

Dear Parishioners and Visitors of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Vancleave and Christ the King Mission in Latimer:

January is the time to make our annual New Year's resolutions. Every Catholic should add to our list a few spiritual resolutions designed to help us climb that mountain of faith.

Let the freshness of the new year be your motivation to make new strides on your journey with God. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Increase Your Marian Devotion.

The way to turn back to God is the same way that God came to us - through the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the new year, commit yourself to increasing your Marian devotion, so that She may lead you to a deeper conversion. Pray the rosary daily with your family, or attend Tuesday morning Mass at Holy Spirit Church, where we honor and pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. That will allow you to increase your faith and deepen your relationship with the Mother of God.

2. Make more time for spiritual readings.

Your best bet is to stick to the classics written by Catholic saints known for their practical spiritual wisdom, such as Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Therese of Lisieux, and John of the Cross. The four gospels and the letters of St. Peter and St. Paul are also excellent choices, as they are the inspired Word of God.

If you struggle with finding the time to read, make a list of books that you would like to complete this year and pray that God will show you how you can find the time to read them.

3. Share your Catholic faith with others.

Nowadays, so many people stay far away from God, His Church, and the Sacraments. Generally, there is a vast and real hunger for God and His Truth. So, you don't have to be loud or overbearing about your faith, just focus on doing simple things, such as being joyful in your walk with Christ, invite people to come to Mass with you, or invite them to join our Church by taking a Journey of Faith (RCIA). These acts of your faith will show God how much you care for Him, love Him, and love His Church here on earth.

4. Bring back regular penances - at least twice a year.

Living a penitential life, even outside of Advent and Lent, is the Catholic way of life. All of the Church's saints performed penances regularly, either internally

or externally, and today they invite you to do the same.

I know that the Sacrament of Confession is not pleasant at first, but the graces that come from this sacrament are a true blessing and relief for our souls. So, do not forget to visit a confessional as often as possible.

5. Attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

Mass is not only the source and summit of our faith, it is also the source and summit of our very life. If you cannot attend Mass at your own Parish because of your work or other obligations, then check all of the Parishes in your area for their Mass times, and find out where you can worship Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Remember that Sunday Mass is your Holy Obligation as a Catholic and as a child of God. Jesus loves you so much, and He does a lot for you, so do not miss the opportunity to celebrate Him once a week.

6. Pick a new saint buddy.

We have so many wonderful Saints that we venerate in the Catholic Church. Why not take on the tradition of choosing a Catholic Saint as a special patron this year? Pray about the New Year and the goals you have for your spiritual life for you and for your family. Choose a patron saint whose virtues you would like to emulate in 2022, and entrust your year to his special intercession. Through your devotion, ask your saint to be your guide for this New Year, because with him by your side, it will be easier for you to deal with the difficulties in your life, as well as reaching your New Year's goals. May God bless you all abundantly in 2022. Fr. Peter

Next weekend we will have a second collection for the Aged and Infirmed. The contributions from this collection will stay in our Parish. Please give generously. Thank You.

Bible Study

Please join us for our next Bible Study, **Romans: The Gospel of Salvation.**

Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. *Romans: The Gospel of Salvation* is a new eight-week Bible study we are offering that will help you make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. It will give you an authentically Catholic,

comprehensive, and simple way to understand this challenging epistle. Holy Spirit Parish will begin *Romans* on **February 8th at 6:30—8:00.** Participants will meet every Tuesday evening to view an engaging video presentation by Dr. Andrew Swafford and Jeff Cavins, followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. For more information or to register contact Deacon Johnny at jjennings@biloxidiocese.org. Signup sheets are also on the table in the foyer. Workbooks are \$32 each. We hope you can join us!

CYO Meeting

Our *next CYO meetings* for January will be on *January 9th and 30th.*

Mardi Gras Ball

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite everyone to come join us in our annual Mardi Gras Ball on Saturday, February 19. Tickets will be sold after masses or you can contact one of our Knights. To help keep social distancing we will be limiting sales to 160 tickets so don't wait.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Fr. Peter is available for Confession every day, before daily Mass and after, or by appointment.

ANNULMENTS: Please contact Fr. Peter if you are in need of an Annulment (228) 233-0947.

HOMEBOUND VISITS: Fr. Peter is able to visit the homebound parishioners and Minister to them the Sacraments of Confession, Communion and Anointing. Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Peter directly (228-233-0947) if you would like him to visit your relative.

CK & HS COMBINED ACTIVITIES

CYO : (6th-12th) 7:00pm to 8:00pm 1st & 3rd Sunday – Parish Hall

Youth Ministers:

RCIA: Wednesday. 6:30pm-8:00 pm – Parish Hall

| MASS | LECTOR | Altar Servers |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Sat Jan 15 4:00 p.m. CK | Nancy Hayden | |
| Sat Jan 15 6:00 p.m. HS | Thomas Phelan | Joseph Cook |
| Sun Jan 16 9:15 a.m. CK | Tina Shoemaker | Addie Illich |
| Sun Jan 16 11:00 a.m. HS | Mark Hopkins | Stephen Maddox |
| Sun Jan 16 6:00 p.m. HS | Tommy Ross | |

K of C Meeting: 1st Wed. of the month at 7pm.- KC Hall
Parish Charity: Tuesdays- 4:30pm.-5:00pm C.K.
Boy Scouts Troup 826: Michael Rosas -Tuesdays- 6:30pm- HSCC

HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES: 6705 Jim Ramsay Road, Vancleave, 39565

Altar Society – Margaret Brenke, President

Maintenance – Mark Hopkins

CCD Director: Jessica Maddox

CCD Grades K-9 – Sunday 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

CCD Grades 10 & 11 – Wed. 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m. HSCC

Bible Study – Wed. after 8:00am Mass and Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm in the Holy Spirit Community Center.

CHRIST THE KING ACTIVITIES

10601 Daisy Vestry Rd, Latimer, MS 39565

CCD Director: Shirley McCusker

CD: Grades K – 11th- Sunday 10:15am-11:15am

Parish Council: 2nd Tuesday at 6:45pm

Altar Society/Flowers – Tina Shoemaker, President. Please contact her at (228) 238-3791.

| Stewardship | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| Date | Holy Spirit | Christ the King | |
| 1/2 | 2,958 | 1,466 | Offering |
| | 787 | 367 | Bldg. Fund |

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life. Please pray for our seminarians: Michael Johnson, Chris Collins, John Olivier, Adam Frey, Christian Baca, Marcelo Gois, Jacob Lott, **and permanent deacons; *our Service Men & Women:*** Chad Parker, James Griffith, Scott Fisher, Patrick Ekhlās, Josh Iler, Michael Ferencak,

Bruce Spearnock, Kris Moe, Joshua Cook, Adriana Hill-Cook and Matthew Ekhlās; ***those in nursing or assisted living homes and those who are ill:*** Maria Kmiecik, Pete Dacri, Joe Martin, Garrett Windham, Bryleigh Brochard, Albert Santa Cruz, Thomas Newman, Sandra Hill, Beverly Reese, Mary Osterman, Nell Kieff, Judy Salinas and Miguel Saavedra.