

I am the good shepherd,
and I know mine
and mine know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I will lay down my life
for the sheep.

JOHN 10:14-15

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APRIL 25, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The difference between the good shepherd and the hired hand is the difference between life and death. Unlike a hired hand who only works for pay and would run away at the first sign of difficulty, Jesus is a good shepherd who willingly lays down his life for his sheep. The good shepherd draws the sheep near to him. They belong to him—not as a possession that can be discarded, but as precious ones who are assured that they can rely on his care and protection. The sheep owe their very lives to the shepherd. Without him, they will be scattered and left on their own in what is often a dangerous world.

BECOMING GOOD SHEEP

No sheep with any sense would wander off and leave the fold. The shepherd provides food and safety. Away from the fold, the sheep risks death in the jaws of wolves or starvation in the desert. Jesus is the Good Shepherd and invites us to be good sheep. Jesus has experienced

the best and the worst of all that life has in store. He has known the simple joys and the deep disappointments of life; he has known temptation, anxiety, and fatigue. Jesus walks ahead of us, leading the way. We may be tempted to wander away, lured by temporary pleasures and tempted by the illusion of something better over the horizon. In the noise of daily life, surrounded by messages that compete with God and God's ways, it is easy to become distracted from what is important and lasting. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, invites us to be good sheep who are so close to him that we hear and recognize his voice. As good sheep, we are called to follow the voice of the Shepherd, trusting that he will guide us to the best pasture, where we can thrive.

Today's Readings: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29;
1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

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St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

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Telephone: 225-383-2537 • Fax: 225-383-3702

Church Email: stpaulbr@aol.com • Website Address: www.stpaulbr.org

Pastor's Email: arockiamsvd@gmail.com

PASTOR:

Father Arockiam Arockiam, S.V.D.

PERMANENT DEACON: (Retired)

Deacon Benjamin Dunbar, Jr. 225-324-5808

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Martha Davis 225-357-4108

SECRETARY: Mary Martin 225-383-2537

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Christy Hall

BOOKKEEPER: Debra Dudley

YOUTH DIRECTOR: Justin Kennedy

PARISH NURSE: Maxine Watts

LITURGY GUIDE

SUNDAY MASS

(Temporary due to Covid-19)

10:30 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

By Appointment

Live Stream Mass on Facebook @

[stpaultheapostlecatholicchurchbr](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultheapostlecatholicchurchbr).

10:30a.m. Mass



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
General Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Baptism: Call the Rectory to make arrangements. Infant Baptism is on the first Sunday of the month. Attendance of the pre-baptism workshop is required.

Marriage: Make arrangements six (6) months in advance of wedding date with the pastor.

Communion to the Sick: Please call the office to make arrangements to bring communion when someone is unable to attend Mass due to illness.

FROM FR. AROCKIAM, SVD

Dear Parishioners,

As of today, all 554 families whose names are in the church records either have taken or were delivered or given the DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN PACKET, consisting of my letter, church census form and the pledge card. **IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE YET, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY AND GET YOURS.** Please help me by reading my letter and responding to it. Since I came to realize that **out of 554 families nearly 235 families had been inactive and non supportive in the church.** I understand that many have moved out of the city, joined other churches, or left the church, and few have died. Now it is time for me to update the church census. **If you want to continue your membership at St. Paul's Church,** I humbly request you fill out the census form and return back to the church office in the return envelope. You can mail it, drop it by the office, drop in the church collection basket, or give to me in person. **If I don't receive your census paper I understand that you are not a member of St. Paul's church and I may go ahead and remove your name and cancel your envelopes.** If you realize that any of your family members, neighbors, or friends who may be elderly or out of town and belong to our church, I request you bring it to my attention and I will try to reach out to them. **My friends, I need all of your help in doing this.** Please watch out and look out for your family and friends who supposed to be members of our church and not here. After receiving the census forms and updating the church records, within a couple of months I would like to post the names of our church families in the church notice board. Thank you.

Also, I request you send the PLEDGE CARD along with the census paper. Let's all try our best to pay off our \$548,000 debt as early as possible. Thank you. God bless.
Fr. Arockiam, SVD

DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN UPDATE



Thank you for pledging! Please remember your decision to make a pledge to help pay off the church loan is personal. Give what you can! Pledge contributions or donations may be made online: osvonlinegiving.com/4266 or placed in the special Debt Reduction Envelopes available in the church. **The Parish Census Form MUST Be Returned.** Your census form and/or pledge card may be dropped in the collection basket, given to Fr. Arockiam, or dropped off at the parish office.

Reminder: Let's focus on the Debt Reduction Campaign and the Census Form. The prior 4-Month Fundraiser Campaign is over; please do not feel obligated to continue paying on the 4-month fundraiser.

LET'S ALL CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR
GOD'S BLESSINGS AS WE MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH!

DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN SUMMARY	
Area of Focus	As of 4-18-2021
Our Goal	\$548,000.00
Total Amt. Pledged	\$316,976.00
Total Donations Collected	\$42,043.00
Total # of Members Pledged	129
Total # of Registered Members	554

USHER'S MEETING - A mandatory Usher's Meeting will be held in the church on Tuesday, May 4th at 6 PM. All ushers are encouraged to attend. Please contact Fr. Arockiam or Mrs. Edmonia Joseph if you are unable to attend.

CELEBRATING APRIL 25th - MAY 1st BIRTHDAYS



Odeal Harris 4/25
N'Yah Johnson 4/25
Destiney Jones 4/25
Justine Kennedy 4/25
Egypt Donald 4/26
Courtnei Patterson 4/26



Barbara Banks 4/27
Lacie Mathis 4/27
Kerry Bardell 4/28
Damoni Goss 4/28
Tasha Bergeron 4/29
Joseph Patrick, III 5/01



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, 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, 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, Jenna Scott, Anthony Grand, Allen Paschal, James Pace, Connie St. Romain, Kirk Haynes, and Carey Haynes



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Roosevelt Bowers, Joseph Walker, Sarah & Wilbert Domino, Sr., Oscar LeDuff, Jr., and Elizabeth & Frank Bowers

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Watch for These Warning Signs of Abuse in Minors

No longer wants to see a **particular person** they had been close to

Declining **academic** performance

Tries to hide use of **technology**

No longer interested in **activities** they used to enjoy

Changes in **personality**

Demonstrates **aggressive behavior** or constantly angry

Tries to get minors **alone**



Commits physical and emotional **boundary violations**

Withdraws from family or friends

Keeps **secrets** with minors

Allows or encourages minors to **break laws** or rules

Gives lavish **gifts** to minors



Is overly interested in **spending time** with minors

Has **inappropriate** or suggestive conversations with minors

Does not believe the **rules** apply to them (or, does not follow rules or protocols)

Takes **photos** without approval, or asks minors to send them photos


... and These Warning Signs of Perpetrators

<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 Rosa Lee Johnson</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>
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<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 Collin Mathis.....278-0071 Nurse - Maxine Watts278-6732 Office Assistant - Christy Hall.....383-2537 Parish Office - Secretary - Mary Martin.....383-2537 Pastor - Fr. Arockiam Arockiam.....383-2537 Readers - Fr. Arockiam Arockiam.....383-2537 Religious Education Director - Martha Davis.....357-4108 RCIA Coordinator - Fr. Arockiam Arockiam.....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>

"GET THE HOOK"

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<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>Doris Key, Earl Key, Sr. Emma Doyle Currie (Rudi) Doyle</p>  <p><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p>

<p>Space Available</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 , Terry Hebert, Eula White, J.D. Joseph, Aaron Bradley Joseph, Jessie Joseph Sr., H.P. Martin</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>"Rest in Peace"</i></p> 
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