



COME, LORD JESUS!

NEWSLETTER
August 2026 Vol CXVII No 132

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*



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

August 2
18th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

August 9
19th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

August 16
20th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

August 23
21st Sunday
in Ordinary Time

August 30
22nd Sunday
in Ordinary Time

The Ultimate Act of Love: Sharing the Gospel

We are evangelizing for Jesus Christ, Son of God, King of kings and Lord of lords. He commands us: *"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel..."* (Mk 16:15). So many people, even our Catholics, do not really know Jesus. They have only a surface knowledge of Him. They have not yet penetrated into the mystery of His Person. They do not spend enough time seeking Him in prayer and in His word. That is how *Come, Lord Jesus!* can assist them. Then they would come to realize Jesus' words, *"Whoever has seen me has seen the Father...I am in the Father and the Father is in me"* (Jn 14:9,11). Prayer and the Word, Eucharist and Fellowship would lead them to encounter Jesus' Divinity. They would then be drawn to love Him deeply and surrender themselves to Him – just as you have done – through a dedicated life of self-gift, and works of love.

That is why we must boldly reach out for *Come, Lord Jesus!*. It is a valuable instrument of God to immerse people more completely into His kingdom, and make them experience it in its full intensity, as the presence of God in and among us. It is not a question of *Come, Lord Jesus!* for its own sake, but for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Come, Lord Jesus! imposes a holy discipline on its members to set time aside to study and meditate on the word of God in preparation for the meeting. Consequently, full of their subject, they are motivated to faithfully participate in the weekly meetings. Such discipline eventually leads them into spirit dominant lives, enabling the gifts of the Holy Spirit to become operative. It is the activity of these gifts, especially those of wisdom and understanding, which enables us to know Jesus personally and enrapture our hearts with love for Him. That is why we must reach out vigorously for *Come, Lord Jesus!*: To make Jesus known in the fullness of His beauty and splendor as Son of God-made-man.

There is an urgency here! All around us we see a restless and disoriented society, separated from God and the subsequent misery and evil resulting from the loss of God. Indeed, St. John tells us *"the whole world is under the power of the evil one"* (1 Jn 5:19). This desperate situation compels us to expend our energies to rescue those precious people for whom Jesus gave his life's blood. One by one we must bring them into the saving fellowship of a *Come, Lord Jesus!* community.

Father Conley Bertrand



Lord Jesus, we beg you to raise up a multitude of new Come, Lord Jesus! communities for the advancement of your kingdom and the glory of the blessed Trinity.

Growing God's Kingdom

The Power of Prayer

Part of that reaching out includes prayer. Jesus said, *"Without me you can do nothing"* (Jn 15:5) That is why we are asking you today to commit yourselves to pray the Daily Prayer for *Come, Lord Jesus!* each and every day, and ask the members of your group to do the same. Jesus also said, *"...if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"* (Mt 18: 19-20). If the prayer of two or three is so efficacious, what will happen when the whole *Come, Lord Jesus!* community of over 3,000 adults pray for the success of our growth? Jesus promised, *"Ask and it will be given to you"* (Mt 7:7).

What a marvelous explosion of power to open people's hearts to *Come, Lord Jesus!* will occur, when we all unite in prayer for the successful spread of our program. Prayer has the power to change people's hearts. We are embattled against the forces of evil. It is only God who can turn hearts of our people to live a more serious religious life and open their hearts to the spiritual riches *Come, Lord Jesus!* can awaken in them. There is great value in united effort in prayer. With the support of each other, we can maintain continuous prayer, so that God will bless and support our efforts in reaching out for *Come, Lord Jesus!* and overcome the obstacles that prevent people from giving themselves wholly to Jesus and His kingdom.

The Power of Sacrifice

Prayer accompanied by sacrifice is especially efficacious. St. Paul helps us to understand how we can unite sacrifice to our prayer for *Come, Lord Jesus!* and the Kingdom of God. He exhorts us in these words: *"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship"* (Rom 12:1). A sacrifice is a victim or thing that is set apart for God. It is

totally dedicated to him. In the case of a victim, it is slaughtered and consumed by fire. In this way it is a burnt offering given over to God. It is something precious and valuable, wholly given over to God as a gift. We become living sacrifices by dedicating ourselves entirely to God's service. We express this service to God through our bodies by good works toward our neighbor. We abstain from all forms of evil and sin. We devote ourselves to God by carrying out our duties of state in obedience to His will. We master our bodies and keep them ready and alert for service by holy discipline. We practice holy temperance in dealing with food, drink, leisure and recreation. We practice fortitude by applying ourselves to hard work. We guard our five senses from self-indulgence. We avoid near occasions of sin. Every moment of our lives is dedicated to God. In this way we *"offer [our] bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God"*. The total consecration of our lives in this way is spiritual worship. God is the center of our life. Everything we do is for Him. Our lives are a living sacrifice for Him. There is nothing left of the selfish self.

We can easily see, then, that prayer coming from such a sacrificial and pure heart is particularly pleasing and powerful before God. Such a person lives in the presence of God (Mt 5:8). We pray that each of us will become such an intercessor for the *Come, Lord Jesus!* program for new members and groups to further the Kingdom of God.

What a marvelous opportunity this outreach for *Come, Lord Jesus!* and evangelizing for the Kingdom of God provides us. *"Why do you stand here idle all day? You too go into my vineyard and work"* (Mt 20:6-7). In your own way, you could be another St. Paul.

Father Conley Bertrand



Annual 2026 Come, Lord Jesus! Coordinators' Meeting



A New Season Begins!

Diocesan and Area Coordinators from across the state gathered on Saturday, July 25th at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Lafayette for a day of Mass, spiritual renewal, lunch and a business meeting. During the gathering, Father Bertrand unveiled his newest book, “Breath of Life : The Sanctifying Power of God’s Word in Heart to Heart Prayer” leading the group to contemplative and meditative prayer.

Modeling Jesus’ servant’s heart, Coordinators remain deeply dedicated to serving their communities by mentoring leaders, organizing spiritual gatherings and Anniversary Masses as well as participating in ongoing efforts for the expansion of *Come, Lord Jesus!* in their diocese. We thank God for you!



Come, Lord Jesus! Outreach

The mission to expand Come, Lord Jesus! is a spiritual undertaking that mirrors the practices of the early Church. Just as the first disciples were sent out to proclaim the Good News, our Outreach Teams are dedicated to the spread of the Kingdom by introducing the Come, Lord Jesus! program to congregations of each diocese in fulfillment of the apostolic command of our Lord who urges us to share with others the richness of faith (Mt 28:18-20).

Is God calling you into Come, Lord Jesus! Outreach? Your unique talents and charisms are vital to this mission! Please consider joining a team in your diocese and indicating where you'd like to share your gifts:

- **Campaign Leadership:** To coordinate parish or diocesan efforts, manage group expansion, and oversee territory growth.
- **New Group Formation:** Temporarily lead new groups and provide initial formation for emerging leaders.
- **Parish Representation (CPR):** Promote *CLJ!* in your local parish. Sponsor the Advent or Lenten Journey.
- **Meeting with Priests:** Assist with clergy, scheduling campaigns and training leaders for parish-wide initiatives.
- **Public Relations & Witnessing:** Promote the program through personal testimony, marketing strategies, and social media.
- **Introduction Night Support:** Help set up and run informational events, manage sign-ins, and distribute literature.
- **Prayer Warrior:** Dedicate yourself to daily intercessory prayer, Holy Hours, and sacrifices for the mission.
- **Hospitality & Mentorship:** Greet members at functions, host small gatherings, and offer guidance to new groups.

Contact Marianne Hebert, Outreach Administrator at 337-962-3379.

Collectively, we can lead congregations into His image and likeness as we prepare for our Coming King!



Abbeville, LA: Connie Suire
Algiers, LA: Adrienne Jack
Broussard, LA: Diann M. Foster, Suzanne Hidalgo
Eunice, LA: Catherine Thibodeaux
Gretna, LA: Terri Rushing, Dolores Danos
Harvey, LA: Bonnie Charleville
Lafayette, LA: Diane Kincel
Milton, LA: Donna Stelly, Dawn Vedros
Morgan City, LA: Geri Bourgeois
New Iberia LA: Ann Lemaire
Sulphur, LA: Sheila Granger
Youngsville, LA: Bridget Smith

*Welcome New
 Come, Lord Jesus
 Groups*

Baldwin, LA : Mark J. Gaudet - **Leader**
 Kindra McLean, Mark McLean, Nicole B. Mire,
 Scott Mire, Trey Clement, Stephanie R. Clement
 Mark Rochelle, Scott Pellerin
Lake Charles, LA : Elliot Champagne - **Leader**
 Lloyd Kelley, Lemar Vincent, Keith DuRousseau
Marrero, LA : Lucy Stevenson - **Leader**
 Charlotte Bordelon, Stacey Savoy, Dolores Modenbach,
 Margie Camardelle, Elaine Lesnak, Avella Lesnak,
 Diane S. Barrileaux, Virgie Davis
Algiers, LA : Pam Austin- **Leader**
 Julie Azzanari, Mark Azzanari, C.C. Merritt, Art Patron,
 Pam Patron, Pamela Waguespack, Paul Waguespack,
 Jackie Teague
Algiers, LA : David Garcia - **Leader**
 Denise Castellanos, April Frisch, Cayla Garcia, Pat Jones,
 Chris LaRosa, Heidi Rink, Tina Lefonte
Algiers, LA : Jerry Landry - **Leader**
 Carol Hoadley, Vera Mano, Brenda Landry, Joyce Devore,
 Maureen Capdeville, Eileen Farley



June 2026 Gift Bags Received

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Abbeville	Fenton	Morgan City
Baker	Forked Island	Morse
Baton Rouge	Grand Prairie	New Iberia
Bayou Vista	Gretna	New Orleans
Bell City	Harvey	Opelousas
Bossier City	Henderson	Parks
Breaux Bridge	Houma	Paulina
Broussard	Jeanerette	Pierre Part
Buda TX	Jefferson	Plaisance
Cankton	Jennings	Ragley
Carencro	Judice	Rayne
Carlyss	Kenner	Richard
Cecilia	Kinder	Schriever
Centerville	Krotz Springs	Scott
Charenton	Lacombe	Slidell
Church Point	Lafayette	St. Amant
Coteau	Lake Charles	Sugartown
Delcambre	Leesville	Terrytown
DeRidder	Loreauville	Thibodaux
Duson	Lufkin TX	Vidrine
Erath	Maurice	Ville Platte
Esther	Metairie	Washington
Eunice	Milton	Westwego
	Mire	Youngsville

JUNE 23 - JULY 27, 2026 Memorial Burse Donations *In memory of:*

No eye has seen
 no ear has heard
 and no mind has
IMAGINED
 what *God*
 has prepared
 for those who
Love Him
 1 Corinthians 2:9

Woodie Arnaud
 Sterling Broussard, Sr.
 Randal Coleman
 Barbara D. Colligan
 Roy Bernard Crews III
 Carol Gainey
 Bette A. Guidry
 Angela H. Landry
 Jeanette Larson
 Katherine "Kate" Motty Logan
 Dion Charles Marshall Sims-Bey
 Archille Vidrine, Jr.
 Earl Weber

Condolences



To Area Coordinator and Leader Mona Izzo of Lafayette, LA on the death of her mother, Bette A. Guidry.

To the *CLJ!* members in Henderson, LA on the death of their member, Jeanette Eddy.

To leader Connie Buller and members Barbara Bayard and Patrice Hemmi of Ville Platte, LA on the death of their mother, Barbara D. Colligan.

To member Leah Hollier of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her father, Archille Vidrine, Jr.

To co-leader Janice Soileau of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her brother, Billy Brignac.

To Area Coordinator and leader Monique McLallen of Sulphur, LA on the death of her mother, Rita Reulet.

To member Rebecca Allain of Jeanerette, LA on the death of her sister, Kate Motty Logan.

To member Janice Plaisance of Youngsville, LA on the death of her sister, Carol Gainey.

To the members of "Called to be Holy" group in Esther, LA on the death of their member, Angela H. Landry.

To member Marie Baumann of New Orleans, LA on the death of her husband, Ray Baumann.

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

Come, Lord Jesus!
1804 West University
Lafayette, LA 70506-2544