

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS: October 13-14, 2018

Donation Envelopes to our **HVAC (heating and cooling) System Replacement Project** can be found at all entrances to our Co-Cathedral church. Please use the envelopes for your donations or the envelopes that was mailed to you. At the end of this month and every month till mid-December, please check the **Stewardship Section** (Weekly Collection Report) in this Bulletin to see how we are doing with donations for this project. Thank you for your support! Phase IV of our Project is this week sees the arrival of the 1st sets of blowers, installation of the new and centralized electrical panels (outdoor). With two more months to go, everything's looking good!

Many thanks to all who have attended and participated at our Annual Right to Life Activities here at the Co-Cathedral Church as we joined the national observance of promoting the dignity of human life. In addition to inviting our local church members, I've also invited to join us our Co-Cathedral School, E.D. White High School, Crossroads, and the KC Lafourche Council members. It was so good for us all to gather as a "whole church parish" as we prayed and celebrated Life! Thank y'all!

This weekend, Crossroads will have their Baby Bottle Fund Raising appeal at all the masses. Crossroads provides assistance to women who may be struggling with their pregnancy. With the ever-increasing rate of abortion in our country, we need to reach out more and more to people who can help save a life or lives. Thanks for your support of their appeal.

"As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before Him, and asked Him, 'Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?'" (Mark 10:17-27). Jesus gave this man a direct answer and the key to having eternal life: *"Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."* And then we hear, *"and he went away sad, for he had many possessions."*

Some people think that the reason why the man went away sad WAS because "he had many possessions" or simply put, because he was rich. In my humble opinion, I don't think so. The more I read this whole narrative and looking at its *sitz im leiben* (German) or "situation in life," the more it becomes obvious to me that the source of them man's "sadness" is not his many possessions, but his unwillingness to let go, to give and share. Jesus is not against our possessions, it is what possesses us that sadden him much! How did we know this? Because among some friends that surrounded Him were well-off and respectable people like Mary of Magdala, the siblings Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Nicodemus and Gamaliel, Zechariah, and Matthew, the tax-collector to name a few.

These people, His friends, generously gave and shared their wealth and treasures with Jesus and to all who followed Him. Once they have possessed Jesus, they let Him possess them! They became "disciples" because they did not only have Jesus and kept Him to themselves, they gave Him to others as well.

Wealth as a product of human labor is part of the blessings we reap from what God has given us. Like all kinds blessings we have on earth (life, families, friends, people, sustenance, health, properties, opportunities, livelihood, monies, chances, etc.), wealth and treasure are meant not only to be enjoyed but also to be shared. The "giving and sharing" of who and what we are, is what discipleship is all about. This principle is applied not only to those who have most, but also to those who have not, according to Christ. We give and share according to how much we have been blessed, not how much we can afford of who we are and what we have. In short, we give and share according to our own blessedness and not our means.

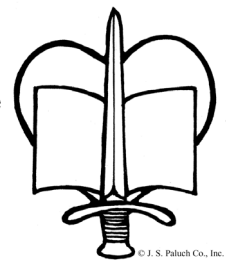
All my life and priesthood, I've known LOTS of disciples who have generously given themselves to God and to His Church. I've seen them living out their discipleship in what they do in and for our church parish, the Universal Church, for our community and country, and the rest of the world. I've experienced the same generosity of discipleship from many of them "quietly, secretly and anonymously" when no one was watching. To them and to all "good and faithful stewards (disciples)" I say, y'all are not far from the Kingdom of God!

Father Vic+

**Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 14, 2018**

The word of God is living and effective,
sharper than any two-edged sword.

— Hebrews 4:12a



Special Second Collection

This Weekend

Bishop Fabre has requested a 2nd Collection for
those affected by the
Floods in India
and
Hurricane Florence

September 29th/30th

Weekly Offering

Weekly Collection	\$ 8,949.00
Weekly Loose	1,889.00
ACH Weekly	335.00
	<u>\$ 11,173.00</u>



HVAC Project Donation

Project Cost	\$500,000.00
Donations to-date	\$ 25,839.50

Our Sunday Bulletin is supported by the advertisers who are listed on our back page. What better way to say THANK YOU than to remember them the next time you go shopping.

Thank you for your generosity!



In honor of Respect Life Month, our church parish will be participating in a Baby Bottle Fundraiser on October 13th & 14th to help support Crossroads Pregnancy Resource Center.

Crossroads, located in Thibodaux, is a life-affirming Christian organization serving women struggling with an unexpected pregnancy who may be considering abortion. Founded in 2002 by Bishop Oscar Solis and a St. Joseph parishioner, Crossroads has helped over 2,800 women and men in Lafourche, Terrebonne, Assumption, Saint James and Saint Mary parishes.

ST. JOSEPH CO-CATHEDRAL

Financial Report for 12 Months Ended June 30, 2018

Operating Income

Weekly Sunday Collection	\$669,502
Other Collections	\$60,462
Other Misc. Income (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Donations, Legacies, Etc.)	\$61,600

TOTAL OPERATING INCOME \$791,564

Operating Expenses

Ordinary Parish Expenses	\$574,960
Religious Education Expenses	\$62,053
Social Ministry Expense	\$0
Parish School Subsidy	\$111,990
Other Misc. Expenses	\$37,263
Cathedraticum	\$228,404
Insurance and Pension Payments	\$77,046
TOTAL ORDINARY PARISH EXPENSES	<u>\$1,091,716</u>
Net Operating Income * [Deficit]	(\$300,152)

Other Income and Expenses

Interest Income	\$66,437
Oil Royalties	\$385,894
	<u>\$452,331</u>
Less: Cathedraticum	<u>(\$76,896)</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$375,435</u>

\$75,283

Renovations & Captial Improvements	(\$375)
Sale of Property	\$6,000
Less Cash Revenues over Expenses	<u>\$80,908</u>

Projected Expenditures:

* Our goal is to have collections equally or exceed Operating Expenditures.

Oil Royalty used for Captial Improvements

Due to Decrease in Oil Royalties, our Expendicures exceeds our Revenues.

In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has made the following provision for anyone who has been hurt or sexually abused by anyone who works for the church. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has set up an Outreach Line for all victims/survivors of sexual abuse. In continuing our commitment to support and healing, we invite and encourage people who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, to call our outreach line. The Outreach Line operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily Monday through Friday. A trained mental health professional responds to the line.

The **Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line** telephone number is 985-873-0026.

To report suspected abuse of a minor, call the **LA Dept. of Children & Family Services (24/7)** 1-855-452-5437.

Wedding Banns

- Maria Scull & Corey Melancon (3)*
- Katherine Gianellonie & Matthew Mabile (3)*
- Amy Matherne & William Shaffer (3)*
- Katie Lively & Brandon Innes (2)*
- Claire Bossier & Matthew Delaune (2)*



Please remember **Earline Hebert** who passed on into the Kingdom of our Father recently. Please pray also that her family may find comfort and consolation through their faith.