

COME, LORD JESUS!

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*

Sacrament of Love: The Eucharist as Jesus' Total Self Gift



*June
Every Thursday
Memorial Masses for
the enrollees in the
CLJ! Memorial Burse*

*June 7th
The Solemnity of the Most
Holy Body & Blood of
Christ*

*June 14th
Eleventh Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

*June 21st
Twelfth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

*June 28th
Thirtieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*



The Eucharistic bread Jesus gives us is alive; it is his glorified flesh, saturated with the Father's divinity, which also belongs to Jesus by nature. For he is the God-man who gives himself to us so we can assimilate the holy virtues of his divinized humanity that comes to us as spiritual food.

The miraculous food Jesus gives us is the consecrated bread in the Mass that was changed through transubstantiation. The substance of the bread became the substance of Jesus' resurrected Body to nourish our spiritual nature. The appearance of bread remains, but its inner substance has been changed into the risen Jesus. He is overflowing with the supreme heavenly life of God.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven..." In saying, "I am", Jesus is uttering the divine name; he is proclaiming his divinity; he is one with the Father in possessing the divine nature (Jn 10:30). As such, he is divine nourishment for us. When we receive the Holy Eucharist, we receive the divine Jesus in Person under the form of bread. It is his way of nourishing us with the divine substance that is his.

The soul is of such high spiritual quality and is endowed with such dignity as the image of God, nothing less than God himself can be its food. The life we received at baptism is so precious that no earthly food is capable of nourishing it – only the glorified flesh of Jesus can do so.

We normally become what we eat. This heavenly Bread communicates to us its own divine qualities so that we can become alive with God's own holiness. He gradually transforms us into himself. He transmits his own love for the Father and for others to us so we too can become love.

What wonders take place through the Eucharist! Divine life is being poured into our open hearts through the Holy Eucharist, which is nothing less than the divine Jesus himself.

Father Conley Bertrand



To Whom Shall We Go? The Turning Point of Faith

“Jesus said to them, ‘Amen, amen I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you’” (John 6:53).

“Many of Jesus’ disciples who were listening said, ‘This saying is hard; who can accept it?’” The “disciples” were the outer band of Jesus’ followers who had been continually with him for some time. They were a group distinct from the Apostles.

The “Jews” represent unbelievers in general, while the “disciples” are the still uncommitted followers of Jesus. The mass of disciples take offense at his words and his claims just like the Jews in John 6:41 and 52. They find Jesus’ words “hard”, because to them they seem difficult, intolerable, unacceptable to faith. They cannot and will not “hear” or inwardly accept them.

Jesus requires his disciples to accept his words, because it is he who has spoken to them. That is what the supernatural act of faith involves: that act whereby, inspired and assisted by the grace of God, we believe that the things which he has revealed are true – not because we understand them – but because of the authority of God himself who reveals them and who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

The disciples were thinking on a natural level. They thought in terms of cannibalism. No wonder they found Jesus’ statement so difficult to accept; “Surely,” they must have thought, “he must be going crazy!” But Jesus had proved himself to be a sane and truthful Person; his many miracles demonstrated his closeness to God. They needed to trust him and put their faith in his Person even if they did not understand him. Those who accepted Jesus’ word and remained with him, came to understand how he would give them his flesh to eat and blood to drink at the Last Supper. He changed the bread and wine into his Body and Blood. He anticipated his suffering, death, and resurrection and told his Apostles to “do this in memory of me” (Lk 22:19). In this way, they would continue to “proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes” (1 Cor 11:26). Jesus wanted his saving sacrificial death to be made present among his followers to sanctify them. And at the same time, he provided a way for them to communicate with him by receiving the fruit of his sacrifice: his glorified Body and Blood. He took the bread, broken to show his death, and the wine, poured out to show the shedding of his blood, and transformed them into his own Body and Blood. He solved the mystery of how his disciples would come to eat and drink him.

Belief in Jesus and his teaching about receiving his Body and Blood is a supernatural matter. Only grace can enable us to believe this. “Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me” (Jn 6:45).

God speaks to our hearts. If we listen and follow his inspirations, he will “draw” us to Jesus (Jn 6:44).

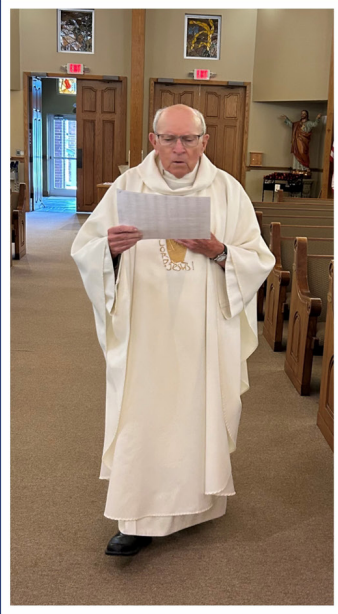
We will come to know him personally and believe in him. We readily accept, with joy, his self-gift to us in the form of bread and wine. We believe in his real presence in the Eucharistic species. Unbelief indicates a refusal to comply with the promptings of grace given by the Father. We must pray for the grace to respond to God’s loving call. It is a gift beckoning us to come to Jesus in faith.

The inner circle of Jesus’ followers did remain faithful. Simon Peter expressed his loyalty and deep faith in Jesus: “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God”.

The Apostles’ formation by Jesus in a close-knit community formed and enlightened them so that they were able to pass the test of faith. They believed in the person of Jesus because they knew him intimately and could accept whatever he said. They had the advantage of those who belong to a small faith community like *Come, Lord Jesus!* – influenced by divine grace upon their souls.



Anniversary Mass St. Augustine Basile, LA



“To the Ends of the Earth” : Rediscovering the Call to Witness



One of your weekly send-offs is the very words of Jesus, “*You are to be my witnesses – even to the ends of the earth*” (Acts 1:8) Speaking his words is impressive, “*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).

While our acts of service are fruitful and necessary, the fullness of discipleship couples actions with words that introduce others to Jesus. Witnessing through your way of life is not enough! “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone. 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).

Please, take note. Do not take the minimal for granted. Challenge your group each week to go beyond giving good example. Reread Volume I pp 32-34, Reports on the Apostolate. Try out these suggestions. For example, did anyone in your group attempt to write out an impressive verse that struck them during their meeting and place it in a prominent place in the kitchen or in your office for all to see? What comments are being made? Create a conversation about it. Report these to your group. Find new ways to announce Christ. Devise various ways to share the Word. 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.

Father Conley Bertrand

Welcome to Come, Lord Jesus!

New Members

Abbeville, LA : Philomena Hatch, Ali Hebert

Coteau, LA: Amanda Durke

Delcambre, LA: Janette Romero

Duson, LA: Bonnie Logan, Jerome Darter

Grand Coteau, LA: Jeanette Dupré

Lafayette, LA: Leslie Patout, Angela Richard,
Michael LeBlanc

Leonville, LA: Tricia Noel

Milton, LA: Dana Burley, Leslie Breaux,
Linda A. Bergeron, Jana L. Bergeron, Allison McAtee

Pierre Part, LA: Joyce Guillot

Terrytown, LA: Janice Batiste

Ville Platte, LA: Jeannette D. Tate

Upcoming Events

June 13 Anniversary Mass / Lafayette Area Groups
St. Jules / Lafayette / 10:00

June 20 Anniversary Mass / Church Point Area Groups
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart/ Church Point /10:00

July 25 Diocesan & Area Coordinators' Mass / Meeting / Lunch
Our Lady of Fatima/ Lafayette /10:00

August 1 Anniversary Mass / Broussard Area Groups
Sacred Heart of Jesus / Broussard /10:00

August 29 Anniversary Mass/ Cecilia Area Groups
St. Joseph Catholic Church/ Cecilia /10:00

September 12 Anniversary Mass/ Diocese of Baton Rouge
St. Aloysius/ Baton Rouge / TBA

September 26 Leaders' Seminar/ Our Lady of Fatima
Lafayette / 10:00

October 14 Anniversary Mass/ Archdiocese of New Orleans
St. Francis of Assisi
New Orleans / 10:00

April 2026

Gift Bags Received

Thank you for your generosity!

Abbeville	Grand Prairie	Morse
Algiers	Gretna	New Iberia
Baton Rouge	Harvey	New Orleans
Bayou Vista	Henderson	Opelousas
Bell City	Houma	Paulina
Breaux Bridge	Jeanerette	Pierre Part
Broussard	Jefferson	Prairie Ronde
Buda TX	Jennings	Ragley
Cankton	Kenner	Rayne
Carencro	Kinder	Richard
Carlyss	Krotz Springs	Scott
Centerville	Lacombe	Slidell
Church Point	Lafayette	Terrytown
Coteau	Lake Charles	Thibodaux
Delcambre	Lawtell	Vidrine
DeRidder	Leonville	Ville Platte
Dry Creek	Lufkin TX	Westwego
Duson	Marrero	Youngsville
Erath	Maurice	
Eunice	Metairie	
Fenton	Milton	
Forked Island	Mire	
Fritch TX	Morgan City	



***Diocesan and Area Coordinators'
Annual Mass, Meeting and
Luncheon
July 25
Our Lady of Fatima
10:00***

***Come, Lord Jesus! Annual
Leaders' Seminar
September 26
Our Lady of Fatima
10:00 (with Mass at noon).***

Condolences

APRIL 23 - MAY 19, 2026
Memorial Burse Donations

- To member Malinda Yoshida of Centerville, LA on the death of her brother, Charles Luke.
- To member Ann Vo of Terrytown, LA on the death of her mother, Ella Jean Haywood.
- To member Rhonda Deshotel of Grand Prairie, LA on the death of her father, Marcus Reviere.
- To member Fonda Launey of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her father, Woodrow Morein.
- To member Mark Gaudet of Charenton, LA on the death of his sister, Jennifer Gaudet Scelfo.
- To member Laura Zuniga of Franklin, LA on the death of her brother, Charles Luke.
- To member Cora Bouton of Lafayette, LA on the death of her husband, Earl Bouton
- To member Dot Thibodeaux of Youngsville, LA on the death of her husband, Aunteal Thibodeaux (who was also the father of member Sonya Thibodeaux).
- To member Debbie Theriot from Lake Charles, LA on the death of her husband, Jude Theriot.

Odessa Ryes Anthony
William "Tom" Burnett III
Adelaide Dupre
Barbara Jane Hardy
Frank LeBouef
Brenda Mallett
Alice Parks
Karen Losavio Puckett
Jennifer Gaudet Scelfo

Earl Bouton
Doyle Michael Chambers
Josephina Galon
Arthur Humphrey
Charles Luke
Woodrow Morein
Geoffrey Loyd Price
Marcus Reviere
Aunteal Thibodeaux



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Come, Lord Jesus!
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