



# St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

## Staying Connected During COVID-19

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**December 6, 2020**

Online Giving:  
[osvonlinegiving.com/4266](http://osvonlinegiving.com/4266)



Dear sisters and brothers,

Last week, I read about a school run by Catholic nuns in Cleveland, Ohio. I don't know the name of their Order, but they have committed their lives to working in the Catholic schools in Cleveland's inner city. Day after day after day, they focus their faith and energy on the education of inner-city youngsters, youngsters whose lives are at risk in so many areas.

One day, out of nowhere, a wonderful gift was given to these nuns. The gift was to pay for the entire Community to go on a vacation. Vans were supplied, and all the necessary money for their trip was contributed anonymously. So, that summer, the nuns closed their house and headed to the vacation spot of their choice, the Rocky Mountains.

Most of them had never seen the Rockies. They were awed by the glory of the mountains. They would stop and ponder and behold and not be able to take their eyes off the majesty they were experiencing. They noticed that every time they stopped, Sister Margaret would move to the edge of the group, and then disappear for a while. She'd return sometime later. They didn't know what she was doing.

So on one occasion when they had stopped to behold a majestic view, they followed her. She made her way down into a gully. They watched her as she walked into the gully. She bent down and reached under a sizable rock, and then turned the rock upside down. She brushed her hands and turned around to walk back up the trail. When she looked up, all of the Sisters were watching her. "Margaret, what are you doing?" they asked. "I'm turning over a rock." "But why? Do you do that every time?" She answered, "Yes." "Why do you do that?" And she replied: "Because I will never pass this way again, and it's my intent to have made a difference while I was here. So I turn some rocks over so that this place is different because I passed here."

Now, that nun was dedicated to making a difference. She saw making a difference as her mission, whether at school in her teaching role or alone in the Rockies.

What rocks does an urban church like St. Paul the Apostle have to turn over in the city of Baton Rouge and even in Eden Park for the good of our neighborhood?

What rocks do I need to turn over inside of me in order for the Kingdom of God to make its way through all of the barriers that I put up?

This season of Advent reminds us that there needs to be some rock-turning going on inside of all of us so that we can, with the help of a truth-teller like John the Baptist, taste and smell the real experience of Jesus' birth - in the interior manger of our lives!

Happy rock turning this Advent!

*Fr. Rick Andrus SVD*



**Second Sunday of Advent**  
Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill shall  
be made low.

— Isaiah 40:4



### MASS INTENTIONS

Joseph Broussard, Evelyn Broussard,  
and Paul Broussard

## TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalms — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: **Memorial of St. Ambrose;**  
**Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**  
Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;  
Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: **The Immaculate Conception of**  
**the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6,  
11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday: **Memorial of St. Juan Diego**  
Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;  
Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: **International Human Rights Day;**  
**Hanukkah begins at sunset**  
Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab;  
Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: **Memorial of St. Damasus I**  
Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: **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 Com  
mon of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
nos. 707-712
- Sunday: **Third Sunday of Advent**  
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50,  
53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,  
19-28

### A MISSIONARY PRAYER

Father of all, you sent your Son to carry out your mission of redeeming the world. Many still have not heard his message of truth, love and forgiveness.

Our world is torn by war and conflict, poverty and injustice, intolerance and division. Let the light of your Gospel of love so shine in the world that it may be transformed into a worthy home for all your children of every race and country.

Bless all missionaries throughout the world that their work may bear fruit. Together with them, may we too share in your missionary work so that your Kingdom of justice, love and peace may come into all hearts and nations.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Southern United States the Society of the Divine Word is located at Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi, the site of the historic seminary established for the training of African American men to the priesthood and religious brotherhood.

### 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.

We will be **Returning to Morning Masses** beginning this Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM. Mass will be celebrated every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and will be live streamed on Facebook for those who would like to participate but not able to come to the Church.

**Looking forward to Christmas** - Christmas Eve Mass will be earlier this year with the possibility of some caroling at 6 PM and Mass following; Christmas Day Mass will be at 9:30 AM. Both will be Live Streamed.



Please support our 4-Month Fundraiser and pray for its success. Give online at [osvonlinegiving.com/4266](https://osvonlinegiving.com/4266), select: "St. Paul's 4-Month Fundraiser" or use the special fundraising envelopes located in the church and Parish Office. Let's support this fundraiser to the fullest!



**A Prayer for Advent This Week:** God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**Advent encourages us to use this season to "watch, to pray and to wait" as it calls all of us to a season of repentance** - a time to clear our hearts and souls and more better room for us to receive God's greatest gift this Christmas time - that of God's liberating, saving son, Jesus. In order to best prepare ourselves, I encourage all parishioners to make an attempt during Advent to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. I will be available to hear confessions and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on next Tuesday, December 8th from 5:00 PM until 6:30 and on Thursday, December 10th from 10 AM until 12 Noon. If you want to go to confession and cannot make these times, please call me in the office and I will set a time up with you. —Fr. Rick



Many have expressed to me that what they are missing most right now is the opportunity to receive Holy Communion. While so many are viewing Mass on Facebook, there is that feeling something is missing and that something is being able to welcome Jesus more than spiritually but really in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I deeply understand that and would be most happy to give Communion to anyone who would like to come by the office or Church. Please call me and set up a time. — Fr. Rick

**Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m. and will be live streamed on Facebook.

**OFFERTORY**

**November 29, 2020**

Offertory Collection	\$ 2,009.00
Online Giving	\$ 855.00
Building Fund	\$ 60.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 55.00
All Saints Day	\$ 10.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 89.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 5.00
4-Month Fundraiser	\$ 345.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,428.00</b>

**CELEBRATING DECEMBER 6th - DECEMBER 12th BIRTHDAYS**



Wanda Ward 12/06  
 Jourdan Alsobrook 12/07  
 Perry Chenevert 12/07  
 Carolyn Christophe 12/07  
 Khari Diggs 12/07  
 Janice Hamilton 12/07  
 Jeremy Johnson 12/07  
 Richard Johnson 12/08  
 Jude Route 12/08



Donald Dorsey 12/09  
 Anna Perry 12/09  
 Gerald Anderson 12/10  
 Deatra Joseph 12/10  
 Sherri Williams 12/10  
 Andrea Eugene 12/11  
 Christopher Howard 12/11  
 Jayla Patrick 12/11  
 Baylor Joseph 12/12





**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, Curtell Thibodeaux, Judge Luke LaVergne, 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, and Inez White*

<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Opston, Dorcenia, Wilbert, Philip, Opston, Jr., Albert &amp; Jerome Guillory, CB, Ruth &amp; 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><b>Space Available</b></p>	<p><b>Space Available</b></p>	<p><b>State Farm Insurance</b></p> <p><b>Leonard Benjamin</b> 775-2494</p>
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<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Geneva Battley Spooner Della Battley Rodney</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>St. Paul the Apostle Quick Reference</b></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 &amp; 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 Watts .....278-6732          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 Joseph .....772-2090          Youth Ministry - Justin Kennedy.....754-2609</p>
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<p><i>In Loving Memory of Our Loved Ones:</i></p> <p>Roosevelt Bowers Joseph "Buddy" Walker Oscar LeDuff, Jr. Elizabeth &amp; Frank P. Bowers Carrie &amp; Douglas Rodney, Sr. Clara &amp; Willis Walker Sarah Rodney Domino &amp; Wilbert Domino, Sr. Freddie Bowers Ora Bowers Ward Sybil Thomas Johnson Maureen Bowers Johnson</p>  
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<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>
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<p><b>Space Available</b></p>
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<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>
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<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>
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<p><i>In Loving Memory of:</i></p> <p>Milton, Rachel, Lillie, Lillian, Kirby, James "Pookie" Verdell, Corinne &amp; Michael Joseph, Lawrence, Sr. &amp; Shedrick Ashford, Ellis Myles, Sr., Rose &amp; Albert Hebert, Eula White</p> 
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<p><b>Space Available</b></p>
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