



Come, Lord Jesus!

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*



The Benefit of Spiritual Detachment

July

***Every Thursday
Memorial Mass
for the enrollee s in the
CLJ! Memorial Burse***

***July 2
13th Sunday
in Ordinary Time***

***July 9
14th Sunday
in Ordinary Time***

***July 16
15th Sunday
in Ordinary Time***

***July 23
16th Sunday
in Ordinary Time***

***July 30
17th Sunday
in Ordinary Time***

The rich man was too encumbered with his possessions to follow Jesus (see Mark 10:28-31). He went away sad. Peter, on the other hand, had left everything that got in the way of following Jesus. His boats and nets were still his, but he did not let them get in the way of following and serving Jesus. He used his boat to transport Jesus when it was needed – so too with his nets. They were there if needed. He also kept his house, but it became a place for Jesus to reside and to use as his headquarters.

He still owned or possessed these things, but he used them in such a way that they did not get in his way of serving Jesus and the Kingdom of God. **He was detached from them even if he still owned them.** We too must consider how we can detach ourselves from our possessions so they will not prevent us from spending our time and energies to serve God and his kingdom. In this way, we will reap supernatural and eternal dividends. Our reward will be exceedingly great!

Unlike the rich man, Peter and the other disciples had left everything to follow Jesus. What about them? Jesus responded that all who have left family and property for the sake of the Gospel will receive a hundredfold more than they left behind –

even in this age: brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, children and lands. What they left behind in natural, earthly relationships, they will regain on a supernatural, spiritual level. These will be multiplied immeasurably, like the grains of sand on the seashore or the stars in the sky (compare Gen 22:17).



The spiritually rich relationships in the Kingdom of God will be far greater than what was left behind. These rewards will take place in the present age. And besides that, those who follow Jesus in such a wholehearted fashion will be rewarded with the glorious, eternal life in heaven.

At the same time, however, Jesus' disciples can expect to experience various forms of persecution. Those who love this world will be against those who proclaim the Gospel whose doctrine contradicts the beliefs of those who live only for the present age. Jesus' disciples may be last now on a worldly level of thinking and living, but they will be first in the end. Truth will prevail.

Father Bertrand



Only in God there is fullness of joy.

Jesus became human so he could make us divine. Through baptism we were joined to his glorified humanity. In this way we are united to God and live by his own eternal life. This eternal life of knowledge and love between the Father and Son in the Spirit completes our natural life and raises it up to the divine level. This is why it is a life particularly joyful. It is a special, unearthly joy which Jesus greatly desired to give us (Jn 15:11).

To maintain this heavenly joy we must remain united to Jesus by living in his love. This we do by keeping his word and doing his will. We may experience this supernatural joy in various degrees, depending on the extent of our purity of heart and love for God. We are called to such a total love for God that we avoid the least sin and any undue self love. Thus the divine love and heavenly happiness (beatitude) can freely flow through our whole persons and exhilarate us with the JOY OF GOD.

There is another factor, besides personal sin and undue attachment to creatures that prevents us from experiencing the JOY OF GOD in its fullness. There will always be that basic joy that comes from our sharing in God's life through sanctifying grace. This happiness of God is experienced at least as peace and tranquility of soul. We are content, knowing that we are one with God, having done his will and been pleasing to him. Our consciences do not blame us. We enjoy the presence of God – at least in some vague way. But our human nature, tinged with original sin and its sinful tendencies, is too coarse to perceive in fullness the JOY OF GOD who is SO NEAR.

The flesh is not conducive to the life of the spirit. Rather, in its unpurified state, it is opposed to it. Moreover, our sins leave a residue of impurity that blunts our spiritual sensitivity. How can we repair the evil effects of sin so that we will become more sensitive to the JOY OF GOD? We need to be more active in seeking God through prayer, sacred reading, and the reception of the sacraments; and we must live more selflessly for him through the practice of self-denial and detachment so that we will become purer and more single-hearted. In this regard, deprivation has an important part to play in our lives. The limitations imposed on us by the

boundaries human existence places upon us attack our selfish ways. Surrendering to God in these circumstances conquers our self-will. Submitting to him by accepting them vanquishes our pride. This is very sanctifying. Moreover, the sufferings involved in human existence, like hurts, losses, ailments and foiled plans purify our sense-bound nature. This refines it and attunes it to spirit-life. It is transformed and deified. Now it can begin to experience God and the fullness of HIS JOY. Such endurance for the love of God likewise increases all the virtues.

But patiently enduring suffering imposed upon us is not the only way to purify our unredeemed human nature which is so impervious to the spiritual and the divine. Patient endurance, which is called for in carrying out our duties, in relating to difficult people, in performing our jobs etc. is also purifying. There is something about the discipline and intensity of



love required for patient endurance that spiritualizes us. For discipline is the assertion of spirit over matter and the inertia of the flesh. Discipline is indicative of spirit-dominance and thus unites us to God to a greater degree. This is true for us anytime we practice any of the virtues. They are positive ways of living the God-life as we deny our sense-bound self and the vices that accompany selfish living.

Father Bertrand

SAINT

AUGUSTINE

BASILILE



The Building of a Dynamic *Come, Lord Jesus!* Church Parish



Steve and Luci Morgan



St. Agnes in Jefferson is a vibrant *Come, Lord Jesus!* community. A *Come, Lord Jesus!* banner is visible on its grounds. A *Come, Lord Jesus!* meeting room has been designated for its members in which you will see a large poster of our 12- Step meeting format and book racks custom-made for Father Bertrand's spiritual booklets. Growth of *Come, Lord Jesus!* is continual and members fervently serve their church. The Church Parish Representatives responsible for this are Luci and Steve Morgan. They humorously refer to themselves as Moses (Luci – who hears God's instructions) and Aaron (Steve – sent to assist due to his gift of bold and proficient speech).



Their *Come, Lord Jesus!* story began when Luci picked up a brochure on *Come, Lord Jesus!* at a neighboring church. She shared her interest with Steve and they contacted the office. After meeting with the New Orleans *Come, Lord Jesus!* Coordinators and their parish priest, a ministry at St. Agnes began in the Spring of 2017. It didn't take long for their group to grow. "We believed that there were probably others who would want to grow spiritually as well" (Steve).

Since that time, during each Advent and Lenten season, the Morgans' conduct an outreach and lead groups for any parishioners who want a mini experience of *Come, Lord Jesus!*. Since their existing *Come, Lord Jesus!* groups have been well- formed, Steve and Luci assign new leadership and move on to lead the new groups being established. This has proven to be an excellent method of expansion. "Seeing the growth in other members of *Come, Lord Jesus!* is one reason I continue with this wonderful ministry. Members have been open to evangelizing by giving time and energy to other ministries here at St. Agnes, which keeps our parish alive in hope for the future of the church" (Luci). "We grew from two groups to four groups! We now have 7 groups, including one Spanish group. We have four daytime groups and three nighttime groups" (Steve).

"No matter how long you have been involved in *Come, Lord Jesus!*, there will always be people who have just heard God speaking to them and are ready to take the next step along their faith journey. We want to provide that path to better understanding in order to develop a closer relationship with Christ! *Come, Lord Jesus!* is the path we have chosen to help God's children find that relationship." As long as the Holy Spirit guides us, we will continue to make time and be available to help in that journey" (Steve).

Come, Lord Jesus! congratulates and thanks Luci and Steve Morgan for their dedication, hard work, and sacrificial lifestyle which are making a difference in the Kingdom of God. May God be glorified and may his Church be renewed through *Come, Lord Jesus!*.

Welcome New Members!

Abbeville LA: Katri Brasseaux, Whitney Credeur

Algiers, LA: Lolita Isom

Carlyss, LA: Michael Field, Mary Jane Field

DeRidder, LA: Debra Kay Hebert

Grand Prairie, LA: Kim Bolten

Iota, LA: Carolyn Reed, Selina Cart, Connie Sittig

Jeanerette, LA: Patricia Bacon

Jennings, LA: Heloise Cassidy

Kinder LA: Beverly Fawcett Bertrand

Lacombe, LA: Pat Herrmann, Jo Anne Grady

Lafayette, LA: Debbie Molan

Metairie, LA: Cheryl Burst

Rayne, LA: Mike Newburn

Scott, LA: Ethel Kebodeaux

Ville Platte, LA: Charmaine Dupre, Carla Lafleur,

David David Paul Fontenot

Westwego: Harris Stein

Youngsville, LA: Joyce Langlinais

WELCOME NEW GROUPS!

Alexandria, LA: ... *Lynn Raia.... Leader*

Clare Tran, Pam Fonville, Ann Bonnette,
Dianne Jeansonne, Jane Charvat

Basile, LA: ... *Gloria Angeles Rosales.... Leader*

Monica Lopez Angeles, Maria Esmeralda Lopez
Alma Yadira, Angelica Angeles, Guadalupe Angeles,
Guadalupe Lopez

¡Ven Señor Jesús! welcomes Gloria Angeles Rosales and members!



May 2023

Gift Bags Received



Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Franklin	Pierre Part
Algiers	Grand Prairie	Pine Prairie
Avery Island	Gretna	Prairie Ronde
Basile	Harvey	Ragley
Baton Rouge	Houma	Rayne
Bayou Vista	Iota	Richard
Bell City	Jeanerette	Schriever
Bossier City	Jefferson	Scott
Breaux Bridge	Jennings	Slidell
Broussard	Judice	St. Amant
Buda, TX	Kenner	Sulphur
Cankton	Kinder	Terrytown
Carencro	Lacombe	Vidrine
Carlyss	Lafayette	Ville Platte
Cecilia	Lake Charles	Washington
Church Point	Marrero	Westwego
Coteau	Maurice	Youngsville
Cow Island	Mermentau	
Crowley	Metairie	
Delcambre	Mire	
DeRidder	Morgan City	
Erath	Morse	
Estherwood	New Iberia	
Eunice	Opelousas	
Fenton	Patterson	
Forked Island	Paulina	

MAY 23 - JUNE 26, 2023 Memorial Burse Donations

Lawrence Bahlinger
Brenda Brasseaux
Clyde J. Collins, Sr.
Clara Mae Landry
Aaron Schwing
Cecile Vizinat

Margie Bellard
E.J. Breau
Leslie Allen Jacobs, Sr.
Henry Marks
Sylvia Vincent
Anelle P. Waguespack

Condolences

- To members of “Grateful Hearts” group in Baton Rouge, LA on the death of their founding member, Anelle P. Waguespack.
- To leader Racsaída Cisneros of Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico on the death of her father, Ramon Amador Cisneros.
- To member Helen Rougeau of Eunice, LA on the death of her brother-in-law, Leslie Allen Jacobs, Sr.
- To member Katherine Allison of Eunice, LA on the death of her brother, Clyde J. Collins, Sr.
- To member Renita Lawrence of Kinder, LA on the death of her daughter, Kristen Emerson.
- To members Rita Faye Leger and Mary Sue Fontenot of Kinder, LA on the death of their sister, Sherry Holmes.
- To member Lee Anna Guillory of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her sister, Cecile Vizinat.
- To member Enella Brignac of Grand Prairie, LA on the death of her brother, Louis Daigle.
- To the *CLJ!* members in Baldwin, LA on the death of their member, Carol Glorioso.
- To the members of “Living Hope” group in Erath, LA on the death of their member, Brenda Brasseaux.
- To the members of “Walk in the Light of the Lord” group in Lacombe, LA on the death of their member, Ollie Lincoln.
- To member Carol Becnel of Algiers, LA on the death of her husband, Harold Becnel.
- To members Rita Landry and Casey Sedotal of Pierre Part, LA on the death of their brother, E.J. Breaux.
- To member Patty Marks of Pierre Part, LA on the death of her father-in-law, Henry Marks.
- To leader Sue Chapman of Lake Arthur, LA on the death of her mother, Margie Bellard.