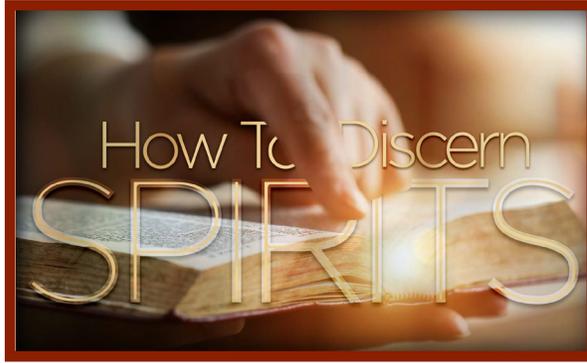




# COME, LORD JESUS!

*Spiritual Insights  
Reports  
Formation  
Program Updates*



## AUGUST

*Every Thursday  
Memorial Mass  
for the enrollees  
in the CLJ! Memorial*

*August 1  
18th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

*August 8  
19th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

*August 15  
The Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary*

*August 22  
21st Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

*AUGUST 29  
22nd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

The word **discernment** means to be aware of, to distinguish, or tell the difference between. Discernment of the spirits means that we must learn to distinguish a good spirit from an evil one. By the good spirit, we mean either the Holy Spirit himself and his workings, or our own spirit endowed with sanctifying grace and its many virtues and gifts. By the evil spirit we refer either to the devil himself and his doings, or to our own spirit and its many vices and sinful inclinations.

Discernment concerns itself with understanding which spirit is at work in us, the good or the evil spirit, so that we may know whether to follow or resist it. How do we arrive at this understanding? We need to evaluate our inner feelings: our passions and the desires that spring from them, or the fruits of the spirit and the holy desires and experience of well-being that flow from them. By being keenly aware of the movements they produce within us, we can tell where they are coming from and which spirit is at work. The good spirit gives us spiritual consolation: we are inspired to love God and others, we are prayerful, experience holy joy, filled with gratitude for God's gifts, inspired to practice virtue, serve, deny ourselves, and so forth. We are at peace with God and within ourselves.

The evil spirit causes us to experience sensible desolation: we are inclined to what is sinful, disordered desire, self-indulgence, self-centeredness, to seek consolation through self-gratification and so forth. We are sad, slothful, disinclined to the things of God, and restless.

Spiritual consolation is a sign that the spirit dominates our lives. Sensible desolation is a sign that the flesh or sense is attempting to dominate our lives. These states may be partial or complete. For example, we may be in the state of sanctifying grace and so basically in the state of spiritual consolation and at peace — while at the same time, we may be experiencing sense disturbances and temptations; or we may experience an all-encompassing feeling of desolation in which our whole being seems to be inclining us to what is sinful- although our inner core is still united to God and remains faithful to him. This is a dangerous time, when we are liable to give in to the tendency to seek sensible consolation.

Perhaps we feel empty, lonely, bored or discouraged. It is easy, at such a time, to give in to sloth; we become passive and vulnerable to harmful entertainment or self-indulgence. This is a time of severe testing, when God removes his sensible consolation from us so that we can experience for ourselves our own inner poverty and helplessness to be and do good.

Questions for the Feast of the Assumption can be found on  
Pg. 134 - Vol I  
Pg. 139 - Vol II  
Pg. 113 - Vol III

# *How to Discern Spirits*

It is highly important that we be aware of what is happening in and to us. The devil can make matters worse by stirring up and intensifying these desolate feelings and magnifying our need for sensible consolation. At such a time, we must beg for God's grace to remain faithful. If self-discipline and detachment have become habits in us, it will be easier for us to resist these temptations and to take ourselves to solitude, prayer and penance, or to remain tenaciously faithful to our duty of state at the cost of great sacrifice or the practice of heroic virtue.

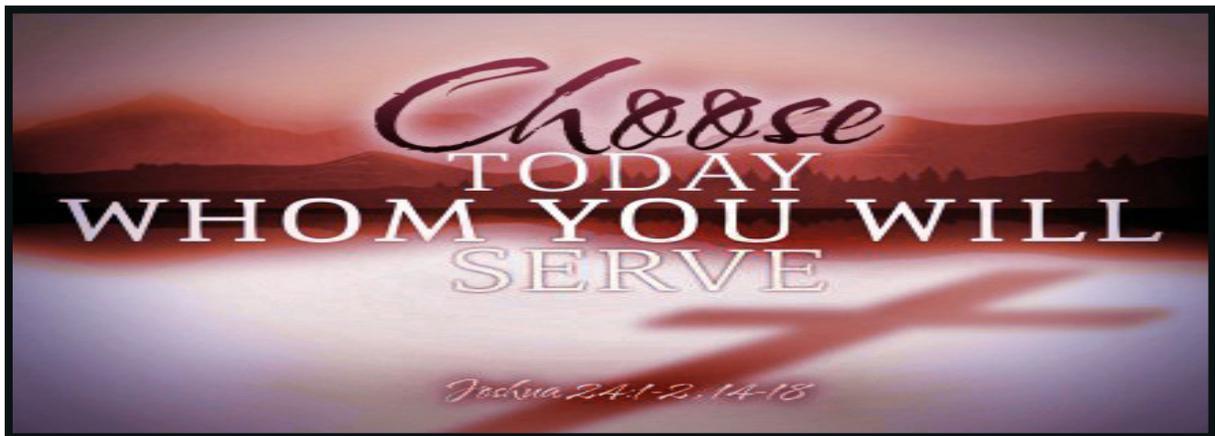
You can readily understand why discernment or spiritual awareness is a supremely important subject. We need to be aware of what is happening to us as it is happening. The sooner we detect it the quicker we can do something about it. It is much easier to extinguish the spark than the whole building or forest it has ignited! The earlier we take appropriate measures to deal with these feelings, the more likely we are to be successful.

In the spiritual life we are continually going back and forth between consolation and desolation even within brief periods of time. We need to be habitually aware of these states so that we can foster the good spirit and resist the evil spirit as it expresses itself through the dominion of sense. For sense (which is the life of the flesh) separates us from the fruition of God, whereas spirit opens us up to it. Moreover, either state so affects us that we tend to leave its residue on others. Our mood affects them. We lift them up or we pull them down by our prevailing mood. We pray for the spirit of discernment that we may foster the good and resist the evil movements within us.

What are we to do when we realize that a feeling of desolation has affected us? In general, we need to withdraw our heart's desire from whatever causes this disorder. Sense attachment would usually be the reason for this turmoil or sadness. We need to detach our hearts from the creature that has usurped God's place in our lives and put God at the center of our focus again. In trying to accomplish this we must make efforts to get back to the level of spirit. We can do our part to affect this transition from sense to spirit by maintaining a disciplined or sacrificial posture at prayer, by fasting, and other acts of self-denial, by reflecting at length on God's word and begging God for deliverance. The cross is the chief means through which the dominion of the spirit can be reestablished. Patient endurance of this desolate state has great purifying value. We also need to confess our sense attachments in the Sacrament of Penance. We can help our plight by going out of ourselves in doing something for others, and by energetic work or play. We must do what we can to avoid occasions of sin and seek out a faith community or virtuous friend to support us in our dark moments.

Actually, what we are doing in all of this is fostering the life of the spirit (where continuous consolation can be found). Discernment then becomes our way of taking our spiritual pulse in order to keep living in the spirit and in communion with God. You will find that the reward you receive is very much worth the effort you put into it.

*Father Conley Bertrand*





*Cankton*

**Outreach Campaign - St. John Berchmans**



**Morning of Renewal - St. Bernadette**

**COME,  
LORD  
JESUS!**



*Basile*

**Anniversary Mass - St. Augustine**



## Testimony: Living the *Come, Lord Jesus!* Prayer

by

*Sandra Landry*

*When I was asked to give a testimony on what the *Come, Lord Jesus!* program means to me, I decided to get the input from all of our members.*

15 years ago we all decided we wanted more – more discipline on learning how to put Jesus first, others next, ourselves last. We wanted more nurturing of our spiritual needs. We wanted more appreciation for the Mass. We wanted more understanding of Scripture. As the years passed on, we began to see how *Come, Lord Jesus!* shed a new light on scripture, showing us how the Old Testament relates to the New Testament. This was instrumental in strengthening our eyes of faith. We began to realize that *we were living the Come, Lord Jesus! prayer.* We wanted to love as he loves. We wanted to be ardent ministers of his holy Word as we leave our meetings. And we wanted to be holy as he is holy so we can reveal his glory to others that we meet. Why do we meet weekly? We are all hungry for his Word; it's our anchor for the week. "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee" (St. Augustine). When we light the candle, we join in the peace of his Word and see His presence. Our group comes to the table hungry. We are all so ready for more every time we meet. This is the way we have come to really learn all about Jesus. It's been a life changer for us.

*Aspiring to Live the Highest Life*



11

*Proclaim God's living word and speak his praises at every opportunity.*

We cannot say enough about the life-giving power of God's word. We recall how often those words coming from Jesus' mouth cured people and even resuscitated the dead. This is particularly true in the case of Lazarus who had been dead and entombed for four days. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" Jesus' word caused the dead man to become alive instantaneously! It is these same life-giving words that are contained in the scriptures that are awaiting our reading and consumption to give us life. The life-giving power of the word urges us to proclaim it. Pope Benedict XVI spoke of the sacramentality of the word of God.

The Eternal Word became enfleshed in our human nature. He expressed himself through the flesh and blood of his human nature. "When we are listening to the Word of God," St. Jerome tells us, "God's word and Christ's flesh and blood are being poured into our ears." In this way the life-giving power of Jesus' word may be compared to the Holy Eucharist whose life-giving power is poured into us through our mouths. St. Jerome asserts, "Christ's body and blood are really the word of Scripture, God's teaching." That is another way for Jesus to pour himself into us. That is why it is so important for us to consume and proclaim that life-giving Word.



**Abbeville, LA:** Mitzi Dohrman, Marian Delahoussaye  
Patricia Langlains

**Chackbay, LA:** Merrill Thomassie

**Eunice, LA:** Lena Ledet, Katherine Allison

**Gretna, LA:** Sandra Guillot

**Houma, LA:** Therese Oubre, Nellie Waitz

**Kinder, LA:** Gail Nevils

**Lafayette, LA:** Catherine McGowen

**Lake Charles, LA:** Kim Scroggs

**Metarie, LA:** Catherine Tortorich

**New Iberia, LA:** Kaschia Benjamin

**Plaisance, LA:** Trudy Bourgeois, Roonie Vidrine

**Prairieville, LA:** Kristen Hollas

**St. Amant, LA:** Linda Lamy

**St. Martinville, LA:** Debbie Cormier

**Ville Platte, LA:** Kathy Daire

**Youngsville, LA:** Lori Robin

**Returning Member**

**Rayne, LA:** Jeanette Leger



**St. Amant, LA:** Charlene Champagne- **Leader**  
Nancy Borne, Harold Sheets, Edna Sheets,  
Elma Villneurve

**Houma, LA:** Cathy Butler - **Leader**  
Mark Voisin, Joseph Boudreaux, Bonnie Boudreaux  
Andy Bergeron, Desiré Bergeron, Tara Whitney,  
Sara Galbreath, Barbara Levy, Jude Fanguy

**Cankton, LA:** Susan Fontenot- **Leader**  
Bart Thibodeaux, Fr. Ken Domingue, Daniel Martin  
Raymond Bourgeois, Lindsay Silvestrini,  
Carolyn Arcemont, Rickey Melancon



**June 2021  
Gift Bags Received**

Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Grand Prairie	Pierre Part
Arnaudville	Gretna	Pine Prairie
Baton Rouge	Harvey	Plaisance
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Bell City	Iota	Ragley
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Big Lake	Jefferson	Richard
Borger TX	Kenner	River Ridge
Breaux Bridge	Kinder	Schriever
Broussard	Lafayette	Slidell
Buda TX	Lake Charles	St. Martinville
Carencro	Madisonville	Sulphur
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Dalhart TX	Milton	Youngsville
Delcambre	Mire	
DeRidder	Morgan City	
Duson	Morse	
Erath	New Iberia	
Esther	Opelousas	
Franklin	Patterson	

**JUNE 21 - JULY 20, 2021  
Memorial Burse Donations**

Evie Grace Breaux	Randy Leblanc
Lorine Chaupetta	Edward N. Leger
Charles (Chuck) Colbert	Tom McGinnis
Lt. Gov. Jimmie Fitzmorris	Merwyn Miller
Verna G. Fontenot	Wanda Noel
Caresse Fusilier	Flossie Purpera
Greg P. Guidry	Michelle F. Soileau
Louis John Hymel	Nicole "Nikki" Soileau
Michael Launey	Mildred Whipp

**Attention Leaders and Co-Leaders**



Fr. Bertrand with Fr. Keith Pellerin, keynote speaker

Our annual Leaders' Seminar will be held on  
**Saturday, September 11th at 9:30 am at**  
**Our Lady of Fatima Church in Lafayette, LA.**  
Registration forms will be mailed out to all leaders.  
Please submit registration information to the office **ASAP.**

## *Condolences April 2021*

To member Pat Colbert-Cormier of Lafayette, LA on the death of her brother, Charles (Chuck) Colbert

To member Delores Trahan of Abbeville, LA on the death of her sister, Wanda Noel.

To member Jeanette Leger of Rayne, LA on the death of her son, Edward N. Leger.

To the members of "Shout For Joy" Group in Slidell, LA on the death of their member, Lorine Chaupetta.

To member Flossie Fontenot of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her daughter, Michelle F. Soileau.

To member Kathy McGinnis of Bayou Vista, LA on the death of her husband, Tom McGinnis.

To the members of "Daughters of Jerusalem" Group In Opelousas, LA on the death of their member, Mildred Whipp.

To member Deborah Pelitire of Metairie, LA on the death of her brother, Merwyn Miller.

To member Bernadette Danos of Carencro, LA on the death of her brother, Randy Leblanc.

To member Fannie Soileau of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her daughter, Nicole "Nikki" Soileau.

To member Voncille Fontenot of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her sister, Caresse Fusilier.

To leader and Area Coordinator Mona Izzo of Lafayette, LA on the death of her brother, Greg P. Guidry.



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Come, Lord Jesus!  
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