Fr. Peter Akpoghiran, Pastor (for emergency use only: 703-895-5709)

Fr. Peter's St. Mark Office Hours: Mondays - 9 am - 12 noon Wednesdays - 1 pm - 4 pm or by appointment

Rosary Crain, Secretary

504-431-8505 (parish office) 504-431-850**6** (FAX)

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

St. Mark Office email......stmarkama@arch-no.org

Mary Loup, PCL......504-289-2900

PCL email..... mloup@arch-no.org

St. Mark website.....www.stmarkama.com

Facebook......St. Mark Catholic Church Ama, LA

GENERAL MASS SCHEDULE

The rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each Mass.

8:00 am DAILY MASS: MON. - SAT.

Tuesdays: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena after Mass

Fridays: Sacred Heart Novena after Mass

5:30 pm SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

9:30 am SUNDAY MASS

HOLY DAYS: 8:00 am & 6:00 pm (no vigil)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Grades 6 - 11--Sundays, 6:30-7:30 pm Grades 1 - 5--Mondays, 5:30-6:30 pm (All classes meet in the Fr. Cote Center)

CONFESSION:

Saturday 5:00 pm— 5:15 pm; Sunday 9:00 am—9:15 am; or by appointment.

WEDDINGS:

Please contact Father at least 6 months before proposed wedding date to begin the required preparation process.

FUNERALS:

Notify Father before contacting the funeral home.

BAPTISMS:

Parents must attend a seminar before the baptism of their first child. Godparents who have never attended a seminar must also attend. Please contact the parish office for further details.

BAPTISM SEMINARS

The Baptism seminars will be held "as needed." Please contact Parish Office to schedule a Baptism Seminar. Once the parents and godparents have attended a seminar, the Baptism date can be set.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO BE CONNECTED TO OUR ONLINE GIVING FORM

ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

10773 River Road, Ama, LA 70031





RELECTION ON THE READINGS



Prior to the start of the first reading, **1 Kings 17:10-16**, God sends the prophet Elijah to the Phoenician town of Zarephath. At this time, a drought has led to a severe famine, not only in Israel, but also in the surrounding nations, including Phoenicia. On arriving in Zarephath, Elijah sees a woman gathering sticks; he asks her for a cup of water. However, as she is leaving to

get it, he also asks her to bring him some bread. The woman, a widow, replies that she is almost out of food. In fact, she intends to use the wood she is gathering to cook the last meal that she and her son will eat before they die of starvation. Elijah assures her that his God--Yahweh, the God of Israel--will provide for her. Then he tells her to use some of her remaining flower and oil to bake him some bread **before** preparing a meal for herself and her son.



Under ordinary conditions, Elijah's request would be ill-mannered, but in light of the widow's dire circumstances, it is brazenly rude and selfish. This widow does not know Elijah. He is a stranger from a foreign country who asks her to share her last bit of food with him. Yes, Elijah promises that the God of Israel will take care of her, but she is not an Israelite; she knows nothing of Yahweh. She is a Phoenician: her god is Baal. She has no proof that the God

of Israel will help her; nevertheless, she does as Elijah asks--most likely because she is a generous person who feels compassion for a fellow human being. After making Elijah's meal, she realizes that she still has enough flour and oil to make bread for her son and herself. As Elijah predicted, God rewarded the widow's generosity by allowing her meager supplies to last until the famine is over. Because she willingly shares what little she has with God's prophet, God willingly shares His abundance with her.



In the approximately 850 years between the first reading and the Gospel, the status of widows in a patriarchal society does not change. Having neither power nor position, widows live at the mercy of others. Many of those who should be merciful toward them are not. In the Gospel, **Mark 12:38-44**, Jesus condemns scribes who use their position of power and trust within the community to take advantage of widows and others who are vulnerable.

As scholars of the Mosaic Law, scribes are both lawyers and theologians. They have a duty to give legal and spiritual advice to anyone seeking their help, but some scribes prefer to "get" rather than "give." Some men be-



come scribes in order to receive attention, recognition, and financial gain. Jewish men wear a ceremonial shawl (*tallith*) when they pray. To draw attention to their piety and devotion to God, some scribes stared to wear extra long prayer shawls all the time to give the appearance that they are always praying. Scribes are well respected: the lower classes stand up and make a deep bow when they see a scribe in a public place; scribes sit on a raised platform **CONTINUED PAGE 3 COLUMN 2**

MASS INTENTIONS: November 8-14

MONDAY 8:00 AM: Dick & Ethel Vial

by Patsye Lunk

Alvin "Chalky" Friloux by Patsye & Roy Lunk

TUESDAY 8:00 AM: Special Intention

WEDNESDAY 8:00 AM: Clotilde Keller

by Dudley & Brenda Webre

THURSDAY 8:00 AM: Theresa Parsens

by Randy Caire

FRIDAY 8:00 AM: Jerry <u>Caire</u>

by Randy Caire

SATURDAY 8:00 AM: Judith G. Zeringue by Barbara & Charles Gaubert SATURDAY 5:30 PM: Parishioners of St. Mark

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

Jules & Josephine Petit Milton Robert

by Ernest & Shirley Webre

Luke & Odile Robert by Children

Larry Nicholas by Myra Nicholas

Robert Ward by Sandra Ward

Louis Robert Gwen Robert

by Babette Robert

Alvin "Chalky" Friloux by Ray & Audrey Zeringue 大方本大人

Fr. Peter and Ms. Loup thank the families who attended the School of Religion's Family Mass and Orientation. They give special commendation to the

students who preformed the Mass ministries:

Lector: OLIVIA WHITTAKER

Gift Bearers: LOGAN & JACOB ROBERTS

PEIGHTON & EMMA LANDRY

Altar Servers: ABIGAIL MIGUEZ

MOLLY ZERINGUE

THE 2022 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

The forms to request Masses and the Sanctuary Lamp for 2022 are on the small table in the back of church. You may also print forms from our website (www.stmarkama.com).



Place completed forms and stipends in an envelope labeled "Intentions 2022." Place envelope either:

1) in the regular (first) collection, or 2) in the door slot of parish office, or 3) in the mail.

Mass and sanctuary lamp dates will be assigned in the order the requests are received.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

O Lord, grant healing and good health to:

Dutch Kappel, Dolena Robert, Carol Jones,
Sam Granier, Monica Schexnaydre,
Audrey Zeringue, Dana Jones, Gay-Lynn Folse,
Morris Zeringue, Gaye Webre, 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,
Babette Robert, Mabry Laviolette, Al Luquette,
Debbie Luquette, Donald Hare, Jr., Randy Lauve,
Lacy Robert, Mack Rodrigue, Shirley Webre

St. Raphael, patron of healing, pray for us.

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PARISH OFFICE TO ADD NAMES TO THE

PRAYER REQUEST LIST, OR TO REMOVE NAMES FROM THE LIST.

SANCTUARY LAMP IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

MURPHY ROBERT

(11/7-13)

by Marjory Robert



SANCTUARY LAMP IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

LARRY NICHOLAS

(11/14-20)

by Myra Nicholas



CHURCH SUPPORT

October 30-31 . . . \$2,133.00 (total)

\$1,718.00 (in church) + \$415.00 (online)



THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY'S

THANKSGIVING BASKETS WILL LOOK DIFFERENT THIS YEAR!

Due to the inaccessibility of the Fr. Cote Center for storing and packaging goods for the Thanksgiving baskets, this year St. Mark's St. Vincent de Paul Society is asking for MONETARY DONATIONS ONLY instead of food items. The SVdP Society will provide gift cards to the recipients.

THERE ARE CONTAINERS ON BOTH TABLES IN BACK OF CHURCH FOR YOUR MONETARY DONATIONS. IF YOU ARE GIVING A CHECK, PLEASE MAKE IT OUT TO:

St. Mark St. Vincent de Paul.

The last day to donate is November 15.

Do you know someone in our area who is in need of a Thanksgiving "Gift Card"?

If so, please call or email the Parish Office (504-431-8505 / stmarkama@arch-no.org) with the NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, & NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS (adults and children) of the family in need.

NOV. 15th IS THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT NAMES!



LET US PRAY:

That through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor we will be spared <u>further</u> damage to life and property during the hurricane season.

VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK November 7-13

is a time dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life through prayed and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Amen

DIRECTIONS FOR BRINGING UP THE OFFERTORY GIFTS:

VOLUNTEER: When you arrive at Church, tell the usher that you, your family, or your group would like to bring up the gifts. (If the usher says that someone else has already volunteered--just wait until next week.)

BE ASKED: If there are no volunteers, an usher will ask a family, individuals, or a group to bring up the gifts. PLEASE, <u>SAY "YES."</u> We would like to have different people involved each week.

- As soon as the ushers <u>start</u> to pass the collection baskets, walk to the back of the church. Stand by the table until the ushers have everything ready for you. Then line up in the aisle, and wait for Fr. Peter.
- 3. As soon as Fr. Peter walks to the center aisle, you start walking up the aisle to him; stop; hand him the gifts; wait for the blessing.
- 4. After Father has taken the gifts from everyone, he will bless you. During the blessing, bow your head (don't genuflect). When the blessing is over, return to your seat.

THANK YOU for your service



God bless you

Reflection continued . . . in the synagogue, and they always sit at the head of the table when attending a celebration.

Although the scribes are highly regarded, they are not highly paid. In fact, the scribes are not allowed to charge fees for their services, but they are permitted to accept "free-will" donations to support themselves. [This system was intended to make free legal and spiritual counsel available to everyone; instead, it gave the rich an unfair advantage over the poor.] Because rich, satisfied people give more "donations," unscrupulous scribes make legal decisions and give spiritual guidance based on personal profit--instead of justice and righteousness. Widows very often lose their homes and property because dishonest men go to the scribes claiming that the woman's husband died owing them money. These deceitful creditors give very large "donations" (kickbacks) to the scribes who uphold their false claims. Jesus denounces the hypocritical behavior of those who use the service of God as a pretense for personal gain.



Jesus then contrast the pride and greed of the scribes with the humility and generosity of a poor widow. Temple offerings are placed in metal boxes; people in the offering area could estimate the amount being donated by the sound of the coins. Offerings of heavy gold and silver coins "clank" loudly; the smaller, less valuable coins make a soft "clink." The poor are not obligated to make Temple offerings, so Jesus points out the free-will offering made by a poor widow. Her two small coins make little sound, but Jesus can hear their faint clinks and knows that she gives more than all the others. Like the widow in the first reading, she has sacrificed what she needs to live--not what she has left over.

The widow of Zarephath puts Elijah's needs before her own; the widow in the Temple puts God first in her life. Both women put themselves in a position of total dependence on God. Because of their unselfish service to God and others, these poor, lowly widows will be highly regarded and rewarded with places of honor in the Kingdom of God.



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IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Peter & Rosemary Kapesis	Francois & Emma Schexnaydre	Louis Robert	Gwen Robert	Cleomene & Virgie Loup
by Family	by Family	by Family	by Randy, Karen & Kayleigh	Linda L. Rousseau
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Randy Barnes	Leonard & Stella Troxler	Luke & Odile Robert	Arnie, Mary & Lamar Landry	Lucille, Ellis & Lillian Friloux
by Elaine & Jessica	by Family	by Family	by Family	by Babette
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Robert Ward	Miss Mary Robert	Lawrence, Earline & Troy Gaubert, Jr.	Irene & Daniel	Louverther Boudoin
by Family	Newton Robert, Sr. by Cantrelle Family	Judith G. Zeringue by Family	De Bautte by Family	Irving Pierre, Jr. by Family
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Alfred E. Walters Patricia D. Walters	Eleanore "Ella" & Amos Frickey	Merrill Whittaker, Sr. Vernon Keller	Trudy Plaisance Forever in our Hearts	Taylor Friloux by Dot & Chalky
by Family	by Rosary & Jesse	by Family	454 10	Friloux
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Hazel & Willard Crain Rita & Jack Jackman by Family	Laura McHale Betty & Ronald Cantrelle, Sr. by Cantrelle Family	Larry Nicholas by Wife, Children & Grandchildren	Murphy Robert Lucien & Edith Robert by Marjory Robert	Rusty & Irma Dubroca Forever in our Hearts
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	7 H20	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Allen, Althea, & Jimmie Jolly Linda Royes	AnnaLea & Irby Petit, Sr. Irby Petit, Jr. & Irby Petit III Loretta & Ulrich Muller Barbara & Roger Mair by Susie & Ernest Muller	IN LOVING MEMORY OF Lena & Rodney Breaux by Family	Vernona"Cooney"Thibodaux Noland & Ora Berthelot Russell Comardelle, Sr. by Shelbi & Caison	Nicholas & Rena Weber Allen "Red" & Gladys Petit John & Flossie McEvoy Percy "Bilo" Weber by John McEvoy
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF		IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Skipper Petit	Emmit & Nora Robert	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	Elise Andrews Charles Andrews	Esther Zeringue Detillier In gratitude for her service to our community through St. Mark's St. Vincent de Paul Society
by Elsie Petit & Family	by Jack, Dawn & Jackson Landry	by Lillian Wegmann	by Family	
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF		
Debbie F. Petit	Karen Cassagne	"Lefty" Wegmann		
by Family	by Family	by Lillian Wegmann		
IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF	IN LOVING MEMORY OF		
Irby Petit, Sr. Irby Petit, Jr. Irby Petit III	Lois & Stella Petit	Joan M. Thiry Janis Riebling Jean Bruneau		
by Kerry Petit	by Children	by Rosary & Jesse		