

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

(Yes, next week (11/28-29) is the first Sunday of Advent.)

**November 28  
SATURDAY 5:30 PM:**

**Edwin & Anita Norris**  
by Ernest & Shirley Webre

**Beatrice Z. Brown**  
by Elsie Petit

**Ronald Galley**  
by Friends

**Gail Fabre**  
by Randy & Leslie Petit Family

**In thanksgiving**  
by Melanie Plaisance

**November 29  
SUNDAY 9:30 AM:**

**Parishioners of St. Mark**  
**Fr. Ed**

**Lucien Robert**  
**Sheldon Haydel**  
**Herman Haydel**  
by Marjory Robert

**Kay Roth**  
by Lillian Wegmann

**In thanksgiving for favors granted**  
by Patsye Lunk

**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,

**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:

**ARTHUR & GAIL FABRE**

(Nov. 22-28) by Randy & Leslie Petit Family



SANCTUARY LAMP IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

**LUCIEN & EDITH ROBERT**

(Nov. 29-Dec. 5) by Marjory Robert

FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

**DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ERNESTINE & MARSHALL ROBERT FAMILY**

by Ernestine & Dutch Kappel



**SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND  
Catholic Campaign for Human Development**

There is a designated box on the table in back of church.

The winning tickets from the Lenten Dinner Raffle were pulled at the Pastoral Council meeting on 11/18. The list of winners is posted on the Church bulletin board.

**Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe**

**November 22, 2020**



**REFLECTION ON THE READINGS:**

Ezekiel 34:1-10 contains a scathing condemnation of the "shepherds"--the civil and religious leaders--who tended to their own interest while neglecting the "sheep"--the people under their care. Good leaders and rulers take care of their subjects, but the leaders of Judah were negligent and abusive. They were bad shepherds who neither provided for nor protected their sheep, allowing them to stray from the worship of God into idolatry and to be led away into captivity by a hostile nation. In the first reading, **Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17**, God speaks through the prophet to offer hope to His "sheep"--the Jews who are being held captive in Babylon--by promising to be their Good Shepherd, to show them compassion and give them care, to seek them out and return them home. Ezekiel voices God's love for His people. Although they have sinned, God desires their return.

The strayed, injured and sick sheep represent the weak and oppressed people who were abused and then abandoned by their leaders. Now, God Himself will be their loving and faithful Shepherd. They need only to answer His call in order to be restored to health and to their homeland. The sleek and strong sheep represent the leaders who enriched themselves and grew fat at the expense of those under their care; thus, they will be punished. God is merciful, forgiving those who repent, but, eventually, the time for repentance will run out. When the final judgment comes, God will judge every individual separately, allotting the reward or punishment that each deserves.



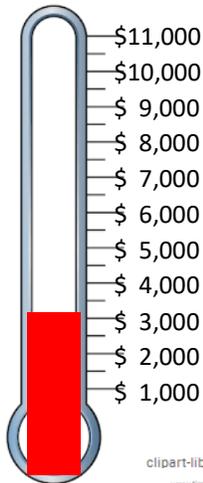
In today's Gospel, **Matthew 25:31- 46**, Jesus describes this time of final judgment to his disciples. Although Jesus' reference to a shepherd separating the sheep from the goats makes this seem like a parable, it is actually a straightforward teaching that provides concrete examples of what we must do to gain entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. When Jesus returns for the final judgment, those who are bearing witness to his



love by performing acts of kindness and works of mercy for others will be invited into the Kingdom; those who are ignoring the needs of others will be cast into the eternal fire. Heaven is the reward for faith in Jesus Christ, and true faith results in action. Jesus gives us a new commandment: to love others as he loves us. Jesus considers this command so important that he made it a

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## GOAL!



**The capital campaign to repair and update the rectory in memory of Fr. Ed is off to a great start. In just two week's, we are about 1/3 of the way to our goal! The campaign will end on December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Because of the "sweat equity" put in by our volunteers, the total cost of the repairs and renovations will be under \$11,000. This \$11,000 includes: removing old wallpaper, minor wall repairs, painting the entire rectory, replacing the ceiling tiles in the hall, installing a new attic ladder, deep cleaning the carpet, removing the stained carpet and refinishing the hardwood flooring in the hallway, replacing the electrical fuse box with a new breaker panel, replacing old wiring and switches that didn't work, making the hot water heater more efficient and fixing the plumbing and drainage issues, replacing the lights and installing a new electrical outlet and a new mirror in the main bathroom, putting a new sink and new flooring in the half-bath, fixing all the places where the mice were getting in, installing a new kitchen light and ceiling fan, new light switch covers

and electrical outlet covers throughout house, new pillows and bedding, replacing broken venetian blinds and other incidentals. Of course, there was deep cleaning inside and out--including pressure washing the rectory and fence, replacing the siding damaged by the last hurricane, and cleaning up the front flower bed.

**DONATED ITEMS, DONATED LABOR, AND AMAZING VOLUNTEERS HAVE KEPT COSTS TO A MINIMUM WITH MAXIMUM RESULTS. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE A CONTRIBUTION, THANK YOU; IF NOT, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP US REACH OUR GOAL. ANY AMOUNT--LARGE OR SMALL--IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. MANY PEOPLE ARE NOT COMING TO CHURCH DURING COVID, SO PLEASE HELP TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IN MEMORY OF FR. ED.**

Place donations: in the box in church; in the parish office letter slot; in the mail (10773 River Rd., Ama, LA 70031).

The Archbishop asked that a copy of *A Nation's Prayer* be placed in all bulletins so that parishioners could keep it and pray it often.

### A Nation's Prayer

God our father, giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded.

You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for your glory and dwell among your people. Send your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing your will.

Lead us into a new millennium of life.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

(Contributed by Fr. Michael Gilligan, American Catholic Press, Copyright 1992. Used with permission.)



Reflection continued . . .

standard for judging our worthiness for heaven. When we treat others with kindness and mercy, we prove that our faith is real.

**Faith that is tried, tested and proven to be true is our admission ticket into heaven.**

Jesus teaches us that whatever kindness we do for others, we do for him. When we

prove our faith by treating others well, we treat Jesus well. He will remember and reward us. If we do nothing for others, we do nothing for Jesus; consequently, he will not know us--just as the groom did not know the foolish virgins who had done nothing to prepare for his arrival.

**Faith is personal, but it is not private. It is meant to be boldly proclaimed and shared with others.** It is not to be buried in the ground like the talent given to the fear-filled, lazy servant. If we want Jesus to invite us into his heavenly kingdom, it is not enough to profess our belief, we must prove our belief by living according to Jesus' teaching and example.

### ST. MARK'S WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

WE WELCOME WALK-INS AT WEEKEND MASSES AS LONG AS SAFE-DISTANCE SEATING IS AVAILABLE; HOWEVER, TO GUARANTEE A SEAT, YOU SHOULD CALL THE PARISH OFFICE (504-431-8505) BETWEEN NOON AND 3:00 pm, MONDAY--FRIDAY.