

Dear Padre,

Why do Catholics believe in Mary's assumption into heaven?

Mary's assumption to heaven is a belief shared by Eastern Christians and Roman Catholics, although the explanations of this dogma have different emphases in the two traditions. While there is no biblical or historical record of this event, the first explanation of this doctrine is found in a document from the late 300s.

Mary's assumption was considered a pious opinion until 1950, when Pius XII defined it as dogma (an official Church teaching). The Pope made the declaration after bishops and he found overwhelming consensus throughout the Church.

The definition of Mary's assumption—body and soul—to heaven reaffirmed that God had not only created humans, but also redeemed and claimed them. Mary's assumption reminded the world of the goodness of God's creation and that Christ redeems us from the evil around us (and in us) and made us a new creation.

Perhaps the best explanation can be found in St. John Paul II's 2004 homily at Lourdes. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be," he said, quoting John 14:3. He explained that Mary's assumption is the pledge that Christ's promise will be fulfilled. The Pope's words echo the teaching of bishops at the Second Vatican Council, which described this dogma as "a sign of sure hope and solace" (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church [*Lumen Gentium*], 68).

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THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY, PAVIA CATHEDRAL
ADAM JAN FIGEL / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Mary is assumed into heaven: small and humble, she is the first to receive the highest glory. She, a human creature, one of us, attains eternity in soul and body. And there she awaits us as a mother waits for her children to come home. Indeed, the people of God invoke her as the Gate of Heaven.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION, AUGUST 15, 2019



Calendar

Monday AUGUST 16 Weekday Jgs 2:11–19 Mt 19:16–22
Tuesday AUGUST 17 Weekday Jgs 6:11–24a Mt 19:23–30
Wednesday AUGUST 18 Weekday Jgs 9:6–15 Mt 20:1–16
Thursday AUGUST 19 Weekday Jgs 11:29–39a Mt 22:1–14
Friday AUGUST 20 <i>St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i> Ru 1:1, 3–6, 14b–16, 22 Mt 22:34–40
Saturday AUGUST 21 <i>St. Pius X, Pope</i> Ru 2:1–3, 8–11; 4:13–17 Mt 23:1–12
Sunday AUGUST 22 <i>Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Jos 24:1–2a, 15–17, 18b Eph 5:21–32 or Eph 5:2a, 25–32 Jn 6:60–69

**Do you have
a question
for the Padre?**

Go to DearPadre.org
to send your question
and to learn more
about *Dear Padre*.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 15, 2021

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (B)

Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab

1 Cor 15:20–27

Lk 1:39–56

And Mary said...
"The Mighty One has done great
things for me,
and holy is his name."
LUKE 1:46, 49



"All Generations Will Call Me Blessed"

Today's readings help us see why Mary should be called blessed. The first reading depicts a woman as gloriously "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet" (Revelation 12:1). This image is captured in well-known Marian statues. However, this woman is wailing "aloud in pain as she labored to give birth" (12:2). In fact, here and in the Gospel, women are depicted as pregnant.

When a woman is in labor, she is both at her most vulnerable and her strongest. When giving birth she faces the real possibility of death. Yet, she places herself in such jeopardy to bring another to life. Her steely inner resolve is matched with remarkable physical strength when she is called upon to "Push!" The labor pains that precede birth became a striking metaphor, in both ancient Israel and the early Church, for the struggle experienced in bringing forth the reign of God (see Isaiah 21:3, Matthew 24:8, Mark 13:8, and Romans 8:22). Such suffering came to be known as "the birth pangs of the Messiah."

Certainly, Mary is blessed because of her physical birthing of the Messiah. However, the Magnificat, her revolutionary prayer in the Gospel, describes the birthing of the reign of God when the powerful are brought down and the lowly uplifted, the hungry filled and the rich "sent away empty" (Luke 1:53). This is not a feast of a plastic statue but of a woman willing to give her life for the reign of God. She certainly deserves to be "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet."

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Where does the Magnificat throw light on issues in our own society?
- ★ Pray for the courage you need to be faithful to your calling in life.



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

1130 East San Antonio Ave

Many, LA 71449

Phone: 318-256-5680

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Office Hours: 8AM—4PM (M-F)

Website: www.stjohnmany.org

Email: office@stjohnmany.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Francis Kamau, FMH
Parish Secretary: Sheila Royal
Office Assistant: Shirley Rivers
DRE: Jean Rains
Groundskeeper: Michael Beasley
Housekeeper: Pam Little

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, 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., Marty Starks, Trent Chaney, Ginger Mogedan, Cyndle Eyre, Doug Wages, Margaret Zammit, Debbie Britt, Hannah Salley, Lucille Wagenspack, Seth Freeman, Billie Cass, Millie Craig, Celeste Peacock, 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, Kyle Foster, Brad Cook, Ira Joe Key, Larry Thompson, David Meche, Kathy Logan Adcock, Terri Tedder, Blanche Neal, Susan Giblin, Kate West, Mark Troclair, Waylon Malmay, George Polk, Landon Sepulvado, Glen Westfall & Richard Ebarb

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

Saturday August 14th

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday August 15th

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

12:00 PM Covered Dish Parish Lunch

5:30 PM Youth Group Meets

Monday August 16th

6:00 PM Anniversary Planning Committee Meets

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



The Sanctuary Candle Week of August 15th - 21st, 2021

St. John + William Sepulvado, Jr.
St. Terence + Corine LeClercq

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)

August 7th—August 8th, 2021

St John	\$	4123.56
St Terence	\$	1749.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 14th

- 4:00PM
- + Margie Remedies
 - + Abram, Ethel, Clark, Dickie & Kenneth Remedies
 - Justin Lincecum (SI)
 - Waylon Malmay (SI)
 - + Rufus Leone

Sunday August 15th

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
 - + Christy Wriberg
 - + Jeffrey & JoJo Bergeron
 - + Dr Sien Oey
- 11:00AM
- + Becky Sullivan
 - + Steven Rodrigues
 - + Deacon Mike Sullivan
 - + Renita K. Parent
 - + William Sepulvado, Jr.
 - Waylon Malmay (SI)

Tuesday August 17th

- 5:00PM
- + Deacon Mike Sullivan

Wednesday August 18th

- 8:00AM
- + Father Ken Williams

Thursday August 19th

- 8:00AM
- + Deacon Mike Sullivan

Friday August 20th

- 8:00AM
- + Father Ken Williams

Second Collection

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry. Your generosity is appreciated.

Spanish Mass

On Sunday, August 29th and Sunday, October 31st at 5PM, Father Rigoberto Betancurt will celebrate our Spanish Mass and will be available for confessions.

Note: Please call the church office to request the Sanctuary Lamp or Mass Intention in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

Anniversary Committee Meeting

There will be an important meeting of the Saint John Anniversary Planning Committee this **Monday, August 16th at 6PM**. We ask anyone who is able to help with our Fishing Tournament Fund-raiser to please attend.

Altar Flowers

The flowers for the altar at Saint John the Baptist this weekend were donated in loving memory of **Dr. Sien Oey**.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Mr. William Sepulvado, Jr.**, husband of Brenda Sepulvado. *Eternal Rest grant unto him O' Lord and Let the Perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in Peace.* Amen.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Pope Benedict XVI has said *"In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host."*

Adoration at St. John's will begin **September 8th. Just One Hour Can Change Our World!** A sign-up sheet is in the back of the Church. Please consider giving an hour each week to Our Lord in Adoration. We need at least two individuals for each time slot. If you prefer to be an alternate, please sign and give your phone number and hours available.

If you have questions, contact Mary Beth Tarver at 318. 332.9901 or the church office.

Anniversary T-Shirts for Sale

They're almost gone but we still have a few 150th Anniversary t-shirts for sale in the office on a first-come, first-serve basis. The cost of these high-quality shirts is \$20.00 each. Don't miss out on this opportunity to own this beautiful keepsake of our 150th Anniversary celebration!

Covered Dish Social

Everyone is invited to join us after the IIAM Mass this weekend for a covered dish social to celebrate Father Francis's 21st Anniversary of Ordination.

Thank You for your Contributions

Father Francis would like to thank each individual or family who donated towards our 150th Anniversary expenses. As of this date, we have received **\$8506.72** in contributions, while expenditures have totaled **\$9195.51**.

Other activities planned for the remainder of the year include our Fishing Tournament Fundraiser on **September 4th**, St. John's Catholic School Reunion on **October 9**, and an outdoor cemetery Mass with former returning pastors on **November 2nd**. We ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers.

CCD Program Registration

Special thanks to those who have volunteered to help with our 2021-22 CCD program which is being moved to Sunday mornings at 9AM. **CCD registration will be held Sunday, August 22nd and 29th, after the IIAM Mass. The first CCD class will be held on Sunday, September 12th at 9AM.** If you cannot register your child at the designated time, please contact Jean Rains.

If you were unable to help as a volunteer, we can still use assistance in other ways. Since we will be providing breakfast for the children each Sunday, we welcome anyone who would like to make a monetary donation, provide or prepare breakfast, etc. We also ask for your prayers for our teachers and children as we embark on this new year.

Bible Study Class Begins September 2nd

Our next Bible Study program, "The Great Adventure" begins on **Thursday, September 2nd at 6PM**. In this study program, well-known Catholic speaker Jeff Cavins untangles the complex Biblical narrative and provides a chronological guide linking together the historical characters and stories contained in God's Word. This is an amazing program!

Interested persons may sign up at the office or contact Clairiste Byles with any questions.

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, August 21st, 4PM (Saint John)	Edie Gowen & Rosie Sullivan	TBD	Paul McCormic	TBD
Sunday, August 22nd, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Jan Collins	Linda Collins		TBD
Sunday, August 22nd, 11AM (Saint John)	Mary Murphy	TBD	Brandy Soileau Braxton Koss	TBD

**Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church 150th Anniversary
2021 TEAM BASS TOURNAMENT**

**Labor Day Weekend: Saturday, September 4th
6:30AM to 3:00PM**

Toledo Bend Lake: Big Bass Marina

Divisions: Team, Kayak, Big Bass and Youth (12 years old and under)

Tournament Fishing Hours are 6:30AM to 3:00PM.. Tournament scales will open at 2PM.

Early Boat Registration: Friday: 4PM – 8PM

Saturday: 4AM – 6:30AM

ENTRY FEE: Team, \$80; Kayak Division, \$50; Big Bass, \$10; No refunds

- ~Fishing from the bank is permitted
- ~No trailering; optional weather conditions
- ~3 fish Creel limit
- ~ Saturday Morning live well check required
- ~Plate lunches and other foods will be available for purchase
- ~Payouts will be based on the number of boats competing
- ~¼ lb deduction for dead fish
- ~No dead fish for Big Bass
- ~Only 2 persons per team
- ~Weigh-in at Big Bass Marina at 3PM Saturday with token

Entry forms are located on the church's website (www.stjohnmany.org) or can be requested from the church office by phone, in person or by email (office@stjohnmany.org). Bring completed entry form with payment or mail to:

*Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church
1130 San Antonio Avenue
Many, LA 71449*

Fishing Rod Raffle

Tickets are on sale now for your chance to win a custom fishing rod! The prize is a custom 7' Heavy Action MHX Rod, valued at \$298. The rod was donated by *Rick's Custom Rods* as part of St. John's 150th Anniversary Fundraiser. The cost of tickets is one ticket for \$3 or 2 for \$5, and may be purchased at the church office and after all Masses. The drawing will be held on **September 4**.

Door Prizes

If you would like to donate a door prize or help solicit door prizes for our Fishing Tournament fundraiser, please contact Frank Little or the church office. All help is appreciated.

Children 12 and Under Fish Free!

We invite all children 12 and under to fish in our tournament at no charge! A nice plaque will be awarded for first place. There will be plenty of good food and fun! Bring a friend!

Sponsorships / Donations Needed

We are in need of sponsors for our Fishing Tournament Fundraiser. Individuals, families and businesses are encouraged to become a sponsor for this very important fundraiser for our church parish.

If you, your family or business would like to help sponsor our Fishing Tournament Fundraiser, we are grateful. Please network and help us by contacting business acquaintances and others who might be willing to help. There is no minimum amount to sponsor.

Items Needed

Please consider donating one of more of the following items to help with the Fishing Tournament Fundraiser: Cans of baked beans, canned soft drinks and bottled water, desserts (cookies, brownies, etc.) charcoal, lighter fluid, carry out plates, napkins, sliced bread, frozen hamburger patties, weiners, hot dog and hamburger buns, and individual bags of chips.

Fishing Tournament Fundraiser Saturday, September 4th

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church will host its first-ever fishing tournament fundraiser on **Saturday, September 4th (Labor Day weekend)**. Along with the tournament, there will be a BBQ dinner sale and a Split the Pot and custom fishing rod raffle.

We ask for everyone's prayers and support that this will be a successful fundraiser for our church parish. Our church and school buildings are in need of repairs and our contributions have suffered because of the pandemic. This will be our biggest fundraiser of the year and we pray for its success.

Fishing Tournament T-Shirts

The last week of August, we will be selling our Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Fishing Tournament t-shirts. See future bulletins for more details on how you can get this keepsake.

Barbecue Chicken Dinners

We will be selling barbecue lunches on **Saturday, September 4th**, Labor Day weekend, as part of our Fishing Tournament Fundraiser. Lunches will consist of 1/2 barbecue chicken, potato salad, baked beans, dessert and bread for \$10. The dinners will be available for pickup at St John, St Terence or Big Bass Marina, beginning at 10AM on **September 4th**.

Tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses during the month of August. Your support is ap-

Split the Pot Raffle

Be sure and purchase your Split the Pot raffle ticket for a \$1.00 donation located at the table outside of church after all weekend Masses. You may also come by the church office during office hours to purchase your ticket.

Please Volunteer: We Need your Help!

We are in need of volunteers! As many of you know, because of the pandemic and the availability of workers, we will not be having a Pumpkin Patch this year. The needs of our parish continue, including our financial obligations, anniversary expenses and repairs to our aging church and facilities. It is for this reason that Saint John the Baptist and Saint Terence are sponsoring a fishing tournament fundraiser on **Saturday, September 4th**. **To make this event successful, we need everyone's help.**

If you are able to volunteer in any of the following capacities, please sign up on the sheet located in the back of the church or at the table selling raffle tickets outside of church after all weekend Masses:

Workers Needed:

- 1) **Toledo Town—Friday September 3rd; 12PM— 4PM and 4PM—8PM; :** Volunteers will set up table and solicit tournament entries and sell raffle tickets.
- 2) **Big Bass Marina, Saturday, September 4th:**
 - 4:30AM—6:30AM:** Volunteers needed to help with registration and other tasks;
 - 9:30AM—12 Noon:** Volunteers needed to help with whatever needs to be done including helping sell burgers, hot dogs, etc.
 - 12:30PM—5:00PM:** Volunteers needed for weigh-in, clean-up and other tasks
- 3) **Ongoing:** Volunteers needed to solicit sponsors and ask for donations (ongoing from now until September 4th). Sponsors may donate any amount and names will be announced during the day of the tournament and at the weigh-in.
- 4) **Ongoing:** Volunteers to help sell barbecue dinner tickets, raffle tickets, split the pot tickets and solicit door prizes; (ongoing from now until September 4th).
- 5) **Bar B Que Lunches: Saturday September 4th, 9:30AM until noon.** Volunteers need to help assemble plates at St. Terence Hall;
- 6) **Delivering Bar B Que dinners: Saturday September 4th,(10:00 until; St. John's, St. Terence, & Big Bass;**
- 7) **Clean-up St Terence Hall, Saturday September 4th, Noon— until**