

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: 60, What kinds of grace are there?

Answer: There are two kinds of grace- actual and sanctifying. Sanctifying grace makes a person holy by the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity, that is, the three Divine Persons of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit that reside in the human soul. It is obtained through the sacrament of baptism. By pouring or immersing the person in water and saying the Trinitarian formula ("I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"), the person is redeemed through the blood of Christ Which was shed on the cross. "Sanctifying grace is a habitual gift, a stable and supernatural disposition that perfects the soul itself to enable it to live with God, act by his love. Habitual grace, the permanent disposition to live and act in keeping with God's will (Catechism #2,000). Through this grace, we share in the Divine Life; this is why the baptized are called adopted children of God.

Sanctifying grace can be increased through good actions, prayer, practicing the virtues, and worthy reception of the sacraments. The chief manifestations of sanctifying grace are the practice of virtue and the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord, with its corresponding twelve fruits: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, long-suffering, humility, fidelity, modesty, continence, and chastity.

On the contrary, sanctifying grace can be lost through mortal sin. Mortal sin is that bad thought, word, deed that kills the soul. For a sin to be mortal, three requisites must be present. First, it has to be serious- a *grave matter*- which means the thought, word, or action has to be gravely wrong. Second, the sinner must know the sin is serious, that is, he or she must have *full knowledge*. Finally, the sinner must have *deliberate consent*- he must freely choose to commit the sin anyway- in order for the sin to meet the criteria. If a person dies with mortal sin on his soul, he loses eternal life. Mortal sin kills the life of grace in a soul, and grace restores that life. Through the sacrament of Penance, God's mercy, love, and compassion heal the soul, and sanctifying grace is restored.

Actual grace is supernatural help or assistance from God. There are two types. The first informs the mind of the difference between good and evil; the second motives our will to decent and upright things. Unlike sanctifying grace, which can be lost, actual grace is always being offered to a person, prodding the soul back to God. It is the gentle inspiration, holy thought, or desire. A soul in a state of grace (meaning someone conscious of being in mortal sin), however, is more inclined to see the promptings of actual grace and then respond in the affirmative. In times of temptation, suffering, and illness, actual grace helps the person to persevere. Finally, actual grace can be medicinal in that it aids the soul's healing progress from sin and helps the person to observe the natural moral law.

Father God, we come to you today, in the name of your blessed son Jesus Christ, our lord and savior of our souls, we thank you for your abundance grace and mercy. Father God help us to seek you in our daily lives, and to repent with willingness to change our behaviors. We also ask Father, that you send us your Holy Spirit to guide and direct us. It is your strength and wisdom we need to persevere.

In Jesus's we pray. Amen

Have a very Blessed week everyone and God Bless!!



St. John the Baptist Parish

P.O. Box 417/12450, Highway 188, Grand Bay
Telephone Number: 251-865-6902
Fax: 251-865-1412
Website: stjohngrandbay.org

September 5, 2021: 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

REVEREND Selvam Arputharaj
Pastor – 251-278-4900
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 5:30 P.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 & Healing

Mass: Every Wednesday at 8 am.

Funerals

Call the office before making plans with the funeral director.

Email: stjohngrandbay@gmail.com



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:4–7a; Psalm 146:7–10; James 2:1–5; Mark 7:31–37

"BE OPENED"

The miracle that Jesus performs in today's Gospel is intimately linked with the proclamation of the first reading from Isaiah. The prophetic signs of God's coming to save the people include the rejoicing of all of nature: its dry places become gardens and its deserts pools of water. Those who are deaf will hear and the mute will sing God's praises. For Isaiah these are messianic signs, signs that God has come among us.

Jesus heals the deaf man and enables him to hear and speak. This is not just an individual healing, but a prophetic sign that God has come to save us. The Hebrew version of Jesus' name is *Yeshua*, "God saves." He comes not only to heal physical ailments, but to open the ears of those who cannot or will not hear the saving word of God. He comes to open our eyes to the saving action of God and to open our lips to proclaim praise.



Lynette Anderson, Ruth Vosahlo, Richard Voss, Lamar Stewart, Bill Schaffer, 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, 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, Lisa Kloechener, 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 September 2021

3 rd : Joseph Schilling	14 th : Coby Ray
4 th : Bankston McPhillips	18 th : Carol Roberts
6 th : Kayla Graham	18 th : Zachery Davis-Todd
6 th : Quenten Smith	19 th : Tianna McBride
8 th : James Medders	19 th : Rhonda Cauley
9 th : Autumn Bowden	20 th : Daniel Bridges
10 th : Theresa DeAngelo	20 th : Donald Riley
11 th : Linda Graham	23 rd : Hayden Swinney
13 th : Elsa McBride	27 th : Susie Smeriglio
13 th : Mollee Stringfellow	28 th : Hayden Jackson
14 th : Adam Jackson	29 th : David Stanley

Known Anniversaries for September 2021

6th: Willie & Becky Thompson
 8th: Stan & Barbara Heine
 25th: Jay & Andrea Graham
 26th: Fred & Tracy Drago
 26th: David & Sue Spencer

Capital Campaign as of 7-31-2021:

Gifts received overview for St. John the Baptist Parish as of July 31, 2021:
 Quarter (5/1/2021- 7/31/2021): \$ 8,717.20
 Total thru July 31, 2021: \$ 144,242.62
 % Of Parish Goal Received: 74.0%
 St. John's Quarterly share of \$1,743.44 will be deposited was

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 Sept. 6 thru 9

Sept 6, 7, 8, & 9 – For the eternal repose of the souls of the Alford, Bohl and Church families, Will Irvin and Dorothy Beards Lot by Nine and Chester Bohl

Week of Sept. 14 thru 19

Sept. 14, 15, 16 & 17 – For the eternal repose of the souls of deceased relatives/friends of Lynda and Louis Jones.

Week of Sept. 21 thru 24

Sept 21, 22, 23 & 24 – For the eternal repose of the souls of relatives/ friends of Maribeth and Clarence Thompson.

Week of Sept. 28 thru Oct. 1

Sept. 28, 29, 30 and Oct. 1 – For the eternal repose of the souls of Crispolo Mardo, Peta Mardo, Artemo Mardo & Efrin Mardo by Lanie Mardo, Belen and Ariel.

Week of Oct. 5 thru 8

Oct. 5, 6, 7 & 8 – For the eternal repose of the souls of deceased relatives/friends of Riza & Bobot Jamero

Week of Oct. of 12 thru 15

Oct. 12, 13, 14 & 15 – for the eternal repose of the souls of J.P. Paris, Loyce Roberts, Earl Roberts, Carla W. Kelly, Fred Paris, Roberts Family, & Willingham family by Carol & Terry Roberts.

Week of Oct. 19, thru 22

Oct. 26, 27, 28 & 29 – For eternal repose of the souls of Vicenta Obsenares, Inovino Obsenares, Emily Piangco, Ignacio Obsenares, Maurine Hadley & Nip Hadley by Elsa & John Mc Bride

Lectors for the Masses on the Weekend of September

11 & 12, 2021

5:00 pm on Saturday, Sept 11th: Kathie Sema
 10:00 am on Sunday Sept. 12th: Carol 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, September 7, 2021. We will be filming Mass for the "The 24th, 25th, 26th & 27th Sundays of Ordinary Time.

1st Saturday Rosary:

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.

General Contributions

Aug. 29, 2021
 General Fund: \$ 4,115.00
 Assumption: \$ 130.00
 Maintenance Fund: \$515.00



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 September

- 1) **Conformation Class** will start up again and we will meet on Sunday, September 12th at 6:30 pm in the Education Building.
- 2) **Registration sheets for CRE** are in the church hall. Please register your children.
- 3) **Get your house blessed:** Call Father Selvam to come to your house and bless . 251-278-4900
- 4) **Weekday Mass schedule:** Wed and Fri. Mass at 8am. /Tues. and Thru mass at 5.30pm
- 5) The Golden Group "Tailgate "luncheon meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 11:30 in the Church Hall. We look forward to seeing everyone and sharing a delicious lunch, our entrée will be Hot Dogs with all the fixings. Also, our Joy Boxes are here, and we will have a work session to assemble the boxes to be ready to launch our Joy Box campaign in mid-September. Please bring your favorite dish and join us for the food, fun and fellowship.
- 6) **Livestream vigil Mass:** On Saturday September 11, will begin to livestream on Facebook for all that are homebound.
- 7) **Known Birthdays, this week:** 4th Bankston McPhillips, 6th Kayla Graham, 6th Quenten Smith, 8th James Medders, 9th Autumn Bowden, 10th Theresa DeAngelo
- 8) **Known Anniversaries:** 6th Willie & Becky Thompson and 8th Stan & Barbara Heine

"HERE IS YOUR GOD"

Nature itself will proclaim the saving power of God, and the poor are the first to hear and rejoice in God's saving work. Those who are powerless against nature, disease, tyranny, and injustice are the ones who most welcome Jesus' ministry. "Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom?" (James 2:5).

Fear can move us to seek power and to oppress others. The first step in overcoming our fear is to recognize our weakness and our poverty before God. Instead of embracing power and oppression, we can welcome the saving work of God in our lives and in our world. Our ears will hear the good news of the gospel of peace, and our tongues will proclaim the saving power of God. In our weakness is God's strength.