



Come, Lord Jesus!

NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2023 VOL. LXXXIX NO. 101

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*



The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed

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

November 1
All Saints' Day

November 2
All Souls' Day

November 5
31st Sunday in
Ordinary Time

November 12
32nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time

November 19
33rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time

November 26
Solemnity of Our
Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe

Jesus said to the crowds: *"Everything that the Father gives me will come to me..."* The Father gives Jesus disciples to follow and be formed by him. Jesus explained how the Father gives him followers: *"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him..."* (Jn 6:44). And how does the Father "draw" people to Jesus? He does so by grace. In general, he inspires them to do good and avoid evil. If they respond, he then goes on to enlighten their minds and warm their hearts with love for Jesus. He attracts people to Jesus through his virtuous life. They are made to see Jesus' beautiful personality as he goes about doing good by preaching and miracles, his works of mercy shown to suffering humanity.

It is important that people respond to that grace and go to Jesus. Jesus explains: *"Every-one who has listened to the Father and has learned comes to me"* (Jn 6:45).

These promptings of grace that the Father gives us through the Holy Spirit inspires faith in Jesus. We listen to the Father in prayer; he teaches us. Having learned about the truth of Jesus' divinity as he reveals the Father, we begin to believe in him. We are moved by this enlightened faith to come to Jesus. We reach out to him in hope and unite ourselves to him in love.

Jesus is our merciful Savior. He became human- one of us – precisely to save us from sin and give us eternal life. Therefore, he will not reject any of us who go to him. Jesus is the holy One of God; when we go to him, it implies that we regret our sins and want to live a virtuous life. Jesus always receives repentant sinners. His mission given him by the Father is to save us from sin and give us eternal life.

"For this is the will of my Father, that every-one who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him [on] the last day" (Jn 6:40).

continued on next page



The Father's will is Jesus' will, which is to love and to snatch us from sin and the grips of the devil.

Jesus explained: *"My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work"* (Jn 4:34). *"I always do what is pleasing to him"* (Jn 8:29).

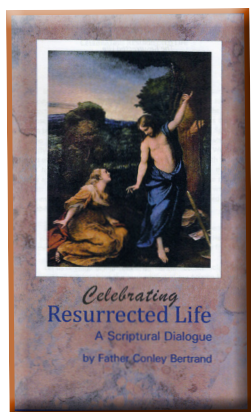
And it is the will of the Father who sent him that he should not lose anything of what he gave him. Jesus went to great lengths to redeem us from sin. His suffering by crucifixion and death shows how much he loves us and desires our salvation. We can be confident that he will receive us joyfully if we go to him (see Lk 15). His great desire is to give us the life of God, which is the beginning of eternal life even now (see Jn 5:24). This eternal life is a participation in the very life of God. It is spiritual and incorruptible. Physical death cannot harm it. If we possess it at death, our soul passes on to God to be with him to enjoy the heavenly life with all the saints – unless we have to be purified for a time for the remnants of sin in purgatory – for, nothing unclean can enter into heaven (see Rev 21:27). But Jesus tells us that he will raise or resurrect our body on the last day, the day of general judgment. Then both body and soul will enjoy the glory of God and see him face to face.

With this understanding, we can have the same confidence and attitude that Jesus expressed at the Last Supper, the night before he died. This is what the Gospel of John tells us: "... Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father" (Jn 13:1). He was "fully aware" ... that he had come from God and was returning to God" (Jn 13:3). He told his Apostles, *"If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father..."* (Jn 14:28). For Jesus, death was a happy occasion; it meant that he was returning to the Father to receive the glory of which he had emptied himself in becoming human.

All of this is true for us too. This is the meaning of death. It is the moment when we pass from this world to the Father. We came from God who created our spiritual souls; when the body becomes too feeble or damaged for the soul to function, it leaves the body and returns to the Father who created it.

We go to God to be rewarded for a virtuous life, for having completed the mission for which he sent us into this world, and for fulfilling the will of God by a good life. Such a life spiritualized our being, making it receptive to the glory of God; our created spirit longs to be complemented by the uncreated spirit of God who will glorify it.

Jesus explained what will happen to us if we accept his word and live by it. He said, *"Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live"* (Jn 5:25). We begin to live a supernatural life now by grace if we listen to and obey Jesus' words; and when Jesus calls us on judgment day, we will arise to live the glorious, eternal life of heaven.



Encourage grieving loved ones with the great hope of the splendor which awaits us in the divine life.

Father Bertrand's

"Celebrating Resurrected Life" may be presented during a wake service by two appointed readers offering an opportunity for all present to respond with inspiring Biblical texts and experience together a celebration of life eternally.

Available by calling CLJ! office 337-6277



Father Conley Bertrand

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Anniversary Mass

Cecilia, LA



Recent Events

Spiritual Formation Gatherings



Morgan City



Franklin

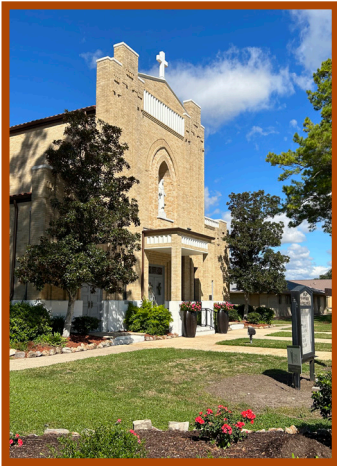


Abbeville

Outreach Campaign

Our Lady of Seven Dolars

Welsh, LA



Upcoming Events

Nov. 11th

New Leader Workshop
St. Agnes
Jefferson, LA
10:00 - 2:00

Dec. 2nd

Anniversary Mass
Diocese of Lake Charles
Our Lady of Christian Help
Jennings, LA
10:00

Feb. 24th

Anniversary Mass
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Morgan City, LA
10:00

Nov. 29th

Anniversary Mass
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Ville Platte, LA
12:00 noon

Jan. 20th

Spiritual Formation (Lafayette leaders)
St. Mary Catholic Church
Lafayette, LA
Time TBA

Welcome New Members

Abbeville, LA: Edith Russo , Winnie LeBlanc

Bayou Vista, LA Gwen Peterson

Breaux Bridge, LA: Elaine LeBlanc, Lucy Ellender

Buda, LA: Susan Nevarez

Erath, LA: Pinky Kinard

Estherwood/Crowley, LA: Delores "Dee" Miller

Gretna: Peggy Margaret Hukert

Harvey, LA: Jordan Matrana

Jeanerette, LA: Andrea Landry, Audrey Hebert

Kinder : Rose Susan Wilhelmi, Geneva Fontenot

Lafayette, LA: Phyllis Michel, Marie Briley

Milton, LA: Shelley Harrington, Christine Cornell
Marsha Granger

Paulina, LA: Yvette Dornier

Westwego, LA: Sharon Ogden, Gina Rojas

Returning Member

Slidell, LA: Vern Scott

Welcome New Groups

Metairie, LAHerman LeBoeuf**Leader**

Leslie M. Morgan, Virgie Couret, Gloria Beach

Lee Rodriguez, Sheila Boe, Theresa Buckner,

Mary Ann Kennedy

Lancaster-Westmoreland, VA ...Carolyn Boarman .. **Leader**

Cecilia Luna, Katharine Vail, Elizabeth Kellum

Kristyn Bachman, Helen Scerbo, Jiliann Litzinger

September 2023 Gift Bags Received



Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Gretna	Oberlin
Algiers	Harvey	Opelousas
Arnaudville	Houma	Paulina
Bayou Vista	Iota	Pierre Part
Bell City	Jeanerette	Prairie Ronde
Berwick	Jefferson	Ragley
Breaux Bridge	Jennings	Rayne
Broussard	Kenner	Richard
Cankton	Kinder	Schriever
Carencro	Lacombe	Scott
Carlyss	Lafayette	Slidell
Cecilia	Lake Charles	St. Amant
Coteau	Lawtell	St. Martinville
Cow Island	Lufkin TX	Sugartown
Dalhart TX	Marrero	Terrytown
DeRidder	Maurice	Vidrine
Erath	Mermentau	Ville Platte
Esther	Metairie	Washington
Estherwood	Milton	Westwego
Eunice	Mire	Youngsville
Fenton	Morgan City	
Forked Island	Morse	
Grand Prairie	New Iberia	



We give thanks to
GOD for the gift of
Come, Lord Jesus!!

Condolences November 2023

To the members of "Tree of Life" group in Cankton, LA on the death of their member, Marella Pellerin.

To leader Mary Ann Guidry of Richard, LA on the death of her husband, Malcolm Guidry.

To the members of "Servant of All" group in Jennings, LA on the death of their members Rebecca Doucet and Katherine Miller.

To the members of "I Can Do All Things Through Him Who Strengthens Me" group in Loreauville, LA on the death of their member, Marie Barbara Pierre.

To member Barbara Thomas of Broussard, LA on the death of her uncle, Nelson Cross.

To member Gaynell Batiste of Broussard, LA on the death of her great-nephew, Javion Batiste.

To the members of "Spiritual Treasures" group in Youngsville, LA on the death of their member, Ada Diz.

To member Joyce Langlinois of Youngsville, LA on the death of her sister, Yvonne King.

To member Liz Broussard of Youngsville, LA on the death of her cousin, Derek Duhon.

Memorial Burse Donations

October 1st -23rd 2023

Javion Batiste
Rebecca Doucet
Yvonne King
Katherine Miller

Nelson Cross
Creighton Dugas, Jr.
Hugh Edward McNeely
Alvin Charles "Al" Moreau, Jr.

Ada Diz
Derek Duhon
Deborah "Debi" Fairbanks Fremin
Marella B. Pellerin

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Lafayette, LA
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