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Steppin' Out
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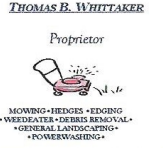


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PASTORAL STAFF
 Rev. Stephen Remilekun Sohe, S.S.J.Pastor
 Rev. Mr. Ronnie A. Hathorne.....Deacon
 The Josephites & Dedicated Lay People.....Staff

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MASS SCHEDULE
 Saturday Vigil4:30 PM
 Sunday Mass9:30 AM
 Tuesday5:30 PM
 Wednesday – Saturday7:45 AM
 Holy Days Of Obligation6:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
 Sunday8:45 – 9:15 AM
 (or by appointment)

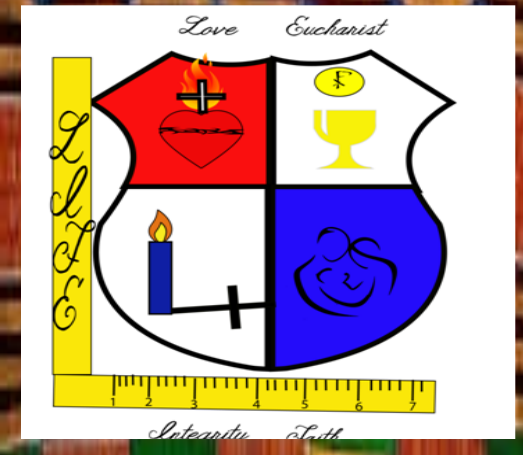
THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS
 SundayFor the People of the Parish
 Tuesday.....Sis. Irene Lengerich, CSA
 Thursday.....James & Audrey Frazier

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 CCD ClassesAfter Sunday Mass
 Bible Study -Monday.....5:00–6:00 PM
 RCIA Classes -Thursday6:00–7:00 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL
 Friday.....6:00 PM

LEGION OF MARY
 Thursday8:30 AM

Media & Public Relations Committee:
 Greg Cyprian.....President
 Thomas Whittaker Anita Lott
 Tiffany J Barnes Marva Carter
 Ruth Pettaway Hilda Carroway
 Ruth McKitric



St. Joseph Catholic Church (Maysville)
 1703 Dublin Street • Mobile AL 36605
 Staffed by the Josephites and Dedicated Lay People of St. Joseph Parish

Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time
February 23, 2014

REFLECTIONS
Reflections on Mardi Gras: Purple, Green and Gold
 Debra Butler



Corinthians 3:16- 23

We are in the midst of Mardi Gras and the season's colors of purple, green and gold are everywhere. Most of us have, at the very least, a Mardi Gras sweatshirt, a collection of beads, decorations on the front door and plans to attend parties and balls. *Laissez les bon temps rouler!*

According to New Orleans legend, King Rex selected the colors in 1872 in honor of the visiting royal naval officer, Russian Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich Romanoff. Traditionally, the royal color purple represented justice, rich green represented faith, and brilliant gold was the symbol for power.

However, the real facts verify that Romanov's visit was actually sponsored by the city's business community to boost the New Orleans economy after the civil war. It seems as though Grand Duke Romanov's selection of colors may not have been so noble. The combination of green, gold and purple was derived from a collection of rum- (or vodka) based "medicinal beverages" made from limes, lemons and berries (grenadine) that the Royal navy used to prevent scurvy in its crews.

In reality, the original Russian intent and the New Orleans press release served very different purposes.

Purple, green and gold are beautiful colors---strong and pervasive symbols. Like all symbols, they should have value and meaning to the person who wears them.

So how do we translate the symbols of Mardi Gras into positive actions that we can use in everyday life? As members of the community of Christ, we do not retreat from the world, but we live actively and with strength in the world as confirmation of God's presence.

Paul writes that the wisdom of the world is foolishness in the eyes of God. God catches the wise in their own ruses...The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

So, when we wear purple, how do we live justice? Do we behave and treat other people in a manner that is just, equal and fair? Do we promote justice only when it's convenient, or we do stand with courage when the rights of others are violated?

When we wear gold, how do we live power? Power is the ability to control people by force or influence, overt or subtle, manifest negatively through obsession with money, drugs, sex, or ego. Do we use our power positively to overcome life's challenges and to lift others with compassion?

When we wear green, how do we live faith? Do we act with confidence in God's grace and love within us? Is our faith strong and active? Do we live knowing that we are the temple of God, and that the Light lives in us for all the world to see?

Purple, gold and green are beautiful colors---strong and pervasive symbols. As we live just, powerful and faith-filled lives, we are more than symbols. We are God's Light for all seasons. Happy Mardi Gras!

Laissez les bon temps rouler!

MINISTRIES

Altar Servers.....Brandon Barnes
 Altar Society.....Patricia Reed
 Bereavement.....Pamela Barnes
 Bible Study.....Ruth McKittrick
 Bldg. & Grounds Mgr.Walter Battles
 Choir Director.....Lillie Key
 Finance Chair.....Robert Pettaway
 Hospitality & Ushers.....Sharon Malone
 Legion of Mary.....Hilda Carroway
 Liturgical.....Ruth Pettaway
 Liturgical Dancers.....Yvette Smith
 Male Choir.....William Frazier
 Media & Public Relations.....Greg Cyprian
 Parish Council.....Thomas Whittaker
 RCIA.....Deacon Ronnie Hathorne
 Religious Education Dir.....Tiffany J. Barnes
 St Joseph School Alumni.....Shawn Bivens
 Stewardship.....Keith Brewer
 Technology/IT.....Michael Smith
 Youth Activities & Family Life.....Tara Evans

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

•TODAY – FEBRUARY 23
 Lectors.....Tiffany Malone
 Barbara Mitchell
 Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
 Robert & Ruth Pettaway
 Altar Servers.....Brandon, Matthew, Pat
 Family Gift Bearers.....Barnes family, Rick
 Balasco, Shawn Bivens, Greg Cyprian

March 2
 Lectors..... Thomas Smith
 Keari Barranco

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
 Leona & Diona Rudolph
 Altar Servers.....Kai, Ashley, Azure
 Family Gift Bearers.....St. Joseph 's Future

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

01.....Patrick Hawthorne
 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.....Travis Evans
 26.....Selena Thomas

Weekly Collection – \$3,645.00
 (February 16 2014)

Attendance - 114
Communicants—69
Blessings—13

HAND OVER YOUR LIFE TO GOD

Theresa Wilson Favors



So Brothers and Sisters, as we celebrate this twenty fifth anniversary of African American and African Catholic Family- hood, let's hand over our lives and our families to God. Let's stand together in our families, stirring the "pot of prayer" in our kitchens, sharing and living the Word of God in our living rooms and resting in the arms of our God in our bedrooms . For God's arms are not too short to reach us and God's ears are not deaf to our every call and plea. Let us seek rest in those places from the same God that St. Augustine called on, whispering the name of Jesus on our knees before we sleep and as we rise for "we are restless until we rest in God." This is how we "hand over our lives to God". It is the story of the saints of old and is the essence of life for the saints in waiting. Let us this day "hand over our lives to God, before some new entanglement tries to hold us bond- age. Let's hand ourselves over to God now, without delay for our God is watching and waiting to do those BIG things that only GOD can do. To God be the Glory! (Part 4 of 4, during Black History Month)

PARISH ACTIVITIES

We are gearing up for our "INAUGURAL ST. JOSEPH FEAST DAY WEEKEND", March 22-23, 2014. On Saturday, there will be a picnic on the church grounds for parishioners and their families, on Sunday we will honor 13 of our seniors who have diligently given of themselves throughout the years here at St. Joseph. Our Chief Concelebrant of the Mass will be the Superior General of the Josephites, Fr. William Norvell,SSJ. Mark your calendars now, let's all show-up for this special event in honor of our patron saint, Joseph the spouse of the blessed Virgin Mary. A repast will be held in the parish hall immediately after Mass.

LENTEN MASS SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014.....6 p.m.
Lent begins on this Wednesday. It is a day of universal fast and abstinence in the Church, Ashes will be blessed at Mass and imposed on the forehead of the faithful at each Mass.

Stations of the Cross, Fridays.....6 p.m.

Lenten Recollection.....Tuesday, April 1, 6 p.m.

In memory of.....

The church is providing us with an opportunity to help with the new "Sound System" by making a donation in memory of your loved ones, living or deceased.



THOUGHTS & REMINDERS

Keep In Prayer Our...

Ill & Homebound Parishioners

Mrs. Delores Isom Mrs. Reola Juzang
 Mrs. Theresa Gulley Mr. James Thomas
 Ms. Josephine Betton Mrs. Jean Carleton
 Mr. & Mrs. Allen Hickman Little Kai Lott
 Little 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.

READINGS FOR MASS



Seventh Week in Ordinary Time
February 24 —March 3

| | |
|-----------|--|
| MON 24 | First Reading: James 3:13-18 Gospel: Mark 9:14-29 |
| TUE 25 | First Reading: James 4:1-10 Gospel: Mark 9:30-37 |
| WED 26 | First Reading: James 4:13-17 Gospel: Mark 9:38-40 |
| THU 27 | First Reading: James 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 9:41-50 |
| FRI 28 | First Reading: James 5:9-12 Gospel: Mark 10:1-12 |
| SAT 01 | First Reading: James 5:13-20 Gospel: Mark 10:13-16 |
| SUN 02 | First Reading: Isiah 49:14-15 Second Reading: 1Corinthians 4:1-5 Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34 |

Devotional Candles—\$4.00 each
Mass Intentions—\$10.00

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Today the drawing will be held for the "ODETTE BALASCO CHEER BASKET" just in time wrap up the 2014 Mardi Gras Season! Tickets are \$1.00 each.

The planning committee for the Feast of St. Joseph will meet tomorrow night in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m.

JOE CAIN SUNDAY—Mass is compulsory. However, we respect the tradition of the city on Joe Cain Sunday. In that regard we strongly recommend those who know they will not be present for Mass on Joe Cain Sunday, to please make plans to attend the Saturday Vigil Mass.

MOBILE CARNIVAL MUSEUM TOUR—March 1, 2014 at 1:00 p.m., If you're interested contact Ms. Tiffany Barnes, 251-802-1588

ASHES NEEDED— the church is in need of your palms from last year to burn for Ash Wednesday. You may bring them any time until March 2. Thank You!

St. Joseph Catholic Church (Maysville), is in the process of forming a formal **Bereavement Committee**. The committee will meet with the bereaved family before, during and after the funeral. For more info, please contact Ms. Pam Barnes in person or by phone at 251-604-1425, or 251-639-9169.

FRENCH QUARTER FESTIVAL

The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary Council/ Court 210 are sponsoring their annual trip to The French Quarter Festival in New Orleans on Saturday, April 12, 2014. Buses will depart from St. Joseph at 8:00 a.m. and return at 10 p.m. Donation is \$40.

PART-TIME PARISH SECRETARY NEEDED

Minimum job requirements: must be computer literate, proficient with Microsoft Office/Publisher software, must have excellent interpersonal and verbal skills, must be able to multi-task, and engage with all staff and parishioners. If you are interested in this position please see Fr. Stephen Sohe for an interview.

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.

Who likes to save money? If you answered yes, come learn how to save on the things you use everyday. Beginning March 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. and every second Saturday, come learn couponing step by step. A new topic each month. Classes will be held in the parish hall.