

Dear Padre,

For many of us older Catholics, our children have either left the faith or they don't belong to any church. Consequently, their children aren't baptized. We were taught that anyone may baptize in an emergency. Can we baptize our grandchildren? If so, how?

When necessary, "any person," even one who is not baptized, "can baptize provided that he has the intention of doing that which the Church does and provided that he pours water on the candidate's head while saying: 'I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1284).

Church law permits baptism when at least one consenting Catholic parent or guardian plans to nurture the child in the faith and in the faith community. Some people—with the best intentions—may disregard these legal conditions and resort to baptizing a child in secret or against the parents' will. However, while the Trinitarian formula used while pouring water over a child qualifies as the sacrament even under non-life-threatening circumstances, it's also contrary to Church law. This has negative consequences both for the child being baptized and the grandparents doing the baptizing!



SIOLOVA MARYNA/SHUTTERSTOCK

May you find consolation in these words: "Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament" (CCC 1257). Should a child die without baptism, we can trust in God's mercy, since the full proclamation of the gospel and request for the sacrament was not possible for the child. Moreover, Jesus' tenderness toward children allows us "to hope that there is a way of salvation for children who have died without baptism" (CCC 1261).

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

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

This season of Lent is a good occasion to draw near to [Jesus], to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue; to speak with him, to listen to him....In this way we can renew in ourselves the grace of baptism, quench our thirst at the wellspring of the Word of God.

—ANGELUS, MARCH 19, 2017



Calendar

Monday
 MARCH 16
Lenten Weekday
 2 Kgs 5:1–15b
 Lk 4:24–30

Tuesday
 MARCH 17
Lenten Weekday
 Dn 3:25, 34–43
 Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday
 MARCH 18
Lenten Weekday
 Dt 4:1, 5–9
 Mt 5:17–19

Thursday
 MARCH 19
St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16
 Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22
 Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a
 or Lk 2:41–51a

Friday
 MARCH 20
Lenten Weekday
 Hos 14:2–10
 Mk 12:28–34

Saturday
 MARCH 21
Lenten Weekday
 Hos 6:1–6
 Lk 18:9–14

Sunday
 MARCH 22
Fourth Sunday of Lent
 1 Sm 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a
 Eph 5:8–14
 Jn 9:1–41 or
 Jn 9:1, 6–9, 13–17, 34–38

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 15, 2020
Third Sunday of Lent (A)
 Ex 17:3–7
 Rom 5:1–2, 5–8
 Jn 4:5–42 or 4:5–15, 19b–26, 39a, 40–42

Water for Living, or Living Water?

Water flows through this Sunday's readings. In the passage from Exodus, the Hebrews cry out for the water so necessary for life. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of living water that provides eternal life.

The exchange between the Hebrews and Moses is straightforward and startling. Physical thirst led them to question the divine care that miraculously delivered them from the hands of Egyptian oppressors. We shouldn't be too quick to shake our fingers at them. How many times have we looked past blessings we take for granted, only to focus on lesser immediate needs? These desert people are our ancestors in more ways than one.

The Gospel of John is most interesting. Jesus is in Samaria, a land hated by the Jews. There he initiates a conversation with an inhabitant of the town of Sychar, someone who is an outcast in three major ways. She is a woman—no self-respecting man would be alone

with a woman he didn't know. She is a Samaritan—Jews considered Samaritans unclean. And she is promiscuous—his own honor might be at risk. The woman's questionable social status does not prevent Jesus from engaging her, first in social etiquette ("Give me a drink" [4:7]), then in a theological exchange ("Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst" [4:14]).

The Hebrews experienced God's saving action in their exodus, but they lacked trust. The woman, hated by the Jews, was an outcast of her own people, yet she believed. How do we respond to the water?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Look at the deepest longings of your heart. What might quench your thirst?
- ★ The Samaritan woman may have been the last person we would expect Jesus to engage with. What does this say about us?



[Jesus said,] "The water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
 JOHN 4:14

RICCARDO MAVER/SHUTTERSTOCK



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

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Phone: 318-256-5680

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Office Hours: 8AM—4PM (M-F)

Website: www.stjohnmany.org

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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, JoAnn Procell & Bobby Bowen

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 March 15-21, 2020
St John + David Weber
St Terence + Ryan Little

Parish Support
(Thank you for your generosity!)
March 7—March 8, 2020

St John	\$ 4312.75	Attendance: 271
St Terence	\$ 1488.00	Attendance: 115

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—Thurs, 8:00 AM
First Saturdays: 8:00 AM

Sunday, March 15

11:00 AM Youth Mass

Tuesday, March 17

6:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 18

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

5:00 PM CCD

5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

6:00 PM Lenten Penance Service

Thursday, March 19

12:00 PM Cemetery Committee Meeting

6:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, March 20

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 21

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

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday, March 22

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 8 Marzo

Exodo 17: 1-9

Salmo 94

Romanos 5: 1-2, 5-8

San Juan 4: 5-42

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 14

- 4:00PM
- +Raymond Remedés
 - Ace Bowling (SI)
 - Margie Remedies (SI)
 - +Chris & Eunice Ebarb
 - +James Bell

Sunday, March 15

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
 - +Theo Hart Anderson, Sr.
- 11:00AM
- Living & Deceased Members of the Nguyen Family
 - +Julie Sanchez
 - +David Weber
 - +Robert Britner
 - +Benny Rivers
 - +Fr. Andre McGrath

Tuesday, March 17

- 5:00PM
- + Maria Loan, Maria Hoa & Peter Anh Nguyen

Wednesday, March 18

- 8:00AM
- + Maria Loan, Maria Hoa & Peter Anh Nguyen
 - +Raymond Remedés

Thursday, March 19

- 8:00AM
- Living & Deceased Members of the Blake, Byrd, Pedersen & Wimer Families
 - +Marilyn Osborn

Mass Notes

There will be no daily Mass this Friday, March 20th.

DATE	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
Sat, March 21, 4:00PM Vigil (St John)	Matthew Couvillion	Tammy Bell Dale Porche Margaret Porche	Juan Plascencia Emelyn Plascencia Illario Plascencia	Johnny Mowad Paul McCormick Dakota Rivers Terry DeLatin
Sun, Mar 22, 8:00AM (St Terence)	David Nichols	Jeanette Polson Buddy Polson Glenda Shuff		Earl Anderson Jimmy Martin
Sun, Mar 22, 11:00 AM (St John)	Amy Ebarb	Dottie Ruesch Kevin Ruesch	Kent Rains Madden Rutherford Marion Koss	Thomas Rosales Michael Beasley Jerry Mitchell George Koss
Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 20, 6PM	Marion Koss		Kylie Laroux, Kyndl Laroux and Kent Rains	

Lenten Penance Service

The Saint John the Baptist Lenten Penance Service will be held this **Wednesday, March 18th at 6PM.**

Easter Flower Donation

Saint Terence Church is currently accepting donations for Easter Lilies. If you are interested in donating, please see Chris Moran or Glenda Shuff.

Sabine Parish Life March

The **Sabine Parish Life March** will be held next **Saturday, March 21 from 10AM until noon** at the courthouse in Many. Before the march, there will be a program on the courthouse steps. Then, the mile-long march will leave and return to the courthouse for brief closing remarks. Music will be provided by The Life Church, and Pastor Brian Gunter, Director of Outreach for Louisiana Right to Life, will be the guest speaker. In case of rain, the program will take place at The Life Church, 30383 Hwy 171 in Many. Homemade pro-life signs are encouraged. Seating will be limited, so bring a chair. For more information contact Pauline Williams at 318-461-1495.

First United Methodist Youth Group Spaghetti Fundraiser

The Many First United Methodist Church Youth Group will be hosting a fundraiser this **Sunday, March 15, 2020**. Plates include spaghetti, meatballs, salad, roll and dessert. Plates are \$9 and can be picked up at the Family Life Center from 11 am to 1 pm. Please call the Many 1st UMC office at 256.3632 or email catdove@soft-spec.com to pre-order a meal.

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 next weekend for Catholic Relief Services. This collection supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out relief and solidarity efforts, conditions for the poor, legal and support services for poor immigrants, etc. Your generosity is appreciated.

Meetings

There will be a Pastoral Council meeting this **Tuesday, March 17th at 6PM** and a Cemetery Committee meeting this **Thursday, March 19th at noon**. All members, please make plans to attend.

Safety Precautions

With the threat of the coronavirus, we urge everyone to take common sense precautions. If you are sick, please do not come to Mass until you are well. Our bulletins are posted online at www.stjohnmany.org so that you may remain informed of current events. Additionally, Mass and Communion at Sabine Retirement and Rehab are temporarily suspended.

Trip to Kenya: August 12, 2020

Fr Francis Kamau and Fr Nicholas Onyach will be celebrating 20 years of priestly ordination this **August 12th**. We invite you to travel to Kenya and join them for this celebration while touring parts of this beautiful country known for its natural wonders and unique culture. 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. You may travel and return on different dates to accommodate your schedule. If you are interested in going, please contact Father Francis Kamau at 318-256-5680 or email him at: ngumikamau@yahoo.com. Please note that airline tickets are much cheaper when purchased far in advance. (currently approximately \$1100.00). Everyone is invited to participate!

Congratulations, Fr. Francis!

We congratulate our pastor, Fr. Francis, on taking his United States Citizenship written test this past week and scoring 100%! Father will be sworn in as a U. S. citizen in the near future. We congratulate him on this wonderful accomplishment!



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, MANY, LA

LENTEN MISSION FOR 2020

This year we will donate all proceeds from our March collections to the Taylor House, a shelter in Many for victims of domestic violence. These women and their children often must flee their homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs. We ask you to help us by donating items on the lists below for use at the Taylor House and when these families transition to permanent homes.

New or gently used items

Twin sized bedding (sheet sets, blankets, pillows, and mattress covers)
Towels
Kitchen supplies (pots, pans, cooking utensils, dishes, flatware)
Children's backpacks
Children's books
Toys
Luggage

New items only

Toothbrushes and toothpaste Soap
Shampoo Laundry detergent

These women and children need slightly used or new luggage, as they have no means to carry their clothes and belongings. Often, they must use boxes and plastic garbage bags. By giving a suitcase to each family, we can foster their sense of worth and prepare them for the long journey of healing.

We are partnering with Sabine Parish 4-H students, who will collect donations to serve and help the residents of Taylor House with their needs.

Please drop off your donations at the church office. To make a monetary donation, please use the collection envelopes marked "St. Vincent DePaul Society."

St. Vincent de Paul Society's funds come from contributions from individuals, including St. Vincent de Paul envelopes. These funds are separate from church funds. Every penny of the money that we spend through St. Vincent de Paul stays in our community.

Our Purpose

The mission of our St. Vincent de Paul Society is to "feed the hungry and clothe the naked, visit the sick, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the imprisoned and bury the dead." (Mt 25:31) We have fulfilled this mission in so many ways in the past year:

Shelter the Homeless and Clothe the Naked

We helped victims of the Apollo Apartment fire by providing food, lodging, clothes, and transportation.

Feed the Hungry and Give Drink to the Thirsty

We maintain a food pantry year-round. We provided food for 80 families in Sabine Parish for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. We partnered with Trinity Baptist and the 12th District Alliance to provide Thanksgiving dinner to more than 100 people.

Visit the Sick and Imprisoned

We regularly visit the sick and shut-ins of our parish. We also participate in prison ministry.

Bury the Dead

We help the Ladies Altar Society with preparing and serving meals after funerals and assist families with costs of burial of their loved ones.

arise

WOMEN'S RETREAT IN HIS IMAGE

One day event to **unite & recharge!**

Holy Savior Menard High School, Alexandria

MARCH 28, 2020

8:30AM - 4PM Mass Following

Register online at

arise328.eventbrite.com

Registration cost \$40. Ticket sales end **March 14th, 2020**
southerngrace.sic@gmail.com • SouthernGraceSIC

Society of St Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish His work." Your gift to Saint Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns night and day near the tabernacle to indicate and honor the presence of Christ. You may arrange to have the Sanctuary Candle at St. John's or St. Terence burn in memory of a loved one for a week of your choice by contacting the church office. The candle will be booked on a first-come, first-serve basis. Donations of any amount are accepted.

Connect to Saint John the Baptist / Saint Terence Catholic Church Parish!!!!

Stay informed of parish events, schedule changes and important announcements in one or more of the following ways:

- 1) Provide us with your email address. You may send it to our email account (office@stjohnmany.org), drop by the church office, or call us at (318-256-5680). We email monthly newsletters to those whose email addresses we have and we also send out special notices when needed.
- 2) Like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stjohnsmanyla/ Keep up with events, photographs and other news regarding our church parish and diocese.
- 3) Visit our parish website: www.stjohnmany.org; There is a wealth of information here including current event announcements and copies of weekly bulletins. Any group, class, person or organization who would like an item added to the website may contact the church office.
- 4) Obviously, the most current source of news is our weekly bulletin and the pulpit announcements at each weekend Mass.

Stay Informed!!

CRS Rice Bowl

The 2020 CRS Rice Bowl Program is continuing until Easter Sunday. There is still time to pick up a Rice Bowl from the back of the church.

Upcoming Lenten Mission

Father Whitney Miller of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be conducting a Lenten Mission at Saint John the Baptist on **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 30th, 31st and April 1st at 6:30PM** each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Church Directory

We appreciate every family who had their portrait made for the new church directory and who filled out a current census form to help us gather the necessary information. Directories will be available soon.

Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

Our **2020 Appeal** Campaign has benefitted from the following results: **11%** of the families of Saint John the Baptist have pledged **31.73%** in support of our Appeal goal while **14%** of Saint Terence families have pledged **65.42%** of their goal. If you have not yet done so, please consider an Appeal gift. Pledge cards and envelopes are located in the pews and in the back of the church.

Lenten Regulations

ABSTINENCE: All Catholics who have reached their 14th 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).