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St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church Staying Connected During COVID-19

November 8, 2020

**Thirty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

Stay awake, for you know
neither the day nor the hour.

— *Matthew 25:13*



Dear friends,

This year, 2020, will without a doubt go down in our list of, “It’s been one of those kind of years!”

Covid 19 invaded our nation in the early months of this year, sweeping across the land with it’s pandemic force, the likes we have never seen in any of our life-times. We found ourselves quarantined, locked down, shut off from one another and from our normal life’s routines. Workplaces and stores were closed, people lost jobs, schools were moved to “On Line Learning,” parents became teachers, most ill prepared for the position and with a new perspective of how their children actually act in class.

Leaders were in denial, they fought publicly, they outright deceived the citizens of our land just to appear to look good as to the severity of Covid’s deadly forces. Hospitals were running over with the victims, health care workers many never leaving hospitals protecting their own families and treating those in the grips of this new illness, suffered burnout without giving up or throwing in the towel. The most needed medical supplies were out of stock and others hidden and stockpiled in National stock rooms. Refrigerator trucks were turned into temporary morgues. We lost family members, parishioners, friends, co-workers unable to day good-bye or hold their hands or look them in the face one last time.

On top of that came a summer season filled with hurricanes. There have been 25 named storms, 10 named tropical systems have hit the U.S. Out of the nine hurricanes that have formed so far five of them have struck the U.S. and Louisiana has been in “the cone” 6 times!

This has also been an election year and from the onset, we knew that at least for some, it would not be our nation at its best. Building on hate, division, prejudice, racism, classism, xenophobia, fear and intolerance, we have patiently, diligently and prayerfully worked our way through to election day. In doing so, we have endured lies, insults, unsubstantiated voter fraud claims, voter suppression, encouragement of and threats of violence from people in positions of leadership that never should stoop to such lows. But it happens!

To top it off, most of us have likely faced our own tsunami’s this year: illness, a financial setback, a breakup, a letdown, the death of a loved one, a friend moving, the unnecessary hate, evil, division of society.

Perhaps, like others, you may find yourself in something of suspended animation - waiting ... waiting ... waiting for what and who is coming next in a nation so deeply politically divided ... waiting for healing, movement, restoration Waiting for renewal, for reunification of all people of our land. And then remembering, through it all, God is right here in our midst - just as God always has been and just as God always will be! And so yes we can hold on a little while longer until our change comes, perhaps because like the wise women in this Sunday’s Gospel, we have been prepared, our reserves from God’s storehouse will get us through this too! Remember, God never fails!

In the Divine Word, I am

Fr. Rick Andrus, SVD

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Wisdom is easily discerned by those who love her (Wisdom 6:12-16).

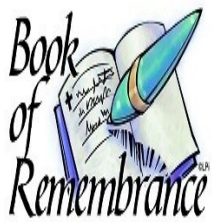
Psalm — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 [13-14]).

Gospel — Stay awake! You know neither the day nor the hour (Matthew 25:1-13).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22	Friday:	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37
Tuesday:	St. Leo the Great Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29; Lk 17:7-10	Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8
Wednesday:	St. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19	Sunday:	Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]
Thursday:	St. Josaphat Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25		



The names of our beloved deceased parishioners and the dearly departed family members of parishioners who passed between October 2019 to date have been entered in the Book of Remembrance and included in a memorial display near the altar. We encourage St. Paul's members and friends to write the names of other departed loved ones in the Book of Remembrance that is also near the altar.

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. Audrey Voltaire
Mrs. Mary Jarreau
Mrs. Dorothy Voltaire



2021 Lector Workbooks for the next liturgical year are available for pick-up. Readers are encouraged to see Mrs. Edmonia Joseph or contact the parish office at 383-2537 to pick up lector books. All lectors that are available to proclaim the word are asked to contact the parish office to be added to the schedule.





Please support our 4-Month Fundraiser and pray for its success. Give online at osonlinegiving.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!

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) would like to learn more about the realities facing lay ecclesial ministers across the country. To achieve that, the USCCB has created a survey that any and all lay leaders are invited to fill out: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6FH8BH>

The purpose of this survey is to get a snapshot of the current landscape of lay ecclesial ministry in the Church in the U.S today; to hear how the pandemic has affected them; to understand the impact of the bishops' document on lay ecclesial ministry, *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord*; and to ask how the USCCB can support and advocate for lay ecclesial ministers throughout the United States, most especially at this uncertain time.

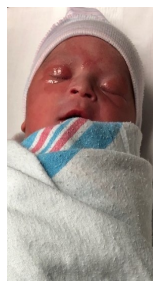
The deadline for filling out the survey is **December 15, 2020**.



May they rest in peace...

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Rodney family at the passing of Mrs. Barbara Rodney. Also to the Dunn family at the passing of Mr. Eddie Dunn, Jr., son of Mrs. Dorothy Dunn, and to the Joseph and Robertson families at the passing of Mr. Shelton Joseph, cousin of Mrs. Paulette Robertson.

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



Congratulations to Mr. Damien and Dr. Stacy Jones Pedescleaux as new parents! Their daughter, Grace Catherine was born healthy on Wednesday November 4th. May God bless Damien and Stacy with the blessings new parents need and may the same God bless Grace with long life, joy, health and every good blessing!

CELEBRATING NOVEMBER 8th - NOVEMBER 14th BIRTHDAYS



Gavin Camel 11/08
 Verinese Collins 11/08
 Thomas Davis, Jr 11/08
 Theresa Grevious 11/08
 Shandria J. Hawkins 11/08
 Troy Scott 11/08
 Sylvia Trahan 11/09
 Joia Anthony 11/10
 Dorphelia Patterson 11/10
 James Rodney 11/11



Joseph Anthony 11/12
 Rosa Johnson 11/12
 Chelsea Buckley 11/13
 Collins Eugene 11/13
 Alfonso Olive 11/13
 Ounitha Scott 11/13
 Randall Farlow 11/14
 Mason Hurst 11/14
 Karen Stribling 11/14





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 Fr. Richard Andrus



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 Yvonne Joseph

<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>
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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>

<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>
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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 & 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>  
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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><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 & Michael Joseph, Lawrence, Sr. & Shedrick Ashford, Ellis Myles, Sr., Rose & Albert Hebert, Eula White</p> 
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<p>Space Available</p>
