

## Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD

February 26, 1930 - January 7, 2019

### Obituary

Fr. Jerome Gaston LeDoux was born on February 26, 1930 in Lake Charles, Louisiana to the late Peter Louis LeDoux and Mary Gastonia Petrie LeDoux. He was third of five children born to this union.

Funeral mass will be held at 6:00 PM Monday, January 14, 2019 at Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Opelousas, LA. Visiting hours will be observed from 3:00 PM to 5:45 PM. A Rosary will be recited at 4:00 PM.

Mass of Christian burial will be in St. Augustine's Seminary Cemetery in Bay St. Louis, MS. Funeral mass will be held at 10:00 AM Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at St. Augustine's Seminary.

Fr. LeDoux was educated at Sacred Heart School in Lake Charles, Louisiana. In 1943, at the tender age of thirteen, he entered the seminary following in the footsteps of his older brother, Rev. Louis Verlin LeDoux and his cousin, Bishop Harold Robert Perry, SVD.

His educational path is as follows:

1936-1943: Sacred Heart School in Lake Charles, LA

1943-1947: Divine Word High School Seminary of St. Augustine in Bay St. Louis, MS

1947-1949: Novitiate at the Divine Word Seminary in Techny, IL

1949 – First Vows

1949-1951: Divine Word College in Epworth, IA

1951-1957: St. Augustine Major Seminary in Bay St. Louis, MS

1957 – Final Vows

May 11, 1957 – Ordination to the priesthood

1957-1961: Studied Canon Law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and received a Doctorate in Canon Law and a Master's in Sacred Theology from the Gregorian

Fr. LeDoux's ministry of sixty-one years included:

1961-1967: Taught Canon Law and Moral Theology at St. Augustine Seminary in Bay St. Louis, MS; 1969-1980: Taught Moral Theology at Xavier University in New Orleans. He was the first black chaplain at Xavier. Following the teaching ministry, Fr. LeDoux was assigned as pastor of several parishes over the years in Louisiana and Texas until his retirement in 2015 (St. Martin de Porres Church in Prairie View, TX; St. Paul the Apostle Church in Baton Rouge, LA; St. Augustine Church in New Orleans, LA; and Our Mother of Mercy in Fort Worth, TX). In 2016, he was assigned as the priest in residence of Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Opelousas, Louisiana.

Fr. LeDoux was a man of many talents. He loved his computer where he put his creative thinking into words that he shared with many others. He did a weekly syndicated column, "Reflections on Life" and was the proud author of a book "War of the Pews", a personal account of St. Augustine in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was a brilliant conversationalist and often shared his knowledge and wisdom through word and song that impacted the lives of people from all walks of life. In an email he sent to family and friends regarding his surgery dated 11/10/18, he wrote "In case you are curious, I am at peace in the Lord".

Fr. LeDoux was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Mary LeDoux

and his sister, Mary Agatha LeDoux Sonnier. Cherishing his memories are his sister, Veronica LeDoux Mitchell of St. Albans, New York; his brothers: Chaplain Louis Verlin LeDoux of Tacoma, Washington and Nathaniel LeDoux (Hilda) of Henderson, Nevada; four nieces, Marlene Smith and Gail Mitchell of St. Albans, NY, Yvette Sonnier of Beaumont, TX and Lynette Victor of Austin, TX; his SVD brothers and a host of family members, relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Williams Funeral Home of Opelousas, 337-942-2037

# Tribute Wall

DE

“ *DENISE lit a candle in memory of Jerome Ledoux*



---

**DENISE** - December 12, 2024 at 06:30 PM



“ *Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*

---

January 28, 2023 at 08:52 AM

IW

“ *So sorry to hear of Fr Jerome G LeDoux's passing; yet, I am so happy for him, because I believe without a doubt that he is with his savior in paradise.*

*Fr LeSoux proclaimed the word of God in sermons, song, community action etc. : 1:He buried the dead, fed the hungry, forgave the sinner, etc.*

*He was a teacher, pastor, leader, community organizer, etc,*

*Yes, as St Paul put it, Fr Jermine G Ledoux was always there when he was needed, yes, he fought the fight, he ran the race, he finished the course, and he had joined the ranks of Saints in heaven.*

*Thank you Fr, Ledoux for the many times you were there for me when I needed you. You were loved by many and will be greatly missed.*

---

**Isabel Buggage West** - January 18, 2020 at 05:21 PM

DC

“ God Bless you and thank you for coming into life as a Xavier University student during your ministry. Miss Your smile, laughter, wisdom, singing, and christian support.

*Dr. Norma J. Charles*

---

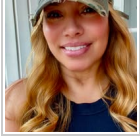
**Dr. Norma J. Charles-Brown** - September 10, 2019 at 01:41 AM

RG

“ This Mighty Man of God, first came into my life, as a Freshmen, at St. Mary's Academy. at a retreat, where. I shared, my call to the Ministry, to him. This was not tolerable, in the Protestant Church, nevertheless he encouraged me, to ' Trailblaze', the path, of female Clergy, in New Orleans, La, in 1973. Ours' would be a friendship, & be a mentorship, of a lifetime.He opened doors, for me, as we shared, the Pulpit, as his colleagues, saw his paternal approval, in the Catholic Church.GOD,I LOVED HIM SO ! But the most memorable, and immediately visible , transition, that he initiated, was in 2004, after a run for Orleans Parish School Board Position, left my health deteriorated. It was severe enough,for me,to visit, M.D.Anderson, in Texas. It was Father Jerome Gaston LeDoux, who saved my life, through, the changing, of my diet. As my mentor, in writing, he challenged me, to take my writing, to another level. by writing, a religious column, under the name of, ' The Preachergirl'. The Revelation, only in 2004, that I was adopted, had him, on a steadfast search, to find, my biological parents, for health purposes. As my biological mother, was rumored, to have been a Xavier University, Opera Starlet, he was helping me. We found both, biological parents, but I never got to convey that, to him, as I was returning, from, my first visit, with my biological mother, in Jan. of 2019.Jesus, this man, was brilliant, in every subject matter! The last Communication, that I received, was about his heart, but I figured, like most of you, that Father Ledoux, would live to be 100. Jesus, WHAT A SPIRITUAL, AND LITERAL GEM, OF THE DEMONSTRATION, OF GOD'S LOVE, TOWARDS US, THAT HE LOANED US, ' Father Jerome Gaston LeDoux, be steadfast, Pastor Deninah Goodwin, The Preachergirl, Zion Christian Ministries ( I wish, I could have , some of his writings, and books, & so sorry, I',m just finding out, he's gone) P.O.Box 180384, Dallas, Texas , 504-516-1272



Rev.Deninah Goodwin - March 22, 2019 at 03:42 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of your fathers passing. Prayers go out to you and your family.*  
*D Rodriguez*



---

**Diana Rodriguez** - March 06, 2019 at 04:40 PM



“ *Sonja N. James lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



---

**Sonja N. James** - January 16, 2019 at 07:46 AM



“ *Father Ledoux I know you are in heaven. You have done some many wonderful things for so many of us. I will miss seeing you and taking to you.*  
*You will always be on my mind and in my heart. You are loved by millions.*

---

**Paulette Lemelle** - January 14, 2019 at 07:37 PM



*Fr Ledoux*  
*You were a blessing to many many people. I thank God for your life and ministry.*

---

**Isabel Buggage West** - January 17, 2020 at 10:12 PM

TM

*Many years ago Father LeDoux leisurely walked into my family's store where I was working. He was meeting some parishioners for lunch at a nearby restaurant and couldn't find it, so he stopped in to ask for directions. He was such a nice man with a radiant smile. He was early for the lunch appointment, and so had time to chat. Through the course of our conversation he asked if I was Catholic. I replied, "I used to be, Father." His smile did not dampen and he continued with our conversation. I knew he was not casting judgment upon me. Later, he handed me his business card. I examined it and commented on his last name, LeDoux. He asked, "Do you know what it means?" Having a rudimentary knowledge of French, I answer, "Yes, Father. It means gentle" and then I added, "It suits you." That tickled him so. When it was time for him to leave, we exchanged our good-byes, and both commented on how much we enjoyed the conversation. I felt uplifted by his presence, a feeling that remained with me for the remainder of my shift and on my drive home. I felt as though I had encountered the divine, and to this day I believe that to be true. Later that day, I got a phone call from my daughter, in which I learned of terrible news that rattled my world. I feel like Father LeDoux's meeting with me was no accident, that in some way God reached out to me through him, to remind me of God's love. Years have passed since that day, and I think of him from time to time. This evening, while looking through an old drawer, I came across his business card and decided to google him. I'm so sorry to learn of his passing. Our connection was fleeting but powerful. I will forever hold him in my heart.*

---

**Tiffany McCoy** - February 29, 2020 at 09:45 PM

DE

*Tiffany...I won't go into my story here. But...the same thing, I am googling him because a random meeting at a conference a week before Katrina I met Father and we had an extraordinary meeting. I will never forget!*

---

**Denise** - December 12, 2024 at 04:54 PM

MC

“ *Ms. Mary Colomb lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



---

**Ms. Mary Colomb** - January 14, 2019 at 11:22 AM



“ *Father, you will be missed, but I know you are in heaven with your father. I enjoyed our varied conversations riding in the car with you on the way from Xavier to visit my parents in Sulphur as well as being in the class you taught. Those were both educational and enlightening. You will be missed by all who came to know you. Condolences and Sympathy to the family. Barbara Fontenot Stance*



---

**Barbara Stance** - January 14, 2019 at 01:29 AM

LT

“ *Linda Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



---

**linda Thompson** - January 13, 2019 at 08:04 PM

LT

“ *Linda Thompson lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



**linda Thompson** - January 13, 2019 at 07:59 PM

SE

“ *Shirley Eaglin lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



**Shirley Eaglin** - January 13, 2019 at 01:09 AM

JM

“ *JULIA MALLET lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



**JULIA MALLET** - January 12, 2019 at 08:51 PM

AB

“ *I spent nearly 31 yrs in the New Orleans area before moving back to my hometown of Opelousas, 2wks prior to hurricane Katrina's wrecking. I rejoined Holy Ghost church. Years later, when I learned that Fr. Ledoux would be coming to HG to help out, I told my fellow parishioners "You are in for a big treat". He did not disappoint! R.I.P.*



**Andrea Brisco** - January 12, 2019 at 07:01 PM

LT

“ *Linda Thompson lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



---

**linda Thompson** - January 11, 2019 at 09:05 PM

LT

“ *The very first time I met, Father LeDoux, I realized that he was someone special. If I read a bible verse, and was a bit confused Father would give me the understanding of it's meaning. When I went through a difficult period not very long ago, Father had a way of comforting me with his words of wisdom. I guess what I am trying to say , I am going to miss my friend, very much. Holy Ghost Parish was very fortunate to have known Father LeDoux. My condolences to his family . Rest In Peace, Father until we meet again 🙏*

---

**linda Thompson** - January 11, 2019 at 08:58 PM

GF

“ *Grace Barnes & Family lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



---

**Grace Barnes & Family** - January 11, 2019 at 05:43 PM

PB

“ *Patrick/Margaret Barnaba lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



Patrick/Margaret Barnaba - January 11, 2019 at 04:19 PM

BD

“ *Barbara Duroousseau lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



Barbara Duroousseau - January 11, 2019 at 11:57 AM

TJ

“ *Father Ledoux was the Chaplain and my Professor when I attended Xavier University. He will be missed. Please accept my sincere condolences.*



Theresa Lewis Jordan - January 11, 2019 at 11:38 AM

DL

“ *Delbert Lewis lit a candle in memory of Father Jerome Gaston Ledoux SVD*



Delbert Lewis - January 10, 2019 at 01:54 PM