

Dear Padre,

Does the Church promote adoption as a response to infertility? If so, why?

The Church indeed promotes adoption, but not solely as a response to infertility. Church teaching presents adoption as an alternative way that a couple might direct their generosity and desire to be life-giving through children. While recognizing the suffering of infertility, the Church also sees the great need of children throughout the world who, for one reason or another, haven't been able to live with their biological parents.

The call to adopt and care for children in need, however, is addressed to all believers who are able to help. The theological foundation for reaching out to adopt children is linked to our being brothers and sisters in Christ, and that we are called to be stewards of the lives of one another. In some instances, people feel called to care for needy children of the world by adopting them and bringing them into a new family to develop and grow.

In other situations, perhaps Christians could show extraordinary love by "adopting" a child or a family of children by supporting them in their own country through assistance to relatives who could not otherwise look after the child. This is obviously not like raising a child in your own home, but think of what it might do for a child in his own home country. A key principle that should underlie the care of orphans is "what is best for the child."

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Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SYDA PRODUCTIONS/SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

The goal we must set ourselves...is that no mother be in a position to leave her child. But we must also ensure that in the face of any event, even tragic, that may detach a child from his or her parents, there are structures and processes...in which childhood is always protected and cared for.

ADDRESS TO HOSPITAL OF THE INNOCENTS INSTITUTE,
MAY 24, 2019



Calendar

- Monday**
FEBRUARY 8
Weekday
Gn 1:1-19
Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday**
FEBRUARY 9
Weekday
Gn 1:20-2:4a
Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday**
FEBRUARY 10
St. Scholastica, Virgin
Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17
Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday**
FEBRUARY 11
Weekday
Gn 2:18-25
Mk 7:24-30
- Friday**
FEBRUARY 12
Weekday
Gn 3:1-8
Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday**
FEBRUARY 13
Weekday
Gn 3:9-24
Mk 8:1-10
- Sunday**
FEBRUARY 14
Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Lv 13:1-2, 44-46
1 Cor 10:31-11:1
Mk 1:40-45

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23
Mk 1:29-39

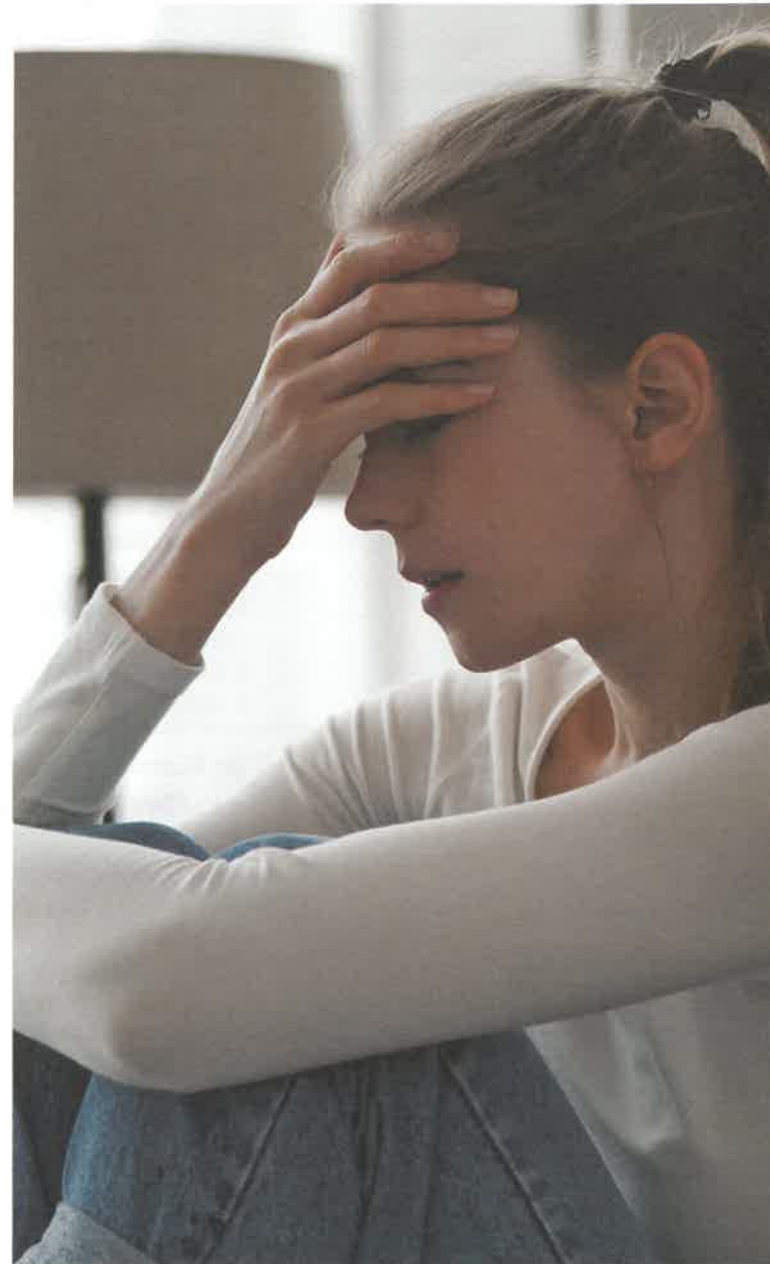
Grin and Bear It

This harsh bit of advice is more military than religious. However, it does carry some truth. There are times when there is no way to avoid hardship, so all we can do is find some way of dealing with it. This is the situation in today's reading from Job. He experiences life as burdensome. To make matters worse, life is too short to be able to get beyond the difficulty. So what does he do? What might most of us do in similar situations? Complain.

There is really nothing wrong with complaining. The problem is to whom and for how long. A large number of the psalms are complaints or, to use the theological term, *laments*. To complain to God can be a profound prayer, for it admits our human inability to fix everything. And, it presumes that God can and just might fix the problem. The psalm response continues this train of thought with a prayer of confidence that God will fix it. The Gospel reading then provides examples of how Jesus did just that.

These are not merely stories of past events. Rather, they trace a profound yet difficult-to-accept religious belief: when we are overwhelmed by hardship, we should turn to God and place our need in God's care, believing that God wants what is best for us. Perhaps the rest is out of our hands, but we must believe that we are in God's hands and, therefore, safe.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



FIZKES/SHUTTERSTOCK

After sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door.
MARK 1:32-33

FOR Reflection

- ★ Hardship can test our trust in God. Might this be the case with you?
- ★ As a disciple of Jesus, pray for the gift of trust.



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

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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, Bessie Mowad, Vicki Martin, Eddie Richard, Janice Murphy, Randy Richter, Jiles Bowling, Tom Hambleton, Ace Bowling, Bennett King, Norma Bergeron, Clifford Shuff, Roy & Pam Beasley, Ezra Thibodeaux, Bill & Mary Hurd, Donald Behan, Joanna Presseau, Lisa Brown, Bobby Bowen, Piper Rae Pate, Cameron Johnson, Jake & Mary Ann Rivers, Allen Nichols, James Edwards, Addie Procell, Richard DeKeyzer, Trisha Adams, Sue Ferguson, John Wayne Behan, Timbo Sepulvado, Don Speaks, Marti Vienne, Lexie King, Gary Mitchell, Justin Lincecum, Brooklyn Meshell, Roy Cedars, Betty Procell Skinner, Gerry Bourgeois, Mary Jane Olsen & Caitlin Pine

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.

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
February 6th-7th, 2021

St John	\$	5457.00
St Terence	\$	1833.00

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:

All weekday Masses cancelled during February

Saturday February 6th

By appointment Reconciliation at St. John

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday February 7th

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Wednesday February 10th

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

Sacrament

5:30 PM CCD

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>

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples are required to call the church office at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 6th

- 4:00PM
- +Walter Lee
 - +Earl Ebarb
 - +Fr Kenneth Williams
 - +Timothy D Rivers
 - Betty Procell Skinner (SI)

Sunday February 7th

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
 - +Christy Wriberg
 - +Manuel & Sue Rao
 - Harold & Norma Bergeron (SI)
- 11:00AM
- +Charlie Brown
 - +Joyce Santos
 - +Peter, Maria Hoa & Maria Loan Nguyen
 - +John Lincecum
 - Betty Procell Skinner (SI)



The Sanctuary Candle Week of Feb 7th—Feb 13th

St John + Timothy Rivers
St Terence + Lee & Jackie Miller

Mass Notes

There will be no daily Mass during the month of February. Those wishing to attend daily Mass are encouraged to attend at St Joseph's in Zwolle: **Monday and Friday**, noon; **Tuesday and Wednesday**, 7:30AM.

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> Although the pandemic has minimized many of our church activities, our financial obligations continue. Thank you for your donations.

Welcome Father Greene

We welcome Father Richard Greene who will be celebrating the weekend Masses with us while Father Francis is away. Father Greene is from the Diocese of Lafayette and we appreciate his willingness to help us out in the absence of our pastor. Please make him feel at home.

Most Holy Season of Lent Approaching

Our church parish is preparing for the Lenten season. **Ash Wednesday, February 17th**, is not a holy day of obligation, but a worthy day to attend Mass and receive ashes. The Vatican has modified the distribution of ashes for this year. The presider will bless and sprinkle the ashes with holy water, bless all present with a general blessing, and sprinkle the ashes on the head (not the forehead of each person), with no words. Holy Mass and distribution of ashes will be held on **Ash Wednesday, February 17th** at **8AM** and **6PM** at St John the Baptist, and at **12 noon** at Saint Terence. We will have the traditional Stations of the Cross **each Friday of Lent at 6PM** at St John.

Stations of the Cross Servers

Friday, February 19 Lector: Marion Koss
Servers: Maci, Maggie & Jacob Ryan
Friday, February 26 Lector: Brandy Soileau
Servers: Ava & Emma McElwee

Eucharistic Adoration

Come and experience the peace and graces bestowed by praying and meditating in the presence of our Lord in the Eucharist. Adoration is held each Wednesday at Saint John the Baptist from 8:30AM to 6PM. We invite you to spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, we read that because Jesus spoke with authority, His reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As His disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into action by helping the poor and suffering. *Please consider answering the call to help those less fortunate by contributing to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.*

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *John "Buck" Lincecum*, grandfather of *Justin Lincecum*. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Mass Online

We are live streaming the **Sunday IIAM Mass** on our Facebook page. Those who are ill or who are not comfortable attending Mass are invited to join us on social media and offer an act of Spiritual Communion.

Special Collection Benefitting Retired Priests of the Diocese

February 17th marks the time for our annual special collection benefiting the retired priests of our diocese. For a second year, this special event is being held on Ash Wednesday to secure maximum participation among the faithful. This additional exposure for this important cause resulted in 2020 marking an all-time high in donations to assist our retired clergy. As we seek to expand on this success, remember that there are eight retired priests of our diocese who are counting upon the faithful for assistance in their retirement years. All the funds collected for this special collection will stay within our area, benefiting only the retired priests that have served us in our diocese.

2020 Contribution Statements

Tax verification letters confirming your 2020 church parish donations were recently mailed. If you have not received a letter and would like one, please notify the church office.

World Marriage Day 2021

Couples celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. & 50+ years of marriage in 2021 will be honored next Sunday, Feb. 14, World Marriage Day, at the IIAM Mass.

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.