

Dear Padre,

A eucharistic minister at a parish we were visiting refused my eight-year-old granddaughter Communion from the cup. Her father asked if this was parish policy, and the minister replied, “No, I refuse!” My grandchild receives both species in our home parish. Can a eucharistic minister refuse the Blood of Christ to anyone?

According to the United States Conference of Catholic bishops, “It is the choice of the communicant, not the minister, to receive from the chalice. Children are encouraged to receive Communion under both kinds, provided they are properly instructed and that they are old enough to receive from the chalice” (*Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds*, 46–47). Children who have reached the age of reason—normally about age seven—are usually advised on this matter of reception by their parents or guardians before they step up to the chalice at Mass. In addition, first-Communion instructions provide adequate preparation on the proper and reverent reception of holy Eucharist.

Essentially, children eligible to receive this sacrament are entitled to participate in the same manner as other members of the ecclesial community. “Sacred ministers cannot deny the sacraments to those who seek them at appropriate times, are properly disposed, and are not prohibited by law from receiving them” (*Code of Canon Law*, 843). While this canon specifically pertains to ordained ministers, it’s applicable for all ministers at the service of the faithful who have a right to receive holy Communion by reason of their baptism.



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHENITZ

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We can ask ourselves: Is this sacrament fulfilled in me? More concretely: Do I just like to be served at the Lord’s table or do I get up to serve like the Lord?...And as a Church let us ask ourselves: After receiving Communion many times, have we become people of communion?

—EUCCHARISTIC CONCELEBRATION, APRIL 20, 2018

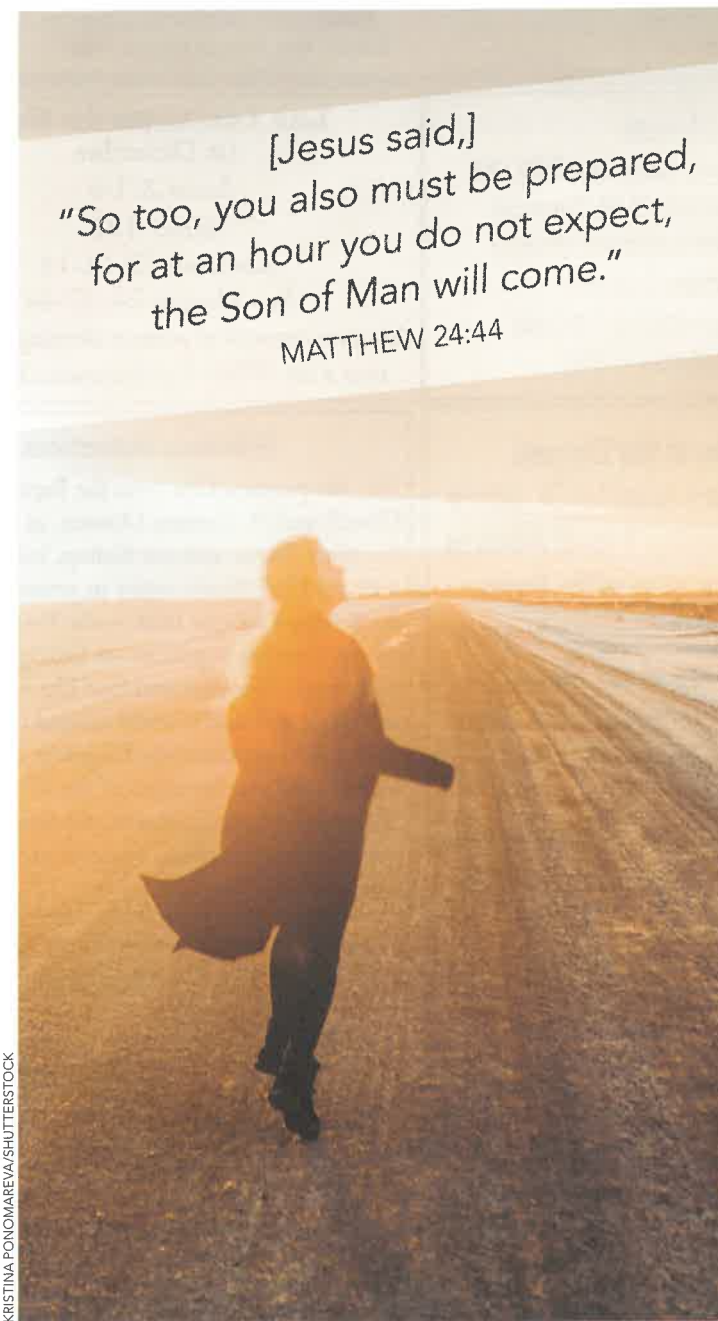
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Calendar

- Monday**
 DECEMBER 2
 Advent Weekday
 Is 4:2–6
 Mt 8:5–11
- Tuesday**
 DECEMBER 3
 St. Francis Xavier,
 Priest
 Is 11:1–10
 Lk 10:21–24
- Wednesday**
 DECEMBER 4
 Advent Weekday
 Is 25:6–10a
 Mt 15:29–37
- Thursday**
 DECEMBER 5
 Advent Weekday
 Is 26:1–6
 Mt 7:21, 24–27
- Friday**
 DECEMBER 6
 Advent Weekday
 Is 29:17–24
 Mt 9:27–31
- Saturday**
 DECEMBER 7
 St. Ambrose,
 Bishop and
 Doctor of the Church
 Is 30:19–21, 23–26
 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6–8
- Sunday**
 DECEMBER 8
 Second Sunday
 of Advent
 Is 11:1–10
 Rom 15:4–9
 Mt 3:1–12

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent (A)
 Is 2:1–5
 Rom 13:11–14
 Mt 24:37–44



KRISTINA PONOMAREVA/SHUTTERSTOCK

God Is Near

Be prepared! But for what? Since we’re entering the season of Advent, we might think that we’re called to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Advent is certainly the time to prepare for Christmas, but it’s much more than that, for God comes into our lives in many different ways, even today. We see evidence of that when, working together, we rebuild not only cities, as Isaiah describes in the first reading, but relationships in families, parishes, and countries.

Remarkable changes take place in our lives when, as Paul bids us, we “throw off the works of darkness,” works of rivalry and jealousy (Romans 13:12). God comes to us every day with the power we need to improve ourselves and our world. God often comes quietly in ways so ordinary we might miss them. That is the point of Jesus’ insistence to “stay awake” and “be prepared” (Matthew 24:42, 44).

God certainly came long ago as a human being. That was a one-time-only event. We believe that God will come again at the end. That, too, will happen only once. But God comes more often than this. God comes every day to help us be our better selves. This is what the Advent readings tell us.

What can we do? How are we to prepare for God’s coming? Today’s readings tell us. We must work for the peace that Isaiah describes; we must throw off the works of darkness, as Paul instructs; and we must do as Jesus tells us: stay awake and be prepared.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



Editor’s note: Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA, is pleased to join you at Mass over the next three liturgical years, beginning with today’s reflection. A sister of St. Agnes, Sr. Dianne earned a master’s degree and a doctorate from Saint Louis University, and honorary degrees and accolades from many organizations. She is professor of biblical studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Where do you see people’s goodness that tells us God is near?
- ★ What can you do to make that goodness present to others?



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

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Office Hours: 8AM to 4PM (M-F)
Website: www.stjohnmany.org
Email: office@stjohnmany.org
Pastor: Rev. Francis Kamau, FMH

Parish Staff

Deacon: Michael Sullivan
Parish Secretary: Sheila Royal
Office Assistant: Shirley Rivers
DRE: Jean Rains
Groundskeeper: Michael Beasley
Housekeeper: Pam Little
Music Director: Justin Lincecum

Prayer List: Pat & Elaine Martinez, Brenda DeVaney, Timothy D. Rivers, Bessie Mowad, Fr Ken Williams, Flavia Pratt, Madison Richards, Bill Andries, Vivian Halleck, Vicki Martin, Margie Remedies, Jackie Miller, Bobby Slaydon, Tammy Wallace, Brayson McLain, Eddie Richard, Janica Murphy, Clifford Shuff, Audrey & Richard Doggett, Daphne Moore, Mark Roberts, Adele Serio, Kathryn McCormick, Allison Brewer, Jerry Risar, Patti Dugan, Wayne Stephenson, Skyler Easterling, Curtis Fisette, Frances Sepulvado, Angela Osborn, Fr Richard Norworthy, Shayna Tilley, Randy Richter, Janice A Sepulvado, Jimmy Gates, Robbin Meshell, Cassidy Byles, Amelia Dougherty, Baby Jack Edward Duck, Juanita Ford, Bernadette Bitting, Diane Reaux, Joanna Presseau, Kristin Williams Sepulvado, Ron Rivers, Bailey McConnell, Nelda Laffitte, Ricky Gates, Ronnie Salley, Caleb Ezernack, Joan Sneed, Earl Anderson, Vicci Thibodeaux, Joanne Hansen, Evelyn Bouillion, Chris Moran, Tom Hambleton, Cambree Jewell Parrie, Selena Rodriguez, Edan Leone, Bennett King, Andrew Rains, Wanda J Rivers, Keith Fastervan, Boone Porche, Murrel Blake, Rapheal Meche, Norma Bergeron, Kaleb Johnson, Ace Bowling, Michael Mancil, Jr., Norma Bergeron, Bailey Leach, Seth Freeman, Joshua Nichols, Dr. Liang Sien Oey, Fr. Ken Williams & Miles Meche

Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Tuesdays, 6:00PM
Parish School of Religion, Wednesdays, 5:30PM, Sept. to May.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

At St. John's each Wednesday, 8:30AM to 6PM; Sept. - May

Recitation of the Holy Rosary

Everyone is invited to join us in the recitation of 30PM the holy rosary before weekend masses: Saturdays, 3:30 PM at St. John, Sundays, 7:30 AM at St. Terence and 10:30 AM at St. John.

Anointing of the Sick /Ministry to the Sick

Please call the church office if someone is in a hospital, nursing home, shut-in, and would like to be visited or receive the sacraments.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 pm at St. John; Sunday: 7:15-7:45AM at St. Terence; Seasonal Penance Services; and, by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Call the office in advance to register for seminar.

Funerals Arrangements may be made by calling the church office

Masses

Anticipated Mass: Saturday, 4:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM (@ St. Terence)
11:00 AM (with Children's Liturgy)
Tuesdays: 5:00 PM
Wednesday-Friday: 8:00 AM
First Saturdays: 8AM

Las Lecturas de Hoy

1st Diciembre
Isaias 2: 1-5
Salmo 121
Romanos 13: 11-14
San Manteo 24: 37-44
Misa en espanol el primer domingo de cada mes a las 5PM; Confesiones a las 4PM

Mission Statement

We, the people of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and St Terence Mission, in union with the Holy Father and our Bishop, being filled with the Holy Spirit, strive to promote and deepen the Catholic faith in the lives of all who share in our life together. As Disciples, we seek to worship God and find His kingdom among us and in the world around us. Our calling is to proclaim the Kingdom of God through the proclamation of the Word, the celebration of the Eucharist, the Sacramental life, community service, evangelization, and Christian education.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held at St. John's on Wednesdays from **8:30AM to 6PM**. Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction begin at **5:30PM**. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet are held at St. Terence each Friday at **3PM**



The Sanctuary Candle
December 1st-7th, 2019
St John + Dr Robert Brocato
+Becky Sullivan
St Terence Miles Meche (SI)

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
Weekend of Nov. 23rd-24th, 2019

St John	\$ 5381.53	Attendance: 238
St Terence	\$ 1034.00	Attendance: 108

~This Week~

Sun, Dec. 1st Discussion Group, 10AM
Spanish Mass & Celebration of the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, 5:00PM
Mon, Dec. 2nd Ladies Altar Society Meets, 1PM
SVdP Meets, 6PM
Tues, Dec. 3rd RCIA Class, 6PM
Wed, Dec. 4th Bible Study, 9:30AM & 7PM
Adoration, 8:30AM-6PM
CCD, 5:30PM
Thurs, Dec. 5th Choir Practice, 6PM
Thurs-Sat, Dec. 5th -7th Church Directory Pictures

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 11/30/2019
4:00PM 1. +Benny Rivers
2. Ace Bowling (SI)
3. Bailey McConnell (SI)
Sunday, 12/01/2019
8:00AM 1. The Parish Family
2. +Jeff Reeves
3. Dr. Liang Sien Oey (SI)
4. Miles Meche (SI)
5. +Leonce & Eunice Domingue
11:00AM 1. +Jimmie Small
2. +Gloria Alford
3. +Peter Anh Nguyen
4. +Benny Rivers
5. Eddie Richard (SI)
6. +Philip Frilot
7. +Maria Hoa Nguyen
8. +Maria Loan Nguyen
Tuesday, 12/03/2019
5:00PM 1. +Becky Sullivan
Wednesday, 12/04/2019
8:00AM 1. Ace Bowling (SI)
Thursday, 12/05/2019
8:00AM 1. +Weston Dean Yates
Friday, 12/06/2019
8:00AM 1. +Janey Simpson

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, December 7th, 4PM (Saint John)	Matthew Couvillion	Pat Gandy Paul McCormic Syble Gandy	Illario Plascencia Juan Plascencia	Leo Springer Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Marty Starks
Sunday, December 8th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Carrie DeRouen	Chris Moran David Nichols Tina Nichols		Harold Bergeron Rufus Shuff
Sunday, December 8th, 11AM (Saint John)	Jean Rains	Ashley Koss Rosie Sullivan	Reese Koss Avaree Procell	George Koss Michael Beasley Marion Koss Jerry Mitchell

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Join us and celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe this **Sunday, December 1st at 5PM** at the monthly Spanish Mass. There will be a covered dish supper in the cafeteria after Mass. Everyone is invited.



St John Christmas Flower Donation

The Ladies Altar Society has begun accepting donations for Poinsettias for the Christmas altar. These may be made in honor of or in memory of a loved one and are \$15 each. If you are interested, please pick up a flower offering envelope from the back of the church or come by the church office.

Advent Penance Service

There will be an Advent Penance Service at St John the Baptist on **Thursday, December 19th beginning at 6PM**. We will have three priests available for Confessions.

Christmas Offering Envelopes

Special envelopes for Christmas offerings can be found in the pews and in the back of the church. As you know, we have many repairs currently in progress in the church and school. Please consider a gift to help with these efforts.



Advent Daybreaks Available

Copies of the booklet, *Advent Daybreaks*, daily meditations for Advent, are located in the back of the church. Feel free to pick one up.

Jambalaya Fundraiser: Sunday, December 1st

This **Sunday, December 1st**, Saint Terence will be selling Jambalaya dinners after all Masses. The cost is \$8.00 per dinner. The meal will consist of jambalaya, northern beans, dessert and a roll. Proceeds benefit our Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you for your support.

Advent Mission



Fr. Jim Sichko will present St. John's Advent Mission, **Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, December 15th-17th from 6:30-7:30PM** each

evening with a reception to follow. Fr. Jim is a priest from the Diocese of Lexington and has been appointed by Pope Francis as a Missionary of Mercy.

We invite everyone to join us for this enriching Advent experience!

Saint Terence Christmas Flowers

St Terence is now accepting donations of any amount for Christmas Poinsettias. If you would like to donate, please see Glenda Shuff or Chris Moran.



Keepsake Ornaments

We have 6 remaining 3D, colorful Christmas ornaments that feature our beautiful church, St. John the Baptist. The ornaments are on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$40 each. When these are gone, we are unable to obtain any more. Proceeds from this sale will go towards church repairs. If you are interested, contact the



Full of Grace Women's Prayer Group

Please join us for the December Full of Grace Women's Prayer Group gathering on **Monday, December 2nd at 9AM**. We will meet at the home of Melissa McElwee (214 Ski Mountain Rd., Many, LA 71449): A light breakfast will be served. For questions, call Melissa at (318)332-8814 or Katie (318)332-9514.

Christmas Parade Float

The Many Christmas Parade will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 21st at 3PM**. At this time, St John the Baptist has no float entry. We are asking for an individual or organization to volunteer to be in charge of organizing and coordinating a church float so that our children may participate in this year's parade. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.



Church Directory

Thanks to who has booked a photo appointment for our new church directory. If you have still not made your appointment and are interested in doing so, please call the church office.