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

January 3, 2021

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. — Psalm 72:11 3912 Gus Young Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70802 Office: (225) 383-2537 Fax: (225) 383-3702 Email: stpaulbr@aol.com Website: stpaubr.org



Dear friends Greetings of Peace and Joy. Through this short write-up I like to introduce myself to you.

My name is Fr. Arockiam Arockiam, SVD. (Easy to spell it: A rock i am) I was born on September 25th, 1973, at Kanathankadu Village in the state of Tamil Nadu in South India. I have 2 elder brothers, one elder sister, one younger sister and one younger brother. I am in the middle of 6 children. Out of 6 children I am the only one who is gifted with the vocation to the religious life.

Both of my Parents are living. My father is 89 and my mother in her 72. All of my siblings and parents are living in my home state. All of my siblings have 2 kids (boy & girl) except my younger sister who has 3 girls.

My village Kanathankadu is a small village consisting of 70 families, 90% of them are Catholics and I am the first and the only priest from this small village. I got my primary education from my Church School run by the diocese. Motivated by my mother and the nuns in the school and my pastor, I felt God's call to priesthood.

After completing my senior high in the Jesuits' School in my home Parish, I joined the SVD minor seminary in the year 1991. After doing my orientation course, language studies, Novitiate, college degrees in Science, Philosophy and Theology in different states in India, I was ordained priest on May 14, 2002, in my own native Village. That was the happiest and the remarkable day in my life. Right after my ordination I was sent to the Southern Province of the SVDs (Society of the Divine Word) in the USA. I reached the USA (Bay St. Louis, MS) on July 27th 2002. After a short period of orientation, I began my parish ministry.

Aug.19, 2002 – July 31, 2005 Associate Pastor at Notre Dame Catholic Church, St. Martinville, LA August 1, 2005 – July 31, 2010 Pastor at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Maurice, LA August 1, 2010 – August 16, 2015 Pastor at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Broussard, LA *On October 13, 2011, I became an American Citizen.*

Aug.17, 2015 – Dec. 31, 2020 Pastor at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, New Orleans, LA From January 1, 2021 Pastor at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, Baton Rouge, LA I am happy to be here with you all to love and serve you in your spiritual journey. I hope to learn from you and have wonderful time with you all as your Shepherd.

My dear friends I am 47 years old and 18 years of priest. I am here to BE with you and continue to make our St. Paul the Apostle Church a place of welcome, love, unity and brotherhood. With the help of your prayers and God's blessing I shall make use of my God-given talents and TIME for you, God's people. Please pray for me every day and I promise you the same. Thanks.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

Monday:	Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10- 12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25	Thursday:	Memorial of St. Raymond of Penyafort 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Tuesday:	Memorial of St. John Neumann 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44	Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a,
Wednesday:		Saturday:	9b; Jn 3:22-30
	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52	Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2- 3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



May she rest in peace... Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Ducree and Lee families at the passing of Mrs. Linda Ducree-Lee, Sister of Mrs. Janet Anthony.

May her soul and all the

souls of the faithful departed

rest in peace. Amen.

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.

THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES UNTILL FURTHER NOTICE. THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star Grow every year more bright And send its glorious beams afar To fill the world with light. —William Cullen Bryant



MASS INTENTIONS

Ms. Darlene St. Romain

OFFERTORY December 27, 2020

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Offertory Collection	\$	2,677.00
Online Giving		1,265.00
Building Fund		480.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	40.00
Christmas	\$	924.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	40.00
Retirement Fund for Religious		10.00
Campaign for Human Develop.	\$	20.00
Catholic Life Center	\$	312.00
New Years	\$	45.00
4-Month Fundraiser	\$	1,055.00
Total	\$	6,868.00
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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"

YEARS

GOAL

\$60,000

\$23,408.00 - Week of Dec. 20, 2020
\$21,938.00 - Week of Dec. 6 - Dec. 13, 2020
\$16,853.00 - Week of Nov. 22 - Nov. 29, 2020
\$14,268.00 - Week of Nov. 8 - Nov. 15, 2020
\$8,443.00 - Week of Oct. 25 - Nov. 1, 2020
\$4,593.00 - Week of Oct. 11 - 18, 2020

Our special fundraiser goal is at least \$60,000. As of December 20, we have reached \$23,408.00. Thank you for your donations! If you have not contributed \$100 or more to this special fundraiser, you still have time. Please support St. Paul by making your donation of \$100 or more to: *osvolinegiving.com/4266*, select "St. Paul's 4-Month Fundraiser," use the envelopes mailed to you or pick-up envelopes from the baptismal font or St. Paul's Parish Office.



CELEBRATING JANUARY 3rd - JANUARY 9th BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Miller 1/03 Darlene St. Romain 1/04 Kaelyn Anderson 1/05 Cleta Guichard 1/05 Paris Rodney 1/05 Edna Dunn Scott 1/05 Darion Harleaux 1/06 Dewayne London 1/06 Fredrick Moore, Jr. 1/06 Roycha Richard 1/07 Jasiah Sanders 1/07



Kim Starwood 1/07 Roger Banks, Jr. 1/08 James Bazile 1/08 Lovie Marshall 1/08 Mary Martin 1/08 Michael Boyd, Jr. 1/09 Alma Ferbos 1/09 Laura Freeman 1/09 Megan Graves 1/09 Jameer Oliver 1/09 Kirsten Raby 1/09

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

