

Dear Padre,

In Bible times why did people sacrifice animals, children, and other living beings for their own sins?

The practice of human and animal sacrifice is at least as old as written history, including in our own Scripture. Few stories are more chilling than when God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son, or when Jephthah sacrifices his daughter (Genesis 22; Judges 11). In scriptural theology, one's sins merited punishment and even death, but an animal or other person could be chosen to take one's place. God, in his mercy, instituted this animal sacrificial system as a symbol, foreshadowing Jesus' sacrifice for our sins (Genesis 8:20; Hebrews 10:1-18). In the New Testament, Jesus understood his mission as sacrificing his own life as a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was at the cost of death. However, to say that Jesus' death was payment for



our sins is not to say that a vengeful God was appeased by the sacrifice of his own innocent Son. Rather, Christ was willing to liberate us when he "bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that... by his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

Thus, "it is love 'to the end (John 13:1)' that confers on

Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice that "completes and surpasses all other sacrifices" (CCC 614).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

The Catechism firmly states that human power has limits and that "it is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly." All such use and experimentation "requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation."

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME (LAUDATO SI'), MAY 24, 2015

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 20
Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

Ezr 1:1-6
Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 21
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13
Mt 9:9-13

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 22
Weekday
Ezr 9:5-9
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 23
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Hg 1:1-8
Lk 9:7-9

Friday

SEPTEMBER 24
Weekday
Hg 2:1-9
Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 25
Weekday
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 26
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nm 11:25-29
Jas 5:1-6
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 19, 2021

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Wis 2:12, 17-20

Jas 3:16-4:3

Mk 9:30-37

The Price of Goodness

We all know genuinely good people. Somehow they are able to live the virtues of their religious tradition. It might even appear that it is easy for them to do so. One would think that such good people would be valued. Well, yes and no. While we might truly value the goodness of others, that goodness can also shame us. And there is the rub. People are uncomfortable with the realization that they are not as good as they think—or not as good as others might view them. Today's readings underscore the price we might have to pay for such goodness.

The first reading describes a plot being devised to get rid of a righteous person whose goodness has become "annoying" (Wisdom 2:12). This is not someone who flaunts goodness; it is a genuinely good person, one who is referred to as "the righteous one" (2:18). (Here "son of God" simply means someone belonging to the people of God.) The plotters insist

that God will come to the rescue if the righteous one is truly good. The petitions in the psalm response are placed on the lips of that righteous one. Like many good Bible stories, this story is open-ended. We do not know what happens. The price paid for righteousness is found in the Gospel passage as well. Here the righteous one is Jesus. Though we know how his story ends, here the disciples did not.

Today we are faced with the starkness of these stories. Are we willing to pay the price of goodness?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Where in your life do your religious values conflict with social norms?
- ★ Do you ever resent the goodness of others? If so, what might you do about it?

[Jesus said,] "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

MARK 9:35





Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

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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, Clauriste Byles, Sr., Marty Starks, Trent Chaney, Ginger Mogedan, Cyndle Eyre, Doug Wages, 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, Waylon Malmay, George Polk, Landon Sepulvado, Glen Westfall, Richard Ebarb, Johnny King, Shinette Thompson-Palmer, Rayne Skelton, Todd Matthew, Mike Welch, Karen Daniels & Alasha Sepulvado

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.

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:

Canceled this week

Saturday September 18th

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday September 19th

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

5:30 PM Youth Group Meets

Wednesday September 22nd

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

5:30 PM RCIA

Thursday September 23rd

6:00 PM Bible Study

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 September 18th

- 4:00PM
- + Lawrence Gill
 - + Deacon Mike Sullivan
 - + Terry Rivers
 - Waylon Malmay (SI)

Sunday September 19th

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
 - + Christy Wriborg
 - + Jeffrey & JoJo Bergeron
 - + Dr Sien Oey
 - + Bradley Domingue
 - + Burnell, Mark & Drendra Domingue
- 11:00AM
- + Nathan Carson
 - Justin Lincecum (SI)
 - + Wanda & Benny Rivers
 - + Dr Sien Oey
 - + William Sepulvado, Jr.

Mass Notes

There will be no daily Mass this week. Mass will resume on Saturday at 4PM.

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)

September 11th-12th, 2021

St John	\$	5010.50
St Terence	\$	1556.00



The Sanctuary Candle

Week of Sept. 19th—Sept 25, 2021

- St. John + Nathan Carson
 St Terence + Burnell Domingue
 + Mark Domingue
 + Drendra Domingue

Note: Please call the church office to request the Sanctuary Lamp or Mass Intention in memory of or in honor of a loved one. If you would like to have flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one, contact the parish office.

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.

Saint John School Reunion Planned

There will be a reunion of former students of Saint John the Baptist Catholic School on **Saturday, October 9th at 10AM** in the Saint John Cafeteria. Please join us for brunch and fellowship as we share memories and visit with old friends. We will have our artifact exhibit and old photographs on display. We will also be showing the newly produced video of our church. Please help us by spreading the word so that we are able to contact as many persons as possible. Hope to see you there!

Society of St Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus says "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." The cross of Jesus and the crosses of his members can evangelize us: the sick, who bear illness with courage; the grieving, who hope against hope; the dying, who clearly trust in the resurrection; the suffering of our poor brothers and sisters who are hungry and homeless, but who still trust in God's love. Thank you for your donations to our Society of St Vincent de Paul so that we may help those in need.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Our RCIA class has begun for those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith or have a desire to join the Catholic Church. The class meets each **Wednesday evening at 5:30PM**. It's not too late to join! If you or someone you know is interested, contact Yvonne Busby, RCIA Director at 318-256-2645

Welcome Back, Father Phil Michiels

Father Francis is away for a few days, therefore, we welcome back Father Phil Michiels as our celebrant for this weekend and next weekend's Masses. Father Phil is a retired priest of the Diocese of Shreveport and resides in Alexandria. We are always happy when he is able to visit our church parish. Please make him feel at home.

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.

CCD Classes Have Begun

Our Parish School of Religion classes are held each **Sunday, from 9:00 - 10:45AM**. A light breakfast is provided. Breakfast for the children this week are compliments of **Junie Dahlem** and **Mary W. Rivers**. We appreciate their generosity. If you are interested in providing breakfast on a Sunday of your choice or if you wish to register your child for CCD, please contact Jean Rains.

Catechetical Sunday: September 19th

The Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday on this weekend. We recognize and celebrate the gift that catechists give to their parish communities by volunteering their time for the education of our children. This is an opportunity to celebrate those who do the important work of passing on the faith, and an opportunity for all of us Catholics to consider ways we are witnesses for Jesus Christ ourselves. **Who are Catechists?** All those who teach the Catholic faith and share the Church's teachings are catechists. All those who teach in the Church's name and about Jesus by the way they live are catechists. Parents and guardians are also catechists; they are the first and primary teachers of the faith for their children. We are very appreciative of and thankful for these individuals and we ask that you continue to pray for our students and CCD teachers and volunteers.

Date	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers	Ushers
Saturday Vigil, September 25th, 4PM (Saint John)	Edie Gowen Rosie Sullivan	TBD	Masen Starks	TBD
Sunday, September 26th, 8AM (Saint Terence)	Jan Collins	Carrie DeRouen		TBD
Sunday, September 26th, 11AM (Saint John)	Mary Murphy	TBD	Marion Koss Jacob Ryan	TBD