

The answer to the following question comes from the answer in "The Catholicism Answer Book." A book of the 300 most frequently asked questions by Rev. Father John Trigilio, Jr., PH.D., TH.D. and Rev. Father Kenneth Brighenti, PH.D. Authors of the best-selling book, "Catholicism for Dummies."

**Question 53 – What about the rapture?**

**Answer** -- Since the popularity of the *Left Behind* books and movies, many Catholics ask why they were never taught about the word "rapture." Truth be told, the word is not in the Bible. It is interesting that those Christians who staunchly maintain that the Scripture alone (*sola scriptura*) is the only authority would use a term and idea that comes from outside the Bible.

"Rapture" actually comes from the Latin translation of the Bible completed by Saint Jerome in 400 AD at the direction of Pope Damasus I. This was the first one-volume, one-language edition of the Bible. Both Old and New Testaments were translated from their original Hebrew and Greek into the common (vulgar) tongue of that time and place (which, thanks to the Roman Empire, was Latin).

The Greek word *harpagesometha* is used in Saint Paul's epistle, 1 Thessalonians 4:17, which Saint Jerome translated into Latin as *rapiemur* in the text of the Vulgate Latin Bible. Both words mean "we will be seized" or "we will be caught up" or "we will be snatched up."

The King James Version of this passage reads: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord." No English Bible uses the word "rapture," and it was not taught as Christian doctrine by the Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, or even Protestant Reformed churches. The notion comes from the nineteenth-century Evangelicals, so even the reformers like Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Hus, and Cramner (three hundred years beforehand) never used the word or taught the doctrine of the rapture. Most Christians had merely believed that when the end of the world occurred, there would obviously be some living human beings still around; those who were good would be "taken up" while the evil ones would be left behind, yet there was no specific doctrine of "rapture." The "taking up" was considered incidental, like the other phenomena predicted in the book of Revelation (Apocalypse) such as the four horsemen and the seven seals. Only in recent times have Christians of various denominations put emphasis on particular apocalyptic events, like the "rapture." Medieval and Reformation era Christians did not focus as much attention on these peripheral details since none of them directly affect a person's ultimate destiny of heaven or hell.

**Question 56 – What about reincarnation?**

**Answer** – Reincarnation, or metempsychosis, is the transmigration of souls. It is a pagan concept, alien to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Basically, it contends that after death a human soul can return to earth in another human body or if the person was evil into the body of an animal. The notion of "previous lives" is a variation of this belief that souls are somehow recycled after death.

Christians – Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant—strongly repudiate this idea. Genesis tells us that God created Adam and Eve with a body and soul, and both were good. Jesus Christ took on human nature which meant in addition to his divine nature, he also had a human body and soul, both uniquely his own. He suffered and died for each and every one of us, body and soul.

If an evil life can be atoned merely by coming back in another form or by using another body, then there is no need for redemption or salvation. Christianity says otherwise. One person, one body, and one soul. The doctrine of the resurrection of the dead clearly conflicts with reincarnation. If multiple bodies could be used by one soul, which resurrected body gets the soul at the end of the world? Despite the hallucinations of some Hollywood celebrities, mainline Christians, Muslims, and Jews place no credence in reincarnation.



# St. John the Baptist Parish

P.O. Box 417/12450, Highway 188, Grand Bay  
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Website: [stjohngrandbay.org](http://stjohngrandbay.org)

## July 24, 2021: 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

**REVEREND Selvam Arputharaj**  
Pastor – 251-278-4900  
[amsleeli191@gmail.com](mailto:amsleeli191@gmail.com)  
Deacon Billy Graham, Secretary  
Judy Poiroux, Bookkeeper  
Tiffany Teofilo, CCD Director  
Youth Director  
Nick Calametti, Musician

**Parish Council**

Bill Schaffer      Jason Poiroux  
Jim Jackson      Autumn Bowden  
Jack Wright      Jay Graham

**Finance Council**

Paula Dyess      Paullette Cauley  
Carol Voss

**MASSES**

Weekdays: Tuesday      5:30 P.M.  
   Wednesday 8:00 A.M.  
   Thursday    8:00 A.M.  
   Friday      8:00 A.M.  
Vigil Mass Saturday      5:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY MASS              10:00 A.M.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Weekdays by Appointment  
Saturday              4:30 P.M.  
Sunday                9:30 A.M.

**BAPTISM:** By Appointment

**MATRIMONY:** Contact the Office 6 months before the celebration

**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:**

Anytime: Please call the Office

**ROSARY & ADORATION:** Every Wednesday at 7:30 am before Mass

**Funerals**

Call the office before making plans with the funeral director.

**Email:** [stjohngrandbay@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrandbay@gmail.com)



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Readings: 2 Kings 4:42–44; Psalm 145:10–11, 15–18; Ephesians 4:1–6; John 6:1–5

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

Today's Gospel inaugurates a five-week departure from the Gospel of Mark into the Gospel of John. The account of the feeding of the multitude is the introduction to what is known as the "Bread of Life" discourse, which we will hear during the coming month. We can get so carried away with the stupendous miracle recounted today that it's easy to overlook how artfully the evangelist John introduces the discourse. Like the people of Israel and Moses, Jesus passes through the waters and then ascends a mountain. The ascent of the mountain (as in Matthew's introduction to the discourse we know as the "Beatitudes") is particularly important. It is the trumpet blast announcing that something tremendous is about to happen; something central and crucial to the ministry of Jesus is about to be handed on. Unlike Moses on Sinai, the mountains that Jesus ascends to teach and work wonders are never named in the Gospels, for it was important to the early church not to sacralize places, but to keep their faith in Jesus alone. And so it is that the crowds come to him today looking for physical healing and for the nourishment of their spirits and bodies.



Betty Moseley, Emma Phillips, Lisa Vallas, Scott Beech, Emily Phillips, Robert Gunter, Jesus Malone, Leak Maria Church, Tom Thornton, Dee Irwin, Gary Smith, Liz Walker, Willie Thompson, Tracie Moose, Maddie Blake Rivers, Jimmy Summerlin, Becky Thompson, Betty Cauley, Clara Davis, Anita Wright, Doug Jones, Heather Cotton, Maribeth Thompson, Becky Latner, Laurie Rel, Leigh Taylor, Amy Lacy, Ava Smith, Chip Conklin, Isabel Rel, Pat Potter, Marie Murray, Toby Robison, Linda Graham, Larry Robertson, Margaret Hampton, Frank Pigorsch, Stephanie Ray, Jerry Wigfield, Mike Knowles, Steve Sevier, Sister Luella Dominic Petry O. P., Sister Stephanie Sema-SSMI, Joe Gable, Ann Gable, Ali Stringfellow Ray, Lisa Kloechnener, Valeria Wallace, Donnie Wilson, Patricia Davis, Joe Watts, Sean Guillotte, Michelle Cook, Reggie Stewart, Nonie Reed, Betty Gunter, Tiffany Fontenot, Jimmy Marchand, Frances Walley, Maurine Habley, Ray Thornton, Joe Whitson, Carolyn Collier, Vicenta Obsenares, Edgar Gunter, Victoria Porter, Jonathan Cruz, Gennie Garret, Bob Echement, Lilly Breaux, James Wink, Mike Wilson, Leyah White.

**Pray for the eternal repose of the souls of the most recently deceased members of the parish:** Ronnie Cauley, John Ramsay, Irene Stone, Bob Heurion

**Pray for the Special Intentions of those serving in the Armed Forces:** Brent Smith, Travis Wilson, SPC Jackson Triston, Jr., Captain Will Hurd, Bryant Bailey & Zachery Bailey.

**Known Birthdays for July 2021**

6 <sup>th</sup> : Kerry Ladnier	25 <sup>th</sup> : Harold Vaughn
9 <sup>th</sup> : Steve Cauley	25 <sup>th</sup> : Perry Lewis
9 <sup>th</sup> : Jonathan Oliver	25 <sup>th</sup> : Jennifer Schilling
10 <sup>th</sup> : Kassi Reynolds	26 <sup>th</sup> : Debra Johnson
16 <sup>th</sup> : Ann Jackson	27 <sup>th</sup> : Matthew Baker
17 <sup>th</sup> : Mary Kirchoff	28 <sup>th</sup> : Hayden Teofilo
18 <sup>th</sup> : Adolph Payne	29 <sup>th</sup> : Ty Teofilo
19 <sup>th</sup> : Greg Taylor	31 <sup>st</sup> : Erica Murray
25 <sup>th</sup> : Neal Fisher	31 <sup>st</sup> : Tony Consentino

**Known Anniversaries for July 2021**

12<sup>th</sup>: Glenda and Bobby Poiroux  
 18<sup>th</sup>: Anita and Jack Wright  
 25<sup>th</sup>: Shirley and Thomas Rasmussen  
 31<sup>st</sup>: Debbie and Perry Lewis

**Capital Campaign as of 4-30-2021:**

Total Contributions as of 4-30-2021: \$147,773.42 (69.5% Of Campaign Goal)  
 Parish Distributions on 4-30-2021: \$2,971.42 for a total Parish Distribution to date of \$27,105.08

**Mass Intentions:**

**Saturday & Sunday Mass Intentions**

Saturday 5:00 pm – For all the sick, infirmed, and homebound of the parish  
 Sunday 10:00 am – For all deceased parishioners

**Daily Mass intentions**

**Week of July 27 thru 30**

July 27, 28, 29 & 30 – for the eternal repose of the souls of Felipe Mundia, Marcelina Mundia & Benjamin Crisolo by Anita Mundia.

**Week of August 3 thru 6**

August 3 & 4 – For the eternal repose of the souls of Mrs. Azeline Taylor, Mrs. Bernice Moose, Mr. H. Moose, & Chris Potter by Patricia Potter.

August 5 – For the eternal repose of the souls of Jr. & Ether Graham, Jimmy & Bea Lepre, Hannah Cauley and deceased relatives/ friends of Linda & Deacon Graham

August 6 – For the eternal repose of the soul of Steve Sema, Sr., and deceased relatives/friends of Doris Sema.

**Week of August 10 thru 13**

August 10, 11, 12 & 13 -- For the eternal repose of the souls of Vicenta Obsenares, Inovino Obsenares, Emily Piangco, Ignacio Obsenares, Maurine Hadley & Nip Hadley by Elsa & John McBride.

**Week of August 17 thru 20**

August 17, 18, 19 & 20 – For the eternal repose of the souls of Domingo Liquiran, Manuela Ballesteres, Faustino Pidlaoan & Elena Liquiran Pidlaoan by Edith Tomas

**General Contributions**

July 11, 2021  
 General Fund: \$2,907.00  
 July Online: \$165.45

**Lectors for the Masses on the Weekend of July 31 & Aug. 1, 2021**

5:00 pm on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Steve Sema, Jr.  
 10:00 am on Sunday Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, Mark Voss

**Note:** Please remember that if you cannot lector at the time assigned it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Anyone that is interested in lecturing during Mass at St. John's, please contact Carol Voss at cavoss99@gmail.com.

**HOMEBOUND MASS FILMING:**

The next Homebound Mass Filming will take place at the Chapel of the Archbishop and will be filmed at 9:00 am. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. We will be filming Mass for the "The Assumption", and the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of Ordinary Time.

**NURSING HOME OUTREACH:**

Every First Saturday we pray the rosary before the 5 p.m. Mass starting at 4:30,

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

We highly encourage **House Blessings**. Please call Father Selvan to schedule the blessing of your home.

**Just something to think about!**

Is Keeping "Holy" the sabbath not a commandment, and if it is a commandment, aren't we supposed to not break the commandments? Do we think that breaking that commandment is not a sin like breaking the other 9 commandments? Why do we break that commandment without giving it a second thought while we work very hard not to break the other commandments? Just something to think about.



**Catholic Charities**

Family Pledges to date total 32.  
 Total amount pledged: \$19,914.00,  
 114% of our total goal of \$17,400.00

**Announcements for week of July 24, 2021**

- 1) **This is a reminder** that Father Selvam offers the sacrament of Confession every weekend before each Mass. Please take advantage of this opportunity.
- 2) **Father Selvam** request a meeting with the leaders and treasures for all church organizations on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. (Lady's Sodality, Knights, and Golden Group).
- 3) **Catholic Social Services** will be here at St. Johns' on the last Wednesday of every month, starting on July 28, to help families pay their utility bills, If you know anyone who needs help, please put the word out that the program is starting back up.
- 4) **Known Birthdays, 25<sup>th</sup>:** Neal Fisher, Harold Vaughn, Perry Lewis, Jennifer Schilling, **26<sup>th</sup>:** Debra Johnson, **27<sup>th</sup>:** Matthew Baker, **28<sup>th</sup>:** Hayden Teofilo, **29<sup>th</sup>:** Ty Teofilo, **Known Anniversaries this week: 25<sup>th</sup>:** Shirley & Tomas Rasmussen

**BREAD OF EARTH AND HEAVEN**

Jesus knew, as the evangelist shows in the account this week, that there is not much point in speaking to people about the Bread of Heaven when their stomachs are grumbling for the bread of earth. For Jesus there was none of the Greeks' separation of the human person into body and spirit, each entity with its different needs. He knew people were created in love, flesh, and soul, by his Father in heaven. Once again, the ministry of Jesus signals for us the intimate connection of the church's ministry to people as both embodied and spiritual beings. Feeding the multitude is a pragmatic way to help his listeners focus on the teaching of his presence as the new manna sent from heaven. And for us today, that manna, the Bread of Life, becomes our strength and sustenance, so we are fortified to go forth in the name of Christ, to be nourishment for the bodies and spirits of all those we encounter each day.