



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

Staying Connected During COVID-19

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!
— Isaiah 55:1a

August 2, 2020

Online Giving:
osvonlinegiving.com/4266



Dear Sisters and brothers,

This weekend, I felt in the deepest part of my being that my letter was of insignificance in light of the passing of Congressman John Lewis and all that he stood for since his youth. Writing just days before his death, Congressman Lewis left all of America his last words... words of encouragement, of hope and of challenge. He stated, "I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring."

Congressman Lewis was much more than a politician with a conscience, he was also a prophetic man of vision and undying faith - faith in the best for our nation, our global community and most of all, in God and the power of love...

I urge your reading of his final challenge to all Americans, be sure all of our youth and young folks read it... talk with them about John Lewis, his commitment to justice and peace and what it means for them because it now really is "your turn to let freedom ring!"

In the Divine Word, I am

Fr. Richard Andrus, SVD

Congressman John Lewis' Last Words

While my time here has now come to an end, I want you to know that in the last days and hours of my life you inspired me. You filled me with hope about the next chapter of the great American story when you used your power to make a difference in our society. Millions of people motivated simply by human compassion laid down the burdens of division. Around the country and the world you set aside race, class, age, language and nationality to demand respect for human dignity.

That is why I had to visit Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, though I was admitted to the hospital the following day. I just had to see and feel it for myself that, after many years of silent witness, the truth is still marching on.

Emmett Till was my George Floyd. He was my Rayshard Brooks, Sandra Bland and Breonna Taylor. He was 14 when he was killed, and I was only 15 years old at the time. I will never ever forget the moment when it became so clear that he could easily have been me. In those days, fear constrained us like an imaginary prison, and troubling thoughts of potential brutality committed for no understandable reason were the bars.



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Though I was surrounded by two loving parents, plenty of brothers, sisters and cousins, their love could not protect me from the unholy oppression waiting just outside that family circle. Unchecked, unrestrained violence and government-sanctioned terror had the power to turn a simple stroll to the store for some Skittles or an innocent morning jog down a lonesome country road into a nightmare. If we are to survive as one unified nation, we must discover what so readily takes root in our hearts that could rob Mother Emanuel Church in South Carolina of her brightest and best, shoot unwitting concertgoers in Las Vegas and choke to death the hopes and dreams of a gifted violinist like Elijah McClain.

Like so many young people today, I was searching for a way out, or some might say a way in, and then I heard the voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on an old radio. He was talking about the philosophy and discipline of nonviolence. He said we are all complicit when we tolerate injustice. He said it is not enough to say it will get better by and by. He said each of us has a moral obligation to stand up, speak up and speak out. When you see something that is not right, you must say something. You must do something. Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.

Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, though decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.

When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide.

—Congressman John Lewis



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All you who thirst, come to the water! You without money, come to the feast! (Isaiah 55:1-3).

Psalms — The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ (Romans 8:35, 37-39).

Gospel — All ate until satisfied; they collected twelve baskets of what was left over (Matthew 14:13-21).

OUR DEEPEST NEEDS

The word of God serves up a tremendous feast for us today. Isaiah beckons all who hunger and thirst to come to the Lord for satisfaction. The psalmist cries out, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs" (Psalm 145:16). Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the story of the miraculous feeding of over five thousand people from a mere five loaves and two fish. Most of us have our material needs met on a day-to-day basis. These scriptures, nevertheless, have much to say to the contemporary believer. We must ask ourselves, "Where are my deepest hungers? Where are my thirsts?" After material needs are satisfied and, in some cases, over-satisfied, many people still experience a deep longing for spiritual balance and well-being. As the loaves and fish are multiplied in today's Gospel, perhaps our prayer can be a longing for the satisfaction of the deepest needs that only God can fill. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Memorial of St. John Vianney Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14:22-36	Friday:	Memorial of St. Sixtus II and Companions; St. Cajetan; First Friday Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28
Tuesday:	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14	Saturday:	Memorial of St. Dominic Hb 1:12 — 2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20
Wednesday:	Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28	Sunday:	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33
Thursday:	The Transfiguration of the Lord Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9		

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.



St. Paul the Apostle Bible Study appreciates the attendance of all ministry members and the work they perform each Sunday for those of us who aren't present at Mass. We pray for your continued well-being and safety.

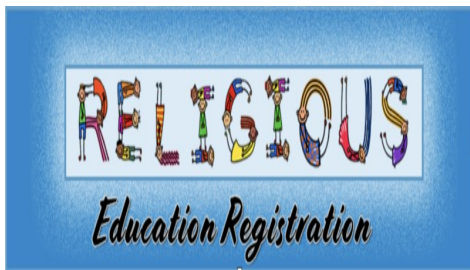
PRAYER AND HUMILITY

Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword; wear humility rather than fine clothes.

—St. Dominic

PLEASE WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS!





Registration for Religious Education classes begins Sunday, August 2, 2020. Registration forms may be picked up in the foyer of the church, from the church office or downloaded from the church website under Religious Education. Completed forms may be emailed to Martha Davis at marthad34@cox.net or dropped off at the church office or turned in before or after mass on August 9th. Registration fees may be paid online at osvonlinegiving.com/4266 or after mass on August 9th or at the church office. It is important that forms and fees are completed early so that materials can be available for each child. Religion classes will be via Zoom online this year. Please use the line on the registration form to enter your child's email address or the address he/she will use to enter Zoom. Each child in a family will need a separate address so that he/she will be able to be placed in the breakout room for his/her grade level. Classes will be held from 9:00 – 10:00 each Sunday beginning September 20, 2020. Information concerning pick up of student materials will be announced later.



May they rest in peace...

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Bazile and Rodney family at the passing of Mrs. Dorothy Bazile. Also to the Christopher and Brown family at the passing of Mr. Harold Christopher.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. 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#**

BIBLE STUDY CONFERENCE CALL

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

OFFERTORY

July 26 , 2020

Offertory Collection	\$ 3,822.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,357.16
Building Fund	\$ 315.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 15.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 5.00
Total	\$ 5,514.16

CELEBRATING August 2nd - August 7 BIRTHDAYS

- Makisha Anderson 8/02
- Deadria Nelson 8/02
- Jared Ogonor, Jr. 8/02
- Vanessa Bayham 8/03
- Carletta Long 8/03
- Carlos Sam 8/03
- Sherri Benjamin 8/04
- Debbie James 8/04
- Mary Ratcliff 8/04
- Dorothy Andrews 8/05



- Clifford Bertrand 8/05
- Kyra Harleaux 8/05
- Nevin Hawkins 8/05
- Reginald Morrison Jr. 8/05
- Deseray Thomas 8/05
- Kade Lockett 8/06
- Sharnette Miles 8/06
- Lois Ruth 8/06
- Rosalie Malveau 8/07










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><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>SIGMA ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS, INC. SAFETY/RISK, FACILITY SERVICES, ENVIRONMENTAL, CIVIL, STRUCTURAL, ARCHITECTURAL, MECHANICAL, PIPING, PROCESS, ELECTRICAL, INSTRUMENTATION, STAFFING</p> <p>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. 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>