



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL SIGUR
ACTING MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 31, 2016

ANNUAL ST. ROSALIE PROCESSION SET FOR SUNDAY

The yearly St. Rosalie Procession in south Kenner is one of the city's oldest traditions. In 1855, Italian immigrants settled into the area of Kenner that now stretches from Williams Boulevard and Kenner Avenue to the St. Charles Parish line.

In 1898, an epidemic of what was known as "charbon" - more commonly referred to as anthrax today - affected the sale of produce and livestock. Without either, the immigrants would not be able to feed their families.

Farmers then prayed to St. Rosalie, the patron saint of Sicily, for an end to the epidemic that was killing their crops and livestock. According to legend, heavy rains soon began to fall that helped to stop the spread of the disease.

The first St. Rosalie procession was held in 1898 and has now reached its 118th year. The three-mile procession of faith and prayer has changed little over the past century and the participants carry a St. Rosalie statue and symbolic relics.

The celebrant for this year's celebration is Father Richard Miles.

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016

Where: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1908 Short Street, Kenner

Italian Dinner: Will be served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mass: 3 p.m.

Procession: 4 p.m.

Benediction 6 p.m.

For more information regarding this spiritual event, please contact the OLPH rectory at (504) 464-0361.

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