

# Dear Padre,

## My friend's parish is having a St. Joseph's Day Altar. What is that?

According to tradition, the altar to St. Joseph originated in the Middle Ages by Sicilians who invoked their patron saint during an extended drought and famine. When rain finally brought relief, the people expressed their gratitude in two ways: by displaying a table with the foods they harvested and by distributing their plenitude to those most in need.

Over time, the custom of an altar around the March 19 feast day of St. Joseph gained popularity and is now embraced by the faithful of any nationality wishing to share their good fortune with those who have less. The meatless feast usually includes baked items, beans, nuts, fruits, and seafood presented in ways that symbolize elements of the faith. Prayerful rituals and children portraying the Holy Family add to the celebration and heritage.

Whether the altar is modest or elaborate, at home or in church, it's a labor of love meant to strengthen the bonds of family and friends in its preparation and to strengthen one's faith and charity in its execution.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*



*Saint Joseph appears as a strong and courageous man, a working man, yet in his heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love. We must not be afraid of goodness, of tenderness!*

SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, MARCH 19, 2013

### Calendar

**Monday**  
MARCH 15  
Lenten Weekday  
Is 65:17–21  
Jn 4:43–54

**Tuesday**  
MARCH 16  
Lenten Weekday  
Ez 47:1–9, 12  
Jn 5:1–16

**Wednesday**  
MARCH 17  
Lenten Weekday  
Is 49:8–15  
Jn 5:17–30

**Thursday**  
MARCH 18  
Lenten Weekday  
Ex 32:7–14  
Jn 5:31–47

**Friday**  
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

**Saturday**  
MARCH 20  
Lenten Weekday  
Jer 11:18–20  
Jn 7:40–53

**Sunday**  
MARCH 21  
Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Jer 31:31–34  
Heb 5:7–9  
Jn 12:20–33

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 14, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)  
2 Chr 36:14–16, 19–23  
Eph 2:4–10  
Jn 3:14–21

## You Decide

We normally take great pride in making our own decisions. When we did this as children, it was a sign that we were growing up; as adolescents, it was a proclamation of independence. Now as adults, when making decisions we demonstrate that we are self-directed. The problem doesn't seem to lie in decision-making itself but in the options given to us that require a decision. And there is the rub. Often these are options not of our choosing. This can make decision-making very difficult.

Today's Gospel is all about making decisions. Options are placed before us. We either choose Jesus and the extraordinary way of life that he has outlined for us, or we go along with the movements of society. This could include making money at any cost, denying hospitality to those who knock on our door, harboring an attitude of superiority over others. We either choose to live in the light with the insights that our faith provides, or we simply accept the values that bombard us each day through the media, namely: Me first. What's mine is mine. What's in it for me? Not in my back yard.

If we look carefully, we will realize that the way of life Jesus promotes is based on the dignity of each person, who is made in the image and likeness of God. Actions that dismiss, demean, damage, or destroy human life are contrary to the teaching, life, and example of Jesus. Accepting his way brings forth a new society called "the reign of God." Rejecting it will undermine the foundations of the society we have. Which will it be? You decide.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### For Reflection

- ✦ How might you have compromised your religious values in order to get by in life?
- ✦ Might God be asking you to choose something new?

And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

JOHN 3:19





# 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, 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, Beth Prejean, Beckie Bayer, Leroy Parrie, Scott Gurley & Clairiste Byles, Sr.

**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.

### Easter Lily Donations

Donations for Saint John the Baptist Easter Lilies are being accepted. They may be donated in memory of or in honor of someone. Flower envelopes are located in the back of the church. Lilies are \$20 each.

## 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 March 13th

By appointment Reconciliation at St. John

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

### Sunday March 14th

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

### Tuesday, March 16th

9:30 AM Bible Study

6:00 PM Youth Worship Team Meets

### Wednesday, March 17th

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

### Thursday, March 18th

6:00 PM Bible Study

### Friday, March 19th

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

### 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



### The Sanctuary Candle

Week of March 14th—March 20th

St John + Raymond Remedies

St. Terence +Harry & Edwina Schexnayder

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday March 13th

- 4:00PM 1. +Mikey Mancil  
2. +Fr. Kenneth Williams  
3. +Wanda Rivers  
4. Betty Procell Skinner (SI)

### Sunday March 14th

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family  
2. +Christy Wriborg  
3. +Richard Dartez  
4. Harold & Norma Bergeron (SI)  
11:00AM 1. + Renita Kay Parent  
2. + Willie Remidez & Wilma Brown  
3. + Lee & Josephine Solice  
4. + Mikey Mancil  
5. +Taylor Ledoux  
6. +Timothy Rivers

### Tuesday March 16th

- 5:00PM 1. +Bobbie Ezernack

### Wednesday March 17th

- 8:00AM 1. +Wilma Brown

### Thursday March 18th

- 8:00AM 1. +Raymond Remedies

### Friday March 19th

- 8:00AM 1. +Fr Kenneth Williams

## Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)

March 6th-7th, 2021

St John	\$	6523.00
St Terence	\$	725.00

## CCD Schedule

There will be no CCD classes  
March 17th (school spring break)  
nor March 31st (Holy Week).

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

From now until Easter, Fr. Francis will be hearing confessions before and after the weekend Masses and by appointment.

## Parish Ministries and Organizations

### Volunteers Needed!

Our parish is enriched by several ministries and organizations. Some require occasional participation and others require regular service. Your involvement in one or more of these ministries and organizations will not only enrich your life, but it will also vitalize our church parish. Since the pandemic, participation in our organizations has diminished. We need you! Please prayerfully consider taking a more active part in your church parish.

### Ladies Altar Society

The Altar Society help maintain the sanctuary, linen, vestments, candles and other sacramentals. They also ensure the church is appropriately decorated for liturgical celebrations. The Altar Society meets the first Monday of each month, except for summer months. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Angelique Mitchell at 318-315-3300.

### St Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul's purpose is to provide direct aid to those who suffer, and to help individuals reduce and even eliminate the causes of their suffering. Please contact Rosie Sullivan if you are interested in joining: 318-332-8338.

### Eucharistic Ministers

This group of commissioned and trained ministers distributes Communion at Mass and brings the Holy Eucharist to the home-bound. If you are interested in this ministry, please leave your name at the church office.

### Altar Servers

Altar servers have the privilege of assisting the priest in the sanctuary during the Mass and other liturgical functions. Anyone interested in becoming an altar server, who has made his/her First Holy Communion, may contact Marion Koss at 318-469-4215.

### Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization for Catholic men. Our Council assists our local Parish in providing financial assistance and labor resources for various activities. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jerry Mitchell, Grand Knight, at 318-315-3300.

*Please consider helping with one or more of these ministries.*

## Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are held each Friday of Lent at 6PM at St John.

### Stations of the Cross Servers

Friday, March 19th Lector: Brandy Soileau  
Servers: Avaree & Addi Procell and Braxton Koss  
Friday, March 26th Lector: Angelique Mitchell  
Servers: Kylie & Kyndl Laroux and Teegan Rodrigues

## Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

Currently, 3% of the families of St John the Baptist have pledged \$1225 and 6% of St Terence have pledged \$600 to support this year's Diocesan Stewardship Appeal goal. Please support the programs and ministries of this appeal. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider doing so. Materials are located in the back of the church or you may make your gift online. Thank you for your generosity.

## 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.

## Saint John the Baptist Celebrates 150th Anniversary

This year, Saint John the Baptist joyfully celebrates its 150th Anniversary. We are beginning to plan our celebration which will be held in June. If you are interested in serving on the anniversary planning committee, please leave your name at the church office. Please prayerfully consider helping us as we celebrate this milestone in our church's history.

## Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet on Sunday, March 14th for the field trip to the Outdoor Stations of the Cross, Sunday, March 21 for the Seder Meal and Sunday, March 28 for Adoration.

## Society of St Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending His Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works and reaching out to others. Through your almsgiving, you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Thank you for contributing.