



TRADITIONS

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valid unless it happened at the cathedral. Arriving at church early was important also, in order to catch drops of the holy water to ensure the palms were properly blessed. Those who were not sure that their palms had actually been blessed during the ceremony would dip them in the holy water font on the way out of church. The palms from the previous year were burned and buried under the house or in the garden.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Holy Week, the office of Tenebrae was chanted at the cathedral. During the chanting of the psalms and Scriptures, lighted candles on the altar were successively extinguished, until one was left, symbolizing Christ. When that last one was removed, the congregation clapped their book and made noise to represent the confusion that reigned on earth when Christ expired on the cross.

On Holy Thursday, the bells were silenced and wooded clappers summoned the faithful to church; holy

water was removed from the fonts and the altar was stripped. The Blessing of the Holy Oils in the morning and the washing of the feet in the afternoon were both well attended.

In the evening, the Creoles made visits to Le Reposoir, the specially decorated and illumined side altar, where the Blessed Sacrament was kept for prayer and adoration. The more affluent families rented carriages to take them from church to church to make amends for the negligence of the apostles who slept while Jesus agonized in the

garden.

Always, on Good Friday, the Way of the Cross was observed at the traditional time of the Savior's death. Many who "make the nine churches" on this day will time their walk to conclude with the outdoor Way of the Cross at St. Roch Cemetery and the prayer at the crucifix in the center of the Campo Santo.

On Holy Saturday, Catholics attended the blessing of the new fire, the lighting of the Paschal candle, the blessing of Easter water, the chanting of the prophecies and the Mass of the Resur-

rection. Each household obtained its supply of the Easter water after the services. The children eagerly awaited the return of the bells, which had "flown to Rome to see the Pope" after the chanted Gloria on Holy Thursday.

From all of the widespread observance of the Lenten period, it is not hard to understand how Mardi Gras became so popular, as one last fling at gaiety and social brilliance before the rigorous Lenten period.

Author and teacher Gayle Nolan lives in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

In our commitment to the advancement of people and the creation of a worthy society, we strive to promote the justice of Christ.

MSC CONSTITUTIONS #6



Founded in Lemans, France in 1841, the Marianites of Holy Cross have served the people of the Archdiocese of New Orleans since 1848.

The fire of their zeal has been a compassionate

presence in Education, Health Care, Social Outreach, Parish Ministry.



St. Mary's Orphanage, Bywater

2017 Chapter Delegates



Marianites of Holy Cross
www.marianites.org



Sisters, Servants of Mary — who keep overnight vigil with the sick — arrive in New Orleans, Sept. 12.

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament arrive Aug. 15 to staff Xavier Academy, which later becomes Xavier University of Louisiana, the oldest continuing black Catholic university in the United States. St. Katharine Drexel funds the school through her family inheritance.



John William Shaw is appointed eighth archbishop of New Orleans. Bicentennial of city marked by the Morning Star in its April 6 issue. In January, Pope Benedict XV establishes the Diocese of Lafayette, comprising western Louisiana, and appoints Jules Benjamin Jeanmar, the first native Louisianian to be raised to the episcopate, as its founding bishop.

WWL Radio, owned by the Jesuits, goes on the air as a 10-watt station at 833 kHz from Marquette Hall on the Loyola University campus. A piano recital is the first program.

1914

• 1914

• 1914-18

• 1915

• 1915

• 1918

• 1918

• 1922

1922

World War I

On Sept. 29, a devastating hurricane sweeps through the city, destroying five Catholic churches. Damage to St. Louis Cathedral is so extensive it is closed for stabilization.

Christian Brothers purchase St. Paul's School in Covington from Benedictines, June 12.