



Dear sisters and brothers,

In one of his books, pastor and author Max Lucado tells the story of a man who had been a closet slob most of his life. He just couldn't comprehend the logic of neatness. Why make up a bed if you're going to sleep in it again tonight? Why put the lid on the toothpaste tube if you're going to take it off again in the morning? He admitted to being compulsive about being messy.

Then he got married. His wife was patient. She said she didn't mind his habits . . . if he didn't mind sleeping on the couch. Since he did mind, he began to change. He said he enrolled in a 12-step program for slobs. A physical therapist helped him rediscover the muscles used for hanging up shirts and placing toilet paper on the holder. His nose was reintroduced to the smell of Pine Sol. By the time his in-laws arrived for a visit, he was a new man.

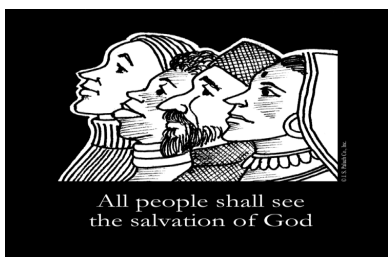
But then came that moment of truth. His wife went out of town for a week. At first he reverted to the old man. He figured he could be a slob for six days and clean up on the seventh. But something strange happened. He could no longer relax with dirty dishes in the sink or towels flung around the bathroom or clothes on the floor or sheets piled up like a mountain on the bed.

What happened? Simple. He had been exposed to a higher standard of living.

John the Baptist calls upon us to a higher standard of living by take our sinning seriously. Why? Because God does? Repentance is not just changing our minds, or feeling sorry for something that we have done, or even making bold resolves that we will never participate in certain conduct again. Instead, repentance means to turn our lives completely around and go in another direction. What John the Baptist wants us to hear is: Boldly turn your life toward this one called Messiah. This is not negative or down-faced. Rather, it breaks the chains of oppression, fear, resentment, anger, hurt and death that hold us back from that greater way to live by love, a higher standard of living which God has in mind for us. Prepare the way of the Lord ... forgive me Father, for I have sinned ... it's been a while since my last confession ...

In the Divine Word, I am,

Fr. Rick Andrus, SVD



Altar Servers

- 7:30 a.m. Kelby Chenevert, Da'Marquis London
- 10:30 a.m. Michael Knox, Kyron Phillips, Jacques Knox

Readers

- 7:30 a.m. Debra Dudley, Darlene St. Romain
- 10:30 a.m. Youth Sunday

Eucharistic Ministers

- 7:30 a.m. Audrene LeBlanc, Monique Spaulding, Alice Zacharie, Paulette Robertson, Murray Chenevert, Perry Chenevert
- 10:30 a.m. Christy Hall, Barbara Cornell, Sonya Bowers, Jean Roam, Pamela Claiborne, Amanda Skinner

Mass Intentions

- 7:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle
- 10:30 a.m. Paul Broussard, Evelyn Broussard

Readings for the Week

- Monday: **International Human Rights day**
Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: **Memorial of St. Damasus I**
Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Thursday: **Memorial of St. Lucy**
Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: **Memorial of St. John of the Cross**
Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday: **Third Sunday of Advent**
Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45



Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you have a family member or friend who might be interested? We are about to begin an exciting journey in faith and discovery about the Catholic Faith. As we move through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults in preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at Easter, **we will learn about Church History, traditions, prayers and scripture to understand more about where God is moving you in hopes it will lead you to professing our faith as Catholic Christians. Interested - or know someone who may be? Call the Church Office for more information!**



“Sent to serve” is the theme for Lesson 2 for the parable of the Prodigal Son that the Bible Study will review on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in St. Paul Center after our prayer service. Specific lessons in Matthew Chapters 5, 6, and 7 will highlight discipleship and being a servant of Jesus Christ.

Parish Schedule for the Week

Sunday: 7:30 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Religious Ed. Classes
10:30 am Mass Youth Sunday

Monday: No Mass
6:30 pm Word and Deed Gathering

Tuesday: No Mass

Wednesday: No Mass
4:30 pm Rehearsal for 7:30 Choir
6 p.m. Bible Study
7 p.m. Rehearsal for 10:30 Choir

Thursday: No Mass

Friday: No Mass
6 pm Liturgical Dance Practice

Saturday: 9 am Male Chorus Rehearsal
10 a.m. Mime Group Practice
11 a.m. Liturgical Dance Practice

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY
Drivers for Sunday, December 16, 2018
10:30 a.m. Judge Luke La Vergne and Alene Lockett

Our former pastor, Fr. Jerome LeDoux is having surgery on Wednesday, December 12th. He asked that we remember him in our prayers. Please pray for a successful surgery and speedy recovery for Fr. LeDoux.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - In preparation for Christmas, you are offered the opportunity to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation, or penance**. Confession is just one part of that sacrament and focuses on the forgiveness of sins. There is a broader understanding of the sacrament, which is not only to be forgiven but also as a healing sacrament. As we participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we don't just confess our sins but we should also ask God to heal us because another dimension of the sacrament is empowerment. God's grace will help us overcome our weakness. We're encouraged to see this sacrament as part of our Advent practice – a renewal – because the sacrament is a powerful means to bring about ongoing renewal and conversion. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated Wednesday, December 19th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. here at St. Paul and on Thursday, December 20th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception. Fr. Richard Andrus and Fr. Thomas Clark will both be available for those who wish to celebrate the Sacrament.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE There are still a few children on the giving tree to be adopted. If you still want to adopt one, please select one from the tree today and sign the log sheet with your contact information and the number of the child you selected. All gifts are due by next Sunday, December 16th.

A SPECIAL THANKS from the Knights of Peter Claver Junior Daughters Court 351 for your support of their Blanket Drive. The Junior Daughters will be delivering blankets and knit caps to the homeless with the hopes of providing a little warmth during the cold winter months. Thanks for your generosity!



USHERS MEETING/TRAINING - All Ushers, Greeters and Ministers of Hospitality ... those who are well worded in the ministry and those who are new or interested in serving in this ministry ... I need to see you! I need to see all of you serving at both Masses this Tuesday, December 11th at 6 PM in the Church. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Edmonia Joseph.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our St. Paul family for the cards, sympathy, love, and prayers as we suffered a tremendous loss of our beloved Carolyn Boyd-Givens. We are trying to cope each and every day, and we know that St. Paul is a praying family. Keep the prayers coming, we really appreciate it.
The Family of Carolyn Boyd-Givens

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WRAP GIFTS: Meaningful Autistic Resources for Kids (**MARK**) is a local nonprofit that addresses the struggles of families challenged with the care of special needs children. This holiday season "MARK" will continue their annual fundraiser of wrapping gifts in the Mall of Louisiana near Dillard's by the Playland starting Saturday, Dec. 15 until Dec. 23. Volunteers are needed to help wrap and bag gifts to make this year's fundraiser a success. All proceeds will help "MARK" prepare for their 2018 Holiday Camp for Children with Autism. To learn more about our programs, visit www.succeedwithmark.org or call 225-264-1650.

Happy Birthday

Anna Perry 12/09	Jayal Patrick 12/11
Gerald Anderson 12/10	Elliott Baham Jr. 12/13
Deatra Joseph 12/10	Dianne Briley 12/13
Sherri Williams 12/10	Corey-Michael Free 12/13
Andrea Eugene 12/11	Felicia Hebert 12/13
Christopher Howard 12/11	



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND



Audrey Christopher, Edna Davis James, Mary Smart, Carolyn Christophe, Dorothy Bazile, Myrtis Coleman, Robert Seals, Mona Seals, Sylvia Collier, Steven Earl, Lena Batiste, Marie Myles, George Bell, Mary Lena Price, Irene Warner, Lois Joseph, Willis Reed, Jr., Joseph Broussard, Annie Joseph, Rosa Johnson, Harry Sills, Denovas Crockett, Gloria Williams, Jeanette Bishop, Jasman Benjamin, Earline Bell, Don Thibodeaux, James Hayward, Dorothy Andrews, Ursula Brady, Gussie Trahan, Cheryl Crockett, Brenda D. Hickman, Marie V. Hawkins, Quincy Hamilton, Amber Hunt, Charles Davis, Jr., Martha Davis, Jessie Joseph, Rose Crockett Carter, Dianna Franklin, Albertha Varmall, John Christophe, Geraldine Jones, Ellis Doyle, Raushiera Cooks, and Fr. Richard R. Andrus, Jr., SVD



PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK FAMILY MEMBERS & FRIENDS


Ronnie Gauthier, Helen Celestine, Florence Jackson, Geraldine Floyd, Betty Hammond, Frank Ross, Eunice Royal, Mona Bossier Bailey, Walker Williams, Barbara Brennan, Richard Dillon, Calvin Thomas, III, Joel Rivera, Dorie Martin., Alberta Conner, Martha Reinhart, Dana Simoneaux, Nichelle Hollins, Jessica Hughes, Rev. Frank H. Young, and Ernie Butitta






	Website for Online Giving: www.osvonlinegiving.com/4266 December 2, 2018
Offertory Collection	\$ 6,339.08
Online Giving	\$ 1,715.00
Children's Offering	\$ 8.50
Building Fund	\$ 931.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 234.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 129.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 2.00
Advent Folders	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 9,398.58
<i>Remember this: whoever sows sparingly, reap sparingly; and whoever sows generously, reap generously.</i>	
2 Corinthians 9:6	

<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Opston, Dorcenia, Wilbert, Philip, Opston, Jr., Albert & Jerome Guillory, CB, Ruth & Tia Davis, Catherine Williams, Yvonne Warren and Marcus Montigue</p> 	<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>George Coleman, Jr Geneva Coleman George Coleman, Sr. Carrie Coleman M.H. Weathersby Odelia Weathersby Donald Coleman</p> 	<p>JANI-KING</p> <p>Commercial Cleaning Service</p> <p>Monique Scott 225 273-5464</p>	<p>Space Available</p>	<p>State Farm Insurance</p> <p>Leonard Benjamin 775-2494</p>
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<p>Space Available</p>	<p align="center">St. Paul the Apostle Quick Reference</p>																																				
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<p>In Loving Memory of Our Loved Ones:</p>  <p>Roosevelt Bowers Joseph "Buddy" Walker Oscar LeDuff, Jr. Elizabeth & Frank P. Bowers Carrie & Douglas Rodney, Sr. Clara & Willis Walker Sarah Rodney Domino & Wilbert Domino, Sr. Freddie Bowers Ora Bowers Ward Sybil Thomas Johnson Maureen Bowers Johnson</p> 																																					

<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Famye Reed and the Reed, Stewart, Davis, and Grainger Families</p>  <p>"Rest in Peace"</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Geneva Battley Spooner Della Battley Rodney</p>  <p>"Rest in Peace"</p>	<p>John K. Pierre Attorney At Law</p> <p>2900 West Fork Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70815 225 295-5638</p>	<p>Chenevert Construction & Remodeling 344-0183</p>
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<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Lionel Bazile, Sr. James Bazile Sheila Bazile</p>  <p>"Rest in Peace"</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Aaron Bradley Joseph H.P. Martin</p>  <p>"Rest in Peace"</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of:</p> <p>Milton, Rachel, Lillie, Lillian, Kirby, James "Pookie" Verdell, Corinne & Michael Joseph, Lawrence, Sr. & Shedrick Ashford, Ellis Myles, Sr., Rose & Albert Hebert, Eula White</p> 	<p>In Loving Memory of:</p>  <p>Wilfred Ferbos, Sr.</p>  <p>"Rest in Peace"</p>	<p>Space Available</p>
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