourself when you have done nothing wrong." The heartbroken Jane, however, had to struggle with forgiveness for a long time. At first she tried just greeting him on the street. When she was able to do that, she invited him to her house. Finally she was able to forgive the [man](#) so completely that she even became godmother to his child. These troubles opened her heart to her longing for [God](#) and she sought [God](#) in [prayer](#) and a deepening spiritual life. Her commitment to [God](#) impressed Saint Francis de Sales, the [bishop](#) who became her director and best friend. Their friendship started before they even met, for they saw each other in dreams, and continued in letters throughout their lives. With Francis' support, Jane founded the Visitation order for women who were rejected by other orders because of poor health or age. She even accepted a [woman](#) who was 83 years old. When people criticized her, she said, "What do you want me to do? I like sick people myself; I'm on their side." She believed that people should have a chance to live their calling regardless of their health. Still a devoted mother, she was constantly concerned about the materialistic ways of one of her daughters. Her daughter finally asked her for [spiritual direction](#) as did many others, including an ambassador and her brother, an archbishop. Her advice always reflected her very gentle and loving approach to spirituality: "Should you fall even fifty times a day, never on any account should that surprise or worry you. Instead, ever so gently set your heart back in the [right](#) direction and practice the opposite virtue, all the [times](#) speaking words of love and trust to our [Lord](#) after you have committed a thousand faults, as much as if you had committed only one. Once we have humbled ourselves for the faults [God](#) allows us to become aware of in ourselves, we must forget them and go forward." She died December 13 in 1641, at sixty-nine years of age.

We have been told the [secret](#) of [happiness](#) is finding: finding yourself, finding love, finding the [right](#) job. Jane believed the [secret](#) of [happiness](#) was in "losing," that we should "throw ourselves into [God](#) as a little drop of water into the sea, and lose ourselves indeed in the Ocean of the divine goodness." She advised a [man](#) who wrote to her about all the afflictions he suffered "to lose all these things in God. These words produced such an effect in the soul, that he wrote me that he was wholly astonished, and ravished with joy."

Centennial News-Sunday August 5, 2018

The Little Cajun Saint— On August 11, 1959 a young 12 year old girl from Richard, Louisiana died at Our Lady of Lourdes after a brief, but difficult battle with acute Lymphatic Leukemia. Charlene Richard was seemingly an ordinary child, but the way in which she faced her suffering and death were truly heroic. She desired to offer her suffering for others and she promised to continue to pray for others in need. After her death, news of her virtue spread and many have sought her intercession and aid when facing illness and death. Her grave in Richard is regularly visited by those seeking miracles and strength.

August 15—get your boat and join the procession-Fete-Dieu de Vermilion—our Eucharistic Adoration will be on the Vermilion River this year beginning in Abbeville at St. Mary Magdalen with a Mass in French at 8am. The river procession will begin after with a Rosary and Benediction in Milton @ 11:35 @ Waweas, then a Rosary and Benediction at River Ranch @1:40 @ Rufinno's, then a foot procession @ 3:45pm from Beaver Park to Cathedral up University St. to the Cathedral—Vespers at 5pm and Mass at 5:30 with Bishop Deshotel. Having 121 Church Parishes in our Diocese we would like to have at least 1 boat from each parish. To register, please visit www.fetekieuduteche.org or call 337-394-6550. This is an extraordinary event and we ask that you please consider being a part of the 121 boats.

Centennial Youth and Family Fest—a gathering at Parc International Downtown Lafayette on Saturday, October 20th from 3pm to 9pm for Faith, Fun, Music, Food and Eucharistic Adoration. Our Youth, All Youth Groups, Families, Clergy and Religious are invited. Please mark your calendars now and watch for more information soon.

Centennial Prayer for the Diocese of Lafayette

O Lord God Almighty, by sending Your only-begotten Son to establish the One True Church through the power of the Most Holy Spirit, You gave mankind a haven from the world. We humbly implore Your blessing upon the Church of the Diocese of Lafayette as we observe this Century of Love. Through the intercession of Our lady of the Immaculate Conception and Saint John Vianney, our patrons, bestow perpetual growth to Your Family of Faith as we take refuge in Your Infinite Grace. We humbly beseech You to enlighten us to learn from our past and to look to the future so that we may persist in the work of spreading the true faith. Fill us with gratitude in this Year of Jubilee as we live secure in the certain hope that You will be with us forever. We ask this through Christ the Lord. Amen. Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, pray for us. St. John Vianney, pray for us.

THOUGHTS / PRAYERS

ANGER'S OFFSPRING

As long as anger lives, she continues to be the fruitful mother of many unhappy children.

—St. John Climacus

PRAYER TO MARY

Mother, now that the need is at its greatest and the powers of darkness seem to have free rein, we come to you with childlike trust and implore your powerful aid.

We consecrate ourselves to you. Preserve us in the love of your Son, protect us from the evil of this world and lead us safe to the heart of God. Amen.

PRAYER FOR DAILY NEGLECTS

Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, all its sufferings, and all its merits:

To expiate all the sins I have committed this day and during all my life. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.....

To purify the good I have done badly this day and during all my life. Glory be to the Father.....

To make up for the good I should have done but have neglected to do this day and during all my life. Glory be to the Father... Amen.

PRAYER OF HOPE

Lord Jesus, this day I pray for strength, because there are times when things get tough and I feel like quitting. I ask this day for the comforting reassurance of Your love, because there are times when people fail me and I am tempted to lose hope. I seek this day for Your light to guide my steps, because there are times when life is confusing and I lose my way.

Help me, O Lord, to pick up the pieces, wipe my tears, respond positively and start over again, for all is possible when I place my faith and trust in You, my Saving Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE HEALING of LOVED ONES

Heavenly Mother, intercede for my loved ones who are sick, especially (here mention your petitions.) Ask Almighty God to grant them good health, to send His Angels to watch over them, to protect them from danger, and keep them safe from lasting injury or harm.

May the life—giving grace of your Divine Son relieve their suffering and bring them to a full recovery. Embrace them with your motherly love and with the power of Christ's healing presence, that God's bountiful goodness may be their source of comfort, strength and joy. Amen.

PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN

Holy Angels, who constantly behold the Father's face, protect our children from bodily and spiritual dangers. Direct them on paths of virtue and, if they stray, to true repentance. Kindle in their hearts a desire for what is good, pure, and beautiful, for He Whom you serve is all Good, all Pure, all Beautiful. Teach them your song of praise to our God. Amen.

PRAYER FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

Lord look kindly upon Your Teachers and Students and instruct them in Your ways of wisdom. Let them enjoy learning and take delight in new discoveries. Give them the desire to do all things well with patience and perseverance. Grant that they may forever follow Jesus Christ, the Author of Love; the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of Finance

July 29, 2018

Envelopes	\$6,282.00
Loose cash & checks	3,696.00
Total	\$9,978.00

Thank You for your generous spirit of giving!
Average Weekly Expenses: \$13,779.11*; Average Monthly Expenses: \$59,709.48* ;*Plus loan note \$16,870.14

Living Stewardship Now

Once a day write on your calendar something you are truly grateful for. Review at the end of the month. Repeat.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Careful readers of the "Treasures" will have noticed that the two columns about the oldest monastic communities in the United States refer to the colonial states. The Louisiana Purchase gained a great treasure for our nation, the Ursuline monastery of New Orleans. Among the greatest pioneers of that city were nuns who came from France on a perilous voyage in 1727, pestered by pirates and tossed by fearsome storms. These were genteel, well-educated Ursulines, yet their first task was to roll up their sleeves and open a hospital to care for the pestilence-ridden colony. Next, they opened a school for girls and launched a plan to educate the women being shipped over from France to marry settlers. In this way, they had enormous influence in molding patterns of family and domestic life.

At Christmastime in 1814, the threat of a British assault on the city was growing. On the terrifying night of January 7, 1815, the women of New Orleans gathered in the monastery chapel to pray that the city be spared from destruction in battle. The mother superior made a vow to have a Mass of Thanksgiving on that date every year should the Americans win. That night, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, to whom the nuns had great devotion, became the protector and patron of this great city. The convent in the French Quarter is the oldest standing building in the Mississippi valley, and the only surviving building of the French colonial period. The nuns relocated in 1824, but their old monastery is preserved as a museum and archives for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The school the nuns began, Ursuline Academy, is the oldest continuously operating Catholic school, and school for women, in the United States.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The Biggest Miracle of the Eucharist

We have at every Mass a miraculous food that comes straight from heaven to nourish us. By divine intervention, Jesus Christ is fully present, body and soul—his humanity and his divinity—looking like simple bread and wine. In the Eucharist, he feeds us with his total self so that our own body and soul are nourished while we journey through the desert of life's difficulties.

Sadly, the Eucharist can be so commonplace that it's easy to lose the awe and wonder of what really happens at Mass. Why else would we complain that God is not doing enough to heal us or deliver us from hardships or give us whatever we're lacking?

When Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish, he gave the people a foretaste of the nourishment he would provide through the Eucharist. That meal took care of their physical hunger, and they had lots of leftovers as proof that God doesn't provide only what we need, but so much more, too.

Many saints throughout the centuries have lived for many years while eating nothing but the Eucharist. They are evidence that Christ's presence in the consecrated bread truly does feed our bodies, not just our souls. How much are you fed by the Eucharist?

The Eucharist nourishes us in every way that we need to be fed if we participate in it fully. Minimal, half-hearted involvement in the Mass prevents us from participating fully in all the benefits of the Eucharist. Every prayer, the songs, the readings and the communal experience of worship all work together to make the Eucharistic experience complete.

Full participation means that when we consume Jesus, he consumes us. We become more like him. Our holiness, which is already in us thanks to the Holy Spirit we received at baptism, is released. When the minister of the Eucharist proclaims to us, "This is the body (or the blood) of Christ," our "amen" means we're agreeing with the life-changing presence of Jesus. We're agreeing to be changed!

The biggest miracle is not the bread and wine changed into Christ. That only requires a priest ordained in the lineage of the Apostles, some unleavened bread, and certain prayers and rituals. It's more miraculous for us to be changed into Christ-like Christians, which requires our free will and full participation.

Experiencing awe and wonder over the miracle of the Eucharist is not just about appreciating what happens in Mass. It's also about appreciating and submitting ourselves to God's power to transform us into holier people.

Thank you, Lord, because You come to me

to meet my needs and to restore my life.

Thank you, my God, because You become my partner

to make possible those things that,

for me are impossible. Amen.



I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW

The Eucharist is spiritual food and spiritual medicine....Bishop Robert J. Hermann/St. Louis Review

Humanity is flawed by the sin of Adam. In the first reading for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, even the great prophet Elijah is grumbling and discouraged. He had just given witness to the one true God on Mount Carmel, and now Jezebel is hunting him down in the desert.

Angry with God and on the verge of despair, he says: "This is enough, O Lord! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers."

What does the Lord think? I believe the Lord thinks to Himself: "Elijah, stop feeling sorry for yourself. I have a lot of work for you to do."

The Lord sends an angel to wake him and order him to eat, providing a jug of water and a hearth cake. After eating, Elijah wanted to go back to sleep, but the angel touched him again and ordered, "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you."

Strengthened by that food, Elijah walked 40 miles to the mountain of Horeb where the Lord spoke to him. Elijah complained that he was the only faithful person left in Israel and was afraid to go back. God chided him, saying more than 7,000 men in Israel have been faithful. Elijah would return to Israel and anoint two men as kings, plus Elisha as a prophet to succeed him. God provided Elijah with food for his body, but more importantly, courage for his angry and fearful soul.

In the Gospel, the Jews are murmuring because Jesus had told them, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." Even though they don't understand, Jesus doesn't dismiss them for their unbelief but explains what He is really saying to them: "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him on that day."

Jesus isn't making it easier by adding a reference to the resurrection, but He's making it clear that the Father wants to help them come to Jesus. He raises their eyes to His Father in heaven and encourages them to turn to Him for help. After all, God fed their ancestors in the desert with bread from heaven. This Father wants to help them understand Jesus as the bread of life.

The readings illustrate that God is so far above us that we need His help to understand His expectations. Elijah was confused and discouraged until God sent an angel to feed his body with food and his soul with encouragement for the work ahead. God restored Elijah as a faithful prophet.

The Jews in the Gospel need encouragement to help them deal with the same limitations. They're called to trust that there's information that they don't have that changes their perspective about themselves and about God. That's why Jesus reveals to them the Holy Eucharist.

Even today, Catholics need help understanding this mystery. We know we're wounded by Adam's sin and often get discouraged because of our weaknesses. We need God's help to overcome our weaknesses.

St. Thomas Aquinas likens God's help to food and medicine for our souls. Man's body is inwardly preserved from death by food and medicine. This gives him the strength to defend against external attacks. Aquinas wrote, "Sin is the spiritual death of the soul. Hence, man is preserved from future sin in the same way as the body is preserved from future death."

Aquinas explained that the Eucharist unites man with Christ through grace and "strengthens his spiritual life, as spiritual food and spiritual medicine," according to Psalm 104:15— "*That bread strengthens man's heart.*"

"Inasmuch as it is a sign of Christ's Passion whereby the devils are conquered, it repels all the assaults of demons," he wrote. "Hence (St. John) Chrysostom says, 'Like lions breathing forth fire, thus do we depart from that table, being made terrible to the devil.'"

Reflecting on what Thomas Aquinas meant, we understand how we have the power of Christ living within us when we are united with Him through the Eucharist. Christ desires that we call upon Him to fight our spiritual battles. St. Paul wrote. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!" Christ's presence helps us overcome the fear of our own weaknesses. This is especially true in time of temptation. "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

In addition to fighting our interior weaknesses, it also arms us in fighting the evil spirits that are part of our lives. When we engage in repeated sin, we open our inner being to the oppression of the evil one. There is an evil spirit for each of the capital sins, and there are additional clusters of evil spirits associated with each of the capital sins. Those returning from the communion table are made "terrible to the devil," as St. John Chrysostom put it. When we receive Christ in Holy Communion, we're carrying within ourselves the conqueror of all evil spirits.

Sacramental Information



Baptism:

Expectant parents should contact the office four to six (4-6) months *before the birth of the child.*



Marriage:

Couples planning marriage need to make an appointment with the pastor at least **six months** before the intended wedding date to begin the preparation process. A wedding date cannot be scheduled without approval of the pastor.



Anointing of the Sick:

Contact the office to schedule an appt., home or nursing home visit, and, if death is imminent, contact the office for immediate action.

Register Now for an Aquinas Institute Course!

Fall Courses: The 203 Jesus, Son of God by Fr. Michael Russo, STB, MA (Tuesdays 6:15-9:00pm at Knight Hall at Our Lady of Fatima—Classes begin Aug.21 and end Dec.4) and PHI 101 Introduction to philosophy 3 sem. hrs. by Fr. Brian Harrington, MA, PhL (Wednesday 6-8:45pm at ULL—Classes begin Aug. 22 and end Dec. 5). The classes can be taken for college credit (accredited through University of Holy Cross) or for catechetical credit (audit). For more info or to register call (337)394-6550, email frchampagne@yahoo.com, or go to www.aquinaslafayette.org

ENGAGED COUPLES

Spend a weekend away from the cares and distractions of everyday living. Attend a **Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend**. The weekend is open to any engaged couple wanting to prepare for a deeper more meaningful life together in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church according to its Church law. Upcoming weekend dates **September 21-23**. For cost of weekends, other dates, and to learn more, visit our website at www.lafayettecee.org or contact **Paul & Carolyn Trahan** at (337)254-8947 or 337)898- 9257, or cee.trahan@gmail.com.

Knights of Columbus Council 3425 meets every 2nd Monday of each month, @ the **Parish Life Center of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1303 St. Jude Ave. New Iberia, La.** Rosary at 6:15PM . Meeting follows.

Come & Celebrate the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette! Fete-Dieu du Vermillion, Eucharistic Boat

Procession up the Vermilion River, will take place on the feast of the Assumption, Wednesday, August 15. All are invited to a Mass in French at 8am at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Abbeville to begin the day. Bishop Glen Provost of the Lake Charles Diocese will preside and give the homily. At the end of Mass there will be a procession from Church with the Blessed Sacrament and a stature of Mary across the draw bridge to the old River Side Restaurant. At 10:00 AM 121 boats will embark in procession (one for each of the 121 parishes of the Diocese) and make their way up Bayou Vermilion to Lafayette. The boat procession will stop in Milton at Wawee's at 11:35 AM for recitation of the rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The flotilla will re-commence at 12:35 PM and continue upstream, arriving at Rufino's in River Ranch at 1:40 PM for Rosary and Benediction. The boat procession will embark once again at 2:40PM and arrive at Beaver Park at about 3:20 PM. At 3:45 PM a foot procession with the Blessed Sacrament and a statue of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will leave the landing and process up University Avenue in Lafayette all the way to the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. Solemn Vespers will be prayed at 5:00 PM and Holy Mass will follow at 5:30 PM with Bishop Douglas Deshotel to conclude the historic day.

Confessions will be heard in mobile units at each of the stops along the way. Don't miss this "once in a hundred years' event!" Schedule your vacation day now and register your boat! For more information or to register a boat visit our website at www.fetedieuduteche.org, visit us on Fete-Dieu du Teche Facebook, send us an email at fetedieuduteche@gmail.com, or call (337) 394-6550.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Blessed Mother Teresa #2550 meets every 2nd Monday of the month (except June and July) in the Parish Life Center of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1303 St. Jude Ave., @ 6:00pm. "We welcome anyone interested in joining to attend."

Church Name and Address:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church
1303 St. Jude Avenue
New Iberia, LA 70560

Phone:

337-365-5481

Contact Person:

Sandra Babineaux

Email Address:

olphni@gmail.com

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