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Welcome *home.*

July 31, 2024 | Weekly Newsletter

Dear Christ the Redeemer Parishioners,

Updates...

Scams | Hey y'all, scam messages are going around appearing to come from me and other priests. Please do not respond. I will neither personally ask you for money for me nor should any other priest. These messages should be ignored. However, if the Lord has put generosity in your heart, you can donate at <https://www.ctr-htdiocese.org/stewardship>.

Ongoing Construction Update | The remaining roof projects for the Adoration Chapel, St. Jude Grotto, and both sheds are waiting for materials to be delivered. Our adoration chapel will remain closed until completed.

The project will then shift to the interior damage impacting the Family Center, Church, Offices, and Rectory. The bidding for these projects has already begun. While Hurricane Ida is the culprit, I have decided, with the support of the Christ the Redeemer Finance Council and administrative staff and the diocese administration, to include additional upgrades to run concurrently with the hurricane repairs. This will allow our campus to operate without disruption for longer and assure the stability of our parish grounds.

Our focus will be first on the Family Center. Repairs include flooring, ceiling, painting, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, and lighting. Some of these repairs will restore us to the precious renovation, and some will go beyond. I am excited to have this critical building opened to us again. Once the Family Center has been completely restored the project will move to the church, offices, and rectory. The Family Center will operate as the church, office, and meeting hall during this period. Please be patient.

Our property insurance and FEMA claims will fund the hurricane damage repairs; however, the additional focus areas will be funded through Christ the Redeemer. I am currently exploring funding options to be prudent with our resources and to practice good stewardship.

This entire project is being designed and developed by GFP, a local architectural firm. The interior portion of the project is expected to go out for public bid within the next week. Once a contractor is identified the project will begin to take shape. I will provide you with more details as they develop. Please pray for all involved with this undertaking. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Thus far we have completed the roofing project on the Family Center and the Church, and the awning at the Family Center has been installed.

Upcoming ...

Youth Formation | Registration for the 2024 - 2025 formation cycle is open. All children in grades 1-11 who do not attend a Catholic School should register. Catholic school students who wish to receive sacraments in 2nd, 10th, and 11th grade should also register. The deadline for registration is Tomorrow, July 31st.

Parent Orientation for 1-5 - August 18th at 5:00 PM in the Church at Christ the Redeemer.

Parent Orientation for 6-11 - August 18th at 6:00 PM in the Church at Christ the Redeemer.

Welcome Back Mass - Please join us on Sunday, August 25th at the 11:00 AM Mass to help kick off the youth formation year.

Office Closure | Our office will be closed on the morning of Friday, August 9th to allow our staff to attend the Magnificat breakfast. The office will open at 1:00 PM.

Assumption | The Feast of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation. We will offer Mass on Wednesday, August 14th at 6:00 PM and on Thursday, August 15th at 7:30 AM and 12:05 PM.

Men's Bible Study | Our Men's ACTS group is hosting a bible study open to all men over 18. It is held on Monday nights at 6:00 PM. The locations sometimes change. The next gathering is on August 5th at Gina's at the Legion in Thibodaux.

Fundraiser | The St. John Fire Department will host a shrimp boil fundraiser on August 24th. Tickets can be purchased at the first station or by calling 985.448.0618.

Safe Environment | About %75 of our volunteers have completed the certification. Please complete this certification by August 1st. 2024 is a renewal year for all staff and volunteers. New volunteers must complete certification before beginning ministry. The certification prepares parishioners to respond to signs of abuse and 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 at 985.447.2013. The victim abuse hotline number is 985.873.0026 or 985.850.3172.

OCIA | Registration for the Order Christian Initiation for Adults is open. Christian Initiation for Adults is for those interested in becoming Catholic or would like to learn more about becoming catholic. OCIA is arranged around your schedule. You can call our office to register. Recently the Vatican has renamed the RCIA to the OCIA. This name change better reflects the rituals. As there are many rituals for Christian initiation for adults the program is now understood as an order which is a collection of rituals.

Adult Confirmation | If you are an adult Catholic who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, I would like to help. Christ the Redemer will offer a program to those who are 18 years of age or older and are no longer in high school who have received Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. Please contact our office for more information at 985-447-2013.

Bishop's Appeal | Please join me in supporting the diocese in five major programs. We support seminarians, retired priests, formation ministries, catholic schools, and college ministry. We are already at 76% of our goal which is \$25,000 of the \$33,000 goal.
htdiocese.org/bishop appeal

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.

Adoration | The adoration chapel will be closed in the short term so that its roof can be replaced. Check our Facebook page for updates. Adoreres will be contacted before the chapel reopens.

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.

Parish Registration | If you consider Christ the Redeemer your home, we would love to help you register as one of our parishioners. You can begin this process by contacting our office by sending an e-mail to ctrchurch@htdiocese.org or calling 985.447.2013.

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.

House Blessings | I invite you to have your house blessed. Please contact our office for times and availability. Know that evening times will be in short supply.

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