



Dear friends,

This past week we celebrated the Fourth of July, our nation's Independence Day. For many, it was a day off from work, a holiday. For retailers and store owners, it was a "Fourth of July Sale." There were back yard BBQ's, family gatherings with friends. For others, it was "business as usual," having to punch the clock and be on time for work. As night fell, the day ended with an incredible display of fireworks, "The largest fireworks in the State!" "Let freedom ring" is the foundational spirit and chant of the day.

But in the reflective quiet of my celebration of Independence Day, I found myself torn because of the reality of at least two Americas. One in which relative freedom has been achieved and another America where people of this nation are struggling to really be free. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King once said that, "No one is free until all people are free."

Inequality has been a big theme in the U.S. of late. The stats are stark. Police stops, brutality and the incarceration rates among African Americans are astronomical, hate crimes and workplace discomfort are still very real concerns. Women still face threats of violence and lower earnings because of their gender. People with disabilities, Hispanics, Immigrants, Refugees, American Indians, People from differing religious backgrounds, various nationalities and marriage partners all have their own painful struggles for freedom as well. The following day, July 5th marked the 2 year anniversary of the police shooting of Alton Sterling and while some things have changed, like the new policy on use of force for the BRPD, relatively little has ultimately changed.

Clearly, as Christians, we have much to do so that all people are free. But so many times, I hear, "How can I do anything that matters in the long run?"

We cannot forget that when the power of Jesus Christ combines with an undying sense of hope and a belief unrestrained by our fear of rejection, extraordinary things happen that astound the world. For example: On September 20, 1989, in Pretoria, South Africa, F. W. de Klerk was inaugurated as President of the country. Apartheid, the legal segregation of the races, was the law of the land. de Klerk was a Christian who attended church regularly, so he invited his favorite pastor, a white man named Peter Bingle, to lead a worship service as part of the inaugural events.

During the sermon, Pastor Bingle said this: Mr. de Klerk, as our new President, God is calling you to do his will. Today God calls you to serve as the President of South Africa. God's commission is not to serve as the President of some people, but as the President of all the people of South Africa.

By the benediction, de Klerk was weeping. He called his family and friends together and said, "Pray for me. God has told me what I must do. And if I do it, I will be rejected by my own people. Pray for me, that I might do the will of God."

Soon thereafter, de Klerk took steps to release Nelson Mandela from prison. Then he began to negotiate with the African National Congress. Then he worked to dismantle the system of apartheid. The rest, as they say, is history.

Dear brothers and sisters, the hometown folks are a tough crowd, but how long will we let our unbelief, our fear of rejection, our lack of hope keep us from the astounding deeds of power that Jesus longs to accomplish in our lives? Let no stumbling block be too big for us to overcome until that day when real freedom rings!

In the Divine Word, I am,

Fr. Rick Andrews, SVD



Altar Servers

- 7:30 a.m. Jaiden Parker, Kelby Chenevert, Da'Marquis London
- 10:30 a.m. Michael Knox, Jacques Knox, Contrell Salton

Readers

- 7:30 a.m. Debra Dudley, Darlene St. Romain
- 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Youth

Eucharistic Ministers

- 7:30 a.m. Perry Chenevert, Murray Chenevert, Alice Zacharie, Paulette Robertson
- 10:30 a.m. Pamela Claiborne, Barbara Cornell, Sonja Bowers, Jean Roan, Amanda Skinner, Christy Hall

Mass Intentions

- 7:30 a.m. Mrs. Edna Stewart
- 10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle

Readings for the Week

- Monday: **Memorial of St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions**
Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
- Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38
- Wednesday: **Memorial of St. Benedict**
Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
- Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
- Friday: **Memorial of St. Henry**
Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
- Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
- Sunday: **Memorial of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14; Eph 1:3-14 [3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

A Vocation View: Who should you encourage to think about a religious vocation? What would people think if you became a priest/brother/sister?

**DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
800-553-3321**

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY
Drivers for Sunday, July 15, 2018
10:30 a.m. Shirley Dawson and Augustine Kador

Parish Schedule for the Week

Sunday: **7:30 am Mass**
10:30 Mass
Youth Sunday

Monday: **No Mass**

Tuesday: **8 am Mass**

Wednesday: **8 am Mass**
4:30 pm Rehearsal for 7:30 Choir
6 pm Raffle Captain Meeting
6 pm Bible Study

Thursday: **7 pm Rehearsal for 10:30 Choir**

Friday: **8 am Mass**
6 am Liturgical Dance Practice

Saturday: **9 am Male Chorus Rehearsal**
11 am Liturgical Dance Practice
12 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal

Not Needing God: In Greek Mythology, Atlas was condemned to carry the weight of the entire world on his shoulders. That was as harsh a punishment as the ancient Greek mind could conjure up. Today, it seems, many people have volunteered to play the role of Atlas. We have not offended God, we have dismissed God, told God we were grown up enough not to need God's help any more, and offered to carry the weight of the entire world on our shoulders. The question is, when it gets too heavy for us, when there are questions too hard for human knowledge to answer and problems that take more time to solve than any of us have, will we be too proud to admit that we have made a mistake in wanting to carry this world alone?

Mayor Sharon Weston-Broome and Police Chief Murphy Paul are inviting parents who have been affected by violence to attend the **Parents on the Frontline of Peace** meeting on Monday, July 9, 2018 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at Shiloh Early Learning Academy, 185 Eddie Robinson Sr. Drive. If any parents of St. Paul or anyone you know who has been affected by violence, I strongly encourage you to pass the word and attend this very important, proactive meeting!



Remember that the **Annual St. Paul the Apostle Raffle**, as part of the **Church Fair** is slowly approaching. From the beginning, **all adult members of St. Paul have been asked to be responsible for \$100 worth of raffle tickets** to keep our church alive and moving forward in our mission and ministry. Tickets will soon begin to be distributed to all members of the church by a **"Ticket Captain."** **Be sure to look for someone with your tickets soon!** For those who find it difficult to buy or sell that one ticket and have a hard time coming up with the \$100 in October, we have begun a "payment plan." In the pews are green envelopes in which you can make your payments, drop them in the collection basket. Your payment will be recorded and credit towards your \$100 will be given!



The Mime Group is a new ministry in the parish for young men 12 years of age and older. We encourage our young men to consider being a part of this ministry and learn a new form of praise & worship. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the foyer. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Alicia Varmall at 332-1782 or Ms. Kim Dunn at 810-6382.



RAFFLE CAPTAIN MEETING: Persons who helped last year to give out our annual raffle tickets to members and persons who want to join the Raffle Captain Team are asked to come to a training workshop and pick up raffle tickets Wednesday, July 11th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center. A light meal will be provided.

Marriage Encounter Weekend: Why Settle for a "Good" Marriage... WHEN YOU CAN HAVE A "GREAT MARRIAGE?" You can make the leap from just "good" to "GREAT" on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! The weekend allows married couples to get away from jobs, kids, chores, the internet & phones and focus their attention on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend can offer! The next weekend is scheduled on July 27-29 at the Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center at 1800 S. Acadian Thruway in Baton Rouge. You can register online at www.LAMS-wwme.org or by calling Matt & Gail Quinn at 504-371-5066.

Happy Birthday

John Broussard 7/08	Melba Kennedy 7/10
Asia Hillery 7/08	Anthony Skinner 7/10
Leonard Rucker, Jr. 7/08	Terrell Carter 7/11
Audrey Davis 7/09	Ariel Skinner 7/13
Paula Jackson 7/09	Liorah Twase 7/13
Geraldine St. Amant 7/09	DeJuan Thomas 7/14
Brent Hayward, Jr. 7/10	



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, and Cruz Dudley Walker

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK FAMILY MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Ronnie Gauthier, Helen Celestine, Florence Jackson, Geraldine Floyd, Betty Hammond, Frank Ross, Norma Fagan, Violet Holly, Eunice Royal, Mona Bossier Bailey, Walker Williams, Barbara Brennan, Tyesha Collins, Richard Dillon, Calvin Thomas, III, Robert Lee Martin, Ann Pettit, Joan Pettit, Joel Rivera, Dorie Martin., Alberta Conner, and Martha Reinhart

Website for Online Giving:
www.osvonlinegiving.com/4266

Our Weekly Offering

July 1, 2018

Offertory Collection	\$ 7,961.92
Online Giving	\$ 1,320.00
Children's Offering	\$ 6.00
Building Fund	\$ 1,800.00
St. Vincent de Paul	<u>\$ 324.00</u>
Total	\$ 11,411.92

Remember this: whoever sows sparingly, reap sparingly; and whoever sows generously, reap generously.

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>Jacques's Photography</p> <p>3168 Anita Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70805 355-2366 – Home 921-1563 – Mobile</p>	<p>State Farm Insurance</p> <p>Leonard Benjamin 775-2492</p>
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Space Available

St. Paul the Apostle Quick Reference

Altar Servers - 7:30 - Shirley Dawson.....	802-6128
Altar Servers - 10:30 - Christy Hall.....	223-7851
Infant Baptism - Deacon Benjamin Dunbar, Jr.....	324-5808
Bible Study - Barbara Haynes.....	665-2630
Bookkeeper - Debra Dudley.....	383-2537
Center (Use of Center) - Mary Martin.....	383-2537
Center Rental & Repast - Velita Benjamin.....	654-6705
Child Protection Coordinator - Vera Dunbar.....	324-2939
Eucharistic Ministers - Nancy Ball.....	397-4309
Liturgy Committee - Martha Davis.....	357-4108
Nurse - Maxine Watts	278-6732
Parish Office - Secretary - Mary Martin.....	383-2537
Pastor - Fr. Richard Andrus.....	383-2537
Readers - Theresa Grevious.....	773-8023
Religious Education Director - Martha Davis.....	357-4108
RCIA Coordinator - Fr. Richard Andrus.....	383-2537
Ushers - Edmonia Joseph	772-2090
Youth Ministry - Justin Kennedy.....	754-2609


In Loving Memory of Our Loved Ones:

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

In Loving Memory of:

Famy Reed
and the
Reed, Stewart, Davis , and
Grainger Families



"Rest in Peace"

In Loving Memory of:

Geneva Battley Spooner
Della Battley Rodney



"Rest in Peace"

John K. Pierre
Attorney At Law


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In Loving Memory of:

Clifford Rodney, Jr.



"Rest in Peace"

In Loving Memory of:


Lionel Bazile, Sr.
James Bazile
Sheila Bazile



"Rest in Peace"

In Loving Memory of:


Aaron Bradley Joseph
H.P. Martin




"Rest in Peace"

In Loving Memory of:


Milton, Rachel, Lillie,
Lillian, Kirby, James
"Pookie " Verdell,
Corinne & Michael
Joseph, Lawrence, Sr. &
Shedrick Ashford,
Ellis Myles, Sr., Rose &
Albert Hebert, Eula
White



In Loving Memory of:



Wilfred Ferbos, Sr.



"Rest in Peace"

In Loving Memory of:

The Joseph Family



"Rest in Peace"