



# Come, Lord Jesus!

*Spiritual Insights  
Reports  
Formation  
Program Updates*



## Prayer and Spiritual Transformation

### August

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

**August 7  
19th Sunday of  
Ordinary Time**

**August 14  
20th Sunday of  
Ordinary Time**

**August 21  
21st Sunday of  
Ordinary Time**

**August 28  
22nd Sunday of  
Ordinary Time**

The Epistle to the Hebrews says of Jesus, *“This Son is the reflection of the Father’s glory, the exact representation of the Father’s being...”* (1:3). But St. Paul tells us, *“Though he was in the form of God... he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men”* (Phil 2:6-7). Jesus’ ordinary condition, then, appeared like other men – he seemed no different.

The light of the Godhead was usually hidden by the veil of human flesh. But, for one brief moment, the brilliant light of God’s glory surfaced and shone forth in all its brilliance. St. Matthew reports that Jesus was *“transfigured”*. *“His face became as dazzling as the sun, his clothes as radiant as light”* (17:2).

St. Luke says that this marvelous event occurred while Jesus was praying (9:29). I believe that this is a very important observation. It helps us to understand the transformative power of prayer; for it is through prayer that Jesus entered into his deepest center where God lives in the fullness of his being and highest intensity. Perhaps it was to signify this abiding Indwelling Presence (See Jn 14:15-23) that St. Luke recorded another scene of Jesus’ life.

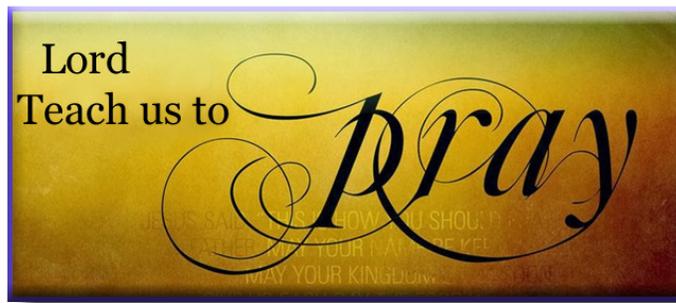
Again, he writes that after his baptism, it was while Jesus was at prayer that *“the skies opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in visible form like a dove”*. A voice from heaven was heard to say, *“You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests”* (3:21-22). Prayer opened Jesus up to the indwelling God whose Presence surfaced to envelop his whole being in light, the glory of God. Prayer on the mountain of transfiguration (Lk 9:28), or during the opening of the skies and the descent of the Holy Spirit of God on Jesus (Lk 3:21-23) both signify that it is from the pinnacle or highest and most spiritual point of our being where God dwells that he suffuses our beings with light and reveals himself to us (Jn 14:21).

It is through prayer that we have access to this sacred Dwelling Place. Through prayer, we open up our whole beings to the invasion of God who is light (1 Jn 1:5). *“All of us, gazing on the Lord’s glory with unveiled face, are being transformed from glory to glory into his very image by the Lord who is the Spirit”* (2 Cor 3:18).

Father Conley Bertrand

Save  
THE  
Date

Leaders’ Seminar  
September 3rd

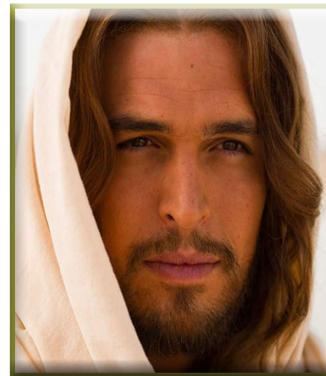


Being faithful to prayer is the first step toward holiness. To begin with, spontaneous prayer of the heart must constantly arise from within us. We need God. We crave God. Our welfare depends on our being connected to God who is a life-giving Spirit. We must respond to God's love which brought us into existence and continues to sustain us this very moment. Everything we experience all day long reminds us of the God who constantly loves us. We respond by relating everything to him. Our good consists in constant interpersonal communion with him in joy, in sorrow, in thanksgiving, petition, love, adoration, contrition etc. Each time we pray, even if it is simply asking God for something, we open ourselves to God's transforming light.

But these brief moments interspersed throughout the day are not enough to satisfy us! We need to prolong our union with God by arranging set and extended times each day! There we can keep God company and remain in his presence, as he repeatedly asked us (Jn 15:1-10), for longer periods of time. Like Jesus, we can become absorbed in prayer (Mk 1:35) or spend the night in communion with God (Lk 6:12). The more Divine Love takes over our lives, the more habitually we will live in communion with God and be transformed into his very image (Col 3:10).

We begin our prayer in the company of Jesus who is always with us (Mt 28:20). We reflect upon his word and listen to God in the silent depths of our heart; then we speak to him and express our love and our needs. In time, these acts become more and more simple and intuitive. Our prayer becomes a loving knowledge. If we are faithful, and persistent in pursuing prayer, God may eventually give us an experience of his presence. Moreover, he may draw us into the very life of the Trinity so that we begin to participate in that same loving knowledge that takes place within the Godhead between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is the beginning of eternal life (Jn 17:3) which is experienced in contemplative prayer; translated into our lives. Prayer becomes love. We begin to participate in the very aspiration of love within the Godhead. Indeed, prayer in its full development, shares completely in the very life of God.

The more perfectly we open up to God and share in his divine being through love, the more he takes possession of us and transforms us. At first, we may not even perceive his presence – rather, we experience darkness and aridity. But if we can hold still and persevere in patient endurance, the resulting purification of our faculties enables us to perceive God's presence as light or consolation. We may also experience a quieting of our faculties, tranquility and peace. We are happily at one within ourselves and with God. This marks the beginning of God's particular intervention in our lives. His light is now reaching further into our inmost beings. Our wills, especially, are being taken over by God.



Then God brings us into the innermost center of our soul (spirit) and draws us into himself. There he takes possession of our wills and proceeds gradually to conquer our intellect, imagination and memory as well. By steeping our powers into him in this way, our psyche is transfigured and becomes more recollected and taken up with God.

The goal of prayer is transforming union with God. Prayer and union become one and the same – like Jesus in his transfiguration. Even now, on earth, we are called to begin to experience what will take place in the end times when *“the just will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom”* (Mt 13:43). See what God has prepared for those who love him!

Father Conley Bertrand

# Sacred Heart of Ville Platte Spiritual Formation



Perry Meche and Annette Fontenot, Area Coordinators for the Ville Platte territory recently gathered with leaders for a "Ministry Mingle" focusing on recommitment and excellence in *CLJ!* leadership. *"For I am confident of this very thing that He who began a good work among you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus."* Phil 1:6

# WELCOME

## New Members

**Abbeville, LA:** Chérie Bourque, Jennifer Luquette

**Egan, LA:** Tracy Hanks

**Jennings, LA:** Gail Norris

**New Iberia, LA:** Bethani "Beth" Morgan

**Sulphur, LA:** Bonnie Chamblee, Pat Cryar

**Washington, LA:** Ruth Montgomery

### *Returning Members*

**Bayou Vista, LA:** Jane Vaccarella

**Breaux Bridge, LA:** Monica Domingue

**Patterson, LA:** Marguerite Sumrall



*Come, Lord Jesus!* welcomes Chelsie Hebert and group members!

### *New Groups*

**Eunice, LA: ..... Toni Godeaux.....Leader**

Cherice Teets, Travis Teets, Wendee Siebert, Pauline Johnson, Steven Johnson, Sheila Leonards

**Lawtell, LA: .....Lisa Thibodeaux.....Leader**

Sharon Rose Thibodeaux, Jamie Fontenot, Tammy F. Bihm, Tamie Richard, Nina Perron

**Maurice, LA: ..... Chelsie Hebert.....Leader**

Susan Foret, Liz Girouard, Emily Gallet, Leslie Whittington, Wanda Trahan, Ann Hebert, Laure Moseley, Morgan Sellers, Caitlin Boudreaux, Megi Moseley



2022 Leaders' Seminar

September 3rd - 10:00 concluding with Mass at noon

Our Lady of Fatima - Lafayette, LA.

(9:30 Diocesan & Area Coordinators meeting in Knight Hall)

**Congratulations** to Debbie Cressoine and her group from Houma for **10** years of *Come, Lord Jesus!*



## June 2022 Gift Bags Received



Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Grand Prairie	Opelousas
Algiers	Gretna	Pierre Part
Baker	Harvey	Ragley
Basile	Houma	Rayne
Breaux Bridge	Jeanerette	Richard
Broussard	Jefferson	Schriever
Buda TX	Judice	Scott
Cankton	Kenner	Slidell
Carencro	Kinder	St. Amant
Carlyss	Lacombe	St. Martinville
Cecilia	Lafayette	Sulphur
Coteau	Lake Charles	Tillatoba MS
Delcambre	Leesville	Ville Platte
Dry Creek	Loreauville	Washington
Duson	Loveland CO	Youngsville
Erath	Marrero	
Esther	Maurice	
Estherwood	Metairie	
Eunice	Mire	
Fenton	Morgan City	
Forked Island	Morse	
Franklin	New Iberia	

Encourage faithfulness in prayer and ongoing union with our Lord through the distribution of Father Bertrand's latest publication, "Spiritual Attentiveness". Available at **no cost**, this beautiful prayer card is the perfect evangelization tool! Contact the office to acquire your copies.



**Spiritual Attentiveness**

*A brief daily encounter with Jesus for those who feel too rushed to visit with him at length.*

Jesus reveals his love and ardent desire for spiritual intimacy with us in the words of Sacred Scripture:

**"As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." (John 15: 9-10)**

**"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will not see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and REVEAL MYSELF to him ... whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and MAKE OUR DWELLING WITH HIM. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words ..."** (John 14:18-24)



### How Do I Respond to Such an Intimate Sharing by Jesus

*in revealing his love for me and his desire to have such a close interpersonal communion with me?*

I have to act upon such a prestigious invitation to a love-relationship with the glorious Son of God!

The moment I awaken and become conscious, dear Jesus, I pray for the grace to become aware of your holy presence with the Father and the Holy Spirit in the depths of my soul. I earnestly desire to return your boundless sacrificial love for me. I want to express my love for you by consciously obeying your word, your will, throughout the day.

I pray to be able to remain aware and attentive to your Indwelling Presence as I strive to resist those selfish inclinations that weaken and diminish my love-union with you.

I pray for this grace so that I will spend the whole day in a keen love-relationship that does not forget you, my divine Jesus, who loves me so much.

I really would like to be with you all the time! Please give me this grace. Amen!



1804 West University Avenue  
Lafayette, LA 70506  
337.233.6277 • [ComeLordJesus.com](http://ComeLordJesus.com)  
Pentecost by Titiano Vecelli, c. 1546  
Cover Image: Public Domain

## Condolences

To member Christine Hudspeth of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her cousin, Glenda Frazier.

To member Judy Billeaud of Broussard, LA on the death of her husband, Jimmie Billeaud, Sr.

To members Arlene Orgeron and Johanna Buller of Broussard, LA on the death of their father, Jimmie Billeaud, Sr.

To member Marilou Franklin on the death of her husband, Kenneth Franklin.

To member Marlene Hebert of Schriever, LA on the death of her sister, Theresa Giles.

To member Sis Doumite of Kinder, LA on the death of her husband, Paul Doumite.

To member Cindy Matte of Carencro, LA on the death of her son-in-law, Stacey Tucker

To members Katy Marcantel and Faye Parrott of Mamou, LA on the death of their sister, Marie Quida Nell LaHaye Robert

To member Angela D. Manuel of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her cousin, Keith Keller Copponex.

## Memorial Burse Donations JUNE 27 -JULY 20,2022

Mark Russell Babin  
Keith Keller Copponex  
Nasen Fontenot  
Glenda Frazier  
Marie Quida Nell LaHaye Robert  
Stacey Tucker

James "Jimmie" Billeaud, Sr.  
Mary Helen and Ernest Dupuis  
Kenneth B. Franklin  
Lindsay S. Perniciaro  
Alan Rogers

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Lafayette, LA  
Permit No. 729

Come, Lord Jesus!  
1804 W. University Ave.  
Lafayette, LA 70506