

Dear Padre,

What do we know about the Three Kings?

Your question reminds us how much human tradition has embellished some of the events described in sacred Scripture. Historically, the name Magi designates members of an ancient Near Eastern priestly caste. In Matthew's Gospel, they are presented as noble wise men and astrologers.

The number three has long been associated with the Magi. However, the Gospel narratives never mention their number (though they did offer three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh). Saint Matthew is also silent about their names. However, in the eighth century, Western traditions began calling them Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Other Christian traditions use different names.

Though their gifts indicate they were from South Arabia, it's doubtful that they represented particular nations or the major racial families. At the very least, the Magi represent the Gentile peoples coming from afar to find the true God in Jesus Christ. This contrasts with King Herod and Israel. Both neglected this manifestation of God's presence in their midst.

Astrology permeated ancient cultures, so it isn't strange that astrologers appear in the Bible. The Church responded by "Christianizing" aspects of astrology. For example, the Church deliberately called Christ the "Sun of Justice," thus replacing the pagan god Sol with one true God. In the fourth century, the Church placed the celebration of Christ's Nativity on December 25, the birthday of the sun. We emphasize Jesus as the Light of the World and celebrate his feast every week on Sunday.

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



YASANTY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Calendar

Monday
JANUARY 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 3:22—4:6
Mt 4:12—17, 23—25

Tuesday
JANUARY 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7—10
Mk 6:34—44

Wednesday
JANUARY 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11—18
Mk 6:45—52

Thursday
JANUARY 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19—5:4
Lk 4:14—22

Friday
JANUARY 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5—13
Lk 5:12—16

Saturday
JANUARY 11
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14—21
Jn 3:22—30

Sunday
JANUARY 12
Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1—4, 6—7
Acts 10:34—38
Mt 3:13—17

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

For more than fifty years, Redemptorists have ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity.

For more information and to sign up for our free monthly newsletter, visit: ScrupulousAnonymous.org



Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 5, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord (A)

Is 60:1—6

Eph 3:2—3a, 5—6

Mt 2:1—12

Having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

MATTHEW 2:12

A Christ for Every Nation

"Go back where you came from!" What if the Magi heard this when they came to the house where the Child was, and they heeded that deriding message? The "signs of the times" that they read told them a king had been born. They might not have known exactly where to look, but they knew what they were looking for, and they recognized that king when they found him. These righteous men were not Israelites, yet God revealed this great mystery to them. Furthermore, there is no indication that they eventually became Israelites. Rather, "they departed for their country" (Matthew 2:12). God really does not play favorites.

Then how are we to understand the claim of being God's Chosen People, whether ancient Israelites or the Christian community? What's the point of being chosen if you are not the favorite? While acknowledging God's special love for his Chosen People, both Isaiah and Paul answer this question.

The prophet claims that "nations will walk by your light, kings by the radiance of your dawning" (Isaiah 60:3), and Paul says "the stewardship of God's grace... was given to me for your benefit" (Ephesians 3:2). In other words, some have been chosen by God to bring the light of God's love to others.

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates two important realities—the revelation of God to all people and the responsibility to reveal that astounding mystery to others. The Magi personify both realities. They were men of another faith tradition to whom God revealed the mystery of the Incarnation, and they returned home and probably proclaimed to others the wonder of that mystery.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ How respectful are you of the religious quests of others?
- ★ In what ways might your life shine the light of God's love on others?



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Do we know how to dream, to long for God, ...or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind? The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.

—EPIPHANY HOMILY, JANUARY 6, 2018



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, Branda 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, 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., Bailey Leach, Seth Freeman, Joshua Nichols, Dr. Liang Sien Oey, Fr. Ken Williams, Miles Meche, Doyle Henry, Jackie Craig, Linda Metoyer, K.C. Sepulvado, Juanita Ford, Maurice Martinez, Marianna Wilkinson, Lynell Hymel, Billy Sneed, Beckie Bayer & Marilyn Osborn

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 5th Enero

Isaias 60: 1-6
Salmo 71
Efesios 3: 2-6
San Mateo 2: 1-12

Misa en español 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 January 5th—January 11, 2020

St John Marilyn Osborn (SI)
St Terence The Sick of our Parish

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
Dec. 24th-25th, 2019

St John	\$ 2018.00	Attendance: 269
St Terence	\$ 285.00	Attendance: 33

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
Dec. 28th-29th, 2019

St John	\$ 2087.25	Attendance: 179
St Terence	\$ 801.00	Attendance: 87

~This Week~

Sun, Jan. 4th Discussion Group, 10AM
Spanish Mass, 5:00PM
Mon Jan. 5th Ladies Altar Society, 1PM
SVdP Meets, 6PM
Tues, Jan. 6th RCIA Class, 6PM
Wed, Jan. 7th Adoration, 8:30AM-6PM
Bible Study, 8:30AM & 7PM
CCD, 5:30PM
Thurs, Jan. 8th Choir Practice, 6PM

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, 01/04/2019

8:00AM 1. +Doris Andries Davenport
4:00PM 1. Living & Deceased Members of the Royal Family
2. Bailey McConnell (SI)
3. +Benny Rivers

Sunday, 01/05/2019

8:00AM 1. The Parish Family
2. Ace Bowling (SI)
3. Theo Anderson (SI)
4. Liang Sien Oey (SI)
5. +Jerry Sonnier
11:00AM 1. +Deceased Members of the Thomas and Sandy Nguyen Family
2. +Benny Rivers
3. Eddie Richard (SI)
4. +Phillip Frilot
5. Marilyn Osborn (SI)
5:00PM 1. The Sick of our Parish

Tuesday, 01/07/2019

5:00PM 1. +Mary Nell Jordan

Wednesday, 01/08/2019

8:00AM 1. + Raymond Remedies
2. Living & Deceased Members of the Blake, Byrd, Pedersen & Wimer Families

Thursday, 01/09/2019

1. +Robert O. Rivers

Friday, 01/10/2019

1. + Father David Richter

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, January 11th, 4PM (Saint John)	Matthew Couvillion	James Murphy Shirley Veuleman Clauriste Byles	Masen Starks Alexia Roberts	Paul McCormic Johnny Mowad Terry DeLatin Marty Starks
Sunday, January 12th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Jan Collins	Glenda Shuff Frank Little Rufus Shuff		Joe Zammit Paul Guidry
Sunday, January 12th, 11AM (Saint John)	Rosie Sullivan	Ashley Koss Rosie Sullivan	Xyler Koss Justin Koss	Marion Koss Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss

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 printing costs.

Spanish Mass

The monthly Spanish Mass will be celebrated this **Sunday, January 5th at 5PM**. Fr. Rigoberto Betancurt Cortes will be our celebrant. Confessions will be heard at **4:00 PM**. There will be a covered dish supper in the cafeteria after the Mass. Everyone is invited.

Contribution Envelopes

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.

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.

Important Message- *Lifetouch Photography* will be using contact information from our census database to create the new St. John / St Terence Church Directory. If you *do not* want your address and phone number listed in the directory, you must contact the office to *opt out*. You may have only your name listed, if you wish. If we do not hear from you, everyone with a census will have their name, address and phone number listed in the directory. Please call the office during normal business hours if you have questions.

Regular Schedules Resume

RCIA, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and CCD resume this week at the regularly scheduled times.

Second Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Church in Latin America. This collection supports pastoral programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Please be generous.



Parish Ministries and Organizations

There are ministries and organizations by which our parish is enriched – some of which require occasional participation, and others which entail regular service. One does not become a parishioner simply by attending Sunday Mass. Your involvement in one or more of these ministries and organizations will not only enrich your life, but it will also vitalize the communion of faith we enjoy at St. John the Baptist and St Terence Catholic Churches. As this new year begins, please prayerfully consider taking a more active part in your church parish.
We need you!

Ladies Altar Society

The Altar Society meets the first Monday of each month at 1PM. They help maintain the sanctuary, linens, vestments, candles, flowers and decorations. The next regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Altar Society will be held at **1:00 PM on Monday, January 6th**. Please consider attending. **We need your help!**

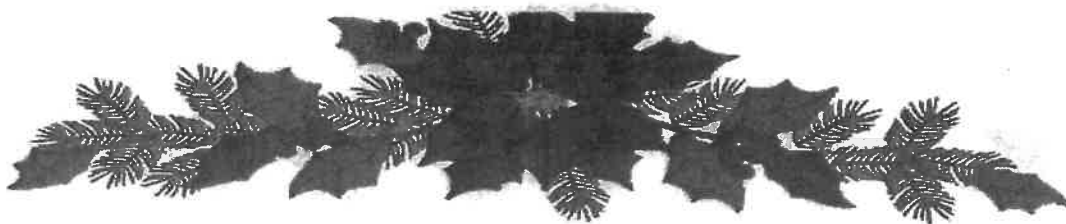
St. Vincent de Paul

The regular meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held at 6:00 PM this **Monday, January 6th**. St. Vincent De Paul Society's purpose is to provide direct aid to those who suffer, and to help individuals reduce and even eliminate the causes of their suffering. Please consider joining!

Eucharistic Ministers

This group of commissioned and trained ministers distributes Communion at Mass and brings the Holy Eucharist to the home-bound. Eucharistic Ministers serve as an integral part of the communion of faith which defines the Body of Christ. Our Eucharistic Ministers will soon be recommissioned. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please leave your name at the church office.

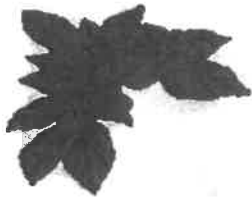
Note: For a complete listing of other ministries and organizations, please go to our website: www.stjohnmany.org Our various organizations and ministries need new members. Please consider joining!



2019 St. John Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of – Kenneth & Charlene McCormic	By: Shirley Rutherford
In Honor of – Bailey McConnell	By: Roy & Doris Procell Ricky & Leah McConnell
In Memory of - Faye & Hubert Andries Thomas & Cecile Andries	By: Shirley Andries
In Memory of - Dewey Rains Wesley Eaves Michelle Rains Burse	By: Jean Rains
In Memory of - Robert M. Britner Gregory O. Britner	By: Nell Britner
In Memory of - Willie & Lucy Davis	By: Barbara Davis & Tommie LeCroy
In Memory of - Nancy Rodrigues	By: Rose Sparks
In Memory of - Mr. & Mrs. Earl Malmay Mrs. Florence Ebarb Stephen Ebarb David Campbell	By: Calvin & Hilda Malmay
In Memory of - Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Busby Mr. Bert Sepulvado Mrs. Dena Fletcher	By: Ronald & Yvonne Busby
In Memory of – Ronnie Osborn	By: Marilyn Osborn
In Memory of – Albert & Frances Ebarb	By: Billy & Joan Sneed
In Memory of – Abram, Ethel, Clark & Kenneth Remedies	By: Robert & Dickie Remedies
In Memory of – Karen Mowad	By: Johnny Mowad





2019 St. John Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of - Walter Lee	By: Mary Lee Ligon
In Memory of - Al McCurdy Rose Mickelson	By: The Bob McCurdy Family
In Memory of - Deceased Members of the Tina & Marty Starks Family	By: Marty & Tina Starks
In Memory of - Fred & Etna Ramsey William "Buddy" Sepulvado Clyde, Carrie & Doris Rivers	By: William (Jr.) & Brenda R Sepulvado
In Memory of - Deceased Members of the Sullivan and Labat Families	By: Deacon Michael & Rosemary Sullivan
In Memory of - Henry & Elvie Parrie Ronald Ray Carter, Sr.	By: Frances Carter
In Memory of - Howard & Shelby Rutherford	By: Mike & Shirley Rutherford
In Memory of - Lynde McCormic Foust Aidan & Grace Foust Deceased Members of the Paul & Pam McCormic Family	By: The Paul & Pam McCormic Family

Thank You !

St. John Ladies Altar Society

