

MASS INTENTIONS: Oct. 26 - Nov. 1

For the time being, a Communion Service will replace the 8:00 am Masses.

SATURDAY 5:30 PM:

**Murphy Robert
Alcida & Raymond Ford**

by Marjory Robert

Quinsen Matheme

by Randy & Leslie Petit Family

Joseph Daigneault

by Ricky Breaux

Janet Bonvillain

by Sandra Ward

Aurora Webre

by Dudley & Brenda Webre

Deborah Petit

by Kerry Petit

Special Intention

Beatrice (BaBa) Z. Brown

by Elsie Petit

SUNDAY 9:30 AM:

**Parishioners of
St. Mark**

Danny Somme

Vernon Keller

by Patsye Lunk

Inez Kerth

by Lillian Wegmann

Peggy Martin

JoAnn Hymel

by Lloyd & Curtis Alexander

Sheldon & Hermon Haydel

by Marjory Robert

Louis D. Keller (L.D.)

by Dudley & Brenda Webre

Virginia Schielder

by Deborah & Albert Luquette

We are very grateful to Fr. Peter Rogers, S. J. for celebrating this weekend's Masses with us. He has very generously offered to return for the next two weekends, so we are assured of weekend Masses at least through November 8. (The Archbishop is working to find us an interim priest until a permanent pastor becomes available--possibly in the summer of 2021.)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Dutch Kappel, Dolena Robert, Carol Jones, Sam Granier, Monica Schexnaydre, Audrey Zeringue, Dana Jones, Gay-Lynn Folse, Morris Zeringue, Gaye Webre, Lynell Wipple, Sandra Cortez, Ernest Webre, Diane Triche, Joyce King, Easton Owen, Glenna Smith, Vanessa Johnson, Juli Zeringue, Elsie Sandolph, Larry Landry, Troy Pintado, Kerri Breaux, Hilton Landry, Linda Caminata, Mende Ford, Babette Robert, Haley Dufrene, Ken Oberle, Mabry Laviolette, Connie Lauve

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PARISH OFFICE TO ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYER REQUEST LIST.

ALSO, PLEASE CALL TO REMOVE NAMES FROM THE LIST.



SANCTUARY LAMP IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

GAIL FABRE

(Oct. 25-31)

by Randy & Leslie Petit Family



SANCTUARY LAMP IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

VIRGINIA SCHIELDER

(Nov. 1-14)

by Deborah & Albert Luquette

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:

Please note that these readings are absolutely perfect for us to remember Fr. Ed and to celebrate his life of extraordinary kindness, gentleness, and love. A memorial tribute is on the back page.]

Today's first reading, **Exodus 22:20-26**, contains laws prohibiting the Israelites from taking advantage of people who are most vulnerable--aliens, widows, orphans and the poor. Fleeing their homelands to escape war, famine or plague, aliens are strangers in a foreign land. The Lord warns the Israelites that they must be hospitable to aliens who come to them seeking refuge because they themselves had once been aliens in Egypt. The Israelites must not be like the Egyptians who abused and enslaved them; instead they are to treat aliens with kindness and compassion--just as the Lord had shown kindness and compassion to the Israelites when He allowed them to escape their Egyptian captors.

In Israelite society, the widow and orphans of a deceased man are supposed to be taken into the home of the deceased man's brother or other near relative. If, however, the deceased man's kinsmen refuse to take them in, the widow and orphans have no recourse. Left on their own with no means of support or protection, they often become homeless beggars in constant danger of being abducted and sold into slavery. The Lord sternly warns the Israelites to do the right thing and care for the widows and orphans--or else they would face His wrath. The language is strong, and the point is clear -- just as God protects and cares for His chosen people, so He expects them to care for and protect one another.

The Lord also demands kindness towards the poor by prohibiting the Israelite money lenders from taking advantage of their desperate situations. The Israelites are not allowed to charge interest on loans that would keep the poor forever in their debt. However, they are allowed to take a pledge--that is, an object to be held as security for the loan. If the object held as security is something the poor person needs, the lender is obligated to return the object when it is needed. For example, during the warm day, the lender can keep a poor man's cloak as a pledge of repayment, but in the cool evening, he must return it because a cloak is a poor man's only blanket. The poor and lowly are under the protection of the Lord; thus, the Israelites must treat them with mercy and compassion.

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In loving memory of
Fr. Edward Lauden
Pastor of St. Mark Church, Ama, LA

Entered the world: April 20, 1943

Ordained a priest: June 5, 2005

Entered eternal life: October 21, 2020

Fr. Ed was a simple, humble, unassuming man who truly lived Jesus' command to LOVE. He lovingly welcomed the steady stream of people who came to him for counseling and confession--appointment or not, he never turned anyone away. So many sought his advice and forgiveness because his kindness and gentleness made him a fitting representative of our loving and merciful God. He was a friendly, but private person. Everyone liked him, but few knew him well. He never wanted to be the center of attention or to cause anyone extra work or to have others worry about him. Even after a recent stay in the hospital when he learned that his twenty-three year old double by-pass was now failing, he remained positive and told us only that the doctor had changed his diet and medication. The irony is that the physical heart would fail on someone whose spiritual heart was so large and so loving. Fr. Ed said that he was devastated when his wife died, but not long after her death, he felt not called--but compelled--to the priesthood. He believed that being a priest was both a privilege and a responsibility to follow Christ as closely as possible. He demonstrated his great love for God and for his vocation when he walked slowly to the altar and so reverently kissed it at the end of his last Mass on Saturday, October 18, 2020--mere hours before his physical heart gave out. He loved being pastor of St. Mark, his "little country parish." St. Mark is a better place because he was our pastor, and his parishioners are better people for having known him and seen what it means to live the Gospel of Christ.

Because St. Mark's small seating capacity is made even smaller by covid restrictions:

Fr. Ed's viewing and funeral Mass will be at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Destrehan.

Visitation is from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. (wear mask)

The funeral Mass begins at 11:00 am. (wear mask)

Burial will be in Picayune, Mississippi immediately following the Mass.

The Funeral Mass will be live streamed by St. Charles Borromeo, use this link:

<https://m.facebook.com/SCBLittleRedChurch/>

There is no guarantee of seating because safe distance restrictions--first come, first seated. You may want to watch the Mass on the above link.



LET US PRAY: That through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, we will be spared damage to life and property during the hurricane season.

Thank you for your protection in the 2020 hurricane season.

Reflection continued . . .

In today's Gospel, **Matthew 22:34-40**, a scholar of the Law of Moses wants to get Jesus into a debate about which is the greatest commandment. These religious lawyers make their living by debating, teaching, and explaining the 613 commandments [most of them man-made] of the Jewish Law. This scholar expects to show that Jesus' knowledge of the Law is inadequate

to give him the authority to teach. Jesus refuses to fall into the trap of arguing the value of one commandment over the other. Instead, Jesus goes straight to the essence that makes the commandment great--LOVE. Jesus says the first and greatest commandment is to love God with your whole being (Deuteronomy 6:4-6), and the second is to love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19:18). Thus, Jesus proves his superior knowledge of the Law by connecting two existing laws which contain the foundation of all 613 laws, as well as the teachings of the prophets. **Jesus teaches that to love God, we must love others. This love is not an emotional "feeling;" rather, it is an active, deliberate choice to respond to God's love for us by treating others with respect, kindness, compassion, and generosity. No matter how we might "feel" emotionally about others, we can still choose to love them.**