

Dear Padre,

A guided meditation on the rosary's fourth Joyful Mystery (The Presentation of Our Lord) mentions "our Blessed Mother's purification." What does that mean?

According to Jewish law, a mother was considered ritually impure for forty days after giving birth to a son, and eighty days after the birth of a daughter (see Leviticus 12:1-8). After the prescribed period of purification, she made an offering to God in the Temple for her atonement and another offering to support the priests. Her purification offering was a pigeon or turtledove; the burnt offering for the priests was a yearling lamb. However, if a woman couldn't afford the lamb, she could instead substitute two turtledoves or pigeons. Mary's offering of two birds indicated her poverty (see Luke 2:24).

Moreover, the Law stipulated that every firstborn male be presented to God in the Temple. "The LORD spoke to Moses and said, 'Consecrate to me every firstborn; whatever opens the womb...whether of human being or beast, belongs to me'" (Exodus 13:1-2). As a devout, law-abiding Jewish couple, Mary and Joseph traveled eighty miles from Nazareth to

Jerusalem to present their son to God. Mary couldn't afford a lamb as a burnt offering; rather she offered Jesus as the true Lamb of God in the name of the human race. Saint Alphonsus Liguori wrote, "O my God, I on my part unite my sacrifice to that of Mary. I offer to you your own divine Son, and by his merits I ask you to grant me all the graces I need for salvation."

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

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

In the Temple...Mary and Joseph find the roots of their faith, for faith is not something learned from a book, but the art of living with God, learned from the experience of those who have gone before us. The two young people, in meeting two older people [Simeon and Anna], thus find themselves.

—FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD,
FEBRUARY 2, 2018



Calendar

Monday
FEBRUARY 3
Weekday
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30;
16:5-13
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 4
Weekday
2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b,
24-25a, 30-19:3
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday
FEBRUARY 5
St. Agatha,
Virgin and Martyr
2 Sm 24:2, 9-17
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday
FEBRUARY 6
St. Paul Miki and
Companions, Martyrs
1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12
Mk 6:7-13

Friday
FEBRUARY 7
Weekday
Sir 47:2-11
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday
FEBRUARY 8
Weekday
1 Kgs 3:4-13
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday
FEBRUARY 9
Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Is 58:7-10
1 Cor 2:1-5
Mt 5:13-16

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 2, 2020
Presentation of the Lord (A)
Mal 3:1-4
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32



[Simeon said,] "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation."

—LUKE 2:29-30

We Belong to God

Everyone wants to belong to someone or something. In fact, we do not merely want to belong; we need to belong. However, sometimes we forget to whom we really belong. This feast reminds us to whom Jesus belonged. The reading from Hebrews underscores the fact that Jesus was one of us. He also was a descendant of Abraham, thus we are his brothers and sisters. But he really belonged to God.

The ritual of presentation, a ritual that was and continues to be common in religious Israel, was meant to remind everyone to whom we belong. True, only male infants were so presented. This reflects the custom of tracing lineage in the family, tribe, or clan through the male line, with women participating through the agency of men. This cultural gender bias need not prevent us from understanding the profound

meaning of the presentation. Though one of us, Jesus belonged to God.

The Gospel story tells of a man and a woman who recognized that this child would be the one through whom God saves all people. It describes two important religious insights: First, it acknowledges that the child we cherish as one of us really belongs to God. Second, it illustrates how each child has a mission to the world to somehow make it a better place. So even with its gender and cultural bias, this feast is about us as well as Jesus. We all belong to God; and we all have a mission to the world.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Do we really cherish every child as belonging to God?
- ★ How have you made your world better?



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

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Francis Kamau, FMH
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, 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 Fisetta, 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, Joanne 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, 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, Staci Anderson, Margie Remedies, Gene Haskins, Macala Henderson, Jace Thaxton, Roy & Pam Beasley & Don Speaks

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 2nd Febrero

Malaquias 3: 1-4
Salmo 23
Hebreos 2: 14-18
San Lucas 2: 22-40
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

February 2—February 8, 2020

St John Msgr. Earl Provenza (SI)
St Terence The Sick of our Parish (SI)

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
January 25th-26th, 2020

St John	\$ 2629.00	Attendance: 195
St Terence	\$ 991.00	Attendance: 101

~This Week~

Sun, Feb 2 Spanish Mass, 5PM
Mon, Feb 3 Altar Society Meets, 1PM
SSVdP Meets, 6PM
Tues, Feb 4 RCIA, 6PM
Wed, Feb 5 Adoration, 8:30AM—6PM
CCD, 5:30PM
Thurs, Feb 6 Choir Practice, 6PM

Spanish Mass

The monthly Spanish Mass will be held this Sunday, **February 2nd at 5PM**.

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday, February 8th, 4PM Vigil (Saint John the Baptist)	Shirley Veuleman	Rodney Abington James Murphy Clauriste Byles	Dale Porche Daylin Roberts	Johnny Mowad Paul McCormic Dakota Rivers Terry DeLatin
Sunday, February 9th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Andy Tarver Nicholas Tarver	Glenda Shuff Rufus Shuff Pam Little		Paul Guidry Jimmy Martin
Sunday, February 9th, 11AM (Saint John the Baptist)	JJ Blake	Ashley Koss Rosie Sullivan	Justin Koss Xyler Koss	Marion Koss Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss

Prayer List

Due to space limitations, we will be restarting our prayer list next week. If there is a name you would like to remain on the list or add to it, please contact the church office.



Fete for Life Annual Pro-Life Banquet

The annual fundraising for Mary's House will be held at **6PM on Feb. 11** at the Bossier Civic Center. The event will feature Bishop Francis Malone and nationally known speaker Rebekah Hagan. Ticket information is available online at maryshouseoflafoundation.org or by calling 318-220-8009. Tickets are \$50 each. Everyone is invited.

Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

In mid-February, the Diocese of Shreveport will officially begin its 2020 Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal Campaign. Our newly ordained Bishop Francis Malone has selected the theme of "What Shall I Return to the Lord?" for his first Annual Appeal as our Bishop. Remember that these Appeals are critical to the life of the Church in our region.

Women's Prayer Group

Please join us for the February Full of Grace Women's Prayer Group gathering on **Monday, February 3rd at 9AM** 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.

St Vincent de Paul Contribution Statements

If you would like a 2019 contribution statement from the Society of St Vincent de Paul, please leave your name at the church office.

Youth Group Bingo: February 8

The Youth Group will be sponsoring a Bingo after the 4PM Mass next **Saturday, February 8th**. Concessions will be available for purchase. Your support is appreciated.

Sabine Parish Life March

The Converse First Baptist Church is planning a Sabine Parish Life March for March 21st in Many. The planning meeting for the Life March is scheduled for this Sunday @3:00 at Converse FBC. The program details have been finalized and the fliers will be ready to hand out at the meeting. All area churches are invited to participate.

Church Directory Picture Retakes



If you were not able to have your picture made for the new Saint John/Saint Terence Church Directory, there will be a makeup day on **Thursday, February 11th**. You may schedule appointments by calling the church office at 318-256-5680 during normal business hours. Appointments may be scheduled at any time by visiting the Lifetouch website at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b2j17hpk/> Schedule soon to reserve the time slot and day best for you! Each family photographed will receive a free color 8 X 10 portrait as well as a free copy of the church directory.

Welcome Bishop Francis Malone!



God has blessed us with a new Shepherd. With great joy and thanksgiving to God, Father Francis and the parishioners of Saint John the Baptist and Saint Terence welcome the Third Bishop of the Diocese of Shreveport, Bishop Francis Ignatius Malone.

Bishop Malone's motto is taken from Psalm 116:13, "I will take up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord." This motto lets everyone know how the Bishop intends to Shepherd his people. Bishop Malone's motto indicates that he intends to lead the people of the Diocese of Shreveport in being mindful of the power of God and responding to it with thanksgiving and trust.

We welcome Bishop Malone!