

# Dear Padre,

## My church spends too much on flower arrangements. Are they really needed?

**F**lowers and plants in homes and other buildings create a sense of beauty and welcome. They also help lift the spirits of the infirm in hospitals and the pall of sadness from those who mourn a loved one. Similarly, flowers in churches awaken our senses, embody hospitality, and enliven our spirits. Moreover, living flowers and plants serve “as a reminder of the gift of life God has given to the human community” (“Built of Living Stones,” 129, USCCB, 2000).

Along with other church adornments—both fixed and movable—flowers enkindle in the worshiper a feeling of what St. Peter said at the transfiguration, “Lord, it is good that we are here” (Matthew 17:4, Luke 9:33). They add dignity to the sacred space and visually express the holiness of the mysteries celebrated there. “Sacred buildings and requisites for divine worship should be truly worthy and beautiful and be signs and symbols of heavenly realities” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 288).

Nevertheless, “floral decoration should always show moderation and be arranged around the altar rather than on the altar table” (*GIRM* 305). Restraint in floral decoration is the norm during Advent. It’s forbidden during Lent, except on Laetare Sunday and feasts, although simple compositions other than flowers are permissible.

To control costs, some parishes rely on volunteers with flower-arranging skills. Arrangements left behind at funerals and funeral homes and from church weddings are also offered for the benefit of the faithful.

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



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/BOB ROLLER

### A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*Christian life has to be a life that must blossom in works of charity, in doing what is good. But if you have no roots, you cannot blossom, and who is the root? Jesus! ... “What blossoms a tree bears come from what lies underneath it.” Never cut off Jesus’ roots.*

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, MARCH 21, 2018



## Calendar

- Monday**  
FEBRUARY 10  
Saint Scholastica,  
Virgin  
1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13  
Mk 6:53–56
- Tuesday**  
FEBRUARY 11  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30  
Mk 7:1–13
- Wednesday**  
FEBRUARY 12  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 10:1–10  
Mk 7:14–23
- Thursday**  
FEBRUARY 13  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 11:4–13  
Mk 7:24–30
- Friday**  
FEBRUARY 14  
Sts. Cyril, Monk, and  
Methodius, Bishop  
1 Kgs 11:29–32;  
12:19  
Mk 7:31–37
- Saturday**  
FEBRUARY 15  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 12:26–32;  
13:33–34  
Mk 8:1–10
- Sunday**  
FEBRUARY 16  
Sixth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Sir 15:15–20  
1 Cor 2:6–10  
Mt 5:17–37 or  
Mt 5:20–22a, 27–28,  
33–34a, 37

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 9, 2020  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
Is 58:7–10  
1 Cor 2:1–5  
Mt 5:13–16

## You Are Really Something!

**T**he description of the disciples found in today’s Gospel is an impressive compliment—and an even greater challenge. Jesus tells them they are “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), bringing out the good taste of living. In other words, life would be bland and uninteresting without them. They are also the “light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), helping people find their way. Without them, others would stumble and fall. Jesus is telling them how important they are in the lives of others. They could each and all say: I am really something!

Such compliments are also a challenge. What must one do to be salt and light in the lives of others? The Isaian passage provides some suggestions: Share your bread with the hungry; shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked; don’t turn your back on your own; remove from your midst oppression, false accusation, and malicious speech. In other words, to be salt or light is to meet the needs of the needy. This teaching of Jesus is not as easy as it might at first look.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples, his followers. They are not those who are simply curious about this itinerant preacher or remarkable healer. They have chosen to follow him, not merely from place to place, but to model their lives after his. Isn’t that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven’t we promised to model our lives after his? If so, as both compliment and challenge he says to us as well, “You are really something!”

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ In what ways do you already enrich or enlighten the lives of others?
- ★ In what ways is this compliment a challenge for you?



ANNA BOGUSH / 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—4PM (M-F)

Website: [www.stjohnmany.org](http://www.stjohnmany.org)

Email: [office@stjohnmany.org](mailto: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:** Vivian Halleck, Pat & Elaine Martinez, Brenda DeVaney, Timothy D. Rivers, Bessie Mowad, Vicki Martin, Eddie Richard, Janice Murphy, Randy Richter, Evelyn Bouillion, Tom Hambleton, Ace Bowling, Bennett King, Wanda J Rivers, Norma Bergeron, Marianna Wilkinson, Clifford Shuff, Roy & Pam Beasley, Beckie Bayer, Staci Anderson, Beth Rains, Ezra Thibodeaux, Margie Remedies & Bill Andries

Please note: The names on the prayer list will go through a cycle. As the names are moved to the top, they will be removed as new names are added. Please contact the office to add or remove a name.



### The Sanctuary Candle

Feb 9-15, 2020

St John +Dewey Rains

St Terence +Manual & Sue Rao

### Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)

February 1-2, 2020

St John	\$ 3248.00	Attendance: 107
St Terence	\$ 1160.00	Attendance: 88

## This Week in our Parish

### Sunday Masses at St John:

Sat, 4:00 PM Anticipated Mass

Sun, 11:00 AM (with Children's Liturgy)

Sunday Mass at St Terence: 8:00 AM

### Weekday Masses at St. John:

Tues, 5:00 PM; Wed—Fri, 8:00 AM

First Saturdays: 8:00 AM

Sunday, February 9

4:30 PM Faith, Food & Fun

Tuesday, February 11

2:00 PM Church Directory Pictures

6:00 PM Rite of Christian Initiations of Adults

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, February 12

8:30AM-6PM St John: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

5:30 PM CCD

Thursday, February 13

6:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, February 14

3:00 PM St Terence: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Saturday, February 15

3:00-3:45 PM Reconciliation at St. John

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday, February 16

7:15-7:45 AM Reconciliation at St Terence

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary 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 Baptism

Call the office in advance to register for seminar.

### Funerals

Arrangements may be made by calling the church office

### Parish calendar online:

<http://www.stjohnmany.org/calendar>

## Las Lecturas de Hoy 9th Febrero

Isaias 58: 7-10

Salmo 111

1 Corintios 2: 1-5

San Mateo 5: 13-16

*Misa en espanol el primer domingo de cada mes a las 5PM; Confesiones a las 4PM*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 8

- 4:00PM
- + Chris & Eunice Ebarb
  - Ace Bowling (SI)
  - Margie Remedies (SI)
  - Special Intention (SI)
  - +Darlene Credeur

Sunday February 9

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
  - +Manuel & Sue Rao
- 11:00AM
- Living & Deceased Members of the Thomas & Sandy Nguyen Family
  - + Tim Ponselle
  - + Dewey Rains
  - + Marilyn Osborn
  - + Flora Bass
  - + Lee Mitchell
  - +Alton Lewing
  - + Joyce Santos
  - + Benny Rivers
  - Special Intention (SI)

Tuesday February 11

- 5:00PM
- + Abram & Ethel Remedies

Wednesday February 12

- 8:00AM
- + Tim Ponselle
  - + Dewey Rains

Thursday February 13

- 8:00AM
- + Clara Broussard

Friday February 14

- 8:00AM
- + Dello Couvillion

DATE	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
Sat, Feb 15, 4:00PM Vigil (St John)	Matthew Couvillion	Tammy Bell Dale Porche Margaret Porche	Masen Starks Illario Plascencia	Johnny Mowas Paul McCormic Marty Starks Terry DeLatin
Sun, Feb 16, 8:00AM (St Terence)	Jeanette Polson	David Nichols Tina Nichols Frank Little		Harold Bergeron Joe Zammit
Sun, Feb 16, 11:00 AM (St John)	Youth	MaKenna McElwee Angelique Mitchell	Marion Koss Madden Rutherford	Wayne Adams Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss

## Church Directory Picture Retakes: Last Chance!

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 this **Tuesday, February 11th**. You may schedule appointments by calling the church office at 318-256-5680 during normal business hours or by visiting the Lifetouch website at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b2j17hpk/> Schedule soon to reserve the time slot 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.

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, when Jesus says, "You are the light of the world," He is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. You can be a "light" to those living in poverty or in a world of darkness by donating to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

During the last few weeks, in addition to helping those in need in our community and church parish, our Society of St Vincent de Paul has been helping the victims of the Apollo Apartment fire who lost everything. Any donation to help us replenish our funds is greatly appreciated.

## World Marriage Day



Today, throughout the world, the church celebrates the Sacredness of the Sacrament of Marriage. This day salutes the beauty of faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

## 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.

## Fete for Life Annual Pro-Life Banquet

The annual fundraising for Mary's House will be held at 6PM this **Tuesday, 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 [maryshouseofafoundation.org](http://maryshouseofafoundation.org) or by calling 318-220-8009. Tickets are \$50 each. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

## Church Directory Deadline

**Friday, February 14th** is the deadline to turn in census form or submit photographs for our new church directory. Please contact the office with any questions.

Lifetouch Photography will be using contact information from our 2019 census database to create the new St. John/St Terence Church Directory. If you wish to be listed in the directory, even without a picture, please turn in your census form if you have not done so already. If you do not want your address and phone number in the directory, please contact the office to opt out. If we do not hear from you, everyone with a 2019 census will have their name, address and phone number listed in the directory.

## ACTS Men's Retreats: February 20-23

Adoration, Community, Theology and Service is a retreat ministry which offers three-day Catholic retreats. These retreats consist of prayer, Mass, and Catholic teaching held in a peaceful and quiet environment, allowing time to relax and focus on your faith journey. The next men's retreat will be held Feb. 20-23 at Camp Harris in Minden. Registration forms can be found at: [www.stjosephchurch.net/a-c-t-s/](http://www.stjosephchurch.net/a-c-t-s/)

## Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

Next weekend, we will be celebrating Appeal weekend as we take time to educate ourselves about the programs and ministries our Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal provides.