

Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
DECEMBER 9	DECEMBER 10	DECEMBER 11	DECEMBER 12	DECEMBER 13	DECEMBER 14	DECEMBER 15
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Our Lady of Guadalupe	St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Third Sunday of Advent
Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38	Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14	Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	Is 35:1-6a, 10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

Dear Padre,

An intellectual friend told me that she loves the great dogmas of Advent. I smiled and agreed, but I don't have the faintest idea what she meant!

Dogma refers to Church teachings defined by an ecumenical council, including the pope, or by the pope alone acting as head of the Church. The magisterium, the Church's teaching authority, tells us these must-be-believed truths have been divinely revealed to us. During Advent, we celebrate two dogmas: the immaculate conception of Mary, which we honor tomorrow, and the Incarnation, which includes the birth of Christ that we prepare for now.

Both dogmas speak of God's extraordinary connection with humanity. God specially gifted Mary because of her role in becoming the Mother of God. Mary, from the instant of her conception, was free from original sin. Her closeness to Jesus was established from the earliest moments of her existence.

The dogma of the Incarnation is defined simply by St. John. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). During the year, we first celebrate the Incarnation on March 25, at the solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Scripture and Tradition hold that Jesus was conceived in

Mary's womb when she accepted God's will by answering yes to the angel's announcement that she would bear the "Son of the Most High" (Luke 1:32). During Advent, we eagerly anticipate the result of that Incarnation, Jesus' birth.

Dogmas can sometimes seem disconnected from our lives. The customs of Advent put an everyday face on the book definitions and remind us that God lives in our midst.

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications



A WORD FROM
Pope Francis
It is the mystery of Christ's flesh: one doesn't understand love for thy neighbor, one doesn't understand love for thy brother if one doesn't understand this mystery of Incarnation. I love my brother because he too is Christ, is Christlike, is the flesh of Christ.

VISIT TO PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH OF
RECONCILIATION,
JULY 28, 2014

© 2019 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. *Imprimatur*: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on June 27, 2019, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivotuso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 8, 2019

Second Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 11:1-10

Rom 15:4-9

Mt 3:1-12

Creating God's Peaceable Kingdom

At times, God's presence among us is so unspectacular that we need someone else to point it out, someone with a loud voice. That seems to have been the role of John the Baptist. His lifestyle and his message certainly caught everyone's attention. But when he caught their attention, he directed it away from himself to the kingdom of heaven.

He called it a kingdom because that was the government those of his time knew. (Jesus, too, often spoke of his kingdom.) However, the kingdom John referred to is not one of military power and privilege but a "peaceable kingdom," where animals that are normally feared as predators live with each other in peace. A beautiful picture, but is it a possibility or just fantasy? The people believed that some day one would be born who would rule this way, thus enabling them to become a genuine peaceable kingdom. This

kingdom would not be made of animals, but of women and men of different races, cultures, and beliefs; women and men who would recognize each other's God-given uniqueness and would create genuine unity from this diversity.

John the Baptist declared that this kingdom "is at hand." Is it? Do we strive to live peacefully with the great diversity of people of our world? Or are we smug as we proclaim: "We have Abraham as our father" (Matthew 3:9), so we are right and you are wrong. The people of John's time should have known better. We should, too. John cries out to them—and to us: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matthew 3:2).

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ How open are you to people of different faiths, races, or nations?
- ★ What can you do to make real the peaceable kingdom of heaven?

[John the Baptist said,] "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." MATTHEW 3:3





Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

1130 East San Antonio Ave
Many, LA 71449
Phone: 318-256-5680
Fax: 318-256-9177

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, Flavia Pratt, Madison Richards, Bill Andries, Vivian Halleck, Vicki Martin, Margie Remedies, Jackie Miller, Bobby Slaydon, Tammy Wallace, Brayson McLain, Eddie Richard, Janice Murphy, Clifford Shuff, Audrey & Richard Doggett, Daphne Moore, Mark Roberts, Adele Serio, Kathryn McCormick, Allison Brewer, Jerry Riser, Patti Dugan, Wayne Stephensen, Skyler Easterling, Curtis Fissette, Frances Sepulvado, Angela Osborn, Fr Richard Norsworthy, 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 Festervan, Boone Porche, Murrel Blake, Raphael Meche, Norma Bergeron, Kaleb Johnson, Ace Bowling, Michael Mancil, Jr., Norma Bergeron, Bailey Leach, Seth Freeman, Joshua Nichols, Dr. Liang Sien Day, Fr. Ken Williams, Miles Meche, Doyle Henry, Jackie Craig, Ruth Loupe, Linda Metoyer & K.C. Sepulvado

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 8th Diciembre

Isaias II: I-I0
Salmo 71
Romanos 15: 4-9
San Manteo 3: I-I2
Misa en espanol el primer domingo de cada mes a las 5PM; Confesiones a las 4PM



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 8th-14th, 2019
St John + The Sullivan & Labat Family
+Robert Brocato
St Terence Ace Bowling (SI)

Parish Support
(Thank you for your generosity!)
Nov. 30th—Dec. 1st, 2019

St John	\$ 4148.00	Attendance: 230
St Terence	\$ 1479.00	Attendance: 126

~This Week~

Sun, Dec. 8th Discussion Group, 10AM
Faith, Food & Fun, 4:30PM
Tues, Dec. 10th RCIA Class, 6PM
KC's Meet 7PM; Dinner @ 6PM
Wed, Dec. 11th Adoration, 8:30AM—6PM
CCD, 5:30PM
Thurs, Dec. 12th Choir Practice, 6PM

Please Note: The Society of St Vincent de Paul plans to provide Christmas meals for needy families. If you would like to sponsor a family, the donation amount is \$35.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, December 14th, 4PM (Saint John)	Yvonne Busby	Clauriste Byles James Murphy Shirley Veuleman	Paul McCormic Daylin Roberts	Leo Springer Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Dakota Rivers
Sunday, December 15th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Tina Nichols	Carrie DeRouen Jan Collins Linda Collins		Joe Zammit Tom Gatti
Sunday, December 15th, 11AM (Saint John)	Youth	MaKenna McElwee Rodney Abington	Emma Dickson Braxton Koss	George Koss Michael Beasley Marion Koss Jerry Mitchell



Advent Mission

We welcome Fr. Jim Sichko back to our parish to present 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!

Thank You

The Society of St Vincent de Paul would like to extend a special thanks to our St Terence family for hosting the recent jambalaya fundraiser which netted approximately \$700. We appreciate your support of the Society of St Vincent de Paul's ministry to the poor. Special thanks also to anyone who donated towards or helped with our Thanksgiving meals for needy families. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide meals to 34 families in our community. We were also able to help sponsor the community meal which served over 200 people on Thanksgiving Day.



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.

St John Christmas Flower Donation

The Ladies Altar Society is 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.

Christmas Brunch

The Society of St Vincent de Paul invites all ladies of St John and St Terence to join us at **9AM on Friday, December 13th** in the cafeteria for brunch and a gift wrapping social to help wrap gifts for the Sabine Parish Angel Tree. Please bring tape, scissors and your favorite breakfast dish and join us for fun and fellowship.

Second Collection

The second collection next weekend will be for the National Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift provides medications, nursing care and more for elderly religious. Please be generous.

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 office.

Lessons and Carols

Our choir will host a *Candlelight Lessons and Carols* service on **Sunday, December 22 at 7PM**. Saint John, Saint Terence and the First United Methodist Church choirs will participate. Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful service to hear the wonderful story of Christ's birth.

Christmas Offering Envelopes

Special envelopes for Christmas offerings are in the pews and the back of the church. We have many repairs currently in progress in the church and school. Please consider a gift to help with these efforts.

Advent Penance Service

The Advent Penance Service at St John the Baptist will take place on **Thursday, December 19th beginning at 6PM**. Everyone encouraged to attend.

Church Directory

If you were unable to have your portrait made for the new church directory, and are interested in participating, **please call the church office to be placed on a waiting list**. There is a possibility of scheduling another "retake" photography day at a later date, if we have enough participants.

