

Dear Padre,

At my church, some people take the votive candles out of the holders and place them next to the statues and icons. Does this make God or the saint pay more attention to the petition? And isn't doing that a fire hazard?

Vigil lights, commonly known as votive candles, are usually lit when a person seeks some favor from the Lord or a saint's intercession. Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer and showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered.

In the lighting of candles we remember and truly live the words of our Lord,

"I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). We burn candles to symbolize the rising of our prayers to heaven day and night. Prayers for the saints' intercession are also common because of their friendship with God in heaven. Saints are powerful intercessors.

God hears all prayers uttered in sincerity. Burning a candle as we pray doesn't make that prayer more important than prayers offered without a candle; neither does moving the candle to the front of the line.

If your church has made sure that the placing of the votive candles complies

with local fire regulations, you have no worries about setting a fire with vigil lights.

Fr. Paul Borowski, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



CNS PHOTO/YARA NARDI, REUTERS



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people—often forgotten people—who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines...doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves.

EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT OF PRAYER, MARCH 27, 2020

Calendar

Monday
 JULY 12
 Weekday
 Ex 1:8–14, 22
 Mt 10:34–11:1

Tuesday
 JULY 13
 Weekday
 Ex 2:1–15a
 Mt 11:20–24

Wednesday
 JULY 14
 St. Kateri Tekakwitha,
 Virgin
 Ex 3:1–6, 9–12
 Mt 11:25–27

Thursday
 JULY 15
 St. Bonaventure,
 Bishop and Doctor of
 the Church
 Ex 3:13–20
 Mt 11:28–30

Friday
 JULY 16
 Weekday
 Ex 11:10–12:14
 Mt 12:1–8

Saturday
 JULY 17
 Weekday
 Ex 12:37–42
 Mt 12:14–21

Sunday
 JULY 18
 Sixteenth Sunday in
 Ordinary Time
 Jer 23:1–6
 Eph 2:13–18
 Mk 6:30–34

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective
 Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 11, 2021

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Am 7:12–15

Eph 1:3–14 or 1:3–10

Mk 6:7–13



So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.
 MARK 6:12–13

SHUTTERSTOCK

You Can Do It

Today's readings are about unpretentious people who accomplished remarkable deeds. Amos, a shepherd from the southern kingdom of Judah who also cultivated sycamore figs, challenged the people at a northern shrine in Israel. He did not come from an illustrious family, nor was he particularly important. Yet he is the one called by God to summon the northern Israelites to repentance.

The disciples of Jesus pursued family businesses like fishing or were employed by the Romans like Matthew. They didn't come from socially prominent families, nor were they known as community leaders. But look at what they did: they cast out demons and cured the sick. Where did these people get their training? More importantly, where did they obtain their power? We find the answer to such questions in the second reading: "In him we were also chosen" (Ephesians 1:11).

The Ephesians letter assures us that God "has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens" (1:3). We don't have to worry about performing miracles; all we have to do is open ourselves to the graciousness of God. God will do the rest. Through us, God will cast out the demons of prejudice and bias that plague our world, of selfishness and spitefulness so prominent in our political rivalries, of greed and dishonesty in many of our social interactions. Through us, God will heal our country, our world, and our Church of hatred, violence, and oppression. With Amos and the Twelve we too hear: "You can do it."

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ In what ways do you make the world better?
- ★ Do you realize that you have the power of God to transform the world?



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, Bessie Mowad, Vicki Martin, Eddie Richard, Norma Bergeron, Clifford Shuff, Roy & Pam Beasley, Ezra Thibodeaux, Bill & Mary Hurd, Joanna Presseau, Lisa Brown, Bobby Bowen, Piper Rae Pate, Cameron Johnson, Jake & Mary Ann Rivers, Alan Nichols, James Edwards, Addie Procell, Trisha Adams, Sue Ferguson, John Wayne Behan, Timbo Sepulvado, Don Speaks, Marti Vienne, Gary Mitchell, Justin Lincecum, Betty P Skinner, Mary Jane Olsen, Caitlin Pine, Clairiste Byles, Sr., Tia Airhart Fontenot, Marty Starks, Trent Chaney, Ginger Magedan, Cyndle Eyre, Doug Wages, Margaret Zammit, Debbie Britt, Hannah Salley, Lucille Wagenspack, Seth Freeman, Billie Cass, Millie Craig, Celeste Peacock, Patrick Calais, Tim Richardson, Fr. Juan Garcia, Dr. Jo Beth Miller, Evelyn Bouillion, Jim Wyatt, Janice Ezernack, Shirley Funderburk, Rodney DeRouen, Joni Bynog, Bobby Slaydon, Kathy Ann Crysel, Mickey Cedars, Gina Sattler, Joe Hayes, Louise Moore, Dell Remedies, Alberto Gonzales, William Sepulvado, Jr., Kyle Foster, Brad Cook & Ira Joe Key

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns night and day near the tabernacle to honor the presence of Christ. You may arrange to have the Sanctuary Candle at St. John's or Saint 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.

This Week in our Parish

Weekend Masses at St John:

Sat, 4:00 PM Vigil Mass

Sun, 11:00 AM

Weekend Mass at St Terence

Sun, 8:00 AM

Weekday Masses at St. John:

Tues, 5:00 PM

Wed—Fri, 8:00 AM

Sunday July 11th

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

5:30 PM Youth Group Meets

Mon—Fri

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Vacation Bible School

Monday July 12th

8:30 AM VBS Registration

6:00 PM Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meets

Tuesday June 13th

6:30 PM KC's Meet

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 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday July 10th

- 4:00PM 1. + Lawrence Gill
2. + Chris & Eunice Ebarb
3. + Deacon Mike Sullivan
4. + Eleanor Gill
5. + Rufus Leone

Sunday July 11th

- 8:00AM 1. The Parish Family
2. Christy Wriberg (SI)
3. Kyle Foster (SI)
4. Brad Cook (SI)
11:00AM 1. + Renita K Parent
2. + Wesley Eaves
3. + Peter, Maria Hoa & Maria Loan Nguyen
4. + Fr Ken Williams
5. + Deacon Mike Sullivan
6. + Mr. & Mrs. K.C. Sepulvado
7. + Jimmie Small

Tuesday July 13th

- 5:00PM 1. + Deacon Mike & Becky Sullivan
2. Ira Joe Key (SI)

Wednesday July 14th

- 8:00AM 1. + Fr. Ken Williams
2. Alberto Gonzalez (SI)

Thursday July 15th

- 8:00AM 1. + Deacon Mike Sullivan

Friday July 16th

- 8:00AM 1. + Fr. Ken Williams
2. Ira Joe Key (SI)

Pastoral Council

Clauriste Byles, Angelique Mitchell, Chrislee Moran, James Murphy, Jean Rains, Maggie Bautista, Leonilda Gonzalez & Shirley Rivers

Finance Council

Earl Anderson, Ron Busby, Dale Porche, Matthew Couvillion, Rufus Shuff & Brandy Soileau

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)

July 3rd—4th, 2021

St John	\$	5178.00
St Terence	\$	3447.00

Special Thanks

Special thanks to everyone who supported our bake sale last weekend, either by donating baked goods or purchasing. Your generosity helped us raise \$1252.00 to help defray expenses for our anniversary celebration. We appreciate everyone's support!

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, we see how Jesus sent his Apostles out two by two. Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? The next SVdP meeting will be held this **Monday, July 12th at 6PM**. We warmly welcome new members. Please join us.

T-Shirts - Second Chance

If you missed our anniversary t-shirts the first time around, you now have a second chance to get one! Shirts may be purchased online with a credit card through July 17. Visit our website at www.stjohnmany.org/anniversary for the link.

CCD Teachers Needed!

We are in need of teachers, volunteers and helpers for our 2021-22 CCD program. If you are willing to help, please contact Jean Rains. We ask that you prayerfully consider serving in this ministry.

Society of St Vincent de Paul Meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held this **Monday, July 12th at 6PM**. New members are invited to attend.

KC Meeting: Tuesday, July 13th

The Knights of Columbus will meet this Tuesday at 6:30PM.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or in just learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact the church office or Mrs. Yvonne Busby for inquiries about R.C.I.A. Class will begin in the fall. The start date will be announced soon.

Vacation Bible School is Here!



Vacation Bible School will be held this week, **Monday through Friday, July 12th—16th, from 9AM until 12 noon**. Registration begins Monday morning at **8:30AM**.

Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs.

If you are able to volunteer to help, please contact Jean Rains (332-5751).

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Father Patrick Scully**. "Eternal Rest grant unto him O' Lord and Let the Perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in Peace." Amen.

Second Collection

Next week, our parish will take up a collection to support the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. The Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension.

Special Mass

On **August 13th**, the 400th anniversary of the death of St. John Berchmans, there will be a special Mass at 5:30PM at the Cathedral in Shreveport. Saint John Berchmans is also the patron saint of students and altar servers, therefore, all altar servers throughout the Diocese are invited to attend this Mass. This will also be a Mass praying for vocations since St. John Berchmans died at the age of 22, studying for the priesthood. Those in our Diocese considering the call to the priesthood are also invited to attend. Please save the date. Everyone is invited.

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, July 17th, 4PM (Saint John)	Masen Starks	TBD	Dale Porche	TBD
Sunday, July 18th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Jan Collins	Frank Little		TBD
Sunday, July 18th, 11AM (Saint John)	Emma McElwee Kaley Koss	TBD	Teagan Rodrigues Brandy Soileau	TBD