

FIVE Ways I Can Make My Parish Better

1. Think of myself as part of a parish family.

Family members share a common heritage and history and are grounded in the same beliefs, values, and traditions.

2. Be welcoming.

When you come together on the weekend for Mass, think of it as a large family reunion. Introduce yourself to people you don't know. If they're new to the parish, offer to give them a tour, introduce them to other parishioners, or simply tell them why you love the parish. Enthusiasm is catching!

3. Use my gifts and talents for the good of the parish.

God has given each person unique gifts and talents that are intended to be shared. Get involved as a lector, greeter, or usher. You can share your deep devotion to the Eucharist by becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If you play an instrument or sing, the music ministry might be the place for you. Maybe you're a teacher and could help in religious education. Any expertise — business, finance, public relations, photography, grant writing, engineering, carpentry, building maintenance, or even such skills as cooking, baking, cleaning, or gardening — can find a place in the parish.

4. Attend parish events.

Although Mass is our central focus, other parish ministries, activities, and events help to increase spirituality and build community as well. Take advantage of opportunities to meet new people, feel more connected, and grow with your fellow parishioners.

5. Pray for my parish.

Keep your pastor, parish staff and fellow parishioners in your daily prayers. Praying a rosary, spending time in Eucharistic adoration, fasting or offering up any suffering you experience for the well-being of your parish will bring rewards not just for the parish but for you personally. You will begin to see yourself as spiritual support for all the good work being done in and through your parish.

Farwell Open House


TO THANK AND HONOR

Father Thainese Alphonse

FOR HIS FAITHFUL AND LOVING SERVICE AS PASTOR OF ST. BERNADETTE PARISH.

DROP IN ANY TIME FROM 3:00 - 5:00 PM FOR COFFEE/TEA & DESSERT

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH
RECTORY/OFFICE



Thursday, August 14th
Mass 12:10 pm

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Holy Day of Obligation

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

Bayou Vista

May 3, 2026



Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm (Closed for Lunch)	Physical Address: 1112 Saturn Rd. (Bayou Vista) Morgan City, LA 70380	Contact Us: Ph: 985-395-2470 Fax: 985-395-6514 Email: stbern@teche.net Website: www.stbern-bv.org Facebook: @StBernBayouVista
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5th Sunday of Easter



Honoring the Queen of Heaven: The Tradition of May Crowning



In May, a month of renewal—of new life and new beginnings—blossoms return and creation awakens. This is when the Catholic Church turns with love and reverence to the Blessed Virgin Mary—our Mother and Queen. Among the most cherished devotions of this season is the **May Crowning**, a time-honored tradition that lifts our hearts toward heaven through Mary, who always leads us to her Son.

For generations, parishes, schools, and families around the world have marked the month of May with processions, hymns, and flower offerings in honor of Mary. At the heart of these celebrations is the crowning of a statue of the Blessed Virgin—a visible sign of our love for the one who is both Mother of God and Queen of Heaven. We crown Mary because she is, in every way, a queen—not in the worldly sense, but in the kingdom of God. As the Mother of Jesus, the King of Kings, Mary holds a unique and exalted place. Her perfect discipleship, her faithful "yes" to God's will, and her enduring presence with the Church make her the crown of all creation. ~ St. John's Seminary Blog

Pastor
Rev. Thainese Alphonse
Email: talphonse@diolaf.org

Parish Staff

Bookkeeper: Lois Bosworth
Mon. 8:30am - 3:30pm,
Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30am - 12pm

Secretary/DRE: Becky W. Meranta
Wed./Thurs. 8:30am - 3:30pm

Church & Rectory House Keeper:
Melinda Frederick
Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 12pm

Sacraments

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Sat. 3:15 - 3:50pm; Sundays & weekdays 20 min. before Mass.

Sacrament of Baptism:
Contact the office to schedule a meeting with the pastor, at the parents' convenience, one month prior to the desired Baptism date. Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday after 10:30am Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage:
Couples wishing to get married should call the office at least six months prior to the anticipated date of the wedding to begin the marriage preparation.

Marriage annulment:
Contact the pastor for easy guidance.

Anointing the Sick:
Call the office to schedule an appointment.

Youth Faith Formation:
Wednesday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm

Schedule of Holy Masses

Weekends:
Saturday - Anticipated Mass - 4:00 pm
Sunday - 7:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekdays:
Tuesday - Friday—12:10 pm

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MASS Intentions

Tuesday, May 5th 12:10 pm

†John Ourso †Danny Peterson.

Wednesday, May 6th 12:10 pm

†Thomas McGinnis.

Thursday, May 7th 12:10 pm

†John Ourso †Danny Peterson.

Friday, May 8th 12:10 pm

†Souls in Purgatory.



Melinda Frederick, Jude Duval, Gerald Hotard, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Daisy Roberts & Family, Don Campos, Alice Waguespack, Susan Legendre, Darryl Dimaggio, Alice Boudreaux, Michael Silva, Ryan Arcemont, Karen Duhon, Maddi Duhon, Mynette Zimmer, Jane Mayo, Dalton Dupree, Lisa Morel, Mary Ann Lambert Adams, Elma Braus, Cherie Schlatve, Matt Braus, Nelwyn LaHoste, Jamie Huffman, Maria McGinnis, Sonya Meranta, Wilson Acosta, Sr., Steve Meranta, Kenny Meranta, JY & Elaine Mula, Audie Pete, Blaine St. Romain, Robert David, Jr, Robert Paul David, Gert Simoneaux, Kristi Wisdom, Juanita Prestenbach, Barbara Rivet, Bill Vincent, Judy Cornwell, Ella Ryker, Brenda Dawson, Mike Reed, Rhodes Family, Jaret Matte, Carl Written, Mary Liles, Barry Clark, Ross Mire, Ina Miller, Doug Pillsbury, Aubry "Poochie" Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock, Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeansonne, Crue Hotard, Vanessa Solet, Dawn Spinella, Laila Claire Gardemal, Cynthia Athinson, Logan Gros, Ella Ryker, Belinda Fabre Lee, Rosa Rosado, Armando Rosado, Glen Cormier, SJ Sampey, Ruby Breaux, Barbara D. Aucoin, Sarah Ford, Carlo Streva, Jr, Danny Barras, Lynn Rose Pete Allen, Lanny Theriot, Jim Turner, Kevin Cothron, Bill Ford, Sr., Lynette Rink, Sheila Toups, Priscilla Hebert Sampey, EJ Landry, Dr Keith Comeaux, Brent Driskill, Sharon Rulf Guidry, Wiley Magee, Barbara Cothron, Rhonda Cothron Cook, Cory Spinella Meranta, Layne Aucoin, Steve Bounds, Kate Louviere, V. J. Justilian, Ruth Stanley, Shelia Mayon, Myrna Richie, Susan Ashton, and a dear friend.

Liturgical Ministries

Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min. of Comm.	Altar Servers
Sat. May 9	4:00 pm	Melinda Frederick	Catherine Cali	Julia Hepler	
Sun. May 10	7:30 am	Frances Bergeron	Kathy Shilling	—	
	10:30 am	Maria Landry	Maria Landry	Katherine Sharp	Dylan Parker D. Logan

Saturday, May 9th Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

†Hebert, Zerangue, & Smith Families - Living & Deceased
 †Thomas Rivet, Jr †Thomas Rivet III †Thomas Rivet IV
 †Ray LaHoste, Jr †Raymond LaHoste, Sr. †Whalen Kiffe
 †Clarence & Ella Walker †Mary Bernard Blanchard
 †Peggy & Albert Hebert †Red & Yvonne Anne Adams
 †Claire Torres Ingalls †Patricia & Donald Torres, Sr
 †Alberta LeBlanc †Jean Derise †David Stansbury
 †Velma & Eldridge Williams †Jim Aloisio
 †Thomas Beadle †Holy Souls in Purgatory
 †Gene Bosworth & Joseph Mier Families
 †Tracey Peterson & John Ourso Families.

Sunday, May 10th 7:30 am

†Albert Solet †Luke Guillot †Maria & Ruben Trevino
 †Ruby & Roland Crappell †Judy Tholen.

10:30 am

†Rose Lipari †Ruth Wiggins †Terry Wiggins
 †Carlo Streva, Sr. †Hannah Casey
 †Maddie & Justin Couvillier
 †Canty & Thibodeaux Families - Living & Deceased
 †Landry & Justilian Families - Living & Deceased
 †Scholler & McGinnis Families - Living & Deceased.

St. Bernadette Church Offerings
April 25 - 26, 2026
 Offering.....\$ 3,139.00
 Faith Formation.....\$1,156.00
 Thank you for your generosity!

D V Y W P I W F I Z G K Y E N O C
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FORGIVENESS ACCEPT KNOW
 HEAVEN LIFE GOD
 SINS ONE BELIEVE
 WAY ETERNAL JESUS
 DISCIPLES TRUTH JOHN

CALLED TO LISTEN, CALLED TO SERVE

People communicate in different ways, but not all ways build healthy relationships.

Some people choose not to speak at all. They keep their concerns within themselves and suffer silently, often out of fear. While it may seem like they are avoiding conflict, this lack of communication can lead to deeper hurt. In fact, even silence communicates that something is wrong.

A second way is one-sided communication. In this case, one person or group speaks, gives orders, and expects others to simply listen and obey. This approach suppresses others and does not allow space for dialogue or understanding.

A third way is indirect communication—speaking about the issue to someone else instead of addressing the concerned person directly. This often happens through sarcasm or gossip, hoping the message will somehow reach the right person. This, too, creates confusion and division rather than clarity.

None of these approaches help build strong relationships or healthy communities.

The fourth way is the right one: open and honest communication. It involves sitting together, listening to one another, and working toward a peaceful solution. In this approach, everyone is respected, included, and given responsibility. This builds trust and strengthens the community.

We see this positive example in Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7). The early Christian community faced a conflict when Greek-speaking widows felt they were being treated unfairly in the distribution of food. Instead of ignoring the issue, the apostles gathered the whole community and encouraged them to find a solution together.

They asked the people to choose seven trustworthy and Spirit-filled men for this task. Significantly, all seven had Greek names, showing that those affected by the problem were trusted to help resolve it. This reflected inclusion, respect, and shared responsibility.

The apostles then prayed over them and laid hands on them, giving them an official role. This reminds us that service—especially caring for those in need—is just as important as preaching or worship. Service is essential to the life of the Church.

This message remains relevant today. In every community, challenges will arise. What matters is how we respond—with openness, respect, and a willingness to work together.

A strong community is built on fairness, shared responsibility, and service. True growth happens when we listen to one another and serve with sincerity.

In the Service of the Lord,
Fr. Thaisese Alphonse



“Extend your mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping. For what hope is there for us if God should withdraw His Mercy from us?”

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST (1581 -1660)

