

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Bonaventure Parish, The Family of God on a Mission.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

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Avondale, LA 70094

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<https://www.facebook.com/St-Bonaventure-Church>



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FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Easter

APRIL 25, 2021

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

Our Pastors Wish List



USB Box

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MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00AM

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Tues, Wed, Thurs & Friday: 8:30 AM

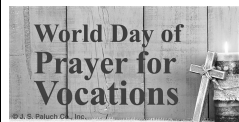
Pastor: Rev. Francis Offia

STAFF:

Secretary: Judy Guidroz

CRE: Elizabeth Carmona

Music Director: Tina Adams



Fourth Sunday of Easter

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. — 1 John 3:1



St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

April 25, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, April 24, Mass 5:00pm

L. H. Maria Nguyen T. Noi+; Phero & Maria Nguyen Ty; Charion Hemphill; Cherie Mitchell+; Mary Rice+; Dawin Gonzales+; Guise Nguyen Van Thuong+; Maria Pham Thi Hoang+; hashem Salomon+; for all souls in purgatory; and In Thanksgiving for family;

Sunday, April 25, Mass 8:00am

Parishioners of St. Bonaventure

Sunday, April 25, Mass 10:00am

Mary Ann Rice+; Mike Spencer+; Guise Nguyen Van Thuong+; Dominico Lam Van Tran+; Maria Bau Thi Nguyen+; Peter-Joseph Hoan Van Tran+; Vincent Hai Phu Nguyen+; Maria Duom Thi Tran+; All souls in purgatory; and In Thanksgiving for family

Monday, April 26 — No Mass

Tuesday, April 27 — Mass 8:30am

Guise Nguyen Van Thuong+; For All Souls and Poor Souls in Purgatory; In thanksgiving for family;

Wednesday, April 28 — Mass 8:30am

For All Souls in Purgatory; Guise Nguyen Van Thuong+; Maria Pham Thi Hoang+; and in thanks giving for family

Thursday, April 29 — Mass 8:30am

In Thanksgiving for family; Guise Nguyen Van Thuong+; and For All Souls in Purgatory

Friday, April 30 — Mass 8:30am

Guise Nguyun Van Thuong+; In Thanksgiving for family; and For All Souls in Purgatory

2nd collection Diocesan Priest Retirement. Archdiocese is truly blessed by the service of many holy and dedicated priests, especially our retired priests, who have served our Archdiocese faithfully. Your participation in this collection is a way to say “thank you” to our retired Archdiocesan priest for their many years of service to us, the Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. I assure that your support will benefit the priests for many years to come. Thank you for your generosity and support.

We Are All Stewards of Time, Talent & Treasure
Thank you for your time, talent & financial donations!



May God bless you for your generosity

Weekend of March April 17/18

Envelopes \$1,356.00 Loose \$323.00

♦ 4/24-25 Good Shepherd Sunday Priest retirement



This Week Sanctuary Candle burns For:

Parishioners of St. Bonaventure



RESPONDING TO THE CALL

Do we truly know the voice of Christ? Do we truly respond to the voice of our shepherd with our own distinctive voice? How often we attempt to imitate those around us, appropriating the response of another member of the flock to Christ. Perhaps we

need to balance the image of being sheep of one flock with the image from the second reading, which tells us that we are all children of God. What child has precisely the same interaction with parents as his or her siblings? Instead, they frequently do and say things to distinguish themselves in the eyes of their parents.

Whether we use the image of children or of sheep to understand our relationship with Christ, we believe that we are all known and called by name. With this great gift comes a responsibility: to respond to the call with our own distinctive voice, to take time to discern exactly what our call is, to determine precisely what the will of the Father is for each of us.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — There is no salvation through anyone else (Acts 4:8-12).

Psalm — The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

Gospel — The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14 or (13:54-58)

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32;

1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8; Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;

CHRIST IS HERE Christ departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here. —St. Augustine

Pope's APRIL Intention



Universal intention - Fundamental rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES. Prayer for Soldiers

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

Welcome New Parishioners —We invite all new parishioners and all those who have not yet registered with our parish to do so. There are registration forms on tables at the entrances of the Church and on our website. Please take a moment to fill in your information, or take it home and fill it in and return it later or bring it to the Church office so that we can include you as part of our parish.

Prayer Request:



LynLeigh Adams; Jeff Adams; Janell Angelle; Helga & Tina Barry; Pearl & Rebecca Berthelot; Todd Bordelon; Joyce Caire; Jason Chiasson; Kai ye Chin; Ben, Brandon & Tim Guidroz; Ester Hammil; Kathleen, Donald, & Glenn Jeansonne; Joy & Norbert Labit; Gay Litolff; Kirk Litolff; JoAnn Leman; Gary & Holly Marshall; Theda Melarine; Carolyn & Arthur Moore; David & Kim Muller; Anita Perkins; Janice Reiser; Tammy Reites; Jules & Michael Sancho; Lloyd Seneck; Al Stapler; James Theriot III; Trent Trentacosta; "Mooney" Woods. Please call the office or send in your request to add or delete a loved one to the prayer list .



Matters Arising

Hope Rooted in the Risen Lord

When all else has failed, the only thing left to sustain us is hope!!! Faith Hope and Charity are those three Theological Virtues which God infused in us for our own good. With the Virtue of faith, we understand it as the substance of things hoped for, evidence of things unseen. This is classical definition from the Letter to the Hebrews. For us Christians, faith is real! It is a gift from God and with it, we are able to make that required ascent to God. Furthermore, when we say that faith is the substance of things hoped for, it means that not only faith is a reality, hope itself is real. That is, act of hoping also becomes an activity of its own. During my hospital ministry in 2014, I read a book titled: "When all else fails." One of the striking things about this book is that the author, somehow promoted and elevated human power of the will to be the ultimate rescue when every other sources of help might have failed. It is interesting because in that idea, I was able to see again how man has relied and turn in on himself in his quest for happiness. But for us as Christians, and indeed for all peoples, when all else has failed, when we have failed ourselves due to our individual weaknesses, when others have failed us because they have been proven unreliable, when even the human inventions have failed us, we still have someone whose word is Yes and Amen! He cannot fail us. That person is God. God incarnate. God who became man and went to the cross for us. Christ who died and rose from us.

Our faith does not stop in recognizing that God is. We also hope that our God is everything and will do everything for us. We might not be able to get to all the passages in the scripture which speaks on the virtue of hope. But let's look at this beautiful passage from 1st Peter *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time"* (1Pt 1:3-5). Hope is not just alive; it is a supernatural gift from God himself. And it has been giving to us by God, it is that virtue by which we desire eternal happiness, that is eternal happiness with God himself. In other words, God put into our soul this virtue of hope in order that we might desire nothing else but God Himself. This is how the Catechism puts it: *The virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man; it takes up the hopes that inspire men's activities and purifies them so as to order them to the Kingdom of heaven; it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment; it opens up his heart in expectation of eternal beatitude. Buoyed up by hope, he is preserved from selfishness and led to the happiness that flows from charity.* Therefore, not only that our hope is real and alive, it is also not meaningless.

In his teaching about the relationship between faith and hope, Thomas Aquinas says that: *"The thing to be hoped for is included in the definition of faith, because the proper object of faith, is something not apparent in itself."* So, we hope in God in whom also we place our faith, although we do not see Him. Again, we hope in his goodness to us because our faith tells us that he is the Supreme Goodness.

Throughout the history of redemption, God has never left his people without instilling in them the virtue of Hope. And those who sincerely hoped in God were not disappointed. In the book of Joshua 10:25 we read; *"Then Joshua said to them (the Israelites), "Do not be afraid or dismayed, be firm and steadfast. This is what the LORD will do to all the enemies against whom you fight.* In Genesis 8: 1 we read. God remembered Noah and all the animals, wild and tame, that were with him in the ark. So, God made a wind sweep over the earth, and the waters began to subside. In Leviticus 26:40-45, God assures the Israelites of His faithfulness so long as they place their hope in Him. The blind who called Jesus for healing received the recovery of his sight because he had great hope that Christ will heal him.

Indeed, person without hope is in a more difficult situation. One who does not cooperate with God's gift of hope surely have his life in peril. The Word of God in Job (11:18-19) gives us the key when is says: *"And you shall be secure, because there is hope you shall look round you and lie down in safety; you shall lie down, and no one will disturb you."* St. Paul in 1st Cor 13:13 counted hope among the three things that remains. And the psalmist tells us that: *"The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his mercy."* Therefore, my there brothers and sisters, when all else has failed, let us place our Hope in the Lord.



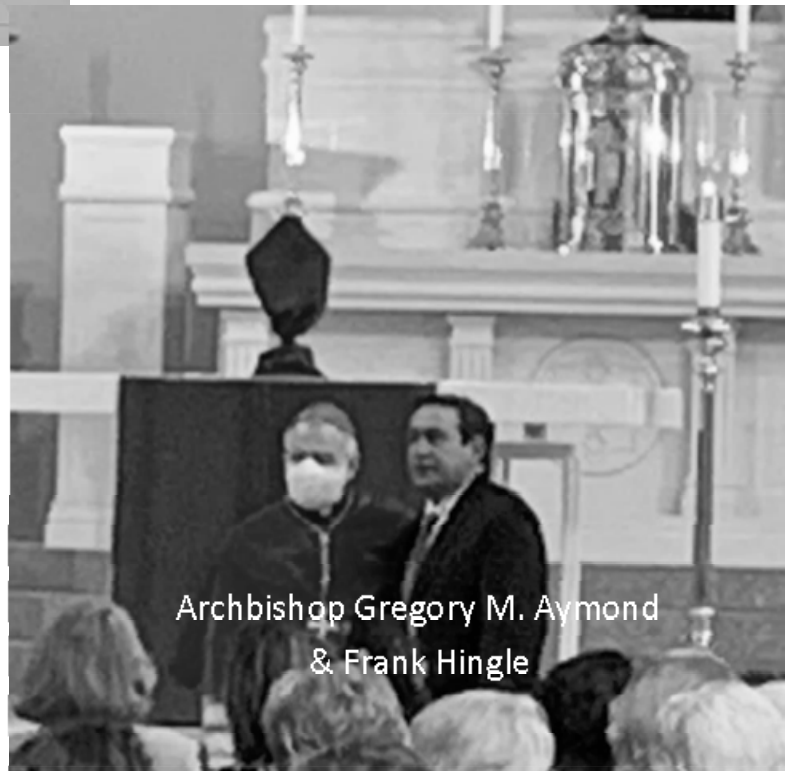
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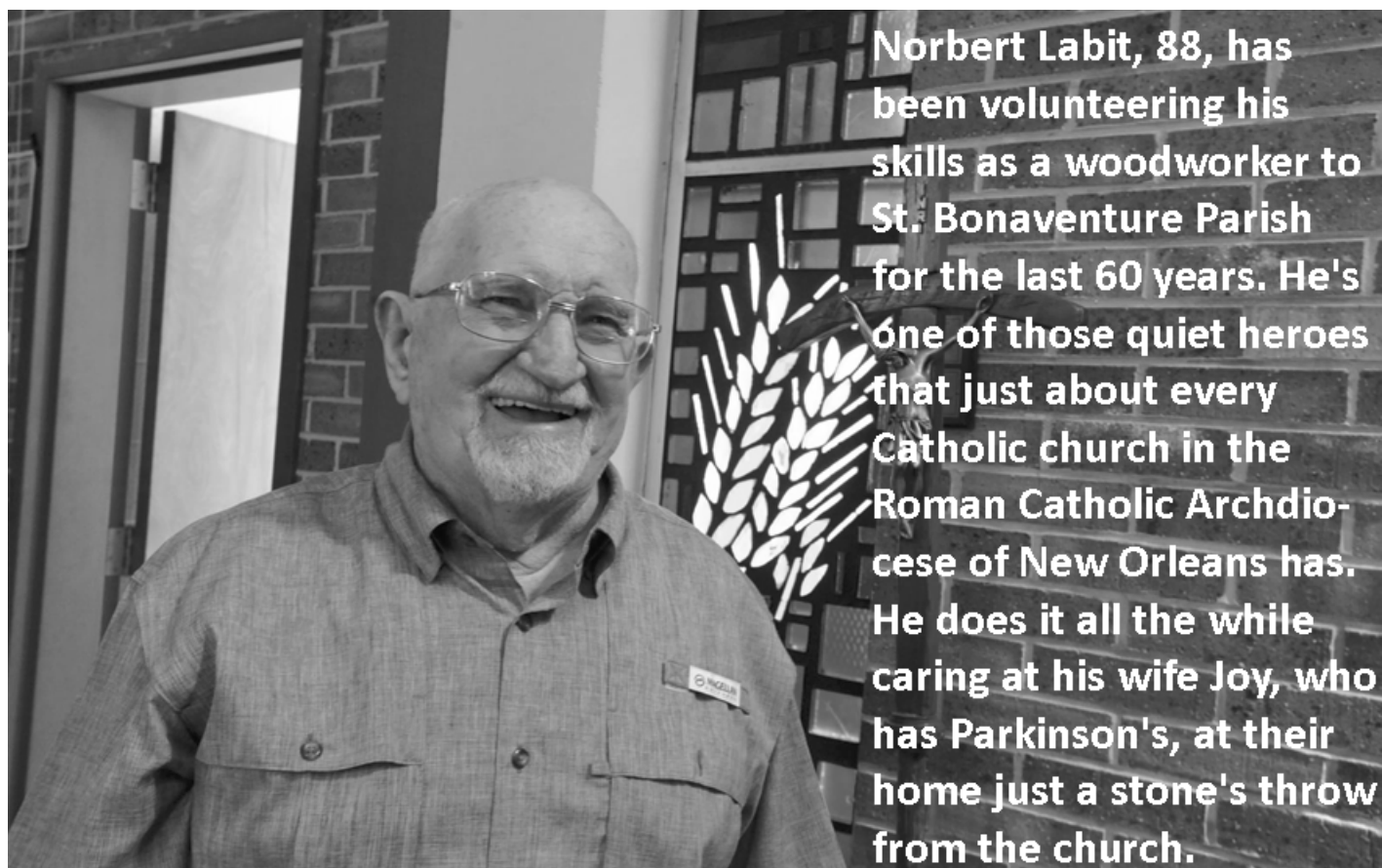
**Wednesday Holy Hour
and
Benediction, 6pm to 7pm.
confession 5.30pm to 7pm.
The Lord Is calling**



**St. Louis IX Medallion
Congratulations to
Frank Hingle
our 2021 recipients of the
Order of St. Louis IX Medallion**

**In recognition of his great dedication and years of service to St.
Bonaventure Church. He receive his medallion in a special ceremony at
St. Catherine of Siena, N.O., Congratulations Frank and thank you for
your service to St. Bonaventure.**





Congratulations

Saida Lara!

Sara won the 65" Vizzo TV donated by Mark Moll. We made \$2,255. Thank you Mark and Thanks to all who took chances.



Saida Lara & Fr. Pius



PASTOR'S CORNER

- ♦ **Thanks to those who initiated and planned our parish evening Social this weekend. As we continue to build and strengthen our community, events like this help us to become truly a family.**
- ♦ **Thanks to Fr Pius Nwankwo who filled in for me while I was on vacation. I also wish to sincerely thank you my dear parishioners for your warm welcome to him.**
- ♦ **Plan is underway for a parish church security drill. I will provide more information on this in the coming weeks**
- ♦ **Please keep our teens who will be making their confirmation next month in your prayers**
- ♦ **The Parish Finance Council will be finalizing our 2021/2022 parish budget by next month. I am asking that if you have suggestions, inputs or contributions to make to please speak with me.**
- ♦ **We continue with the activities celebrating the Year of the Eucharist and St Joseph, our next Eucharistic procession is in June on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Several parishioners have indicated interest in making a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Alabama (Mother Angelica's Monastery). I am currently in contact with the pilgrimage department and will provide you all with the detail plan in the coming weeks.**

FEAST OF FAITH - The Gospel Reading

The climax of the Liturgy of the Word comes with the proclamation of the Gospel. Everything tells us that something important is happening. We stand. We sing special acclamations. Servers with candles and sometimes incense lead the deacon or priest to the ambo, where the reading is proclaimed from a special book.

All of the readings are important, but the liturgy directs special attention to the Gospel for a reason. "[A]mong all the inspired writings, even among those of the New Testament, the Gospels have a special place, and rightly so, because they are our principal source for the life and teaching of the Incarnate Word, our Savior" (*Dei Verbum*, the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation of the Second Vatican Council, 18). In the Gospels, the narrative of Christ's saving life, death, and resurrection continues to be proclaimed in our midst.

Our Sunday Lectionary is structured so as to allow us to hear as much of the Gospels as possible. The readings are arranged in a three-year cycle. In Year A, the Gospel readings are taken mainly from Matthew; in Year B, from Mark and John; and in Year C, from Luke. In this way, over the course of three years, we hear a substantial portion of all four Gospels.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LOVE AND DEATH

Unhappy is death without the love of the Savior; unhappy is love without the death of the Savior.

—St. Francis de Sales



Mother's Day If you would like our parish to remember your mother at all the Masses on Mother's Day weekend please let us know by returning the envelope provided on the table at the entrance of the Church. All names submitted by Tuesday, May 4th. will be printed in the bulletin. However, all names will be placed on our altar for the remainder of the month.

If you are homebound, or you know a St. Bonaventure parishioner who cannot attend Mass because of surgery or illness and would like Holy Communion, please contact Parish Office: 436-1279.

A CHEERFUL GIVER

A cheerful giver does not count the cost of what he gives. His heart is set on pleasing and cheering the one to whom the gift is given.

—St. Julian

THE GLORY OF GOD

The glory of God is humanity fully alive.

—St. Irenaeus

SPECIAL PARISH EVENTS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR 2021.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Wednesday **June 2nd** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist & Mass with Benediction
- Sunday **June 3rd** Eucharistic Procession on the street (inter-parish)
- Wednesday **June 9th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist & Mass with Benediction
- Wednesday **June 16th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist & Mass with Benediction
- Wednesday **June 23rd** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist & Mass with Benediction
- Wednesday **June 30th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist & Mass with Benediction
- Sunday **August 29th** Eucharistic Procession on the street— 12 stations (Region-C)
- Wednesday **Oct. 6th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist
- Wednesday **Oct. 13th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist
- Wednesday **Oct. 20th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist
- Wednesday **Oct. 27th** 6pm. Faith and Belief in the Eucharist
- Sunday **Oct. 24th** Eucharistic Procession on the street— 12 stations (Region-D)
- Sunday **Nov. 21st** Eucharistic Procession on the street— 12 stations (Region-E)
- **June.** Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Mother Angelica's Monastery)

ON WEALTH

Nothing is more fallacious than wealth. It is a hostile comrade, a domestic enemy. —St. John Chrysostom

Mask mandate: By order of the governor, masks are required at Mass and when doing business in the office. Please adhere to the mandate for the good of all and in order to ensure our church follows the guidelines and remains open.

VOCATION

MEDITATION FOR PRIESTHOOD,
DIACONATE & RELIGIOUS LIFE

"God has called us with a holy calling...according to His own purpose and grace." If you think God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life,
Contact Fr. Francis at 504-729-8469.

COMING UP

MONDAY, April 26, 2021 —

- ♦ No Mass —Father's Day off

TUESDAY, April 27, 2021—

- ♦ Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30am
- ♦ PSR 6:00-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, April 28, 2021—

- ♦ Rosary 7:30-8:30am -**Mass 8:30am**
- ♦ Holy Hour & Benediction—6:00-7pm (Father will be available for confession 5:30 to 7:00pm)

THURSDAY, April 29, 2021 —

- ♦ Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30am
- Office will be closed

FRIDAY, April 30, 2021—

- ♦ Rosary 7:30-8:30am—Mass 8:30am

SATURDAY, May 1, 2021—

- ♦ Mass 5:00pm ♦ Confession — 4:00—4:45pm

SUNDAY, May 2, 2021 — ♦ Mass 8:00am & 10:00am



SACRAMENTS

Confession: Saturday 4:00—4:45pm;

Wednesday 5:30—7:00pm

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the office to schedule an appointment with Father. Parents and Godparents must attend a seminar.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to expected wedding date. Call the office for details.

Funerals: Please notify the priest before contacting the Funeral Home.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations The annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on **April 25, 2021** (Fourth Sunday of Easter). All the people of the Archdiocese are encouraged to participate in prayer, both for an increase in vocations and for those men and women who have committed themselves to a religious vocation.

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 Father Michael Gilligan, American Catholic Press, Copyright 1992. Used with permission.)



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