

**July 16, 2017**

***Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**“The one who hears the Word and understands it . . . Bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirty fold.”**

**Mt 13:1-23**

The gospel passage today reflects somewhat how Jesus affects our lives. In the gospel we find Jesus using a parable about a farmer sowing seed. Jesus, in speaking to the crowds, used imagery familiar to the people. In Palestine the farmer would scatter the seed along the ground and then plow the seed under the soil. As a result in scattering the seed in a haphazard fashion, the farmer would spread the seed over the entire ground which included fertile soil, rocks, thorn bushes, and pathways around it.

Jesus used parables to teach the people. A parable, according to Fr. Richard Rohr, is like a joke either you get it or you don't get it. This may explain Jesus' saying that those who can understand should heed his message. He knew that not everyone would understand his meaning in the parable.

The gospel parable today reflects how the gospel evolved from its oral tradition to a written form. In doing so, the meaning of some of Jesus' sayings change to reflect the situation in the early Church. Many consider the first part of the passage as the actual parable of Jesus. God the sower spreads the seed all over but only some of the seed takes root. Jesus focused on God as the generous sower. God gives us what we need to find salvation.

The second part of the gospel passage shows how the early Church transforms this parable into an allegory. An allegory uses common images such as the seed and its soil and gives it a deeper meaning. In other words, you do not explain a parable but an allegory needs an explanation. In interpreting the parable of Jesus, the early Church focused on how the seed of faith grows rather than on the generosity of God who gives this seed of faith to all.

Combined into one teaching we find that the special gift of faith comes from God; we do not earn it or deserve it. Like the sower, Jesus spreads this seed of faith abundantly. However, we must nurture and develop this seed of faith. God calls us in different ways to use this seed of faith while we live here on earth.

*Fr. Walter Austin*



**Presentation of St. Padre Pio Relics**

**July 29<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church**

4:30 pm: Celebration of the Vigil Mass  
5:30 pm: Presentation by Cindy Russo  
6:00 pm: Opportunity for personal Veneration of the Chalice and the Glove of St. Padre Pio  
See the flyer posted in back of Church for details.

**PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL**



**Is Jesus still waiting  
for you to come?  
Become an Adorer.**



**Needed: Summer subs  
PLEASE CALL 652-2615**

Adorers of the Perpetual Adoration wish to thank Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for the following favors:

- Thank you, God, for this day and all that's in it!
- Thank you, Lord Jesus, for blessing my family with your Divine Mercy.
- Thank you, Lord, through the intercession of St. Joseph for the selling of my house!

**NINE~DAY NOVENA TO ST. ANN**

**Fr. Cedric Pisegna, C.P. "Live With Passion!"**

Join us for our annual nine-day Novena to St. Ann. Our presenter will be Fr. Cedric Pisegna, C.P. speaking about how to "Live With Passion!" The Novena will begin **Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>** and end on the Feast of St. Ann, **Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**. Daily Masses: 10:00am & 7:00pm. Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:00pm Vigil and Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 5:00pm. The 10:00am Mass on Saturday will include the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, and our Sewing Seams of Faith Ministry will have Prayer Blankets available. Fr. Cedric is an international motivational speaker, the best-selling author of 21 books, and can be seen on WLAE. His books will be available for purchase after the Masses. St. Ann Church & National Shrine is located at 3601 Transcontinental Drive in Metairie between Veterans and Kawanee.

*St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church invites all to attend*

**THEMES FROM CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING:  
AN EVENING OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

*with*

**MR. KEVIN J. FITZPATRICK**

Director for the Office of Social Justice

**TUESDAY, JULY 25, 6:00 PM**

**ST. JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

*Those interested in attending are asked to call*

**BROTHER BENEDICT KELLEY**

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**985-652-9100**

**Come to the Quiet - Directed Retreat**

**5 Day Silent Directed Retreat**

**Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center**

To register, please call Susan Halligan at  
504-267-9604. For more info, visit

<http://retreats.arch-no.org>

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

<b>Monday, July 17</b>	
8:30 am	Philip & Deacon Paul Dupuy
<b>Tuesday, July 18</b> <i>St. Camillus de Lellis</i>	
8:30 am	Jeffrey & Patrick Cupit
<b>Wednesday, July 19</b>	
4:30pm	Residents of Place duBourg
6:00 pm	Michel Centanni
<b>Thursday, July 20</b> <i>St. Apollinaris</i>	
8:30 am	Philip Dupuy
<b>Friday, July 21</b> <i>St. Lawrence of Brindisi</i>	
8:30 am	Cecile Oubre
<b>Saturday, July 22</b> <i>St. Mary Magdalene</i>	
4:00 pm	Stuart Torres, John Paul Loupe, Grady Duff, Jr., August "Gus" Pique, Martin Naquin, Melvin & Nellie Powell, Rita Zeringue, Lawrence & Rodney Acosta, Gloria Maurin, Jerry Sander, Tom & Teresa Bautsch, Josephine Marino McKenzie, Michel Centanni, Special Intention
<b>Sunday, July 23</b> <i>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
8:30 am	Evan Simoneaux, Bruce Simoneaux, Simoneaux & Waguespack Families, Gwen Booth, Barbara Mondello, Jerry Engel, Rose Anna Wade, Deana Guilbeau, Special Intention
10:30 am	Deacon Paul & Philip Dupuy
5:00 pm	(en espanol) Our Parishioners
7:00 pm	Jo Gendron

### VIGIL LIGHT for July

- In memory of Bruce Simoneaux & Evan Simoneaux

### CHAPEL CANDLES THIS WEEK BURN FOR:

- In memory of Evan Simoneaux and prayers for his family.

## Tricentennial Hymn Competition

In 2018, the City of New Orleans will celebrate its Tricentennial: 300 years since our city was founded in the Crescent of the Mississippi River. As part of our Tricentennial Celebration, the Archdiocese of New Orleans would like to commemorate the year with a hymn celebrating our history and looking forward to a bright and hopeful future. We invite you to enter our Tricentennial Hymn Competition by submitting a text set to one of several familiar Hymn tunes. Download the complete info and guidelines at <http://nolacatholic.org/gallery>. The author of the selected Hymn will receive an award of \$750.00. All submissions are due by Monday, October 2, 2017. For more information, please contact Betty-Ann Hickey or David Doyle at [tricentennialhymn@arch-no.org](mailto:tricentennialhymn@arch-no.org).



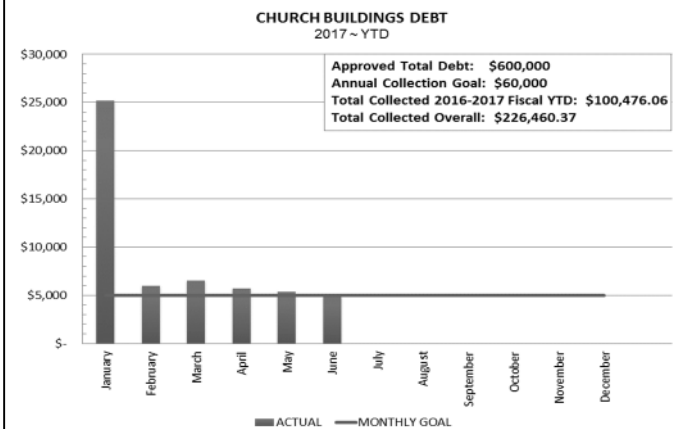
**Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church for events and spiritual resources.**



## PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

<b>Monday, July 17</b>	
8:00-11:00am	Volleyball Camp – school back porch
11:30am	Silver Crusaders Lunch & Meeting at Sicily's
12:00-3:30pm	Vacation Bible School – PPH
5:00-7:30pm	Jr. High CYO Camp – PPH
<b>Tuesday, July 18</b>	
8:00-11:00am	Volleyball Camp – school back porch
12:00-3:30pm	Vacation Bible School – PPH
5:00-7:30pm	Jr. High CYO Camp – PPH
6:00pm	Dynamic Catholic Prayer Group – Church
<b>Wednesday, July 19</b>	
8:00-11:00am	Volleyball Camp – school back porch
12:00-3:30pm	Vacation Bible School – PPH
5:00-7:30pm	Jr. High CYO Camp – PPH
6:30pm	KC General Meeting – KCH
<b>Thursday, July 20</b>	
8:00-11:00am	Volleyball Camp – school back porch
12:00-3:30pm	Vacation Bible School – PPH
5:00-7:30pm	Jr. High CYO Camp – PPH
<b>Friday, July 21</b>	
12:00-3:30pm	Vacation Bible School – PPH
5:00-7:30pm	Jr. High CYO Camp – PPH
<b>Saturday, July 22</b> <b>Team 4</b>	
4:00pm Mass	KC Officer Installation; banquet following in DBH
<b>Sunday, July 23</b> <b>Team 4</b>	

## Church Debt Collection Progress



## Upcoming Bible Study

### The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy

#### A 10-part Bible Study featuring Thomas Smith

Our Bible Study this Fall will be on The Prophets. Classes will be August 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> through October 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms and a class syllabus can be found in the back of Church and on the Parish Website. Registrations should be returned to the Parish Office by **August 1<sup>st</sup>**. Discover how Christ fulfilled the Law and set us free to live in the Spirit!

