

# Dear Padre,

**I've heard priests tell stories about Jesus' childhood, the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, and St. Anne that aren't in the Bible. Where do these stories come from?**

The Bible as we know it—a definitive collection of sacred texts as the word of God—came together in the fourth and fifth centuries. The same God that inspired authors to record his divine word also inspired the books of the Bible to be collected during the first centuries of Christianity. As such, the Bible itself is formed by tradition.

Ancient texts, other than those officially accepted as fulfilling revelation (like Scripture), existed in the Church's early centuries. These are known as noncanonical sources. Many of the stories you hear, especially about the people you mention, come from those sources.

In the Church's infancy, people were eager to hear as much as they could about Jesus and his family. In response, many stories about Jesus' childhood and family members were collected in a variety of written accounts—including the *Protoevangelium*, or gospel of James from the year 145 (not to be confused with the New Testament's Letter of James). Although they weren't included in the canon of the Bible, they became sources

for stories passed from generation to generation that were accepted as a part of our tradition. For example, information about Mary's parents, including their names, Joachim and Anne, were derived from noncanonical texts. These sources may add color and flavor to our faith and devotion. But ultimately, everything we need for salvation is revealed in the Scriptures.

—*The Redemptorists* | [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



NANCY BAUER/SHUTTERSTOCK



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Every family should look to the icon of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Its daily life had its share of burdens and even nightmares, as when they met with Herod's implacable violence. This last was an experience that, sad to say, continues to afflict the many refugee families who in our day feel rejected and helpless.*

—ON LOVE IN THE FAMILY (AMORIS LAETITIA), MARCH 19, 2016

## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 30  
Sixth Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:12–17  
Lk 2:36–40

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 31  
Seventh Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:18–21  
Jn 1:1–18

### Wednesday

JANUARY 1  
Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of God  
Nm 6:22–27  
Gal 4:4–7  
Lk 2:16–21

### Thursday

JANUARY 2  
Sts. Basil the Great and  
Gregory Nazianzen,  
Bishops and Doctors  
of the Church  
1 Jn 2:22–28  
Jn 1:19–28

### Friday

JANUARY 3  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 2:29–3:6  
Jn 1:29–34

### Saturday

JANUARY 4  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,  
Religious  
1 Jn 3:7–10  
Jn 1:35–42

### Sunday

JANUARY 5  
Epiphany of the Lord  
Is 60:1–6  
Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6  
Mt 2:1–12

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 29, 2019

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (A)  
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14  
Col 3:12–21 or Col 3:12–17  
Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

## Practicing Family Values

**"D**o we have to go to Grandma's!" Children aren't the only ones who sometimes dread the family Christmas gathering. Adults might, too. Why is that? Our family is the cradle that embraced us at birth, nourished us, and helped us grow. At least that's what it was supposed to be. Perhaps we didn't come from such a family. Still, when our time comes, it is within our power to form such a family. How are we to do it?

In today's readings we have two quite different descriptions of family dynamics. The first, from Sirach, focuses on children's respect for and support of parents. The Gospel passage recounts parents' protection of a vulnerable child. Together these readings tell us that every family member, regardless of age or position within the family, owes all the other members concern and care. Paul provides a short list

of what I like to think of as genuine family values: "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another" (Colossians 3:12–13). Are such values asking too much of us?

It's not by accident that we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family during Christmastime. Some think that this is a season for children. It's actually a season for family, a time when generations—three, sometimes four or five—at least contact each other.

It's a time for us to decide whether or not Paul's list of virtues reflects our own family portrait. How authentic are our smiles? How deep are our family values?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ Try reaching out in a special way to a family member in the generation before you and one that follows you.

Those who  
respect their  
father will  
live a long life;  
those who  
obey the  
Lord honor  
their mother.

SIRACH 3:6



SHUTTERSTOCK



# 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](http://www.stjohnmany.org)  
Email: [office@stjohnmany.org](mailto: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, Jo-anna 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., 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, Juanita Ford, Maurice Martinez, Marianna Wilkinson, Lynell Hymel, Billy Sneed & Beckie Bayer

### 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

29th Diciembre  
Siracide 3: 2-17  
Salmo 127  
Colosenses 3: 12-21  
San Mateo 2: 13-23  
*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.

**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 29th—January 4th  
St John +Robert Brocato  
+Joy Rodrigues  
St Terence +Jerry Sonnier

### Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)  
Dec. 21st-22nd, 2019

St John	\$ 4623.17	Attendance: 185
St Terence	\$ 754.00	Attendance: 75

### St Vincent de Paul

On this Feast of the Holy Family, we hear the words: "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." In this New Year, may we grow in wisdom and have the favor of God by remembering to take care of our suffering brothers and sisters.

As 2019 draws to a close, our Society of St Vincent de Paul wishes to express sincere thanks for the generosity of our supporters. Only your donations allow us to continue the works we are called to do in assisting those in need.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, 12/28/2019

- 4:00PM 1. +Lynde, Aidan & Grace Foust  
2. Bailey McConnell (SI)  
3. Special Intention (SI)

#### Sunday, 12/29/2019

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family  
2. Miles Meche (SI)  
3. +Jerry Sonnier  
4. +Harry & Edwina Schexnayder  
11:00AM 1. +Deceased Members of the Thomas and Sandy Nguyen Family  
2. +Benny Rivers  
3. Eddie Richard (SI)  
4. +Philip Filot  
5. +Joy Rodrigues  
6. +Peggy Adams

#### Tuesday, 12/31/2019

- 4:00PM 1. +Raymond Remedies  
2. +Benny Rivers  
3. +Charles Ezemack

#### Wednesday, 01/01/2019

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family  
2. +Dickie Martin  
3. +Jerry Sonnier  
11:00AM 1. +Janey Simpson  
2. +Ruby Ross  
3. +Mary Merritt  
4. +Floyd Lopez

#### Thursday, 01/02/2019

- 8:00AM 1. +Rusty Canton  
Friday, 01/03/2019  
8:00AM 1. +Glenda Rogers

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
<b>Mary, Mother of God Vigil, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 4PM (St John)</b>	Shirley Veuleman	Paul McCormic Clauriste Byles Dale Porche	Daylin Roberts Juan Plascencia	Leo Springer Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Dakota Rivers
<b>Mary, Mother of God Wednesday, Jan. 1st, 8AM (St Terence)</b>	Buddy Polson	Jan Collins Tina Nichols David Nichols		Joe Zammit Paul Guidry
<b>Mary, Mother of God Wednesday, Jan. 1st, 11AM (St John)</b>	Greg Yokell	Dale Porche Rosie Sullivan	Marion Koss Kent Rains	Volunteers Needed
<b>Saturday Vigil, January 4th, 4PM (Saint John)</b>	Shirley Veuleman	Pat Gandy Syble Gandy Paul McCormic	Dale Porche Illario Plascencia	Leo Springer Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Dakota Rivers
<b>Sunday, January 5th, 8AM (Saint Terence)</b>	Carrie DeRouen	Buddy Polson Jeanette Polson Pam Dartez		Earl Anderson Tom Gatti
<b>Sunday, January 5th, 11AM (Saint John)</b>	Greg Yokell	Beckie Bayer Amy Ebarb	Reese Koss Jacob Ryan	Marion Koss Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss

### Contribution Envelopes 2019

Contribution envelopes for 2020 are available for pick-up in the back of the church. If you are currently not receiving church contribution envelopes and would like to, please contact the church office. If you would like a statement for income tax purposes, please use the contribution envelopes. There is no charge for these.



### Feast of Mary, Mother of God Holy Day Masses

On January 1st each year, the church celebrates *Mary, Mother of God*, and her motherhood of Jesus Christ. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule is:  
**December 31st, Vigil Mass, 4PM**  
**January 1st, Saint Terence, 8AM**  
**Saint John, 11AM**

### Eucharistic Ministers

All Eucharistic Ministers will soon be recommissioned. If you are not a Eucharistic Minister and are interested in serving in this Ministry, please leave your name at the office.

### Special Thanks

We would like to thank everyone who helped with our Advent Mission receptions. We appreciate the ladies of Saint John and Saint Terence and our Society of St Vincent de Paul for the delicious food and hard work.

### Catholic Calendars Available

The 2020 Catholic Calendars are located in the back of the church. We are asking for a \$2.00 donation to help defray printing costs.

### Schedule Changes

There will be no CCD, RCIA, nor Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this week.

### Office Schedule

The church office will be closed **through January 1st** to concur with the Catholic Center closings for the holidays. The office will reopen at 8AM on **Thursday, January, 2nd**.

### Spanish Mass

The monthly Spanish Mass will be held next Sunday, January 5th, at 5PM. Everyone is invited.

### In Appreciation

Special thanks to all who helped in so many ways to make our Christmas Liturgies such wonderful moments in our parish life. We appreciate the choir and the beautiful music, those who decorated the inside and outside of the church, served at the various Masses, put up the indoor and outdoor Nativity Scene, etc. May God bless each of you for sharing your time and many gifts.

### Thank You

The Christmas ornaments for the children were graciously donated by Mary Beth and Rick Tarver in loving memory of Harold and Tillie Andries. We appreciate their generosity.

### Save the Date

Events have been set for the ordination celebration for Bishop-elect Francis I. Malone.

### Monday, January 27th

6PM Vespers at the Cathedral

### Tuesday, January 28th

2PM Ordination Mass at the Shreveport Convention Center

\*Tickets will not be required. Everyone is invited to attend.