



# COME, LORD JESUS!

*Spiritual Insights  
Reports  
Formation  
Program Updates*



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

**August 4  
18th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

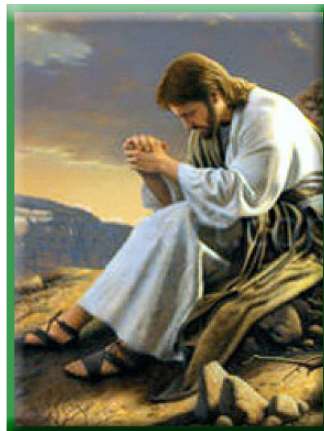
**August 11  
19th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**August 18  
20th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**August 25  
21st Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

Jeremiah 7:2 proclaims, “*Hear the word of the Lord!*” This is what *Come, Lord Jesus!* is helping you to do. Spend sufficient time with the word in preparation for your meeting. Do all you can to avoid a rush job! Spend more time absorbing and contemplating the word of God.

Please develop the habit of daily meditation on the word of God. Read and reflect on the daily readings of the Mass. Wake up at least one-half hour earlier each day. Start your day off with prayer, like Jesus. We read in Mark 1:35: “*Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.*”



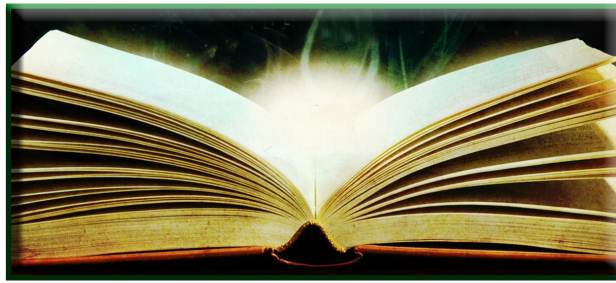
This will enable you to intersperse your whole day with prayerful awareness of the presence of God. You will start living in God in a more conscious way.

In 1850 BC, – that far back! – God told Abraham in Genesis 17:1: “*Walk in my presence and be blameless.*” Daily meditation on the word will enable you to live in God’s presence and live a blameless life.

The prophet Jeremiah, in 7:3 says, “*Reform your ways and your deeds so I may remain in you.*” Live in conformity with God’s will. Be aware of any sinfulness – however minor they may be. Repent immediately. Pray for forgiveness and God’s help to overcome your weakness. Seek his grace through prayer and confession. Receive the sacrament of Penance regularly.

Jeremiah(7:5)continues to urge us by saying, “*Thoroughly reform your ways and your deeds.*” What can this mean for me? Again, we read in Jeremiah (7:9), “*no longer...follow strange gods to your own harm.*” Strange gods? Yes! When you devote too much time and attention to certain things, they become strange gods to you: endless news, information and entertainment. God is jealous. He deserves more of your time and attention! You may worship more strange gods than you realize! These strange gods would also surely cause some distractions during your prayer time.

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St. James 1:21 calls us to *“humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.”* How so? St. Paul in his letter to the Romans (1:16-17) makes this striking statement: *“The Gospel [the word of God] is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes...For in it is revealed the righteousness of God.”*

Through prayerful reflection, through the theological virtues of faith, hope and love, we make contact with the righteousness of God in his word, and draw forth divine life, God’s very life, and power from that word. That is why frequent and prolonged prayerful communion with God’s word is so essential for personal growth in holiness.

Please understand why we continue to make such an emphatic, insistent and urgent appeal that you establish for yourself – each day – sufficient time for reflection on God’s sanctifying word.



Remember the parable of the Sower that Jesus explained. He said, *“The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved”* (Lk 8:11-12).

How does the devil accomplish this? Might it be through the weeds?

The weeds of the world’s empty and enticing words displace and replace God’s word in our minds.

Many of these words may be quite innocent and very attractive. We are often overly curious and desire to fill our minds with information and knowledge. But they often take God’s place, because our hearts are focused on these weed words. They replace and interfere with our contemplative gaze on God’s Indwelling Presence. These ideas may seem innocent enough, but we need to be careful and prudent about them. They may well, often enough, interfere with our purity of heart; and they may even be contrary to God’s will for us. Pray for discernment about this.

One final thought concerning the good seed and the weeds. They grow together in the world. These suggest that the good and the bad exist side by side in the world we live in. Some people are difficult to live with because of their lack of virtue. The patient endurance which love calls us to practice will sanctify us more quickly than if we were not bothered by such people. The discipline required of us will purify our weak and disordered passions. The suffering or patient endurance involved will spiritualize us more quickly. We are forced to cling to God more forcefully and continuously in order to draw the virtue we need to be patient, loving, kind and practice of many other virtues. Jesus lived with and associated lovingly and patiently with unvirtuous apostles and the obnoxious scribes and Pharisees. He could speak this parable because he experienced and lived it. In this case, the weeds can be an occasion for personal spiritual growth!

*Father Conley Bertrand*

### **BE FAITHFUL TO THE ORIGINAL CHARISM OF COME, LORD JESUS!**

It is important that members carry out the original charism of the *Come, Lord Jesus!* Program, that special grace received from God by the founder. It is only then that the program became complete and sustained its members so that they continued to meet. By remaining faithful to the original charism, members are assured of being spiritually enriched as they are gradually being transformed into the image of God. This is so because the *Come, Lord Jesus!* charism, expressed in the 12 steps of our program based on Acts 2:42, requires a holy self-discipline that enables the members to live on the level of spirit. This disposition unites a person to God who is Spirit (Jn 4:24). Living in communion with God on the level of spirit is the beginning of eternal life, the highest life attainable on this earth, and the highest joy (Jn 17:3).

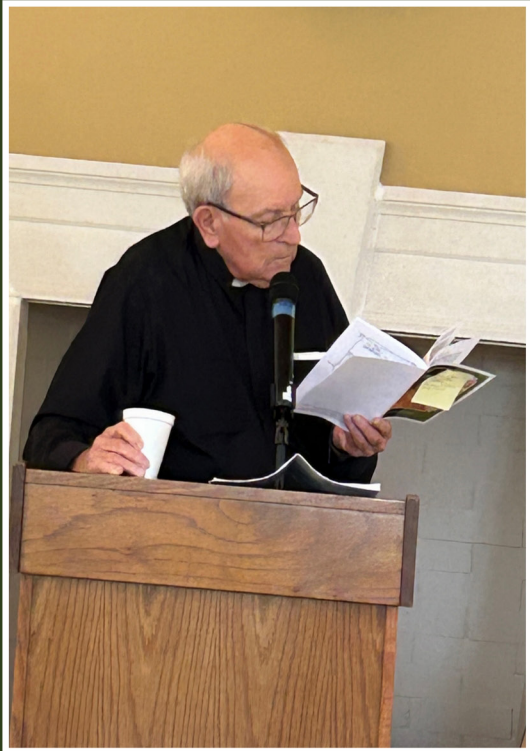


# Anniversary Mass - St. Jules Catholic Church - Lafayette





# Diocesan and Area Coordinators Meeting & Luncheon







## June 2024 Gift Bags Received

Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Forked Island	Morse
Algiers	Franklin	Natchez
Avery Island	Grand Prairie	New Iberia
Baker	Gretna	New Orleans
Basile	Harvey	Oberlin
Baton Rouge	Houma	Opelousas
Bayou Vista	Jeanerette	Parks
Bell City	Jefferson	Paulina
Breaux Bridge	Jennings	Pierre Part
Broussard	Judice	Ragley
Cankton	Kenner	Rayne
Carencro	Kinder	Richard
Carlyss	Lacombe	Schriever
Cecilia	Lafayette	Scott
Coteau	Lake Charles	Slidell
Delcambre	Lawtell	St. Amant
DeRidder	Loreauville	St. Martinville
Duson	Marrero	Ville Platte
Erath	Mermentau	Washington
Esther	Metairie	Welsh
Estherwood	Milton	Westwego
Eunice	Mire	Youngsville
Fenton	Morgan City	

# WELCOME New Members

**Abbeville, LA:** Bonnie Trahan  
**Coteau, LA:** Bernadette Derouen  
**Erath, LA:** Emily Badeaux  
**Gretna, LA:** Debbie Prendergast  
**Harvey, LA:** Carol Boudreaux  
**Jeanerette, LA:** Luke St.Germain, Ethan St.Germain  
**Jefferson, LA:** Janet Shea, Cindy Lemoine  
**Kinder, LA:** Rhonda Marcantel  
**Lafayette, LA:** Gail Jones, Melissa "Missy" Hebert  
 Denise Lemoine  
**Lake Charles, LA:** Joyce Lefrere, Lisa Deculus  
**Marrero, LA:** Sarah Comeaux  
**New Iberia, LA:** Eric Villermin, Pegge Villermin  
**Plaisance, LA:** Joy Fontenot, Faye Lafleur, Glenda Lafleur  
**Ville Platte, LA:** Alison Pitre, Leah Hollier

### Returning Member

**Coteau LA :** Donald and Jennifer Dunbar

# WELCOME NEW GROUP!

**Parks, LA - Blake Babin - Leader**  
Jana, Kamin, Emery, Divi and Bray Babin



### BE ACTIVE IN SHARING YOUR FAITH

*Come, Lord Jesus!* members from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iota recently held an Outreach Campaign as a means of expanding the program in their church parish. We welcome new members to our *CLJ!* family! If you would like to sponsor a campaign in your parish, please contact Marianne Hebert at our office. (337-233-6277).

Philemon 1:6: "I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."

## Condolences

To leader Kay Birrcher of Metairie, LA on the death of her brother, James "Jim" Radke.

To member Anna Smith of Duson, LA on the death of her brother-in-law, Mr. Marceline Smith.

To leader Rose Anne Turner and member Scotty Turner of Broussard, LA on the death of their daughter-in-law Virginia Bertrand Turner

To member Tessa Mabile of Pierre Part, LA on the death of her father, Sterling Aucoin.

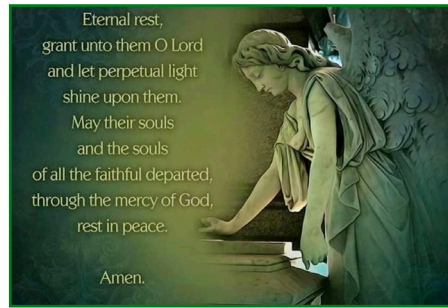
To leader Jan Mitchell of Gretna, LA on the death of her son-in-law, Brian Aucoin.

To member Anne Houin of Gretna, LA on the death of her daughter, Heather Mebane.

To member Una Terracina of Schriever, LA on the death of her husband, Leo Terracini.

### JULY 1 - JULY 24, 2024 Memorial Burse Donations

Francis Nunez  
Charles "Charlie" Richard  
Gerald Paul Carlson, PhD  
Tolley Odom



Virginia Turner  
Jacob "Coach" Byler  
Lisa Boudreaux

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Come, Lord Jesus!  
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