

Our motto:
"To the Lord I give the
hours of my life and
the use of my death"

The Lamb

News and information for
St. Charles Borromeo Men of Manresa
and prospective members



Volume 9, Issue 10

October 2009

Men's meeting rooted in prayer and Scripture

Many of the men who were at the meeting of the St. Charles Borromeo Men of Manresa on September 17 had recently been on retreat and were quite ready for an evening rooted in prayer and Scripture.

When **Father Daniel Brouillette** - or "Father Bru" as he is sometimes known- entered the day chapel, everyone rose for the Angelus, which is prayed three times a day on retreat. As we prayed, we meditated upon Scripture within the devotion, "And the Word was made flesh. And dwelt amongst us." [JN 1:14]

With great respect for Father's singing voice, a hymnal was brought to him as the group sang their traditional opening song, "Pescador de Hombres" ("Fisher of Men") which was said to be Pope John Paul II's favorite hymn. Its contemporary English lyrics mirror to us the call that Jesus made to His first disciples, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men." [MT 4:19]

Mass was beautiful and, to be sure, based in Scripture. The reading from St. Paul's first letter to Timothy [1 TM 4:12-16] was a call to "set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity." In the Gospel [LK 7:36-50], Jesus tells the sinful woman "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

At the outset of his homily, Father Daniel - obviously very much at ease among this group of worshippers - commented on the first line of the liturgical reading, "Let no one have
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— Meeting Highlights —



Men of Manresa who packed the day chapel for Mass at their September 17 meeting chuckle at a comment made by Father Daniel Brouillette prior to the opening hymn. Members visible in the photo include Tony Ferrara, Irvin Naquin, Henry Friloux, Joe Peters, Deacon Mike Stohlman, Tony Migliore, Fred Jennings, George Schlorff, Larry Wagner, and Deacon Harry Schexnayder.

- Coming Events -

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEETING

- All men and wives are invited to our monthly fellowship meeting. Begins at 6:00 PM with Mass and Rosary in church. No dinner.
- Presentation follows at 7:00 PM, please see below.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 & 22 - PSALMS

- 7:00 PM presentations on consecutive Thursdays by Fr. Aelred Kavanagh, O.S.B., on the Psalms. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

OCT. 3-9: LATE NIGHT ROSARY

- At St. Benilde church
- Contact Nick Sardegna (764-7821) if interested.

OCT 17: MEN'S MORNING OF SPIRITUALITY

- At St. Rita Church on Lowerline. See parish bulletin.

OCT. 20: PEACEFUL ABORTION VIGIL

- Pray, march to end abortions, outside of abortion facility.
- See parish bulletin.

NOV. 10-12: COUPLES, SINGLES RETREAT

- At St. Joseph Abbey across the lake.
- Contact Don Montgomery (764-9762) if interested.

ROOTED IN PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE

(Continued from page 1)

contempt for your youth..." He said he looked around and realized, "Here I am talking to a bunch of old guys." Everyone present, with ages probably ranging from the early 40's to the mid 80's, laughed. But seriously, Father reminded us that "we are all called to be as children, we are all called to be God's children." He added that "We are men who love Jesus and who are not afraid to live out the vocation of a Christian, not afraid to live out the gospel, and not afraid to go make retreats, which are so counter-cultural." He explained that we go on retreats "so that we can have the heart of a child, so that we can enter the kingdom of heaven."

Following Mass, the men prayed the scriptural Rosary as a group, similar to what they do on retreat. Leading the Luminous Mysteries were **Irwin Waguespack, Tony Ferrara, Henry Friloux, Guy Hokanson, and Nick Sardegna**. Intentions for the evening included **Mule Pollet** and **Kim Louque**, who had each had recent surgeries. Other intentions included recently deceased **Mary Grace Waguespack**, and several members and wives who have been facing prolonged health challenges. May God bless them all with His love.

Dinner was later provided by SCB Men of Manresa Number One Chef **Joe Ricks**. The guys enjoyed a dinner of red beans and rice with sausage and French bread, followed by three desserts. **Greg Morrill** brought delicious fudge brownies, **Wil Hebert** brought a stunning tropical fruit salad, and **Ralph Richoux** brought an exquisite coconut cake.

As always, conversation during dinner was delightful. **Ralph Richoux** related some of the ups and downs of his recent Alaskan cruise. **Ron Perry** explained how the group he attends retreat with in August was started, and **Roy Trepagnier** followed with the story of his own introduction to retreat in the mid-1950's when his boss told everyone at work, "We're all going on retreat tomorrow," and that was that.

Group business was quickly discussed. Among the great

— Meeting Highlights —



The Men of Manresa pray earnestly with Father Daniel at Mass.

number in attendance, members **Barry Bleakley** and **Larry Wagner** were singled out and welcomed as always.

Tony Ferrara recapped the total attendance and donations from the July retreat, and reported that he will be lead captain for the July retreat again next year.

Guy Hokanson reported briefly on the more recent Labor Day retreat, which by coincidence was led by the same priest as the July retreat. (See page 6 for more about the Labor Day retreat.)

A discussion of the Top Chef social and the funds it raised followed. Of roughly \$3,300 raised by the event, members immediately voted to donate \$2,000 to the SCB building fund. In recognition of over \$15,000 in donations to the fund over the past several years, the Men of Manresa will be granted a

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Lamb is a monthly publication of the St. Charles Borromeo Men of Manresa. It intends to inform members and interest prospective members. Printed copies are available on the table in the back of our church on the first weekend of every month. Issues are also available on the Internet via our website at members.cox.net/SCBMoM.

Thanks for contributions to the production of this issue of The Lamb go to Rev. Harry Bugler, Pat & Annemarie Clancy, Kitty Fauchaux, Marcia Hokanson, James & Barbara Jeanfreau, and Nick Sardegna. Individual contributions are offered to the greater glory of God. *For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.* [Romans 11:36]

Our sponsor

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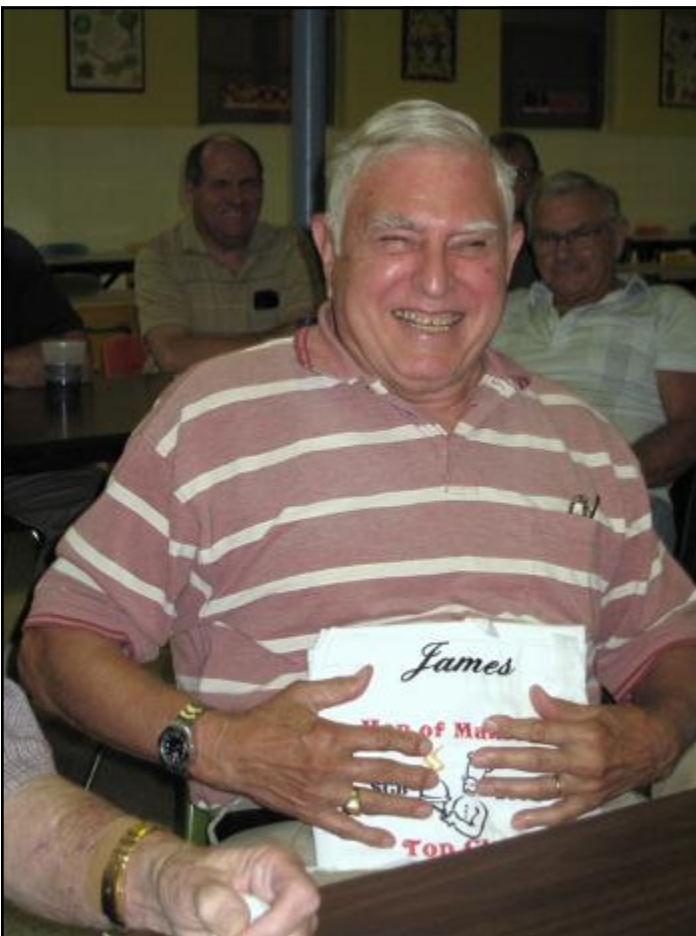
— Meeting Highlights —



After Mass, the Men of Manresa prayed the scriptural Rosary in the day chapel. Visible in the photo are Barry Bleakley, Roy Trepagnier, Nick Sardegna, Pat Clancy, Leon Kanicka, Oswald Schexnayder, Kermit Dufour, Mitch Chesne, Clarence Landeche, Roger Etienne, Don Montgomery, Ron Perry, and Irwin Waguespack.



Manresan Ron Perry makes an announcement that there is a \$1000 blackout bingo in the Sacred Heart of Jesus cafeteria in Norco on Saturdays at 7:00 PM.



James Jeanfreau was named the Top Chef for 2009 and received a personalized congratulatory apron to recognize the honor.

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foundation stone on the parish Tree of Life, which recognizes donors. The proposed inscription for the stone was quickly approved to include our motto: "To the Lord I give the hours of my life and the use of my death."

In other news, the winner of the August 23 Top Chef competition was finally revealed. Following some comical confusion that included the self-disqualification of courteous **Clarence Landeche** and the short-lived celebration of gracious **Greg Morrill**, the 2009 Top Chef was determined to be **James Jeanfreau**. The runner-up was **George Williamson**, and **Roger Etienne** won best dessert. (See page 4 for more on the Top Chef event.)

Finally, another member related a story of how, the day after he returned from a very prayerful Labor Day retreat, **Tony and Pam Migliore** had given him a dough for some Padre Pio bread. The person who receives this dough cares for it each day and also says an accompanying prayer for that day. After 10 days, the dough is divided into four parts; one part is baked and the other three parts are shared with others who are drawn to prayer. So when offered, **Tony Ferrara, Don Montgomery** and **Deacon Harry Schexnayder** each received a Padre Pio dough, and **Leon Kanicka** made arrangements to receive a dough from Deacon Harry when his dough would be ready, 10 days later.

SCB Men of Manresa host 3rd annual Fellowship Social

“A PARISH ALIVE”



(LEFT) The SCB Men of Manresa’s August 23 Fellowship social began with Mass at which Donald Waguespack of Manresa group #29 conducted the men’s choir. James Jeanfreau and Greg Morrill (ABOVE, FOREGROUND) were among dozens of Manresan who helped provide an outstanding festive dinner for over 200 parishioners.

Sunday, August 23, 2009 began with the SCB MoM choir singing the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Three men from Napoleonville who sing annually on the July retreat at Manresa came here for this special Mass. St. Ignatius’ prayer “Take Lord, Receive” was their song choice before Mass. At Manresa, retreatants pray this prayer every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Many in attendance had very favorable comments about the entire Mass, especially the Communion song “Holy Ground.”

Following the Mass members and wives prepared their food displays for the 11:00 a.m. meal. Parish President V.J. St. Pierre and his three volunteer cooks prepared a delicious jambalaya. Members rose to the occasion with a wide assortment of two salads, five sumptuous desserts, gumbos, soup, pasta, vegetables, meatballs, etc. The compliments throughout the day were endless – everyone left full with an assortment of delicacies. Very special thanks to our parish Administrative Assistant Ronald Rodrigue and wife Janeen, our Youth Director, who voluntarily prepared a delicious gumbo, while Father Daniel, here only a few weeks, added a spaghetti surprise enjoyed by all. Janeen also brought some twelve CYO boys and girls to help with all the chores, i.e., food servers, drinks, raffle, door collectors, trash pickup/clean up, etc. A friend from out of town commented “What would ya’ll have done without them?” Thanks to all our young boys and girls who volunteered. D.J. Gary Matherne and friends with the “Oldies but Goodies Dance Club” in Norco supplied the best of background music for the third year in a row. This year it stimulated some to dance the day away.

The silent auction was a big success. Four parishioners made one-of-a-kind jewelry that brought in \$1,030.00. A beautiful framed photo of “Palm Sunday at St. Charles Borromeo 2008” donated by photographer Tammy Naquin brought in \$88.00 and was won by a very enthusiastic Shirley Bourgeois. Thanks to everyone who donated miscellaneous items. These netted approximately \$981.00.



Long-time Manresan Oscar Weaver, at 99 years young, was one of the many energetic parishioners and friends who brought their love and energy to the event.

Again this year Chef Mario of Cypress Café in Destrehan agreed to judge the food. He commented, “This was the most difficult year due to the varied assortment and the quality of each dish.” The Top Chef for 2009 is James Jeanfreau with his sweet potato casserole. Runner up was George Williamson with his eggplant gumbo and the best dessert went to Roger Etienne with his cherry cobbler. Believe me, there were no losers. Thank you guys for doing what most of you only do once a year – cook!!! The Top Chef and two other winners will receive plaques of recognition at our September meeting and the Top Chef will receive a personalized apron donated by parishioner Debbie Estes.

Special awards were presented to Carolyn Boyd, Harriet

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Father Daniel Brouillette wowed the crowd with a delicious spaghetti and meat sauce, and Chef Mario Mustacchia of Mario's Cypress Café in Destrehan selected the winning entries in the Top Chef event.

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Williamson, Diane Rochelle and Cathy Dunlap for the jewelry they fashioned for this occasion. Each of them chose one of six new leather purses and/or tote bags which were donated by another parishioner.

Was the day a success? You be the judge –

Gross Income	\$3,617.50
Expenses	<u>-281.77</u>
Net Profit	\$3,335.73

We have itemized last year's expenditure of the \$3,000.00 profit from the 2008 Top Chef Social.

"Top Chef" 2008 profit \$3,000.00 and where we spent it –

SCB Building Fund	\$2,000.00
SCB PTFO Golf Tournament	250.00
SCB PTFO Extravaganza	200.00
Sacred Heart (Norco) Extravaganza	200.00
Little Infant of Good Health Nuns	250.00
St. Joseph Abbey Seminary	200.00
Jesuit's Immaculate Conception Fund (Fr. Harry Thompson)	100.00
Knights of Columbus Benefit	100.00
SCB Altar Server Breakfast	325.00
Father Jeff Montz Transfer	100.00
2009 Expenditures	<u>3,725.00</u>
Top Chef 2008 Profit	\$3,000.00

Thanks, your generosity went a long way!!!

I can definitely assure you, this year's profit will go to some of the same ministries and special parish needs. I can also assure

"A PARISH ALIVE"



In the silent auction that netted over \$2,000 for other ministries and spiritual causes, Shirley Bourgeois won the coveted photo "Palm Sunday at St. Charles Borromeo 2008," donated by photographer Tammy Naquin.



SCB Fountain of Youth volunteers, Men of Manresa wives, and many others helped to make the event a total success. Above, Heather Barber, Janell Weber, and Jenn Bordelon manage the entry door. Others created hand-made jewelry, served food and drinks, set up, picked up, and did whatever they could. It was truly "A Parish Alive."

you, 100% of this profit will not be used by the MOM membership. That's part of the success – all for the greater glory of our God. This is the driving force used by our organization to keep our membership proud of what we do.

But the money is not the only success gauge. Many commented on how this activity is what every parish needs – a chance to gather together with our parish family, estimated at 200 plus in attendance. The fellowship was everywhere. Friends meeting friends, new acquaintances started that might not have been made, young working with older parishioners, laughter, dancing, stories shared – that's what I call a **PARISH ALIVE!!** Thanks to everyone, may our Lord, Jesus bless all of you for **this** was the real success.

Business world buzzwords embody Labor Day retreat

“A PERFECT WORLD”

Many corporate meetings are full of personal posturing, politicking, and showboating. Buzzwords abound. Executives have been talking for years about how business might transpire “in a perfect world,” they stress what really matters “at the end of the day,” and they refer to the main points to remember from an event as “the takeaway.”

That first phrase came to mind on the recent Labor Day retreat at Manresa.

In a perfect world, God is the main focus. Our retreat was very perfect in that respect; in fact, God was the only focus of our retreat. Group prayer, liturgies, and devotions were offered throughout the day. Manresa director Tim Murphy and retreat captain Jeff Tully each directed us to let nothing distract us from God - and most, if not all, complied.

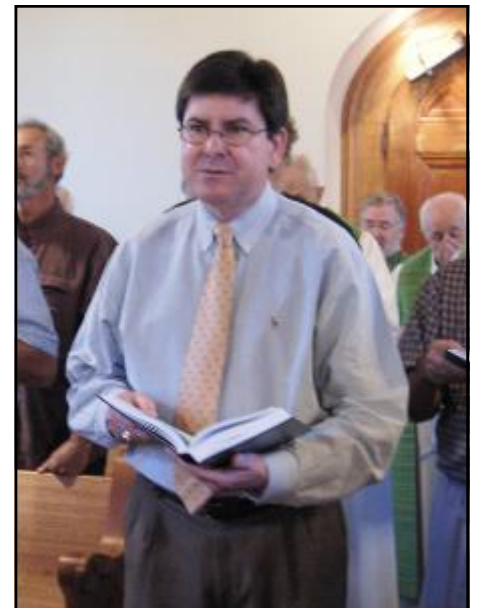
In a perfect world, one is always gaining knowledge. Our retreat master, Father Clyde LeBlanc, offered eleven thirty-minute lectures, and valuable guidelines for subsequent reading and meditation.

In a perfect world you are surrounded by friends, and our Labor Day retreat was no exception. New friends, old friends, even displaced friends. With the St. Charles Borromeo group were Paul Barletta, Nobile Benoit, and John Campo. David Gilmore, Guy Hokanson, Dr. Michael Mackenzie, and Dr. Jack Moreau. Veteran Kenny Pepperman Jr., first-timer Kenny Pepperman Sr., and Charlie Smith. SCB’s Wayne Kornack drove in from Naperville, Illinois, for the retreat, and our own Dave Roussel drove in from Melbourne, Florida. Lead retreat captain Jeff Tully was accompanied by his brother Tim Tully, and by his fellow diaconate candidates Joe Dardis and Malcolm Andry. Roy Woodruff became ill and had to leave early.

In a perfect world, everyone is ready, willing, and able to participate and to help in any way possible. While all retreatants participated and the handful of retreat assignments were quickly filled, the fine job Jeff Tully did as retreat captain deserves special mention. John Campo was our scribe, Nobile Benoit



The Labor Day retreat at Manresa provided “a perfect world” for prayer and reflection. (ABOVE) SCB alumnus David Roussel, who drove 12 hours from Melbourne, FL for the retreat, prays at the crucifix in Loyola Hall. (BELOW LEFT) Retreat captain Jeff Tully reminds retreatants to not allow cell phones and other gadgets to spoil Manresa’s sacred silence. (BELOW RIGHT) SCB parishioner Nobile Benoit was the lector at all Masses on the retreat.



was the lector at Mass, and the gift bearers at Mass were Paul Barletta and Guy Hokanson. David Gilmore led the outdoor Way of the Cross, and Jack Moreau led the scriptural Rosary. It might have been good if the Labor Day retreat had an organized choir, like some retreat groups do. But the enthusiasm, the

volume, and the talent with which every single retreatant in the chapel sang during Mass was, well, just perfect.

A perfect world would be even more beautiful than the world we live in, wouldn’t it? Walking under rows of oaks planted in the 1800’s, a soft morning

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“A PERFECT WORLD”



(Continued from page 6)

breeze brushed away all care for Labor Day retreatants. The song of birds echoed through the trees, and rose beds, crape myrtle arbors, and colorful flowering borders were all in bloom. Beneath the light of a full moon, night-blooming jasmine flowers shared their alluring perfume.

In a perfect world, money takes a back seat to more important matters. Certainly, retreatants are encouraged that their financial situation should not keep them from coming to Manresa. Many retreatants made their confidential donation more than the suggested amount, some gave less, and some may have given little or nothing all at this time.

If your perfect world is in south Louisiana, it includes food - lots of delicious food cooked at least as well as you enjoy it back home. Delicious salads, mouth-watering entrees, and irresistible desserts - 93 Labor Day retreatants enjoyed them all.

Human beings make human mistakes, but in a perfect world, all is forgiven. With opportunities for consultation and Reconciliation with three priests on the Labor Day retreat, there was no better chance for a brand new start, filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

A perfect world also offers the opportunity for reflection - a chance to absorb, digest, and make sense of it all; a precious environment in which to see things as God sees them. The newly renovated Sacred Heart Chapel at Manresa was open 24 hours a day for adoration and prayer. Three other chapels allowed retreatants to schedule private visits with our Lord.

A perfect world offers perfect conversation, and the cooperative silence among the Labor Day retreatants facilitated perfect conversation with God. Private, uninterrupted inner prayer - a dialogue with God - continued from chapel to dining room, from lecture hall to library, and from tranquil ponds and trickling fountains at the center of campus to the paths and shadows of its far reaches.

A perfect world includes the fruit of man's God-given talent. Labor Day retreatants enjoyed classical music and sacred hymns during meals, and devotional paintings and sculptures abound all across the campus. Father LeBlanc used religious icons



Manresa's "perfect world" included group prayer, Scripture, and guided reflections. (LEFT) Dr. Jack Moreau, standing at rear, leads the scriptural Rosary at St. Mary's fountain. (ABOVE) Fr. Clyde LeBlanc guided 93 retreatants through the Spiritual Exercises. (BELOW) David Gilmore, in foreground, led the retreatants on the Way of the Cross.



extensively during his lectures, and he even invited retreatants to bring them to their rooms "if you think it might help you pray."

On our Labor Day retreat, we looked at God's love, we looked at sin, and we looked at forgiveness. We looked at creation, at ourselves, at the life of Christ, at His Passion and death, and at His resurrection. Yes, the Labor Day retreat was about as close to that so-called "perfect world" as you can get.

But alas, "at the end of the day" we are called upon to live out God's very perfect ideals in what can be, morally speaking, a very imperfect world. Prayer is neither encouraged nor rewarded by secular society, and where ambition, selfishness, and lust all too often motivate - wealth, ego, and appearances dominate.

The "takeaway" from our Labor Day retreat is that even in an imperfect world, we retreatants need to give thanks to God for creation, and for the gift of our life. Reflect the life of Jesus in our actions. Forgive others as He has forgiven us. Become "indifferent" to secular motivations. Respond to God's love. Preach the Good News of the gospel. In summary, we need to use what we have learned, practice what we have resolved, and spend the energy we have gained - all for the greater glory of God. Amen.

Are you smarter than a 6th grader?

“OPEN BOOK” TEST ENCOURAGES LEARNING

The Bible is at the core of our faith, but how much do we really know about it? With credit to the television show of a similar name, we invite you to join us as we explore the Bible - from Genesis to Revelation—via a series of quizzes that were actually administered to 6th grade students.

Directions: This is an “open book” test. Use your Bible to answer each question on your own before reading the answers we have provided. We also encourage to share your knowledge and consult with family and friends before answering. Note that there may be more than one answer for each question.

“THE GOSPELS” THE RESURRECTION

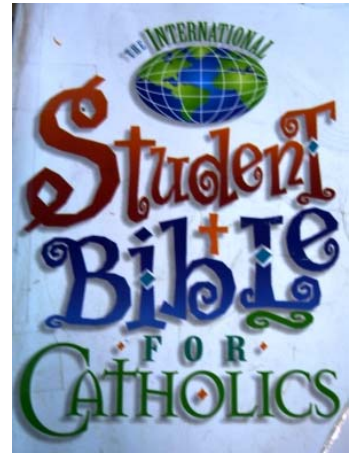
1. Everything in the Bible leads up to (a) the birth of Jesus (b) the miracles that Jesus worked during his public ministry (c) the crucifixion of Christ (d) the Resurrection of Christ.
2. Because of the Resurrection (a) Jesus is no longer with us, he abandoned us (b) everything since then has no meaning (c) everything since then has new meaning (d) everything since then means nothing.
3. The message in each of the Gospels is the same: (a) sin and death will eventually win (b) sin and death do not win (c) all believers in Christ will share in His Resurrection (d) every follower of Christ needs to bring the good news of His Resurrection to others.
4. [JN 20:1-10] When Mary Magdalen first saw on Easter morning that Jesus' tomb was empty, she (a) ran to see if the Easter bunny left some jelly beans in her basket (b) ran and told the two disciples that someone had taken Jesus from His tomb (c) thought that Jesus had risen from the dead (d) thought that Jesus had never died.
5. [JN 20:11-13] When Mary Magdalen looked into the tomb, she saw (a) that Jesus was really in there after all (b) that two angels in white were in there (c) that the eleven apostles were all in there looking for Jesus (d) a note that Jesus had left for her.
6. [JN 20:14-18] When Mary Magdalen turned around and saw Jesus, He said that (a) He was going to ascend to the Father (b) she should go tell the disciples that she had seen the Lord (c) she should go tell the disciples what He had told her (d) He was going to get revenge on the people who had crucified Him.
7. [JN 20:19-23] When Jesus met the apostles following His resurrection, He told them (a) As the Father has sent me, so I send you. (b) Receive the Holy Spirit (c) they now had His authority to forgive sins (d) they should get revenge on the people who had crucified Him.
8. [JN 20:24-25] When the other apostles told Thomas that Jesus had risen from the dead (a) Thomas immediately

rejoiced because he was so happy (b) Thomas believed them right away (c) Thomas said he would have to put his finger into the nail holes and his hand into Jesus' side before he would believe (d) Thomas said he was a little surprised.

9. [JN 20:26-29] When Thomas finally saw Jesus after His Resurrection (a) Jesus told him to put his finger into the nail holes and his hand into His side, and believe (b) Jesus told him that those of us who have not seen Him in person, but still believe, are blessed (c) Thomas still didn't believe (d) Thomas now believed.
10. [JN 21: 15-19] Jesus later told Peter (a) Feed my lambs (b) Tend my sheep (c) Feed my sheep (d) that Peter would later stretch out his hands [and be crucified].

ANSWERS

1. *Everything in the Bible leads up to the Resurrection of Christ. (d)*
2. *Everything since the Resurrection has new meaning. (c)*
3. *The message in each of the Gospels is that sin and death do not win, that all believers in Christ will share in His Resurrection, and that we all need to bring His Good News to others. (b,c,d)*
4. *Mary Magdalen ran and told the two disciples that someone had taken Jesus from His tomb. (b)*
5. *When Mary Magdalen looked into the tomb, she was two angels in white. (b)*
6. *When Mary Magdalen first saw Jesus, He told her to “go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ “ (c)*
7. *When Jesus reunited with the apostles, he told them “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” (a,b,c)*
8. *Thomas first said “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” (c)*
9. *After Jesus told Thomas to probe his wounds, Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said that those who have not seen, but believe, are blessed. (a,b,d)*
10. *Jesus told Peter all these things. (a,b,c,d)*



So...are you smarter than a 6th grader?