

We are one body in Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:17

RECTOR'S CORNER

In the Gospel of John, we hear Jesus say, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood, remains in me and I in him" (6:51-58). These words tell us what this weekend's "Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ" (Corpus et sanguinis Christi) is all about – it's about remaining.

Jesus' gift of the Eucharist — the giving of His own body and blood – was His final act to seal the covenant that God wants to establish with us. For centuries, we have been the elusive part of God's creation, always avoiding God's passionate desire to complete us. In ancient past, holy places and sacred grounds, consecrated temples and hallowed altars were erected and identified as places where God could visit and stay with us. But as God soon found out, all these means of His manifestations were temporal and subject to abandonment: first by His so-called chosen people, and secondly by nature itself.

And so finally, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son . . ." the introduction to John's Prologue in last weekend's Gospel reading was the ultimate answer to God's plan to stay with His people and "pitch His tent (make His dwelling)" with them. In the incarnation of His Son, the world was prepared for the giving of the ultimate gift that shall last forever; someone who will replace the holy places, sacred grounds, consecrated temples and altars; a gift that shall make all things Holy by His presence alone.

The Eucharist, God's ultimate gift to us, was given so that God may find a dwelling place in us; a place where He intends to remain until the end of time. In the reception of the most Holy Eucharist, this body, this physical being made in the image and likeness of God, becomes the vessel and temple where God intends to remain. In doing this, God completes His work of salvation in and through us. God wants to remain in us but the question is, "do we remain in God?"

Remaining is more than just staying, being in one place, fixed, stable, immovable. For Jesus, to remain means to be intimately connected and participative in His work of redemption. As I have mentioned in last week's Corner, our baptism rooted us in the love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. But are life-giving sources to the Tree of Life or simply useless appendages that need to be pruned?

YES, we are called to remain loyal and faithful to our God. Yes, we are invited to be stable in the practice of the Faith. Yes, we are challenged to be immovable in our convictions and values. But we are also called to go from one place to another and one life to the next where God is needed. We are asked to do the unexpected for the sake of the Kingdom of God. We are expected to be moved by injustice and indifference and be instrumental in bringing God's joy and peace. We do ALL these while remaining in His love.

To be intimately connected to Jesus Christ is to channel all His graces and blessings to others. To be participative in His work of redemption is to be an instrument of God to all! This is what it means "remain in Him." This is what the Feast of Corpus et Sanguinis Christi (Body & Blood) is all about. This weekend, we are celebrating God's presence among us in the Eucharist. This weekend we rejoice that God remains in us among our brothers and sisters, the Church — the Body of Christ – through the gift of His Son. And so we sing and proclaim: "Panis angelicus, fit panis hominum!"

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

- Monday** - 1 Pt 1:3-9; Mk 10:17-27
- Tuesday** - 1 Pt 1:10-16; Mk 10:28-31
- Wednesday** - 1 Pt 1:8-25; Mk 10:32-45
- Thursday** - 1 Pt 2:2-5,9-12; Mk 10:46-52
- Friday** - Dt 7:6-11; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30
- Saturday** - Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-56
- Sunday** - Dt 11:18,26-28,32; Rom 3:21-25,28; Mt 7:21-27



PRAYER LINE

For prayer request, call only one of the following numbers: 879-1032, 580-1575, 876-2286 Call the Cathedral office to become a member of the prayer line.

PLEASE PRAY FOR In the charity of your prayers this week please remember the following people: Dickie Vice, Myra Trahan, Betsy & Lucy Michel, Mary Zimmerman, Sr. Hilda Mallet, Gabriella Nunez, C.G. Keplinger Jr., Michael Brown, Peyton Fournier, Leah Donnelly, Stuwart Waldron, Marie Claire Bergeron, Virginia Wade, James Garrett.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Church
In Loving Memory of Betty B. Guidry, Larry Doucet, Gaylen & Leroy Hebert donated by Russell, Brooke, & Marla Guidry.
Chapel
In Loving Memory of Louis P. Saia Jr. donated by Earl & Marie Williams.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

"The bread I will give you is my flesh for the life of the world." John 6:51

These was very disturbing words for the Jews, who asked, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Before we judge them too harshly, we should remember that we have the witness of two thousand years of Christians who had great devotion and sacrificed much, often their lives, for their faith in the Real Presence of Jesus. For the Jews listening to Jesus this was a strange concept that produced grotesque images. Today, many Jews, non-Catholic Christians, and non-Christians no longer question our belief in Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Some wish to share in our Communion. They appreciate the privilege we have of receiving Christ in His Body and in His Blood, so that we may be strengthened to be His Body and Blood for others in our world. Do we truly appreciate that privilege and are we good stewards of the Body and Blood of Jesus that we receive?

Sunday – May 18th	
NEEDED WEEKLY:	\$15,000.00
Envelopes (261)	\$ 7,941.50
Loose	1,884.73
	\$ 9,826.23
Difference	\$-5,173.77





BAPTISMS

The Cathedral of St. Francis Parish welcomes our newest members, **ELEANOR JANE FABRE, LUKE MICHAEL LEBLANC, HENRI DAVID LAPEYRE, and CHANDLER RAE PREJEANT**, who were baptized in Christ.

Flowers for the altar this weekend were donated in memory of our beloved niece Debra Petrie by Sharon South, Judy Connick & Joyce Konrath.

ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar Society will meet in the Youth Center at 6PM on Wednesday, June 4th.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 16-20, 2008 - Mark your calendar!

Vacation Bible School registration is OPEN NOW until Monday, May 26th for children age 4 through 6th grade. VBS will be held in the Youth Center from 9 a.m. till 12 noon. The cost is \$20.00 (includes t-shirt). Registration forms (green paper) can be found on the tables at the doors of the church.

Adult and Teen volunteers are needed to help with VBS. If you are interested, pick up a volunteer registration form (gold paper) located on the tables at the doors of the church. For more information call *Jane Lirette* at 876-4260.

With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux joyfully announces and invites you to attend the ordination of **Jerod John Duet** To the Holy Priesthood of Jesus Christ by His Excellency Most Reverend Sam G. Jacobs on Saturday, May 31, 2008 at 10 a.m. Cathedral of St. Francis de Sales

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING
Special Invitation from Bishop Jacobs

For the past two hurricane seasons, the Bishops of the State of Louisiana have set a Day of Prayer and Fasting at the beginning of the season to intercede before God for his protection over our area. This year the Day of Prayer and Fasting will be Friday, May 30th with Bishop Jacobs celebrating a special Mass in the Cathedral of St. Francis de Sales at 12 noon, invoking God's protection for our diocese. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting at 10 a.m. until Mass time. We would like to encourage all of our parishioners to participate in this Day of Prayer and Fasting to intercede before God for his intervention and protection.

St. Francis de Sales School has positions open for Assistant Principal and 2nd Grade Teacher. Applicants may pick up an application in person at the school office anytime between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Resume must be received by May 29, 2008



LA Sales Tax Holiday for Hurricane Preparedness
May 24 & 25, 2008

Louisiana residents can purchase needed items free of sales tax as they prepare for the 2008 hurricane season. The holiday is an annual, statewide event created by the Louisiana legislature to assist families with the important job of protecting their lives and property in the event of a serious storm. Tax-free purchases are allowed for the first \$1,500 of the sales price on each of the following items:

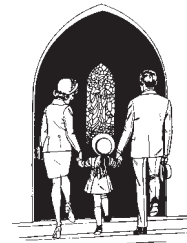
- Self-powered light sources, such as flashlights and candles;
- Portable self-powered radios, two-way radios, and weather-band radios;
- Tarpaulins or other flexible waterproof sheeting;
- Ground anchor systems or tie-down kits;
- Gas or diesel fuel tanks;
- Batteries – AAA, AA, C, D, 6-volt, or 9-volt (automobile batteries and boat batteries are not eligible);
- Cellular phone batteries and chargers;
- Non-electric food storage coolers;
- Portable generators;
- Storm shutter devices – materials and products manufactured, rated, and marketed specifically for the purpose of preventing window damage from storms (La.R.S.47:305.58)

For more information, visit www.revenue.louisiana.gov.

The assessor's offices in Lafourche, St. Mary and Terrebonne parishes will be re-assessing property values this year. Because of the boom in construction in our area, many families who may never have had to pay property taxes may find themselves having to pay for the first time this year. To prevent this from possibly happening to you, there is a program that can freeze your current property tax rates. To qualify you must:

1. Be at least age 65 or older, disabled or a veteran
2. Have an income below \$62,180

For more information, contact your assessor's office by calling 447-7242 (Lafourche) 337-828-4100 Ext 250 (St. Mary) or 876-6620 (Terrebonne)



YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Holy Families NEEDED to host Holy Family on the following dates and Mass times:

May 31ST	-	4:00PM	
June 1ST	-	7:00AM	5:30PM
June 7th	-	4:00PM	
June 8th	-	7:00AM	5:30PM
June 14th	-	4:00PM	
June 15th	-	7:00AM	5:30PM

If your family is interested in having the Holy Family Statue visit your home, please fill out the bottom portion of this information and return to the Cathedral Office. You can mail it to (P. O. Box 4014, Houma 70361), drop it in collection basket, or drop it off at the Cathedral Office or e-mail to judylevron@yahoo.com. Someone will contact you to remind you of your designated Mass.

(PLEASE CUT OFF AND RETURN TO CATHEDRAL OFFICE!)

NAME OF FAMILY _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

PREFERRED HOST DATE _____

MASS TIME TO RECEIVE THE STATUE _____