

**LOVE IS THE BASIS OF CHRISTIAN JOY**

What gives joy? The beauties of nature, surely. And children. How Jesus rejoiced when little children climbed onto his lap! And what joy He felt when he healed people.

The deepest source of Jesus' joy, however, was his loving relationship with His heavenly Father. Jesus tells us that wherever He might go, whatever He might do, he remains in His Father's loving embrace.

Jesus wants us to have this joy, too. He tells us this in today's Gospel: *I have told you this that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete.* And he adds: *Remain in my love.* How? Jesus explains at once: *If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love.*

What is the commandment above all that Jesus is talking about? He tells us: *Love one another as I love you.* Jesus goes on to explain the kind of love he is talking about: not just a warm feeling, but an active being. A costly love which gives and goes on giving. *No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.* That is what Jesus did for us. That is what he asks us to do for one another.

In the First Letter of John, we hear this same message. Let us love one another, John says, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. And God revealed this love to us through the complete offering of himself, in the form of his Son, so that we would come to know God, love God and have life in God. Who wouldn't find joy in experiencing that kind of life-giving love?

Saying that love is the basis of Christian joy does not mean that love is easy. Loving others is difficult at times. Not in the sense of how we feel, and whether we "like" them, but because of the selflessness and sacrifice it demands of us. And yet, it is precisely these demands that give love its joy: for the more we give of ourselves in love, the more room we make in ourselves for God who is nothing but love.

To love is to completely will the good of another; to desire nothing other than another's flourishing and growth in virtue. Let us pray for the grace to do and be as God asks of us; and may the Eucharist, the tangible presence of God's unfailing love for us, transform us with that grace.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral will hold their 3rd Annual "Fun in the Son" Vacation Bible School for children that are currently in grades K-5, June 25-29, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. - noon daily. The cost is \$30 and it includes a t-shirt, daily snack & activities. Youth in grades 6-12 and adults are welcome to join us as a volunteer for the week. For more information, or to register your child(ren), please contact Kristy Arguelles by phone (228) 324-9934 or email, nativityyouthministrybiloxi@gmail.com

**FATHER COLTEN VACATION**

Father Colten will be away from the parish on vacation from May 11<sup>th</sup> until May 16<sup>th</sup>. We thank Father Colten for his youthful and dedicated priestly ministry at Nativity Cathedral and wish him a restful and enjoyable vacation.

**SECOND THURSDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Come and spend an hour with the Lord at the Cathedral's monthly Second Thursday Adoration for Vocations on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the Marian Chapel

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

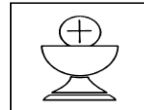
<b>Mon May 07</b>	Acts 16:11-15, Jn 15:26-16:4a
<b>Tues May 08</b>	Acts 16:22-34, Jn 16:5-11
<b>Wed May 09</b>	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1, Jn 16:12-15
<b>Thur May 10</b>	Acts 18:1-8, Jn 16:16-20
<b>Fri May 11</b>	Acts 18:9-18, Jn 16:20-33a
<b>Sat May 12</b>	Acts 18:23-28, Jn 16:23b-28
<b>Sun May 13</b>	Acts 1:1:11, Eph 1:17:23, Mk 16:15-20



**YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

<b>Regular Collections</b>	\$	<b>7,941.92</b>
<b>Capital Improve.</b>	\$	<b>80.00</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	\$	<b>673.00</b>
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	\$	<b>8,694.92</b>

**COMMUNION VISITATION**



Jesus says of you and me, "You are the salt of the earth". No one should be deprived of the Most Holy Eucharist because they are homebound, elderly, have no means of getting to Mass and/or sick in their home. Sister Jackie Tarrant, RSM will gladly bring the Eucharist to you in your home. Together we can be "salt of the earth". Sister can be reached at the rectory at 228-374-1717.

**RCIA**

This week the RCIA class will learn about how God calls us to pray and how Jesus teaches us to pray. Father Dennis and Ryan Canon will lead us in our prayer service. Please continue to pray for our new Catholics and their sponsors as they continue their journey of faith together. If you would like further information, please contact Greg or Penny Payne 228-365-6348.

**CCD**

CCD classes in May will be held on May 9 and 16. Our final day of class will be Wednesday, May 16. The Sacrament of First Communion will be on Saturday, May 12, at 10:00 am. Practice for 1st Communion will be on Thursday, May 10, at 5:30 pm in the Cathedral. You are all welcome to come celebrate this Sacrament with our children. For any questions or more information, please contact Barbara Ziz, 228-918-9778.

**SUPPORT THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT**

The Cursillo Movement of South Mississippi is selling drawdown tickets to raise funds for those individuals who cannot afford to make a Cursillo. There will be 31 drawings for \$100.00 each during the month of May. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be a drawing for \$5,000.00. Tickets are available in the parish office for \$50.00 each.

**DIOCESAN RITE OF CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS**

Bishop Kihneman will be celebrating the Diocesan rite of Confirmation for Adults on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If you are a loved one have not been confirmed and would like to do so, please contact the rectory at (228) 374-1717.

**MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND**

ENTRANCE HYMN	#648
OFFERTORY	#604
COMMUNION	#349
SENDING	#196

<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
<b>May 12 4:00 pm</b> 1. Jim Coskey 2. Kathleen Coskey 3. Gerrie Weldon 4. Gayle Mavar 5. Kalin Lloyd	<b>May 12 4:00 pm</b> Jim Compton	<b>May 12 4:00 pm</b> Sam Burke Cole Burke
<b>May 13 7:00 am</b> 1. Marcia Mayfield 2. Nora Ziz 3. Linda Stewart	<b>May 13 7:00 am</b> Sr. Mary Jo Mike	<b>May 13 7:00 am</b> Wyeth Stewart Alex Stewart
<b>9:00 am</b> 1. Vicki Howard 2. Rocky Greathouse 3. Belinda Corley 4. Sharon Tash 5. Judy Trahan	<b>9:00 am</b> Steve Theobald	<b>9:00 am</b> Sophia Carreon Tristan Davis Kingston Davis Amy Gollott
<b>11:00 am</b> 1. Sandy Steckler 2. Judy Steckler 3. Linda Welter 4. Sondra Williams 5. Johnny Williams	<b>11:00 am</b> Johnny Williams	<b>11:00 am</b> Chaz Byers Izabell Byers Justin Useforge Jamey Useforge
<b>5:30 pm</b> 1. Tricia Creel 2. Roland Creel 3. Kristy Arguelles	<b>5:30 pm</b> Patrick Hall	<b>5:30 pm</b> Jacob Arguelles Nicholas Arguelles Sydni Wills
	<b>CANTORS</b>	
	<b>May 12 4:00 pm</b> John Welter	
	<b>May 13 9:00 am</b> Nicholas Rodolfich	
	<b>11:00 am</b> Rocky Greathouse Choir	

	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Mon May 07</b>	Nick Wiser	Brenda Sargent
<b>Tue May 08</b>	Collins-Sims Fly.	Raymond Egers
<b>Wed May 09</b>	Kay Lawson	Gwen Gollott (S.I.)
<b>Thur May 10</b>	Raymond Egers	Alice Griggs
<b>Fri May 11</b>	Helen Ross	Glenn/Joyce Pisarich
<b>Sat May 12</b>	8 Sam Ardoline	4 Bros. Jordan/Gary (S.I.)
<b>Sun May 13</b>	7-Mary Lou Ardoline/Merle Sherman	9:00 F.T.P
	<b>11:00 am</b> Noel Obert	<b>5:30</b> Stanley Dellenger

**PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Lesa Walker-Kirkman, Rose Collins, Elie Hebert, Jerry Ellis, Linda Welter, Hugh Kavanagh, Gerrie Weldon, Lehmon Skrmetti, Buddy Pullen, Annette Luther, Macklin Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Pete Skrmetta, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Betty Hilton, Mary Lancaster, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollott, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Michael Zorich., Sr. Fatima Starks and Karen Skremetta.

**NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

\*The Nativity School Robotics and LEGOS program will be holding a Showcase on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The showcase will give the students a chance to share what they learned and accomplished throughout the year. Special thanks to our St. Patrick's High School Mentors and Mr. John Walli, Ms Cheryl Gruich, Mr. Brandon Cloud, Mr. Roy Cloud, Dr. Ramon Riojas Mr. Sam Burke, Mrs. Amy Riojas and Mrs. Debbie Worrel for their help with the programs.

\*Would you like to learn more about famous Mississippians? Our fourth grade class, guided by Mrs. Jennifer Vincent and Mrs. Sara Michel, will host a Mississippi Wax Museum on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00. All are welcome to attend.

\*We are grateful to the City of Biloxi and the Biloxi Police Department for providing the DARE program for our 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. A special concluding celebration will be held on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*Nativity School's Arts Alive group is hard at work practicing for their spring production...Cinderella's Glass Slipper. Performances will be on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The group, under the direction of Mrs. Wanda Stewart and Mrs. Kelly Pennell, is made up of 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

\*Registration for the 2018-2019 school year is ongoing. Although several classes are filled, openings remain in many grades. For more information about the school and its programs, please visit our website at [www.nativitybvm.org](http://www.nativitybvm.org) or call the school office (432-2269) to set up a tour.

**MUSIC & FINE ARTS MINISTRIES:**

Our next Fine Arts Series Concert Event is Scheduled for Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. The Massed Choir event is entitled: "A Celebration of Gospels & Spirituals". This is a free concert – open to the public. Our Saturday – 4 p.m. Cantor – Mr. William Endicott has just graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with his Masters in Choral Conducting and has successfully auditioned and accepted the position of Music Director for Holy Family Catholic Church/Parish of Orlando, Florida. We congratulate William on these wonderful achievements and "Thank God" for his gifts and future. "Billy's" last Saturday with us is this Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. All interested individuals wanting to inquiry/participate in the Music & Fine Arts Ministries Program should contact Terry Maddox – Minister of Music @ 251 406-1454 &/or @ terrydalemaddox@gmail.com

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- May 07** Men's Club meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- May 08** Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC  
BINGO, 5:30 p.m.  
RCIA Class, 6:00 p.m.
- May 09** Cleaning Team "B"  
CCD Classes, 5:30 p.m., SHC
- May 10** Greenbriar Mass at 10:00 a.m.

**VOCATION DAY OF RECOLLECTION**

Bishop Louis Kihneman will be giving a Vocational Day of Recollection on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Gulfport. Come and join with others around the diocese in fellowship and prayer with our bishop, seminarians, clergy and religious as you consider your own vocation. For more information contact Fr. Adam Urbaniak at (228) 283-5252.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

The SVdP provides assistance each Tuesday from 9-11:00 a.m. For those wishing to make regular contributions, envelopes are located in the vestibule. We also value your one time gift! Your continued support helps to ensure SVdP is able to provide support for those in need.

**BINGO MANIA**

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>: Popa (Kristi), Pritchard (Casey Reed), Privett (Jason & Kasey), Ramon (Missy), Rhodes/Thornton (Jamie Rhodes), Richards (Sally), Richardson (Debbie).

**REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

**SANCTUARY CHOIR SCHEDULE:**

- May 13<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m.
- May 20<sup>th</sup>: 11:00 a.m.,
- May 26<sup>th</sup>: 4:00 p.m.
- June 3<sup>rd</sup>: 9:00 a.m.