



These negative experiences result in emotions of despair, discouragement and anger. However, it is a comfort to know that Jesus understands our struggles because he himself experienced all of these feelings during his lifetime. As the letter to the Hebrews says, "We have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrew 4:15b). We have these experiences as tests of character and throughout our

growth into our spirituality. We can find comfort in knowing that even Jesus asked "Lord please take this cup away from me" (Mark 14: 36). Knowing that Jesus has experienced all of these negative experiences also lets us know that we too can endure these trials.

People cursed and mocked Jesus though he is the only perfect human to grace this earth. People tortured Jesus though he always helped those who cursed and mocked him. Jesus experienced betrayal and false accusations made upon him. Jesus also had to experience insecurities. He had to wonder why he was chosen by God to make such a tremendous sacrifice. Despite this he continued doing the work of his Father. God sent us

Jesus to not only save us but also to send a genuine adviser who has experienced our struggles firsthand. We must continue to do the work of our Lord just as Jesus did because we know we have Jesus to help us during our tests.

During this **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**, we ask parishioners to celebrate by wearing the following colors throughout the month of February: Black: represent the people, Red: represents the blood shed,—Green: represents life, or Yellow, Gold or White represents the light

# St. Joseph Catholic Church (Maysville)

1703 Dublin Street • Mobile AL 36605

Staffed by the Josephites and Dedicated Lay People of St. Joseph Parish





JESUS UNDERSTANDS OUR STRUGGLES By Leona Rudolph



"Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested" (Hebrews 2: 18)

As we go throughout life we are confronted with negative experiences. Some negative experiences can involve interactions with other people such as co-workers, neighbors, friends and strangers. Our co-workers may try to undermine our hard work.

Our neighbors may not be willing to help us. Our friends may abandon us and strangers may disrespect us.

Other negative experiences can involve personal battles we have within ourselves such as insecurities, disappointments, and failures. We may have insecurities about our physical appearance, socioeconomic status or personality. We may have disappointments about our status in life and failed relationships. We may also stay consumed with the failures of our past.



## <u>MINISTRIES</u>

Altar ServersBrandon Barnes
Altar SocietyPatricia Reed
BereavementPamela Barnes
Bible StudyRuth McKitric
Bldg. & Grounds MgrWalter Battles
Choir DirectorLillie Key
Finance Chair Robert Pettaway
Hospitality & UshersSharon Malone
Legion of MaryHilda Carroway
LiturgicalRuth Pettaway
Liturgical DancersYvette Smith
Male Choir William Frazier
Media & Public RelationsGreg Cyprian
Parish CouncilThomas Whittaker
RCIADeacon Ronnie Hathorne
Religious Education DirTiffany J. Barnes
St Joseph School AlumniShawn Bivens
StewardshipKeith Brewer
Technology/ITMichael Smith
Youth Activities & Family LifeTara Evans

#### MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

•TODAY – FEBRUARY 2	
Lectors	Jessica Stevenson
	Patrick Hawthorne
Extraordinary Ministers	of the Eucharist
	Leona & Diona Rudolph
Altar Servers	Brandon,, Ashley, Azure
Family Gift Bearer	St. Joseph 's Future
• February 9	
Lectors	Pam Barnes
	Pavia Dewberry

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist ......Keith & Claudia Brewer Altar Servers.....Kai, Keari B. Kiara Family Gift Bearers......Malone-Dewberry Family

#### FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

#### BIRTHDAYS

01	Patrick Hawthorne
02	Josephine Betton
03	Windola Thompson
05	Ireola Frazier
05	Mattie Medlock
05	Ernest Diamond
06	Shawn Bivens
06	Laurence Hall
07	Jacqueline Rice
08	Kimara Evans
10	John Austin
11	Charles Mitchell
14	Katie Peters
16	Suzan Wilder
21	Jessica Stevenson
21	Walter Frazier
21	Brian Davis
22	Traveis Evans
26	Selena Thomas

Weekly Collection – \$2,062.00 (January 26, 2014)

Attendance - 118

# HAND OVER YOUR LIFE TO GOD

#### **Theresa Wilson Favors**



It comes a time and perhaps not just one time in your life when each of us reaches the conclusion that...it is time to hand over our lives to God. There's no choice in the matter when a mother delivers a child; praying, hoping and pray-

ing some more that all will go well with the delivery and baby child will grow up healthy, safe, strong and wise. There's no choice in the matter, so why not knock on God's door and hand your life over to God. God stands at the door, waiting for you to recognize His great faithfulness, presence and power. God welcomes you into the high altar of grace, deliverance and the "blessed assurance" that God can make a way out of no way. St. Teresa of Avila once said, "You pay God a compliment by asking great things from God". At the moment of Sojourner Truth's conversion, being touched by god's omnipotent presence while going through a struggle, her words were, "God, I did no know you were so BIG!" Trust and believe that our "Big GOD" hears your voice when you stand on the other side of the door with fear in your heart and adversity chancing you down. No disease, no evil, no financial breakdown can bring you down when god stands in the gap for You! Don't be afraid to trust an unknown future to our known BIG GOD. Jesus said... "Don't let you hearts be troubled. Trust in god and trust in me (John 14:1). This gives great confidence to those who are scared for their lives and enables them to turn the page of adversity and commence a new chapter of life-changing experiences with our BIG GOD. Therefore, hand over your life to God, for God is able.

(Part 1 of 4, throughout BLACK HISTORY MONTH)

#### Help me help you to understand and "Know Your Faith"

Among our church family are: cradle Catholics, converts and people who



came into the church somewhere in between. You may have been challenged by Protestants about your faith, and didn't know quite how to answer. You may have questions or thoughts yourself about your faith, what the Catholic church teaches. You may have questions about what takes place during Mass, well

now you have the opportunity to get a better understanding of your faith. You may submit your questions to your Pastor, Fr. Sohe by phone (471-3761), text (202-340-1847), email (sohessr@yahoo.co.uk) or simply writing it on paper and giving it to him. What an opportunity for all of us to truly understand and know our faith!

## **THOUGHTS & REMINDERS**

### Keep In Prayer Our...

Ill & Homebound ParishionersMrs. Delores IsomMrs. Reola JuzangMrs. Theresa GulleyMr. James ThomasMs. Josephine BettonMrs. Jean CarletonMr. & Mrs. Allen HickmanLittle Christen Roberson

(Please sign the Healing Prayer Book to list ill and/or homebound parishioners)

#### Sacrament of Matrimony

Any parishioner seeking marriage must contact the Pastor at least six (6) months prior to the desired wedding date.

#### Baptism

Parents desiring baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the pastor at least two weeks in advance to arrange for the required preparation class for parents and godparents.

#### Mass of Christian Burial

When a funeral is to be celebrated, please contact the Pastor before contacting the funeral home. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

Fourth	READINGS FOR MASS Fourth Week in Ordinary Time February 2—February 9		
MON	First Reading: 2Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13		
03	Gospel: Mark 5:1-20		
TUE 04	First Reading: 2Samuel 18:9-10, 14B, 24-25A, 30- 19:3 Gospel: Mark 5:21-43		
WED	First Reading: 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17		
05	Gospel: Mark 6:1-6		
THU	First Reading: Kings 2:1-4, 10-12		
06	Gospel: Mark 6: 7-13		
FRI	First Reading: Sirach 47:2-11		
07	Gospel: Mark 6:14-29		
SAT	First Reading: 1Kings 3:4-13		
08	Gospel: Mark 6:30-34		
SUN 09	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10 Second Reading: 1Corinthians 2:1-5 Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16		

# **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONGRATULATIONS**—To January's 50/50 winners, Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Carroway, their grand prize was \$100.50, not bad for a \$4.00 investment.

**FREE FRESH FISH!!!** —this Thursday February 6, in the church parking area.

Lunch Is Served! This Friday, February 7, 2014. Lunch plates will be available for pick-up or delivery from 11AM at a cost of \$8 at the Parish Hall. The menu will include Fish, green beans, potato salad, macaroni & cheese, dessert and Bread. FREE DELIVERY for orders of five (5) or more plates. Delivery areas include Maysville, Down- the-Bay, Camp Ground and Cedar Point Road. For deliveries, please call Patricia Reed at 251-402-7132.

**CASINO BUS TRIP**—The Knights & Ladies of St. Peter Claver Council/Court 210, will sponsor their monthly trip to The Imperial Palace Casino in Biloxi, MS. Donations are 2 for \$20 or \$15.00 each. Grab a buddy, save a few bucks and enjoy the afternoon!



MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE—Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church Youth Group is sponsoring their 1st

Annual Mardi Gras Masquerade for High School and Middle School Youth. Date: Saturday, February 8, 2014 in the School Cafeteria, from 8:00—11:00 p.m. Attire: Semi Formal, Cost : \$15.00 per person. See bulletin board for more info!

Don't forget your masks and umbrellas!!!

**ODETTE BALASCO CHEER BASKET** - the Media/ Public Relations Committee is selling tickets for a cheer basket to celebrate Mardi Gras! Tickets are \$1.00 each, the drawing will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2014. Contents of basket worth \$100.00, tickets available from any committee member. Proceeds will be used to purchase the Servant's Keeper software for parish data.

**MOST PURE HEART OF MARY – BINGO**, every Friday night. Doors open at 6:00 pm., games begin at 7:00 pm. Help save our school!

**PRAYER INTENTION CARDS**— are now located in the Vestibule of the church.

Today is the "NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE AFRICAN-AMERCAN FAMILY "