

JESUS CAME TO SAVE US ALL, NOT JUST A CHOSEN

FEW!

God's chosen people in Israel and Judah believed that anyone who was not Jewish was a lesser human being and could not be saved. Associating with Gentiles was forbidden. You were not to do business with them or even pass through their towns. Jesus' frequent association with Gentiles was one of many strikes against him by the time he was led out to the cross, but it was also a fulfillment of prophecy. Nearly eight centuries before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied that the coming of the Messiah would bring about the hope of salvation for all, even for foreigners who join themselves to the Lord. Whereas the Temple at Jerusalem was a house of worship only for the Jewish people, the Church to be founded on Peter would be a house of prayer for all peoples, especially and including the Gentiles and all those who previously did not know the one God or his son, Jesus Christ.

Saul of Tarsus was an unlikely choice to become an Apostle, let alone one who would pursue the conversion primarily of Gentiles. As a Pharisee, Saul would have considered Gentiles to be unclean, and would have condemned them. Now as an Apostle, Paul seeks their conversion. Israel's rejection of Jesus opened the door of new Gospel to the Gentiles, and Paul is anxious for their inclusion in the newly formed Church.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus rewards the Canaanite woman for her great faith by healing her daughter. For a moment, it seems as if Jesus is agreeing with the Pharisees with whom he had been debating earlier in this same chapter of the Gospel. He refers to the Gentiles as "dogs," a common reference used for them by the Pharisees. Jesus does this only to test her faith, and she shows that she believes that even she – a non-Jew, a Canaanite, a Gentile – is intended to share in the scraps that fall from the table of their masters, meaning she believes she, too, can be saved by the King of the Jews.

The people in Jesus' day spent too much time highlighting differences among people and emphasizing the things that divide them. We do the same today. Looking through the new eyes of faith, we are called to see that all are called to faith – to be children of God. Even though we may all be sinners, we can all be saved. Let us try to see one another with the eyes of faith – with the eyes of Jesus.

RCIA.

The Rite of Christian Initiation is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge, in the Roman Catholic Church. The R.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. The Nativity Parish will begin R.C.I.A. classes again in September. Participants will meet weekly for nine months in the Sacred Heart Center. If you are interested, please contact Greg or Penny Payne at 228-365-6348.

BISHOP KIHNEMAN'S HOMILIES

Bishop Kihneman's homilies will be available each week in audio form on Nativity BVM Cathedral's website. To access these homilies, visit nativitybvm.podbean.com

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FAMILY

Mon Aug 21 Jgs 2:11-19, Mt 19:16-22, 1 Thes 2:2b-8, Jn 21:15-17
Tues Aug 22 Jgs 6:11-24a, Mt 19:23-30, Is 9:1-6, Lk 1:26-38
Wed Aug 23 Jgs 9:6-15, Mt 20:1-16
Thur Aug 24 Rv 21:9b-14, Jn 1:45-51
Fri Aug 25 Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22, Mt 22:34-40
Sat Aug 26 Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17, Mt 23:1-12
Sun Aug 27 Is 22:19-23, Rom 11:33-36, Mt 16:13-20



YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND

CONTRIBUTIONS

<i>Regular Collections</i>	\$	8,515.64
<i>Nativity Maintenance</i>	\$	1,244.00
<i>Nativity Elem.</i>	\$	773.00
<i>Capital Improve.</i>	\$	190.00
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$	829.96
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$	11,552.60
CASH NEEDED	\$	14,400.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT

MUSIC MINISTRY "NOTES":

The Music and Fine Arts Ministry would like to "Thank" all the participants of the Children's Choir of Nativity BVM School, their parents, Sr. Mary Jo Mike, Father Dennis Carver and especially Mrs. Nanette Burke for their support and/or participation in permitting our representatives of the Children's Choir to share in the Opening Day School – "Mass of the Holy Spirit" held on Thursday, August 3rd. The Children's Choir shared spiritual and musical beauty that blessed that Mass and all involved and helped bring about the start of a "Great" New School Year! Thank You!

"Building upon the Faith of the past, Enabling the Faith of today, and Empowering the Faith and Hope of tomorrow" – the NEW Music and Fine Arts Ministry of the Cathedral is preparing to begin a New Year, a New Call of Mission, and New Offerings. How can you be a part? Pray for us! Can you sing, or play and instrument? Want to learn &/or share? Children & Youth – this mean you too! Prayerfully consider becoming involved in our programming! Fill free to speak with our Minister of Music – Terry D. Maddox and contact him at Office; 228 967-7230, Cell: 251 406-1454 &/or E-Mail: terrydalemaddox@gmail.com

CCD REGISTRATION!

CCD Registration for all students in Kindergarten through 11th grade in our Inter-Parish CCD program will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 6, from 5:30-6:30 at the Sacred Heart Center behind Nativity Cathedral. Please bring any Sacramental information you may have for your child. The registration fee is \$30.00 for the first child and \$20.00 for any additional children in the family. Our CCD teachers are looking forward to welcoming new and returning students to our program! Please contact Barbara Ziz at 228-918-9778 Thanks!

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Aug 26 4:00 pm 1. Jim Coskey 2. Kathleen Coskey 3. Gerrie Weldon 4. Gayle Mavar 5. Andrea Gilich	Aug 26 4:00 pm Julie Capuana Aug 27 7:00 am Joe Koonce 9:00 am Steve Theobald 11:00 am Don Marie 5:30 pm Jim Shugart	Aug 26 4:00 pm Sabree Sander Sam Burke Aug 27 7:00 am MaKayla Pfarrer Wyeth Stewart Alec Stewart 9:00 am Morgan Newman Rhys Newman Rush Newman 11:00 am Simon Randell Aidan Tarrant Annabelle Tarrant Brennan Tarrant 5:30 pm Samantha Sharplin Breanna Smith Taylor Yasar
Aug 27 7:00 am 1. Marcia Mayfield 2. Colleen Kavanagh 3. Danny Kavanagh 9:00 am 1. Barry Gilmore 2. Judy Trahan 3. Barbara Ziz 4. Nanette Burke 5. Bobby Weaver 11:00 am 1. Johnny Williams 2. Sondra Williams 3. Marianne Sherman 4. John Serman 5. Susan Toche 5:30 pm 1. Roland Creel 2. Tricia Creel 3. Angela Cannon	CANTORS Aug 26 4:00 pm William Endicott Aug 27 9:00 am Nicholas Rodolfich 11:00 am Rocky Greathouse	

MASS INTENTIONS

		6:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Mon	Aug 21	Father Dennis (SI)	Catherine Mitchell
Tue	Aug 22	Betty Lou Callegari/Henry Ryan	Jeanne Harbison
Wed	Aug 23	Prince Baucan	Johnny Sanzari (SI)
Thur	Aug 24	Collins-Sims Fly.	Amanda Fairbank Williams (SI)
Fri	Aug 25	Glenn/Joyce Pisarich	Father Dennis (SI)
Sat	Aug 26	8 Chip Donovan (SI)	4 Brothers Jordan/Gary (SI)
Sun	Aug 27	7 -Patsy Smolcich	9 - F. T. P.
		11 Mrs. Shirley Jackson	5:30 Kevin Guillory

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Father Dennis Carver, Chip Donovan, Candy Widener, John Pat Skrmetti, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Kay Lawson, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Lisa Walker Kirkman, Raymond Egers, Betty Hilton, Walter Blessey, Mary Lancaster, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Richard "Red" White, Jack Joachim, Jr., Eugene LaCaze, , Mabel Viator, George Krebs, Marian Semski and Michael Zorich. and Karen Skremetta.

NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*The big "Mulch Project" has been accomplished and our playgrounds now have a thick layer of rubber mulch to protect our children. The project was a big one...34 tons of mulch...but truly, many hands made light work! Over 100 parents, grandparents, Nativity students, St. Patrick students and community members helped in the two mulch parties. The project was made possible through donations in memory of former student, Joshua Bozeman and Mr. Billy Lyons, through some matured savings bonds and finally, BP Funds. Our thanks to Allison Watts for her coordination of this effort and to Ronnie Simnicht, Brandon and Roy Cloud and Marie Papale for working out the logistics of spreading that amount of mulch!

*We are proud to announce that Nativity School has been selected as one of 12 schools in the state to receive an Arts in Education Grant through the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education. The grant, providing an artist in residence for five days, will allow children to continue to explore a particular aspect of the fine arts and to share what they have learned in some fashion.

*Families new to Nativity BVM School are invited to attend a special spaghetti dinner in their honor on Thursday, August 24th at 6:00 p.m. We are happy to welcome our newest "Saints" and their families to our school.

*The first drawing for the \$3,000 Nativity School Raffle will be held on Thursday, September 7th. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please contact any Nativity School parent, call the school office (432-2269) or purchase through the school's website (www.nativitybvm.org)

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM HURRICANES

Father, may all the elements of nature obey Your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of Your power into praise of Your goodness. Grant this, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 21 – Men’s Club meeting, 6:00 p.m., SHC
 Aug 22 -Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC
 Bingo Mania 5:30 p.m.
 Aug 23 - **Cleaning Team "A"**

MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND

ENTRANCE HYMN	#442
OFFERTORY	#522
COMMUNION	#344
SENDING	#616

BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for Aug 22nd: Richards (Justin & Juliet), Spears (Michael & Emily), Tran (Hai Tran & Kim Nguyen), Watts (Mark & Allison), Wijdenes (Daniel & Kate) , **Abbott (Tina) and Baker (Roy & Jenny) REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENT

The Biloxi diocese has announced plans for a new Formation Class for the Permanent Diaconate to begin in the fall of 2018. Pre-selection information sessions will be conducted from 8:30 until Noon on the following days:

Saturday, Sept. 9th, St. Joseph Parish, Gulfport
 Saturday, Sept. 19th, St. Elizabeth Seton, Ocean Springs.

For interested men, attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory, and your wife is required to attend. For additional information, please call 228-702-2107.