



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

Staying Connected During COVID-19

Online Giving:
osvonlinegiving.com/4266

December 27, 2020

**The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**



Dear friends,

For the past 7 years, I have provided weekly reflections in this space to give further thought to the general theme from each week's scripture reading. Today, as I post my final letter to you, allow me to be a bit more personal.

As I look back on my time here, I realize just how good God is. St. Paul is a strong, caring active community of faith. There are so many here who actually put faith into action, giving witness to the words of St. James, "Faith without good works is useless." Clearly, ours is a great, lively faith accomplishing so much not just for St. Paul but for the surrounding community of Eden Park, the City of Baton Rouge and beyond. It has been a blessing to pastor such a community!

We have grown and achieved so much. We have had some ups and downs, but our "good days far outweigh our bad days!" Because of the cooperation, hard work, dedication and sacrifice of so many, willing to work and pray and worship and serve together, we are a stronger parish! The name of St. Paul is not only known but respected throughout the Diocese and City for the good that we do in the name of Jesus.

I have been blessed with a great, dedicated and competent staff: Mary Martin, Christy Hall and Debra Dudley. Ms. Nancy Ball and Mr. Johnny Rogers have been dedicated to keep our buildings clean and maintained. Mr. Carroll Long and members of the Choir, Mrs. Edmonia Joseph and her Usher team, Mrs. Shirley Dawson, Mrs. Makisha Anderson and the Media Ministry, and Mr. Paul Stewart and Mr. Kevin Stewart have all selflessly assisted with ministries every Sunday at Mass throughout this Pandemic to ensure our celebration of Mass was one that all parishioners would be spiritually lifted by. Without them, I couldn't have provided the quality of worship everyone needed during these long, tough months. I am deeply grateful.

I have been guided by my pastoral council in providing growth and development of parish ministries and programs. The finance committee has served to ensure good stewardship of our resources.

We have a great Black Catholic Community of faith – because of what we all do together as prayerful men and women. I urge you to continue to build on it in the years to come.

Let me close in saying how touched and grateful I am for the love, gifts, cards and well wishes I received Sunday for my farewell. I deeply appreciate you and your love, support and encouragement not just last Sunday but throughout the time I have been here.

As I leave, I bring with me all that you shared with me and the great friendships and memories we have created.

Yes, leaving is tough, but seeing all good that we have accomplished in the name of God for the greater good of St. Paul, Eden Park, the City and far beyond, it makes it a little easier.

I pray God continue to bless and keep you and that through the Holy Spirit, you grow stronger, better spiritually, deeper in faithfulness and closer to God through Jesus, the Divine Word!

With love and prayers, I am,

Fr. Rick Andrus, STD

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.

Psalms — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105*.

Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	The Holy Innocents 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18	Friday:	The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day; First Friday Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday:	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord St. Thomas Becket 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22- 35	Saturday:	Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen; First Saturday 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday:	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40	Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Thursday:	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18		

PARISH SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	9:00 a.m. No Religious Education Classes 10:30 a.m. Mass
Monday:	No Mass
Tuesday:	No Mass
Wednesday:	No Mass
Thursday:	6:00pm New Year's Vigil Mass
Friday:	Office Closed
Saturday:	No Mass

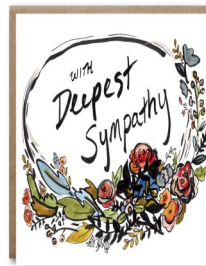
PRAYER FOR RACIAL HARMONY

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.

MASS INTENTIONS



Mrs. Marie Victorian Hawkins and
Mrs. Margaret Hawkins Kemp



May she rest in peace...

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Johnson family at the passing of Mrs. Rosa Lee Johnson. Mother of Mr. Lyndon Johnson and aunt of Mrs. Doris Hall.

May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Fr. Rick, you will be truly missed. We wish you the best in your new Parish!



Support St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

“Celebrating 60 Years of the Family of St. Paul Thriving Because of Our Giving Through Faith, Hope, and Love”



The Coronavirus restrictions have made it impossible to hold our major fish fry, raffle, or church fair fundraisers. So, St. Paul's Fair Committee started a special fundraiser to raise at least \$60,000. We ask that new members and those members and friends who usually sold or donated \$100 or more for raffle tickets or to the church fair to give the same amount to this special fundraiser before or by January 31, 2021. Please continue to support St. Paul's ministries by making your first or usual donation of \$100 or more to: osvolinegiving.com/4266, select "St. Paul's 4-Month Fundraiser," or use the envelopes mailed to you or pick-up envelopes from the baptismal font or St. Paul's Parish Office.

CELEBRATING DECEMBER 27th - JANUARY 1st BIRTHDAYS



Irma F Landry 12/28
 Varick Rodney 12/28
 Alicia Varmall 12/28
 Augustine Kador 12/29
 Virgin Williams 12/29
 Ethel Hinton 12/30



Myra Johnson 12/30
 Arlington Smith 12/30
 Michelle Wales 12/30
 Deacon Benjamin Dunbar, Jr. 01/01
 Chenikica Martin 01/01
 Nautica Ward 01/01





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, 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, Curtell Thibodeaux, Irene Warner, Louis Simms, Sadie Simms, Patrick Simms, and Yvonne Joseph


PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS


Ronnie Gauthier, Helen Celestine, Florence Jackson, 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, James Pace, Connie St. Romain, Kirk Haynes, and Carey Haynes

<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>

SIGMA

ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS, INC.


SAFETY/RISK, FACILITY SERVICES, ENVIRONMENTAL, CIVIL,
STRUCTURAL, ARCHITECTURAL, MECHANICAL, PIPING,
PROCESS, ELECTRICAL, INSTRUMENTATION, STAFFING


225-810-3100 www.sigmaec.com

<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>
