

Dear Padre,

Do we need to evangelize, or spread the gospel, to fellow Catholics?

Yes! **Evangelization is beneficial to Catholics** who already practice the faith. As St. Paul VI pointed out, “The Church...seeks to deepen, consolidate, nourish and make ever more mature the faith of those who are already called the faithful or believers, in order that they may be so still more” (On Evangelization in the Modern World [*Evangelii Nuntiandi*], 54).

What about nonpracticing Catholics? Yes, again! A particular focus of the evangelizing Catholic ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life. We already know that a large number of the baptized have not formally repudiated their baptism but do not live in accordance with it. They resist the idea of evangelization out of indifference or a hostility based on the belief that he or she is one of the family, but is “in the know” and no longer believes.



A particular focus of the evangelizing Catholic ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life.

Christ wishes God’s love to be proclaimed and reproclaimed to all Catholics—practicing and nonpracticing. This is the essential mission that Christ gives to his Church—to invite everyone to experience the full impact of God’s love in Jesus.

—Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

How beautiful it is to think of ourselves as proclaimers of the resurrection of Jesus, not only in words, but also in our conduct and testimony of life! Jesus does not want disciples who are merely able to repeat memorized formulas. He wants witnesses: people who spread hope with their way of welcoming, smiling, and loving.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, OCTOBER 4, 2017



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Calendar

- Monday**
DECEMBER 7
St. Ambrose,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church
Is 35:1–10
Lk 5:17–26
- Tuesday**
DECEMBER 8
Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9–15, 20
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12
Lk 1:26–38
- Wednesday**
DECEMBER 9
Advent Weekday
Is 40:25–31
Mt 11:28–30
- Thursday**
DECEMBER 10
Advent Weekday
Is 41:13–20
Mt 11:11–15
- Friday**
DECEMBER 11
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17–19
Mt 11:16–19
- Saturday**
DECEMBER 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14–17 or
Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab
Lk 1:26–38 or 1:39–47
- Sunday**
DECEMBER 13
Third Sunday
of Advent
Is 61:1–2a, 10–11
1 Thes 5:16–24
Jn 1:6–8, 19–28

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent (B)
Is 40:1–5, 9–11
2 Pt 3:8–14
Mk 1:1–8

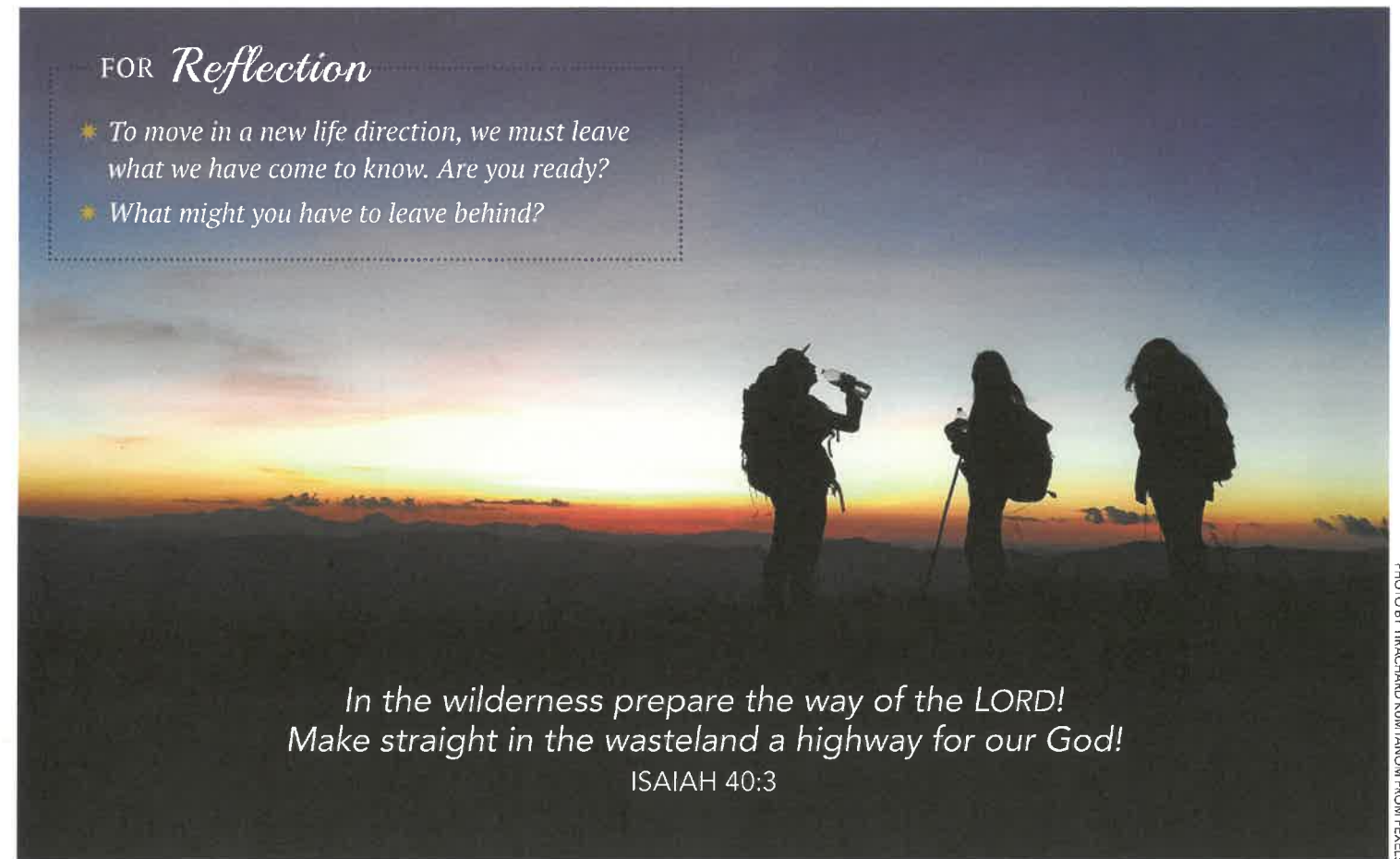
Prepare the Way of the Lord

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God’s and the people’s entry, the way is made clear: “Every valley shall be lifted up...The rugged land shall be a plain” (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public ministry. Despite their differences, both passages

speak of the “way of the Lord,” which is the way of salvation. The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it “new heavens and a new earth” (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence “in which righteousness dwells.” Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on “the day of the Lord,” the day when God’s promises will be fulfilled and “all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9–10). The events described in all three readings unfold because of God’s merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God’s words?
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ To move in a new life direction, we must leave what we have come to know. Are you ready?
- ★ What might you have to leave behind?



*In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!*
ISAIAH 40:3





Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

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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, Timothy D. Rivers, Bessie Mowad, Vicki Martin, Eddie Richard, Janice Murphy, Randy Richter, Jiles Bowling, Tom Hambleton, Ace Bowling, Bennett King, Wanda J Rivers, Norma Bergeron, Clifford Shuff, Roy & Pam Beasley, Ezra Thibodeaux, Don Speaks, Bill & Mary Hurd, Donald Behan, Joanna Pousseau, Lisa Brown, David Ray Nichols, Bobby Bowen, Piper Rac Pate, Cameron Johnson, Jake & Mary Ann Rivers, Allen Nichols, James Edwards, Addie Procell, Jiles Bowling, Richard DeKeyzer, Trisha Adams, Carla Kowarch, Sue Ferguson, John Wayne Behan, Timbo Sepulvado, Don Speaks & Sherman Salter

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 December 6–11, 2020

St John + Fr Kenneth Williams
 St Terence + Christy Wriborg

Christmas Mass Schedule

Vigil Mass 4PM Dec. 24 St John
 Midnight Mass 12PM Dec. 25 St John
 Christmas Day 8AM Dec. 25 St Terence
 IIAM St John

This Week in our Parish

Weekend Masses at St John:

Sat, 4:00 PM Anticipated Mass
 Sun, 11:00 AM

Sunday Mass at St Terence: 8:00 AM

Weekday Masses at St. John:

Wed—Fri, 8:00 AM
 First Saturdays: 8:00 AM

Tuesday, December 8

8:00 AM & 6:00 PM Mass, Feast of the Immaculate Conception

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meet

Wednesday, December 9

8:30AM-6:00PM St John: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5:30 PM CCD

5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

10:00 AM SVdP Social and Meeting

Saturday, December 12

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

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday, December 13

9:00-9:30 AM Reconciliation at St Terence

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

12:00-12:30 PM Reconciliation 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>

Contributions

	St. John	St. Terence
October	\$17,99.93	\$4,991.00
September	17,867.80	3,907.06
August	15,922.84	4,489.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 5th

- 4:00PM 1. +Lively Lewis
 2. +Eleanor Gill
 3. +Cary Janet
 4. +Otis Cecil Taylor
 5. *In Thanksgiving*
 6. +Fr. Ken Williams

Sunday, December 6th

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family
 2. +Christy Wriborg
 11:00AM 1. Living & Deceased Members of the Blake, Byrd, Pedersen & Wimer Family
 2. + Steven Rodrigues
 3. + Peter, Maria Hoa & Maria Loan Nguyen
 4. + Renita Kay Parent
 5. + Elsie McLendon
 6. + Mike Rivers

Tuesday, December 8th

- 8:00AM 1. + Marilyn Osborn

Wednesday, December 9th

- 8:00AM 1. + Marilyn Osborn

Thursday, December 10th

- 8:00AM 1. +Marilyn Osborn

Friday, December 11th

- 8:00AM 1. +Fr Ken Williams



Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our former pastor, *Father Kenneth Williams, Mr. Cary Janet*, brother of Jamie Cartwright, and *Otis Cecil Taylor*, grandmother of Angela Couvillion. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

SVdP Christmas Brunch

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites all ladies of Saint John and St Terence to join us at **IOAM on Wednesday, December 9th** in the cafeteria for brunch and a gift wrapping social to help wrap gifts for the Sabine Parish Angel Tree. Please bring your favorite "bruncheon dish" and join us for fun and fellowship. If you have wrapping paper, tape, scissors, or small boxes, please bring these items also.

At noon, SVDP will hold a short business meeting to go over finances and to elect a new president. If you would like to be President or would like to nominate someone for that position, please make sure to attend that portion of the meeting.

St John Christmas Flower Donations

The Ladies Altar Society has begun accepting donations for Poinsettias for the Christmas altar. These may be made in honor of or in memory of a loved one and are \$20 each. If you are interested, please pick up a flower offering envelope from the back of the church or mail your request in.

Advent Confessions

There will be no Advent Penance Services in the Diocese of Shreveport. Fr. Francis will be hearing confessions on Saturdays from 3 to 4Pm, on Sundays for 30 minutes following the 8AM and 11AM Masses, and by appointment.

Thank You

Thanks to everyone who donated towards our Society of St Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Food Project for the Needy. Because of your generosity, we were able to feed approximately 40 families.

Saint John Berchmans Cathedral Advent Mission

Father Jim Sichko of the Diocese of Lexington, invites everyone to join him at the Cathedral of St John Berchman's in Shreveport for an Advent Mission to be held on **Monday through Wednesday, December 14th through 16th from 6 to 7PM**. The Mission is for the entire family and includes scripture, storytelling and prayer. This is a great way to enrich your Advent season!

Church Donations

Contributions may be placed in the basket in the back of the church, or mailed to the office. Online giving may be accessed by going to <http://www.stjohnmany.org/donations>

Second Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend for the National Retirement Fund for the Religious. Please be generous.

Church Directory Update

Because of the pandemic, our church directory has been delayed. The company is in the final stages of production so we anticipate receiving our directories soon. Thank you for your patience.

Safety Precautions

The Sunday Mass obligation continues to be dispensed as well as for Holy Days of Obligation. Those who are ill or who are not feeling well in any way should not attend Mass. Those who are especially vulnerable (namely, those defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as those 60 years of age or older, those with compromised immune systems, and/or those with underlying health conditions), may stay home. Masks are required when you come to church and we ask that you maintain social distancing guidelines. St. John Mass on Sunday is live-streamed via Facebook at 11 AM. Recordings of the mass may be viewed at any time on our St. John Facebook page, and on our website at stjohnmany.org. Weekly church bulletins are also posted on our website.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

We will celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe next **Sunday, December 13th at 5PM** with a Spanish Mass. There will be a covered dish supper in the cafeteria after Mass.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day. Mass will be held at Saint John at **8:00 AM and 6:00 PM**. *The Mass obligation continues to be dispensed for Sunday Mass as well as for Holy Days.*

Catholic Calendars Available

The 2021 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 the printing cost.

Gift Shop

The Youth Group Gift Shop is open from 8AM to 4PM in the school building and by appointment. We have many discounted items that are perfect for Christmas gifts.

Saint Terence Flower Donations

St Terence Mission is accepting donations for Christmas flowers. Contributions of any amount are appreciated. If you are interested in donating, please contact Chris Moran or Glenda Shuff.