

Come, Lord Jesus!

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*



January

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

**January 1
Solemnity of Mary,
the Mother of God**

**January 5
Epiphany of the Lord**

**January 12
Baptism of the Lord**

**January 19
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**January 26
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Many extraordinary prophecies occur in the Old Testament providing insight into God's plan, trust in his promises, and a deeper understanding of our faith.

"Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Median and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense and proclaiming the praises of the Lord". This is reflected in Isaiah 60:6. St. Matthew's gospel shows the prophecy of Isaiah fulfilled: "They prostrated themselves and did him homage. They opened their coffers and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh"(Mt 2:12).



The miraculous star seen by the Magi is a fulfillment of the second prophecy by Balaam in the book of Numbers: "A star shall advance from Jacob" (Numbers 24:17). This star prophesied by Balaam represents a great leader who is to be David, a figure of the messianic king who is to come after him. Therefore, it would be an unusually bright star. This star seen by the wise men, then, shows that Jesus is the long-expected Messiah. This is the good news. Prophecy is fulfilled. God keeps his promises and comes to save his people.

A third prophecy is fulfilled also as shown by St. Matthew when he quotes Micah who prophesies these words eight centuries earlier, saying that Bethlehem, the place where David is born, a ruler of the people will arise. "From you, [Bethlehem], shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people, Israel". (Micah 5:2/ Mt 2:6).

We also see a fourth prophecy being fulfilled. In Isaiah 60:3, it is predicted that "Nations will walk by your light and kings by your shining radiance."

A fifth prophecy is made in Psalm 72, which declares that "all kings... all nations will serve him", also has come true (Ps 72:11).

Our faith must be greatly strengthened by the realization of such astounding prophecies. Living that faith will help us to acquire those luminous qualities that reflect God's increased presence within us.

The feast of the Epiphany is a celebration of God first manifesting or revealing himself to the Gentile nations represented by the Magi. But God continues to reveal himself today to us through the guiding star of faith. Only now God reveals and manifests himself to us within our very hearts. The spiritual life is an interior journey within ourselves towards God's indwelling in the center of our souls.

Father Conley Bertrand

Witnessing Our Faith

One of your weekly send-offs is the very words of Jesus, “*You are to be my witness...even to the ends of the earth*” (Acts 1:8). Speaking his words is imperative, “*What you have heard in private you must tell from the house-tops*” (Mt 10:27). Inspired and fired up by your *Come, Lord Jesus!* meeting you are sent by Jesus himself, “*As the Father sent me, so I send you*” (Jn 19:21).



You are commanded – you have no choice – to boldly proclaim the gospel (see Acts 4:31). It is so easy to hide behind acts of service when you give your report on the apostolate. Witnessing through your way of life is not enough! The Second Vatican Council says: “*A true apostle looks for opportunities to announce Christ by words*” (Laity Art. 6).

The *Come, Lord Jesus!* program is a response to the Council. “The laity should be specially formed to engage in conversation with others, believers and non-believers, in order to manifest Christ’s message to all men” (Laity Art. 31).

Members, take note. Do not take the minimal for granted. Challenge yourself each week to go beyond giving good example. Please reread pages 32-34, of Volume I – Be My Witness, “Reports on the Apostolate”. Try out these suggestions. For example, did anyone in your group attempt to write out an impressive sentence from Scripture and place it in a prominent place in the kitchen, in your office, for all to see? What comments were made? Devise various ways to share the Word. Find new ways. Discuss creative methods during the report time. Break the routine! After the Gospel sharing or during Reports on the Apostolate let the group suggest how to apply the Gospel by way of witness during the forthcoming week. At the next meeting, see how many were able to carry this out.

This holds true not only for those who use Volume I, but II and III as well. The greatest act of love for someone can be to share God’s life-giving Word with them. You give great glory to God by sharing his inspired words.

Jesus’ words leave no doubt – witnessing your faith in word is an essential part of your Catholic Christian life. “*Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will acknowledge before my Father in heaven. Whoever disowns me before men, I will disown before my Father in heaven*” (Mt 10:32).



May God bless you and enable you to witness your faith in word.

Father Conley Bertrand



*Anniversary Mass
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Ville Platte*





Welcome New Members!

Erath, LA: Sue Marcantel

Fenton, LA: Donna Derouen

Gretna, LA: Kermit Rogers

Lacombe, LA: Catherine Salzer

Lafayette, LA: Dionne Parker, Susan Benoit

Kelley Chapman, Alysia Gauthreaux, Kristie Lee

Lufkin, TX: Kendra Childers

Jennings, LA: Patsy Richard

Madisonville, LA: Edward Deharo

Metarie, LA: Rosemary Guidroz

New Iberia, LA: Rosemary Escoto, Camille Jarrell

Pierre Part, LA: Hope Pruet

Plaisance, LA: Syble Landreneaux

Youngsville, LA: Janet Boggs

WELCOME NEW GROUPS!

Church Point, LA: ... Pam Richard.... Leader

Sheila Carrier, Julie Wingate, Jeannine Colligan
Alison Lejeune, Denise Meche

Church Point, LA: ... Sandy LaFleur.... Leader

Amber Dolor, Glenn Dolor, Matthew LaFleur,
Brandon LaFleur

Church Point, LA: ... Sarah Carriere Leader

Shane Clavier, Rachel Clavier, Brandi Guidry,
Blair Carriere, Melissa LaFosse, Kelsie Gary
Koury LaFosse

Church Point, LA: ... Jenee Barousse Leader

Chantel Richard, Jami Latiolais



November 2024 Gift Bags Received

Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Houma	Scott
Baker	Jeanerette	Slidell
Baton Rouge	Jefferson	St. Martinville
Bayou Vista	Kenner	Sulphur
Bell City	Kinder	Terrytown
Bossier City	Lacombe	Vidrine
Breaux Bridge	Lafayette	Ville Platte
Broussard	Lake Charles	Washington
Buda, TX	Leesville	Westwego
Cankton	Lufkin, TX	
Carencro	Marrero	
Carlyss	Maurice	
Cecilia	Metairie	
Church Point	Morgan City	
Coteau	Morse	
Cow Island	Natchez	
DeRidder	New Iberia	
Duson	New Orleans	
Erath	Opelousas	
Esther	Parks	
Eunice	Paulina	
Fenton	Pierre Part	
Forked Island	Ragley	
Franklin	Rayne	
Grand Prairie	Richard	
Gretna	Schriever	
Harvey		

NOV 19 - DEC 18, 2024 Memorial Burse Donations

Virginia Cunningham
Joan Viator Smith
Joseph Wink
Thomas Eric Johnson
Jean Ann Burns
Linda Landry
Aline Adams
Hector Rafael Ponton

Carol Lewis
Curtis Latiolais
Harry Hardin
Susan Michelle Moniotte
Keith Krogsgard
Ruth Wiggins
Ella Walker
Hilda Sagraera Choate

Condolences

To leader Toni Godeaux from Eunice, LA on the death of her brother, Curtis Latiolais.

To member Debbie Burley of Youngsville, LA on the death of her husband, Ben Burley.

To member Trudy Krogsgard of Youngsville, LA on the death of her husband, Keith Krogsgard who was the leader of "Like Newborn Infants" Group.

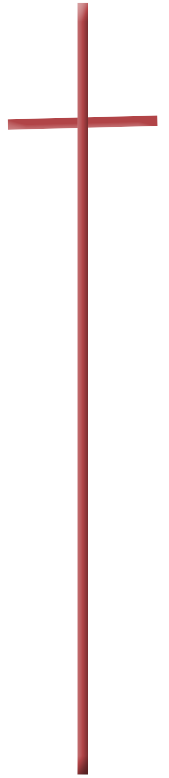
To leader Charlene Champagne of St. Amant, LA on the death of her son, Stanley "Billy" Champagne.

To member Marie Walsh of Baton Rouge, LA on the death of her mother, Jean Ann Burns.

To member Michelle McNeil of Esther, LA on the death of her mother, Hilda Sagrera Choate.

To member Bernadette Monlezun-Pontón of Lake Charles, LA on the death of her husband, Hector Rafael Pontón.

To member Mary Porubsky of Lafayette, LA on the death of her father, James Richard Colwell.



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

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