

# SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1125 Blankenship Drive  
Deridder, Louisiana 70634  
<https://www.stjosephderidder.org>

ASCENSION OF THE LORD | ASCENSIÓN DEL SEÑOR



## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm  
Office closed 12:00 noon - 1:00pm

## HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Communion Service at 12:10pm  
Tuesday-Friday Mass at 12:10pm  
Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am  
Mass in Spanish every 4th Sunday  
of the month at 5:00 pm  
Holy Day Mass Schedule will be  
announced

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm  
Sunday: 8:00-8:45am & 10:45-11:15am

## ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is every  
Wednesday after the 12:10pm Mass from  
12:40 to 4:00pm, ending with  
Benediction at 4:00pm.

## PARISH STAFF

**Administrator:** Fr Jeffrey Starkovich  
**Priest of Residence:** Fr. Levi Thompson  
**Deacon:** Al Weinnig  
**Parish Secretary:** Gracia Acosta  
**Parish Bookkeeper:** Aimee Brasseaux  
**Church Custodian:** John Garantine  
**Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL):**  
Julie Roussel  
**Assistant PCL:** William Frost  
**Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA):**  
Angela Lannen  
**Music Minister:** Darlene Watson

**PARISH PHONE NUMBERS**  
Pastoral Center 337-463-6878

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The couple preparing for marriage must contact the parish priest at least six months in advance of the desired time.

Confirmation of date of wedding must be made by the priest officiating the wedding.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Pastoral Center to schedule an interview and register for Baptism. 337-463-6878

## FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The parish priest is to be contacted before the family makes any arrangements with the funeral director. Family members are also asked to meet with the priest to prepare for the funeral liturgy.

## The Ascension of the Lord Look, Up in the Sky!

Around holidays, people tend to look fondly back on past celebrations and romanticize old relationships. For some, remembering the past is the best part of their holiday. That is the image we get from the first reading as the apostles look up to heaven after the Ascension.

We too sometimes look at the great feasts of Christmas and Easter in that way. We may dwell on the beauty of the decorations, on the innocence of the baby Jesus, on the horror of his passion and death, or on the wonder of his resurrection. Then when the holy day is over, we go back to our normal routine. Perhaps we need an angel to chide us for "looking at the sky."

The angels were trying to tell the apostles two things. One was that Jesus would return as he left—in glory. This was not a time to say goodbye, but a time of hope; the Lord who had changed their lives so radically would change the world next.

The second thing the angels were telling them was to begin following Jesus' command to spread the Good News to all nations. Because of what the apostles accomplished, we are now Jesus' witnesses to the world. We too have the hope of seeing Jesus come in glory, even as we see him now with the eyes of faith.

Tom Schmidt

## La Ascensión del Señor ¡Miren al cielo!

Durante las fiestas, la gente suele recordar con cariño las celebraciones pasadas e idealizar las relaciones antiguas. Para algunos, recordar el pasado es la mejor parte de las fiestas. Esa es la imagen que obtenemos de la primera lectura, cuando los apóstoles miran al cielo después de la Ascensión.

Nosotros también a veces contemplamos las grandes fiestas de Navidad y Pascua de esa manera. Podemos reflexionar sobre la belleza de las decoraciones, sobre la inocencia del niño Jesús, sobre el horror de su pasión y muerte, o sobre la maravilla de su resurrección. Luego, cuando termina el día festivo, volvemos a nuestra rutina normal. Quizás necesitamos que un ángel nos reprenda por estar "mirando al cielo".

Los ángeles intentaban decirles a los apóstoles dos cosas. Una era que Jesús regresaría tal como se fue: en gloria. Este no era un momento para despedirse, sino un momento de esperanza; el Señor que había cambiado sus vidas tan radicalmente ahora cambiaría al mundo.

La segunda cosa que los ángeles les decían era que comenzaran a seguir el mandato de Jesús de difundir la Buena Nueva a todas las naciones. Gracias a lo que los apóstoles lograron, ahora somos testigos de Jesús ante el mundo. Nosotros también tenemos la esperanza de ver a Jesús venir en gloria, y mientras tanto lo vemos ahora con los ojos de la fe.

Tom Schmidt

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES

Monday 5/18	Communion Service
Tuesday 5/19	Margo Roll
Wednesday 5/20	Leticia "Levy" Asperstrand
Thursday 5/21	Thelma Ringer
Friday 5/22	Feliciano Vasquez
Saturday 5/23	For parishioners and visitors
Sunday 5/24 9:00 am	Peggy Hineman Taylor, Connie Frost, Charles Hebert, Family of Jayne Robinson, Deacon Sumner Kohlhund, Beauregard Parish Doctors
Sunday 5/24 11:30 am	Michael Brenski, Jr., Kay and Gary Cooper, Andrew Cronce, Leticia "Levy" Asperstrand, Benedict Sugiyama, Willa Ann Herford, Darlene Watson (for her birthday)

Why do we have Mass Intentions? In the Catholic Church, Mass intentions are specific requests for which a Mass is offered. These intentions are a way for individuals to connect their prayers with the sacrifice of the Mass, seeking God's grace for particular needs or in memory of loved ones. While every Mass benefits the entire Church, intentions allow for a focused application of the Mass's graces towards a specific person or situation.

Suggested minimum donation per intention is \$5

## Church Registration

Do you worship with us regularly? Please consider registering with us online at our website:

<https://www.stjosephderidder.org/>

Scroll to the bottom of the welcome page and click on register.

## May 9th/10th, 2026

Offertory	\$12,122
Bishop's Services Appeal	\$ 273
Insurance	\$ 168.56

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!  
IT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

## Collections for the Month of May

<b>May 3</b>	<b>Bishop's Service Appeal</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Pro-Life</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>Insurance</b>
<b>May 24</b>	<b>Catholic Communication Campaign</b>


**Cereal for God's Food Box** is collected on the 2nd weekend of the month, please drop in the foyer.

**Catholic Charities** accepts non-perishable items through the year, they can be dropped in the box in the foyer.

Monday Lunes May 18/May 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12:10 pm Communion Service / Servicio de Comunión</li> <li>• 6 pm Altar Society Meeting</li> <li>• 7 pm KC 4th Degree Meeting</li> </ul>
Tuesday Martes May 19/May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am CLJ (English)</li> <li>• 12:10 pm Mass / Misa</li> </ul>
Wednesday Miércoles May 20/May 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12:10 pm Mass / Misa</li> <li>• 12:40—4 pm Holy Adoration / Adoración Eucarística</li> <li>• 6:00 pm CLJ (English)</li> </ul>
Thursday Jueves May 21/May 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30 am Food Distribution (Catholic Charities)</li> <li>• 12:10 pm Mass / Misa</li> <li>• 5:30 pm CLJ (English)</li> </ul>
Friday Viernes May 22/May 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12:10 pm Mass</li> </ul>
Saturday Sábado May 23/May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:00 pm Mass / Misa</li> <li>• 5:00 pm Ven Señor Jesús (español)</li> </ul>
Sunday Domingo May 24/May 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:00 am Mass / Misa</li> <li>• 11:30 am Mass / Misa</li> <li>• 5 pm Spanish Mass / Misa en Español</li> </ul>

### Liturgical Ministers Schedule

May 23rd and 24th	Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm	Sunday 9:00 am	Sunday 11:30 am
LECTORS	Jeff Fogleman	Troy Gardner	Heather Vidrine
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Gertie Rossi Frank Rossi Lesila Lee Matthew Lee	Deacon Al Kathleen Nichols Nicole Kyle Tim Kyle	John Burch Laura Black Jacque Vidrine Claire Vidrine
ALTAR SERVERS	Cameron MacGregor Claire MacGregor	Bret Kyle Jayden Henry Leo Burke	Ayden Wilber Tanner Roussel




**Vocation Prayer Book and Cross**

We recognize the importance of praying for vocations for the Priesthood and Religious Life. Each week a family or member will pick up the Cross and Prayer Book to pray for increase vocations. The sign-up sheet is in the foyer of the Church. Please sign up!

Tim Kyle and Family will take the Vocation Cross next weekend at the 9:00am Mass. (Return the Cross and book by the next Friday by 4:30pm)

*“The Priest brings God to the people and the people to God”*  
~ Fr. Michael Caraway

**Pray for our sick**  
**(Please contact the Pastoral Center)**




John Chavis, Elena Curay Herna, Pat McBride, Don Gallemore, Michael Guillory, Joe Lingo, Polly St. Romain, Eartha Simon, Patricia O'Reilly Singletary, Connie Granger, Mac Hebert, David Dimas, Roberta Gray, Ryann Landry, Steven Boudreaux, Alice Kidder

**Names will be removed after 1-3 months depending on circumstances and information given**

“Father God, you alone heal hearts and bodies, minds, and spirits. Today, we ask you to lay your healing hand on our loved ones. We ask for the healing of illness, physical weakness, and of broken hearts and spirits. “ Tamela Turbeville

**Candles \$5**



Candles are available to burn in the Church or to take home. When lit they represent an expression of faith and devotion, often used to accompany prayers for specific intentions, such as intercession for the deceased, the sick, for loved ones, in thanksgiving. The light of the candle signifies the light of Christ and the prayers rising to God.

**Our Organizations and Ministries**  
**You can get involved and assist in our Church-** Contact the Pastoral Center

**Altar Society**  
**Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA)**  
**Junior Catholic Daughters**  
**Knights of Columbus**  
**Come Lord Jesus**

**Altar Servers / Lectors / Extraordinary Ministers**

## Avisos de la Parroquia



**Nuestra siguiente misa en español** será el próximo Domingo, 24 de Mayo a las 5 pm. Esperamos que puedan atender! La segunda colecta será para la Campaña Católica de Comunicación.

### La Ascensión del Señor

#### TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El 3 de mayo en el sur de Ilocos, Filipinas, se celebra la fiesta del Cristo milagroso o *Apo Lacay* como lo llaman los filipinos. Esta imagen fue encontrada dentro de una caja que flotaba en el mar, junto con la Virgen Milagrosa. Fueron unos pescadores quienes hicieron el hallazgo. Los pescadores eran de los pueblos de Badoc y Sinait y decidieron llevarse el Cristo a Badoc, pero no lograron moverlo. Una vez que decidieron llevarse al Cristo a Sinait, la imagen se hizo muy ligera de peso, por lo cual se piensa que Cristo deseaba estar en Sinait.

Este Cristo negro recuerda a los Cristos milagrosos de Latinoamérica, como el Santo Cristo de Esquipulas (Guatemala), los Cristos de Tila, Chalma y Otaltitlán (México), el Señor de los Milagros (Perú) y otros. Probablemente se trata de una evangelización española ya que en 1595, el rey Felipe II mandó varios Cristos negros a los cristianos indígenas de América. En todo caso, estos Cristos han resultado milagrosos gracias a la fe del pueblo, porque como dice Jesús: nuestra fe es la que nos salva (Marcos 5:34; 10:46-52). —Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM



#### Ven Señor Jesús Estudio Bíblico

¿Estás listo para que la Misa cobre vida al abrir y leer las Escrituras? ¿Estás listo para que tu vida de oración se transforme? Únete a una de nuestras pequeñas comunidades de fe para estudiar la palabra de Dios. **Sábado** a las 5 pm.

*Si quieres una intención durante una misa, favor comunicarte a la oficina. La donación por intención es de \$5 mínimo.*

Misas en Español 2026  
(4to Domingo del mes)

24 de Mayo  
28 de Junio  
26 de Julio  
23 de Agosto

Tenemos una imagen de la Virgen de Guadalupe Peregrina —por favor contactar a la oficina para que la recibas en casa! El Padre te la dará durante una Misa si quieres.

#### VELAS (\$5)



Puedes encender velas en la Iglesia para acompañar oraciones e intenciones específicas. La luz de la vela simboliza la luz de Cristo y las oraciones que se elevan a Dios.

## Parish Announcements

**Altar Society** will meet on Monday, May 18th at 6 pm.

**4th Degree Knights** will meet Monday, May 18th at 7pm.

**Food Distribution by Catholic Charities** will be this Thursday, May 21st at 9:30 am

**The Mass in Spanish** will be next Sunday, May 24th at 5pm

**Second Collection** next weekend is for the Catholic Communication Campaign, which supports the US Conference of Catholic Bishops website and other media.

**From the Diocese of Lake Charles: Wedding Anniversary Celebration:** We wish to honor any couple celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or 70<sup>th</sup> year of marriage.

The diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at the 11:15 a.m. mass.

Group pictures of attendees will be taken immediately following Mass with refreshments to follow in the Ave Maria Hall. Family members are welcome to attend.

**Please contact the church parish office to register by May 29, 2026.**

*ALL group pictures taken of attendees will be emailed to the address provided. Any certificate not picked up the day of event will be mailed to the address provided on the registration form.*

**Join us for a women's guided book study: *Loved as I Am to Wholeness in Christ: A Woman's Two-Part Spiritual Journey*, rooted in the invitation of Song of Solomon 2:10-12: "Arise, my love... and come away...the winter is past... the flowers appear on the earth;"**

Together we'll explore what it means to be "the one who receives love in order to love in return," and how our healed hearts, with wholeness in Christ, will allow us to give from a more purified love at home, in our relationships, and in the Church.

Sign Up by Scanning the QR Code:



**Dates:** June 22-August 17, 2026.

**Hosted by:** Julie Roussel and Sonia Maskas

**Meets:** Mondays from 5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Location:** Kern Hall meeting room

#### Books:

Part I - *Loved as I Am*-An Invitation to Conversion, Healing, and Freedom Through Jesus

Part II - *Undone* - Freeing Your Feminine Heart From the Knots of Fear and Shame

**Purchase at:** Amazon, WalMart, and other online retailers



# PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

**Register by June 1 to be guaranteed a VBS tshirt.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JUNE 15 - 18**  
**5:30 - 8:00 PM**  
**REGISTER NOW!**  
[stjosephderidder.org](http://stjosephderidder.org)  
 4 years old - 5<sup>th</sup> grade (completed)

**RAINFOREST FALLS**  
 Exploring The Nature of God




VBS registration is now available, please use the QR code or go to the website. There is no charge. We will be providing a t-shirt to each child guaranteed if you register before June 1. VBS donations are accepted and can be made online or by labeling your donation and placing it in the weekly collection basket. Thanks!

**Many Diocese activities can be found in the Diocese of Lake Charles website** (retreats, meetings, special Masses, conferences, workshops, pilgrimages, etc) <http://www.lcdiocese.org/3-news/304-upcoming-events-at-a-glance>

**SAINT RITA OF CASCIA (1381-1457) May 22**

If you're ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita's shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and—as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies—difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children. Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. "Divine Savior," Rita prayed, "let me suffer like you!" Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita's two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth—and ever since in heaven. —Peter Scagnelli

Scripture Readings for the Week of May 17th, 2026

- Sunday The Ascension of the Lord**  
 Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a  
 In those places where the observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, the Mass and readings of the Ascension are used. Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Mt 28:16-20
- Monday** Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday** Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday** Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn 17:20-26
- Friday** Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5 and 7; Jn 21:20-25
- Sunday Pentecost Sunday**  
 Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

**Come, Lord Jesus! Bible Study**

Are you ready for Mass to come alive for you as the Scriptures are open and read? Are you ready for your prayer life to be transformed? Join one of our small faith communities in studying God's word.



- Tuesday** at 9:30am in the Education Bldg  
**Wednesday** at 6:00pm in the Pastoral Ctr  
**Thursday** at 5:30pm in the Education Bldg

**May Prayer Intention / Intención de Oración en Mayo**

**Pope Leo XIV - Papa León XIV**

<p>That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.</p>	<p>Para que todos tengan alimento. Oremos para que todos —desde los grandes productores hasta los pequeños consumidores— se comprometan a evitar el desperdicio de alimentos y a asegurar que todos tengan acceso a alimentos de calidad.</p>
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**Bishop Glen John Provost / Obispo Glen John Provost**

<p>Let us pray for immigrants and the most vulnerable, that they may live at peace, secure in the knowledge that we care</p>	<p>Oremos por los inmigrantes y por los más vulnerables, para que vivan en paz, seguros de saber que nos preocupamos por ellos y por sus necesidades.</p>
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