

# Dear Padre,

## Is gambling a sin?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* mentions gambling in the context of “temperance” to moderate attachment to worldly goods, “justice” to render to our neighbor what is due, and “solidarity in accordance with the golden rule” (CCC 2407). “Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others. The passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement. Unfair wagers and cheating at games constitute grave matter...” (CCC 2413).

Gambling, therefore, is morally neutral. When properly controlled, it can be a form of recreation for some. However, it becomes an enslavement when obsessive gamblers neglect their families or jobs, risk financial security, and compromise their responsibilities to self, others, and God. The allure of winning and the desire to win even more—along with venues that provide easy gambling credit and other incentives—often make it harder for people to know their limits. Consequently, a severe gambling addiction can lead and has led to stealing to pay debts, divorce, job loss, despair, and suicide.

No wonder St. Augustine cautioned, “The devil invented gambling.” Even if Satan didn’t invent it, he’ll gladly take credit for it when gambling becomes a means to his ends. In so many words, those who win large amounts from lotteries and games of chance frequently warn, “All that glitters isn’t gold.” Despite its enticements, gambling ultimately fails to satisfy the human heart’s longing for meaning and fulfillment.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR | [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



### A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*There are three temptations of Christ....First, wealth: seizing hold of goods destined for all and using them only for “my own people.” That is, taking “bread” based on the toil of others or even at the expense of their very lives. That wealth tastes of pain, bitterness, and suffering.*

—HOMILY IN MEXICO, FEBRUARY 14, 2016



## Calendar

**Monday**  
MARCH 2  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Lv 19:1–2, 11–18  
Mt 25:31–46

**Tuesday**  
MARCH 3  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Is 55:10–11  
Mt 6:7–15

**Wednesday**  
MARCH 4  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Jon 3:1–10  
Lk 11:29–32

**Thursday**  
MARCH 5  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Est C:12, 14–16,  
23–25  
Mt 7:7–12

**Friday**  
MARCH 6  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Ez 18:21–28  
Mt 5:20–26

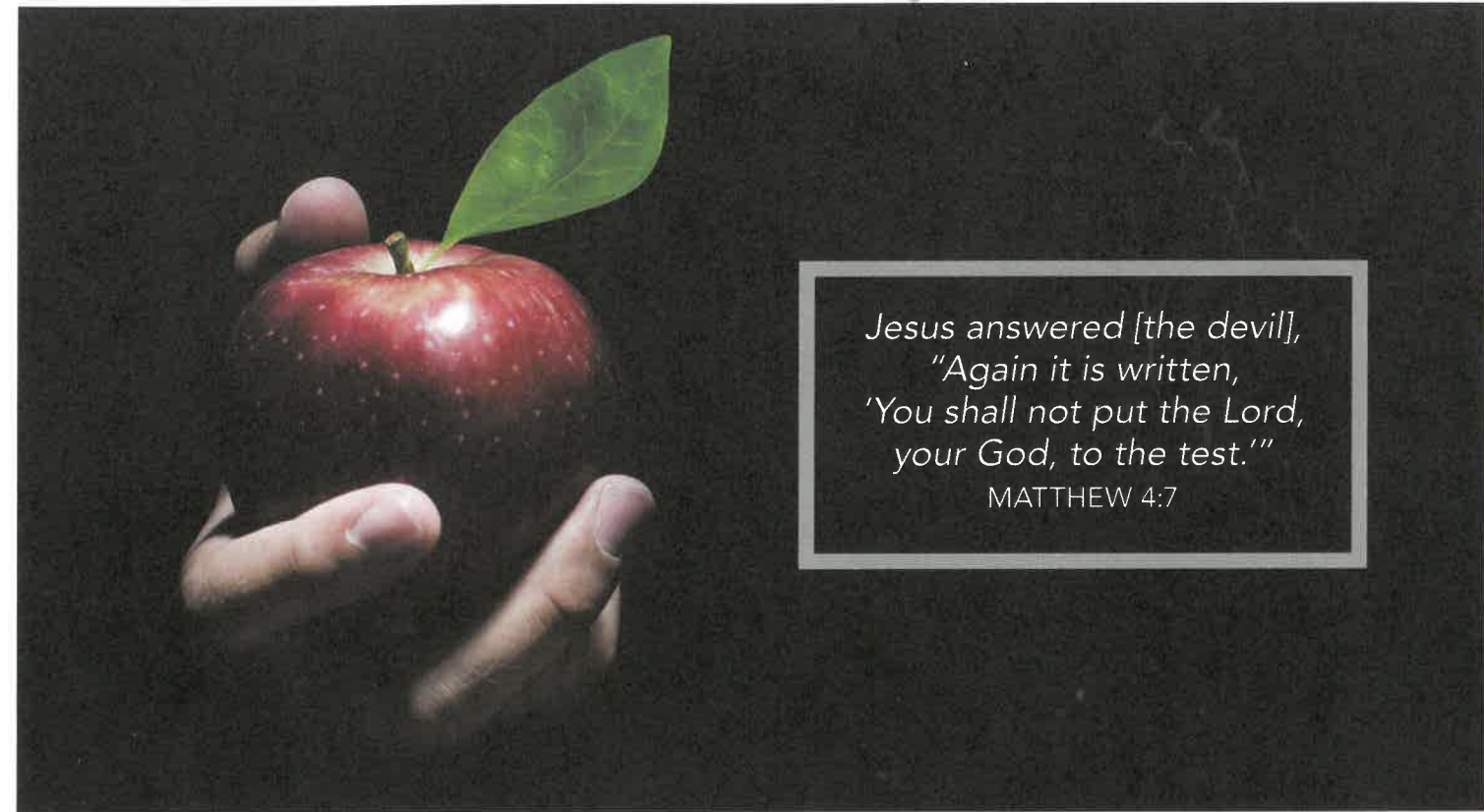
**Saturday**  
MARCH 7  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Dt 26:16–19  
Mt 5:43–48

**Sunday**  
MARCH 8  
*Second Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 12:1–4a  
2 Tm 1:8b–10  
Mt 17:1–9

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 1, 2020

*First Sunday of Lent (A)*  
Gn 2:7–9; 3:1–7  
Rom 5:12–19 or 5:12, 17–19  
Mt 4:1–11



Jesus answered [the devil],  
“Again it is written,  
‘You shall not put the Lord,  
your God, to the test.’”  
MATTHEW 4:7

## Try It! You’ll Like It!

If only temptation was obvious, we might have a better chance of avoiding it. But sometimes it’s so subtle. It often disguises itself as something rather attractive. This is precisely what happened in the Garden of Eden. Scripture says temptation takes on a living form—a serpent that convinces the woman that the fruit of the wisdom tree will make them “like gods, who know good and evil” (Genesis 3:5).

Who wouldn’t jump at such a possibility? Actually, who hasn’t already fallen into that trap—acting as if we are God, thinking we know everything or wishing to be in complete control? Our faith certainly encourages us to become more and more like God. What made that desire wrong was the way Adam and Eve sought to become like gods in their own way, not God’s way.

The Gospel passage tells us that Jesus also was tempted. Who doubts that Jesus wanted to be successful in his ministry? But what would he do to ensure success? Would he use divine power to attract a following? No! Would he call upon God to protect him from misunderstanding, rejection, even physical harm? No! Would he bargain with the devil, who obviously exercised power over many people? No! That was not the way he would be the Messiah. Unlike the couple in the Garden, Jesus recognized what was wrong even when it was disguised as something good. How good are we at recognizing temptation in our lives?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ In what ways does temptation sometimes trick you?
- ★ What can you do so you won’t be tricked?



# Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

1130 East San Antonio Ave  
Many, LA 71449  
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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 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, Don Speaks, Bill Andries, Bill & Mary Hurd, Kenny Dale & Kathryn McCormick, Donald Behan, Joanna Pressau, Lisa Brown & David Ray Nichols

**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**  
Week of Feb 23-29, 2020

St John +Todd Chasteen  
St Terence +Charles & Sue Warrick

**Parish Support**  
(Thank you for your generosity!)  
February 22-23, 2020

St John	\$ 3905.98	Attendance: 261
St Terence	\$ 1227.00	Attendance: 119

## This Week in our Parish

### Sunday Masses at St John:

Sat, 4:00 PM Anticipated Mass  
Sun, 11:00 AM (with Children's Liturgy)  
Sun, 5:00 PM Spanish Mass

### 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

### Monday, March 2

6:00 PM Society of St Vincent de Paul

### Tuesday, March 3

6:00 PM Rite of Christian Initiations of Adults

### Wednesday, March 4

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

9:30AM & 7PM Bible Study

5:00 PM CCD

5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

### Thursday, March 5

6:00 PM Choir Practice

### Friday, March 6

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

Stations of the Cross

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

### Saturday, March 7

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

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

### Sunday, March 8

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 1st Marzo

Genesis 2:7-9; 3: 1-7

Salmo 50

Romanos 5:12-19

San Mateo 4: 1-11

*Misa en español el primer domingo de cada mes a las 5PM*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday February 29

- 4:00PM 1. +James Bell  
2. Ace Bowling (SI)  
3. Margie Remedies (SI)  
4. Special Intention (SI)

### Sunday March 1

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family  
2. Ace Bowling (SI)  
3. Roy & Pam Beasley (SI)  
4. +Sue & Charles Warrick
- 11:00AM 1. Living & Deceased Members of the Nguyen Family  
2. + Todd Chasteen  
3. + Alton Lewing  
4. + Robert Britner  
5. + Marilyn Osborn  
6. + Benny Rivers  
7. Special Intention (SI)  
8. + Fr. Andre McGrath

### Tuesday March 3

5:00PM 1. + Lisa Brown

### Wednesday March 4

8:00AM 1. + Jack R Jordan

### Thursday March 5

8:00AM 1. + Peter Anh, Maria Hoa and Maria Loan Nguyen

### Friday March 6

8:00AM 1. + Raymond Remedies

## Altar Society Meeting

There will be no Altar Society meeting this month.

DATE	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
Sat, March 7, 4:00PM Vigil (St John)	Mary Murphy	Pat Gandy Syble Gandy Paul McCormic	Dale Porche Alexia Roberts	Johnny Mowad Paul McCormic Leo Springer Terry DeLatin
Sun, Mar 8, 8:00AM (St Terence)	Carrie DeRouen	Tina Nichols David Nichols Pam Little		Rufus Shuff Harold Bergeron
Sun, Mar 8, 11:00 AM (St John)	Jean Rains	Ashley Koss Rosie Sullivan	Reese Koss Jacob Ryan	Thomas Rosales Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss
Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 6, 6PM	Brandy Soileau		Alexia Roberts, Daylin Roberts and Masen Starks	

## Rummage Sale Planned

Saint Terence will be having a Rummage Sale this **Friday** from **8AM to 3PM** and on **Saturday** from **8AM to 2PM** in the Saint John Cafeteria. All proceeds will be given to the Franciscan Missionaries of Hope (the Lyke Community) to benefit the Kenyan Seminarians. We ask everyone to support this event.

## Trip to Kenya: August 12, 2020

The Diocese of Shreveport Franciscan Missionaries of Hope are planning a group trip to Kenya for any persons interested. The trip is set for August 13th-21st. Each person is responsible for securing their own airline ticket or you may contact Shirley at the church office to make reservations for you. Food, attractions, accommodations, souvenirs and travel while in Kenya will total approximately \$1500. If you are interested in going, please contact Father Francis Kamau at 318-256-5680 or email him at: [ngumikamau@yahoo.com](mailto:ngumikamau@yahoo.com). Please note that airline tickets are much cheaper when purchased far in advance.

## Lenten Regulations

**ABSTINENCE:** All Catholics who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on all Fridays of Lent.

**EASTER DUTY:** All faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year. This obligation may be fulfilled between March 1 (First Sunday in Lent) and June 7 (Trinity Sunday).

## 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.

## Second Collection

There will be a second collection this weekend for Black and Indian Missions.

## Society of St Vincent de Paul

This Lent, we are striving to open our eyes and hearts to the plight of those who are suffering here in our own community. During the month of March, our Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will adopt the Taylor House, a local domestic violence shelter for women. All donations received during March will benefit this need in our community. We appreciate your generosity.

## Daily Reflections of Lent

The booklet, *Daily Reflections of Lent*, meditations for the days of Lent, are located in the back of the church. Feel free to pick one up.

## Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Todd Chasteen**, brother of **Ashley Koss**. "Eternal Rest grant unto him O Lord and Let the Perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in Peace." Amen.

## CRS Rice Bowl

The 2020 CRS Rice Bowl Program has begun and will continue until Easter Sunday. Please pick up a Rice Bowl from the back of the church.

## Contribution Envelopes

If you have not yet done so, please pick up your contribution envelopes located in the back of the church. If you are not receiving envelopes and would like to, please contact the church office.

## Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

Our 2020 Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal Campaign has benefitted from the following results: **6%** of the families of Saint John the Baptist have pledged **20.33%** in support of our annual goal while **8%** of Saint Terence parishioners have pledged **18.33%** of their goal. Thank you to everyone who has offered a pledge to our Appeal. If you have not yet done so, please take time to fill out a pledge card and return envelope located in the Church pews or in the back of the church.