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Welcome *home.*

February 21, 2024 | Weekly Newsletter

Dear Christ the Redeemer Parishioners,

Lent Schedule | We will also have daily Mass with the Way of the Cross on Fridays beginning at 5:30 PM.

The Catholic Relief Services Rice Bows should be returned on Palm Sunday, March 24. More below.

Please take an Easter Egg Tag from the lobby display . Purchase the items and return them and the tag on your next visit to church. All items benefit the local Good Samaritan Food Bank. If you have questions or want more information, please call our office at 447-2013.

Mercy Night, evenings of adoration and meditation, will be on Lenten Wednesdays beginning on February 21.

Youth Formation | On Sunday, February 25, our High School students will meet at CTR from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. On Monday, February 26, our 4th & 5th grades meet at CTR from 6:00 - 7:00 PM.

Bishop's Appeal | Please join me in supporting the diocese in five major programs through the Bishop's Appeal. We support seminarians, retired priests, formation ministries, catholic schools and college ministry. We are already at 9% of our goal.

htdiocese.org/bishopsappeal

St. Joseph Lenten Gumbo | St. Joseph, Thibodaux is hosting a gumbo fundraiser on Fridays from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM at their Life Center. Each lunch is \$12 and comes with potato salad, bread, and a dessert. Proceeds are donated to the Good Samaritan Food Bank.

Newsletter E-mail List | These newsletters help me share important upcoming events and news from the parish and diocese. To ensure all parishioners and those interested receive this newsletter each week, I am asking that anyone who may not be receiving it but wants to receive it please call our office or use this link ctrchurch.flocknote.com/MassCommunicatio.

Prayer Call to Action | Please join me in intentionally praying for our next bishop. I will be praying each day at 3:00 PM. A prayer is located in your bulletin.

Rise Up: Men's Gathering |

CALLING ALL MEN AGES 18+

Join me on Saturday, March 9, 2024, for the Annual Men's Gathering – RISE UP! The theme comes from Henri Nouwen's, *Heart Speaks to Heart*.



Keynote include local priests, Fr. Andre' Melancon of St. Bernadette and Fr. Mitch Semar, Vocation Director. Joining them will be Fr. Vincent Fortunate, Capuchin Franciscan Friars, St. Ann Catholic Church, Hoboken, New Jersey. Testimony will be given by Mr. Lars Curry, native of Texas and resident of Thibodaux.

Registration is currently open both online and in our office. For online registration, please visit www.ctr-htdiocese.org/riseup

Construction Update | Over the past weeks, I have been working behind the scenes with a local architect to prepare for Hurricane Ida reconstruction. We concluded the the bidding process, and a contractor has been selected. In the first phase, the roofs on the Adoration Chapel, St. Jude Grotto, and Lawn and Storage sheds will be replaced, the flat portion of the church roof over the offices will be replaced, and the Family Center roof will be converted from a shingle roof to a standing seam metal roof like the main section of the church. A tentative start construction date has not been set, but I expect the project to begin in February. More updates will follow as I learn more. Please pray for our contractor, our staff, and yourselves, our parishioners as we walk through this project together.

Babysitter Needed | I want to employ a babysitter. Maybe you are an empty nester or a stay-at-home parent with a few open hours. Maybe you have a part-time job and want more hours. Maybe you are a college student with three free hours. You may be interested! I currently need help on Thursday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM to babysit for our Mary's Moms group. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Cindy Ordoyne at our office at 985-447-2013 or by email at ctrchurch@htdiocese.org.

Safe Environment | The Safe Environment Certification program is an effort by the Catholic Church to ensure the ongoing safety of children in our communities. The certification prepares our parishioners to identify and adequately respond to signs of abusive behavior. This prepares our parishioners to cooperate with local mandatory reporter laws. The Church provides a background check for each volunteer as part of this certification. For more information please call the office. All parish volunteers and ministers must have this certification. The victim abuse hotline number is 985.873.0026 or 985.850.3172.

Homebound Ministry | I am looking to populate our list of parishioners needing communion brought to their homes. Please contact our office if you or someone you know can no longer attend mass and wants the Eucharist brought to their home. I am also looking to strengthen our homebound-ministry team. You can become part of this team by contacting our office.

Adoration | In the Holy Hour, we experience the Lord in his sacramental presence. Adorers are invited to pray, read scripture, or participate in devotions. Conversations with other adorers should be kept to a minimum and respectful of the prayerful environment. If you want to become an adorer or serve as an alternate, please call 985.446.8662, 985.859.4874, or 985.209.8181.

Formed | Are you looking for Catholic resources for the entire family? Sign up for FORMED. Christ the Redeemer has renewed our subscription so parishioners can enjoy this platform. To sign up go to formed.org/signup. Search for our parish by zip code.

What do you want me to do for you? | These are the words of Jesus to the blind man on the way to Jericho. Sometimes we know what we need to do but lack the resources or connections to make them happen; sometimes, we don't even know where to start. Is there a sacrament that you want to receive? Do you want to get married? Do you need to get your marriage blessed? Do you need an annulment? Do you need counseling or just want some prayer or life advice? We do that. The relationship with Jesus also includes his church. We want to walk alongside you to help you get what you need from Jesus. Do you know someone who is struggling? Send them our way.

In Christ,
Fr. Alex Gaudet

Catholic Relief Services: Rice Bowl | This Lent, our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a Catholic Relief Services program that invites us to encounter God and our global family through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Through CRS Rice Bowl, we will encounter communities in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia and learn how issues like hunger and climate change are impacting our sisters and brothers around the world. Together, we will reflect on our participation in the body of Christ and how the Eucharist—the Bread of Life—compels us to share bread *for* life with all members of our human family.

Alongside thousands of Catholic faith communities across the United States, our Lenten alms will make a difference in the lives of millions of people worldwide. Together as a Church, we can support people who seek to build a better future for themselves and their communities.

CRS Rice Bowl provides resources for daily reflection throughout the liturgical season. Consider these suggestions in your family's Lenten plan:

- Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar each day to guide your prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
- Visit crsricebowl.org to read weekly Stories of Hope and watch the accompanying videos.
- Use the CRS Rice Bowl recipes from crsricebowl.org/recipe to prepare simple, meatless meals on the Fridays of Lent to eat in solidarity with our global family.

During this holy season, may your Lenten journey be a transformative and enriching experience as you put your faith into action for our sisters and brothers experiencing the greatest need.

CRS Rice Bowls will be collected at the end of Lent, so stay tuned to learn more. Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl with your family.