



# Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

1130 East San Antonio Ave  
Many, LA 71449  
Phone: 318-256-5680  
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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, 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, Daphine Moore, Mark Roberts, Adele Serio, Kathryn McCormick, Allison Brewer, Jerry Riser, Patti Dugan, Wayne Stephensen, Skyleer Easterling, Curtis Fisetto, 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 Biting, 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 Oey, Fr. Ken Williams, Miles Meche, Doyle Henry, Jackie Craig, Ruth Loupe, Linda Metoyer, K.C. Sepulvado, Juanita Ford, Maurice Martinez, Marianna Wilkinson & Lynell Hymel.

### 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

### 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 15th Diciembre

Isaias 35: 1-6a, 10  
Salmo 145  
Santiago 5: 7-10  
San Mateo 11: 2-11

*Misa en español 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.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, 12/14/2019**  
4:00PM  
1. Ace Bowling (SI)  
2. Bailey McConnell (SI)  
3. +The Joyce Santos Family  
4. +Chris & Eunice Ebarb  
5. +Berchmans Spohrer

**Sunday, 12/08/2019**  
8:00AM  
1. The Parish Family  
2. Ace Bowling (SI)  
3. Dr. Liang Sien Oey (SI)  
4. Miles Meche (SI)  
5. +Tony & Denise Sonnier  
6. +Dallas Darte, Sr.  
11:00AM  
1. +Peter Anh Nguyen  
2. +Benny Rivers  
3. Eddie Richard (SI)  
4. +Philip Frlot  
5. +Maria Hoa Nguyen  
6. +Maria Loan Nguyen  
7. +Elsie McLendon  
8. +Tony & Denise Sonnier

**Wednesday, 12/18/2019**  
8:00AM 1. +Jackie DeLatin  
**Thursday, 12/19/2019**  
8:00AM 1. +Billy Ezernack  
**Friday, 12/20/2019**  
8:00AM 1. +Donald Bourgeois

**Please Note:** There will be no daily Mass this **Tuesday, Dec. 17th.**

### The Sanctuary Candle

December 15th-21st, 2019

St John +Robert Brocato  
St Terence *Special Intention*  
*Living & Deceased Members*  
*of the Deborah Weldon Family*

**Parish Support**  
*(Thank you for your generosity!)*  
**Dec. 7th-8th, 2019**

St John	\$ 3144.50	Attendance: 205
St Terence	\$ 1312.00	Attendance: 96

### ~This Week~

**Sun, Dec. 15th** Discussion Group, 10AM  
Parish Christmas Party, 12Noon  
Advent Mission, 6:30  
**Mon, Dec. 16th** Advent Mission, 6:30PM  
**Tues, Dec. 17th** Advent Mission, 6:30PM  
**Wed, Dec. 18th** Adoration, 8:30AM-6PM  
Bible Study, 9:30AM & 7PM  
CCD, 5:30PM  
**Thurs, Dec. 19th** Advent Penance Service, 6PM  
Choir Practice, 7PM

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
<b>Saturday Vigil, December 21st, 4PM (Saint John)</b>	Rose Gatti	Tammy Bell Dale Porche Margaret Porche	Alexia Roberts Daylin Roberts	Leo Springer Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Dakota Rivers
<b>Sunday, December 22nd, 8AM (Saint Terence)</b>	David Nichols	Buddy Polson Jeanette Polson Glenda Shuff		Earl Anderson Jimmy Martin
<b>Sunday, December 22nd, 11AM (Saint John)</b>	Amy Ebarb	Kayla Hataway Gwen Koss	Brandy Soileau Allie K Payne	George Koss Michael Beasley Marion Koss Jerry Mitchell

### Advent Penance Service

The Advent Penance Service at St John the Baptist will take place this **Thursday, December 19th beginning at 6PM.** Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive God's forgiving grace.



### 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.

### Church Directory Picture Make-ups

We appreciate everyone who had their portrait made for the new church directory. If you were not able to do so and are interested in participating, **please call the church office to be placed on a waiting list.** We will be scheduling a "retake" day at a later date.

### Catholic Calendars Available

The 2020 Catholic Calendars are located in the back of the church. If you are able to, we are asking for a \$2.00 donation to help defray the printing cost.

### Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

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. Applications for help will be taken until Dec. 18th.

### Have you Completed Your Census Form?

We are continuing to update our church census. If you have not yet filled out a form, please pick one up from the back of the church or go to our website. If you do not wish your address and phone number to be published in our church directory, please notify the church office.

### 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

### 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.

### Advent Mission This Week



We welcome Fr. Jim Sichko as he returns to our parish to present our Advent Mission this **Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, December**

**15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> 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!

### Remember in Prayer

We ask that you pray for the repose of the souls of Jerry Sonnier, former parishioner of St Terence, and Della Deer. *Eternal Rest grant unto them O' Lord and Let the Perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace.* Amen.

### St John Christmas Flower Donation

The Ladies Altar Society continues to accept 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.



### 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.

### 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.



# Dear Padre,

**The Church is steeped in symbolism, tradition, and “living metaphors,” but it sometimes forgets common sense. Why smell up the church with incense? Why gussy up the Mass with horns, flutes, and guitars, at times turning holy Mass into a pseudohootenanny?**

The Mass is our high point of worship. All other sacred actions and activities of the Christian life “are bound up with it, flow from it, and are ordered to it” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 16). The dignity and importance of worshiping the Father in and through Christ at Mass is expressed in communion with fellow believers, and ideally through a full sensory experience with all our heart, mind, and soul. In short, if something is worth doing, it’s worth doing well—especially if “doing” opens us to the mystery of God’s presence through what we see, hear, smell, touch, and taste. “In the liturgy the sanctification of women and men is given expression in symbols perceptible by the senses and is carried out in ways appropriate to each of them” (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 7).

Not all Mass occasions call for “smells, bells, toots, and flutes,” but the visual beauty of the sacred surroundings, the sounds of sacred music, and the sacred words and actions that connect us to our traditions and to Christ’s memorial institution, are intended to elevate us in our collective prayer to God. At times, such a sublime experience of the transcendent may be inhibited by sheer practicality, efficiency, and mundanity!



LUDIA MUKHAMADEVA/SHUTTERSTOCK

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

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Your music and your song are a true instrument of evangelization insofar as you witness to the profoundness of the Word of God that touches the hearts of people, and allows a celebration of the sacraments, especially of the Holy Eucharist, which makes one sense the beauty of paradise.*

—INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF CHOIRS, NOVEMBER 24, 2018



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## Calendar

**Monday**  
 DECEMBER 16  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Nm 24:2–7, 15–17a  
 Mt 21:23–27

**Tuesday**  
 DECEMBER 17  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Gn 49:2, 8–10  
 Mt 1:1–17

**Wednesday**  
 DECEMBER 18  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Jer 23:5–8  
 Mt 1:18–25

**Thursday**  
 DECEMBER 19  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a  
 Lk 1:5–25

**Friday**  
 DECEMBER 20  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Is 7:10–14  
 Lk 1:26–38

**Saturday**  
 DECEMBER 21  
*Advent Weekday*  
 Sg 2:8–14 or  
 Zep 3:14–18a  
 Lk 1:39–45

**Sunday**  
 DECEMBER 22  
*Fourth Sunday  
 of Advent*  
 Is 7:10–14  
 Rom 1:1–7  
 Mt 1:18–24

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

**December 15, 2019**  
*Third Sunday of Advent (A)*  
 Is 35:1–6a, 10  
 Jas 5:7–10  
 Mt 11:2–11

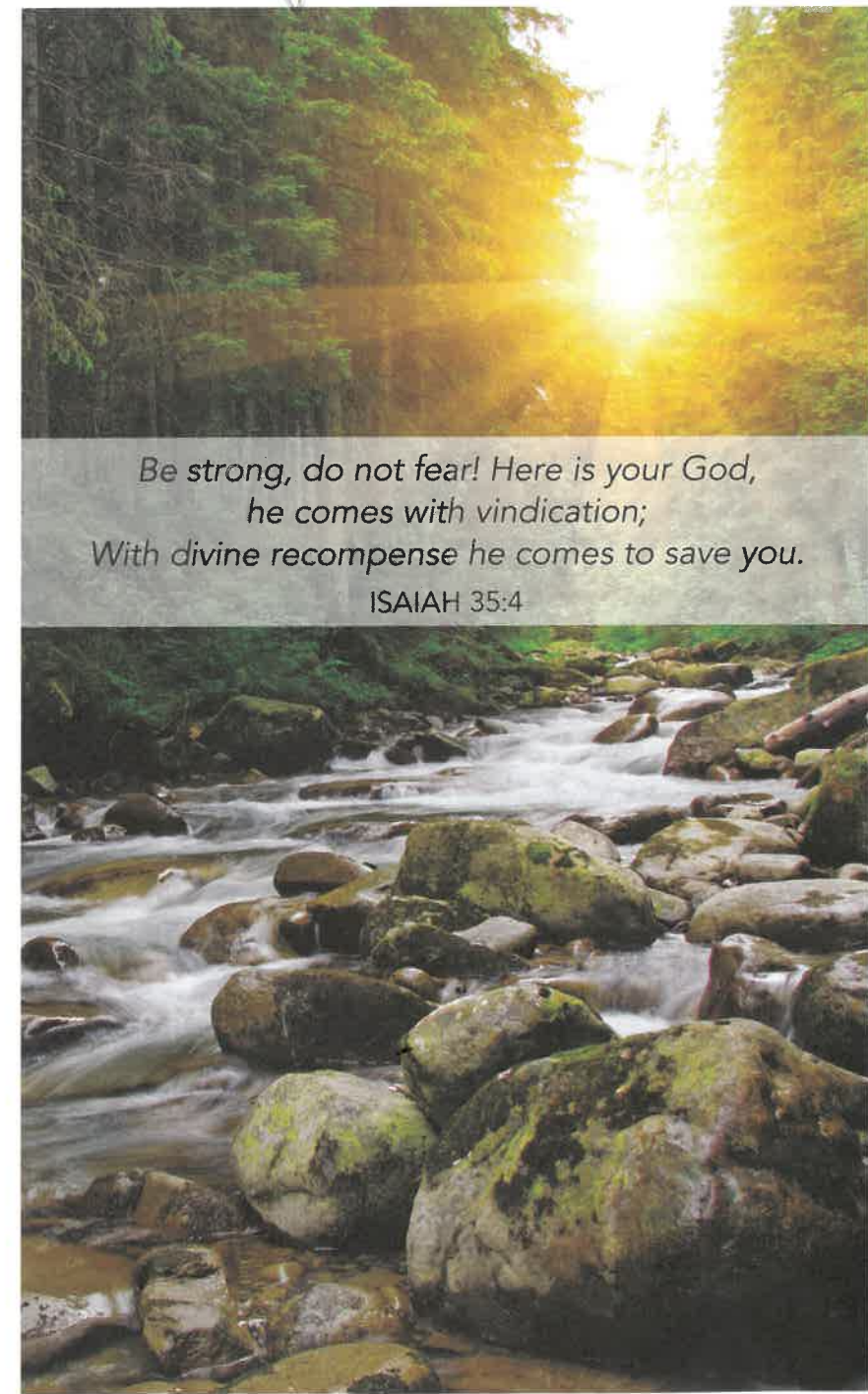
## The Splendor of God

“Here is your God!” Who wouldn’t run to see this marvel? Isaiah 35 tells us what to look for: nature will explode with excitement and splendor, and the hardships of life will no longer hold us captive. Is this really possible, or is it merely hopeful poetry? Jesus tells the disciples of John the Baptist that it’s possible. In fact he, Jesus, is the one who has ushered in the kingdom of heaven. Since that is true, why don’t you and I see it?

The reading from James sheds light on this. There is something truly wondrous about earth bringing forth “precious fruit” (James 5:7). Our understanding of how the development and emergence of fruits occur does not make the fact of natural growth any less wondrous. Farmers know this well. They also know that such growth will occur only when human labor cooperates with the laws of nature designed by God. In other words, the farmer provides the labor while God provides the life-giving sun and rain.

If our world does not resemble Isaiah’s astonishing portrait or the healing that Jesus was able to accomplish, might it be that we have not done what we can to remedy the hardships of life that hold so many captive? When God enters our lives, he provides us with the power we need to change our world, but we must be willing to allow that power to work through us. If we are open to God in our midst, our world will be rich with life and healing, and everyone will know that God is really here.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



*Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God,  
 he comes with vindication;  
 With divine recompense he comes to save you.*  
 ISAIAH 35:4

## FOR Reflection

- ★ *On what ways might you enrich the life of another?*
- ★ *What can you do to heal broken relationships in your life?*