



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

Staying Connected During COVID-19

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. — *Isaiah 56:1*

Online Giving:
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August 16, 2020



Dear sisters and brothers,

Faith is often seen as a passive action, one that comes in difficult times when acceptance of "the way things are" like after a marriage falls apart or a horrific accident, terminal illness or a death in the family is called for. And there are valid times for such faith. However, this kind of passive, accepting faith can also be an excuse for not doing anything, especially in the face of great social injustice. In situations like this, the claim of passive accepting faith is bad faith if it is any faith at all.

The Canaanite woman in this week's Gospel demonstrated a proactive type faith. Her active persistence, humility, and wit won the day. And it earned her the singular distinction in Matthew's Gospel as a person of "Great Faith." By her example, we learn that Great Faith is faith that seeks justice persistently. It does not give up. It uses the nonviolent weapons of actively seeking the truth with humility and creativity. People of Great Faith do not seek to beat their opponent with a win or lose outcome. Instead they invite their opponents (In the Canaanite woman's case, Jesus) to a higher level of humanity, to a win-win outcome. This week's Gospel teaches us that Great Faith is a pushy faith that does not give up.

May the gift of "pushy faith" lead us all to a higher, greater level of humanity for that win-win outcome!

In the Divine Word, I am,

Fr. Rick Andrews SVD



MASS INTENTIONS

Thomas Midderhoff, and
John Midderhoff

A Vocation View: The gifts and

the call of God are irrevocable,
"Use the gifts that God has given you to
stir into flame the gift of faith.

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GOOD EXAMPLE

A faithful Christian, illumined by the rays of grace like a crystal, ought to illumine his neighbor with the light of good example, through word and deed.

—St. Anthony



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: “Stand firm in justice; do what is right” (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalms — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Recognizing the Canaanite woman's great faith, Jesus told her, “It shall be done as you wish” (Matthew 15:21-28).

WHY PRAY?

The “foreigners” as Isaiah calls them, the “Gentiles” as Paul calls them, or the “Canaanites” as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today's readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely “knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend,” but also to “break, blow, burn, and make me new” (*Holy Sonnets*, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, “Knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today's Gospel, the results will follow.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21;
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30,
35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: **Memorial of St. John Eudes**
Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: **Memorial of St. Bernard**
Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
Mt 22:1-14

Friday: **Memorial of St. Pius X**
Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9;
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: **Queenship of the Blessed
Virgin Mary**
Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab,
10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: **Twenty-first Sunday in
Ordinary Time**
Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8;
Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20



BIBLE STUDY CONFERENCE CALL

Wednesdays at 6:00 P.M.
Join us by calling 978-990-5317.
Access Code 1966852#

PRAYER FOR RACIAL HARMONY

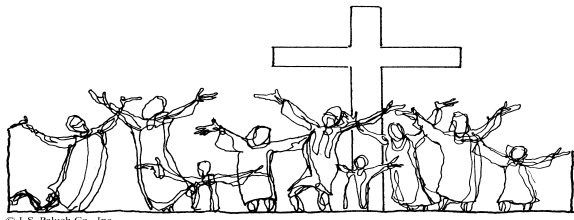
God our Father, You call us to love one another as You have loved us. We pray for the conversion of hearts in our Diocese of Baton Rouge to bring about racial harmony rooted in Your Son Jesus Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, strip us of our pride, mistrust, and prejudices, so that we may be able to dialogue with one another to build communities where justice, peace and love flourish. We ask these blessings trusting in the infinite mercy of Jesus and the intercession of Mary our Mother. Amen.

PRAYER CALL - SUNDAYS at 6:00 P.M.

Join us in praying the Rosary and asking the Blessed Mother to intercede for us during this COVID-19 Global Pandemic. Please join us by calling 701-802-5490. Access Code 878800#

PLEASE WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS!





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PRAYER FOR HURRICANE SEASON

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of Land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: The Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to you. O Loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea. Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

August is National Black Business Month. Black business owners account for about 30 percent of all minority-owned businesses and about only 10 percent of all U.S. businesses.

Disproportionate COVID-19 impact is evident in the disparities between Black and white-owned businesses and the devastating economic impact of COVID-19. While 76% of Black-owned businesses said they were negatively impacted by COVID-19, only 5% of those that applied for a Paycheck Protection Program loan received one.

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), as many as 41% of Black small businesses were forced to close permanently due to COVID-19 compared to just 17% of white-owned businesses.

Let's recognize and patronize our Black owned businesses across the country. They need our support more than ever!

Domestic Violence Support Group

The Butterfly Society is sponsoring a Domestic Violence Support Group via Zoom every second and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next scheduled session is Tuesday, August 18, 2020. Zoom Information: Christianne Ricard, Ed.S, LPC, NCC. Meeting ID: 990 3724 8364. Password: 320385. The support group is confidential and secured.

CELEBRATING August 16th - August 22nd BIRTHDAYS



- Jasmine Benjamin 8/16
- Jacques Brown 8/16
- Rosie Lollis 8/17
- Ruby Patterson 8/17
- Kyeshia Chambers 8/18
- Carla Lewis 8/18
- Carolyn Paul 8/18
- Raymond Rodney, Jr. 8/19
- Lena Batiste 8/20



- Jayce James 8/21
- Amare Jones 8/21
- Angela Jones 8/21
- Lillie Joseph 8/21
- Taneisha Montegut 8/21
- Kingslee Vinson 8/21
- Gerrick Camel, Jr. 8/22
- Cary Champagne 8/22












PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Audrey Christopher, Mary Smart, Carolyn Christophe, Myrtis Coleman, Robert Seals, Mona Seals, Sylvia Collier, Lena Batiste, Marie Myles, Mary Lena Price, Willis Reed, Jr., Annie Joseph, Rosa Johnson, Harry Sills, Denovas Crockett, Jasman Benjamin, James Hayward, Cheryl Crockett, Brenda D. Hickman, Charles Davis, Jr., Rose Crockett Carter, Dianna Franklin, Meredith Jones, Gregory Cornell, George Cornell, Mable King, Barbara Rodney, Curtell Thibodeaux, and Audrene LeBlanc

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Ronnie Gauthier, Helen Celestine, Florence Jackson, Geraldine Floyd, Betty Hammond, Frank Ross, 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, Ernie Butitta, Edna Dixon, Charles Bethley, Janet Bossier, Jenna Scott, Anthony Grand, Allen Paschal, and James Pace

<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Opston, Dorcenia, Wilbert, Philip, Opston, Jr., Albert & Jerome Guillory, CB, Ruth & Tia Davis, Catherine Williams, Yvonne Warren and Marcus Montigue</p> 	<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>George Coleman, Jr Geneva Coleman George Coleman, Sr. Carrie Coleman M.H. Weathersby Odelia Weathersby Donald Coleman</p> 	<p>Space Available</p>	<p>Space Available</p>	<p>State Farm Insurance</p> <p>Leonard Benjamin 775-2494</p>
<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Geneva Battley Spooner Della Battley Rodney</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Paul the Apostle Quick Reference</u></p> <p>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 - Gigi Mathis.....278-0071 Nurse - Maxine Watts278-6732 Parish Office - Secretary - Mary Martin.....383-2537 Pastor - Fr. Richard Andrus.....383-2537 Readers - Fr. Richard Andrus.....383-2537 Religious Education Director - Martha Davis.....357-4108 RCIA Coordinator - Fr. Richard Andrus.....383-2537 Ushers - Edmonia Joseph772-2090 Youth Ministry - Justin Kennedy.....754-2609</p>		
<p><i>In Loving Memory of Our Loved Ones:</i></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><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Famye Reed and the Reed, Stewart, Davis, and Grainger Families</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>	<p>Space Available</p>		<p>Chenevert Construction & Remodeling 344-0183</p>	<p>Space Available</p>
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">SIGMA</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS, INC.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">SAFETY/RISK, FACILITY SERVICES, ENVIRONMENTAL, CIVIL, STRUCTURAL, ARCHITECTURAL, MECHANICAL, PIPING, PROCESS, ELECTRICAL, INSTRUMENTATION, STAFFING</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">225-810-3100 www.sigmaec.com</p>		<p>Space Available</p>		<p>Space Available</p>
<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Lionel Bazile, Sr. Dorothy Bazile James Bazile Sheila Bazile</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>	<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Jessie Joseph Aaron Bradley Joseph H.P. Martin</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>	<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></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>Space Available</p>