

**Bible Quiz # 53**  
**The Book of Judges**  
**(Chapters 11-15)**

1. How does Jephthah try to resolve the conflict with the Ammonites at first?
2. What vow does Jephthah make to the Lord?
3. How long did Jephthah judge Israel?
4. What was unique about Samson's birth?
5. What does it mean that Samson was a Nazirite from birth?
6. What is the significance of the angel ascending in the flame of the altar?
7. What does it mean that Samson's desire was "from the Lord"?
8. How does Samson kill the lion?
9. Samson destroyed the Philistines' crops by using:
  - A torch in foxes' tails
  - A flaming chariot
  - Locusts
  - An earthquake
10. Samson was allowed to cut his hair because he was a Nazirite only temporarily. True or False?

**DUE: January 20th**

 **FAITH FORMATION**

While the secular world moves on from Christmas on December 26th, for Catholics, the season has only just begun! Christmas has twelve days, starting on Christmas Day and ending on January 5th, the vigil of Epiphany, traditionally known as "Twelfth Night." This Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord.

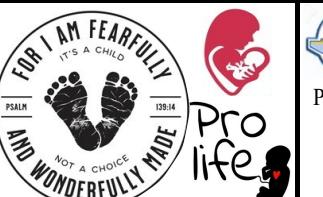
Epiphany (which means "revealing") commemorates the Magi who came from the East following a star and bearing gifts to meet the child who would become king. We celebrate Epiphany to remember that Christ has revealed himself to us, too.

"Chalking the Door" is a centuries-old way to celebrate and to mark the occasion of the Epiphany with God's blessing of our lives and homes. Using blessed chalk, people mark the doorpost of their home with an inscription signifying the new year, along with the marks C+M+B, which stand for the Latin words Christus mansionem benedicat, which means "May Christ bless this house." They also stand for the traditional names of the Magi who visited Christ: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. "Chalking the Door" kits are available for you in the vestibule.

Don't forget, we return for Faith Formation classes this Wednesday, January 7th. We are in need of snacks. Please consider donating individual snacks for us to share.

God Bless! BWM, DRE

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 your faithful and  
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# St. Bernadette Catholic Church

## Bayou Vista

### January 4, 2026



**Office Hours:**

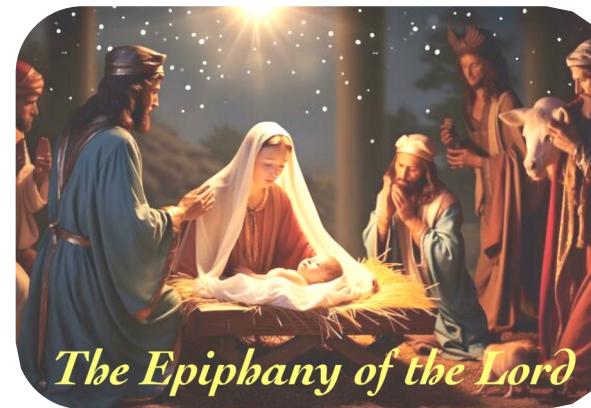
Monday - Thursday  
 8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
 (Closed for Lunch)

**Physical Address:**

1112 Saturn Rd.  
 (Bayou Vista)  
 Morgan City, LA 70380

**Contact Us:**

Ph: 985-395-2470 Fax: 985-395-6514  
 Email: stbern@teche.net  
 Website: www.stbern-bv.org  
 Facebook: @StBernBayouVista



**Chalking  
the Door  
Kits**  
are in the  
vestibule.

## Liturgical Ministries

Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min. of Comm.	Altar Servers
Sat. Jan. 10	4:00 pm	Paula Wiggins	Kathleen Louviere	Kathleen Louviere	
Sun. Jan. 11	7:30 am	Frances Bergeron	Jimmy Lemoine	—	Parker Elijah
	10:30 am	Jenny Guillot	Pete Lipari	Pete Lipari	Dylan Luke L. Koen

\* A Christmas Message from Sr. Anastasia Grace:

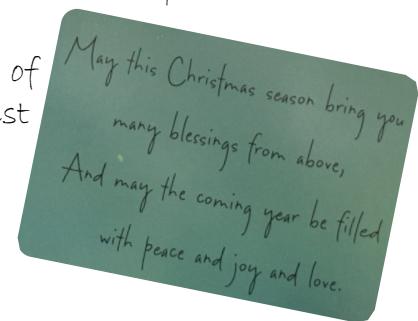
"Dear St. Bernadette Family,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you so much for the support of your prayers this past year — they give me strength! I had the happiness this past Dec. 8 of remaking my vows for another two years. I hope and pray that the next time I make my vows, I'll be in France making them for forever! I keep all of you in my prayers, especially during the Eucharistic Celebration, which keeps us united no matter where we are!

May the upcoming year be one of peace and joy in the newborn Christ child. May God bless all of you!"

With Love and Prayer,

Sr. Anastasia Grace



## Pastor

**Rev. Thainese Alphonse**  
 Email: talphonse@diolaf.org

## Parish Staff

**Bookkeeper:** Lois Bosworth  
 Mon. 8:30am - 3:30pm,  
 Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30am - 12pm

**Secretary/DRE:** Becky W. Meranta  
 Wed./Thurs. 8:30am - 3:30pm

**Church & Rectory House Keeper:**  
 Melinda Frederick  
 Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 12pm

## Sacraments

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
 Sat. 3:15 - 3:50pm; Sundays & weekdays  
 20 min. before Mass.

## Sacrament of Baptism:

Contact the office to schedule a meeting with the pastor, at the parents' convenience, one month prior to the desired Baptism date. Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday after 10:30am Mass.

## Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples wishing to get married should call the office at least six months prior to the anticipated date of the wedding to begin the marriage preparation.

## Marriage annulment:

Contact the pastor for easy guidance.

## Anointing the Sick:

Call the office to schedule an appointment.

## Youth Faith Formation:

Wednesday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm

## Schedule of Holy Masses

### Weekends:

Saturday - Anticipated Mass - 4:00 pm  
 Sunday - 7:30 am & 10:30 am

### Weekdays:

NO Weekday Masses until Father returns.

**Weekday Masses will resume when Father returns.**

Here are the weekday Mass schedules for our neighboring parishes.

**St. Joseph**  
Patterson

Monday - 11:00 am  
Tuesday - 9:30 am @ Nursing Home  
Wednesday - 11:00 am  
Thursday - 11:00 am  
Friday - No Mass

**Sacred Heart**  
Morgan City

Monday - No Mass  
Tuesday - 6:30 am  
Wednesday - 6:30 am  
Thursday - 6:30 am  
Friday - 6:30 am



Melinda Frederick, Judy Tholen, Jude Duval, Gerald Hotard, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Daisy Roberts & Family, Don Campos, Alice Waguespack, Susan Legendre, Darryl Dimaggio, Alice Boudreaux, Michael Silva, Ryan Arcemont, Karen Duhon, Maddi Duhon, Mynette Zimmer, Jane Mayo, Dalton Dupree, Lisa Morel, Mary Ann Lambert Adams, Elma Braus, Cherie Schlatve, Matt Braus, Nelwyn LaHoste, Jamie Huffman, Maria McGinnis, Sonya Meranta, Wilson Acosta, Sr., Steve Meranta, Kenny Meranta, JY & Elaine Mula, Audie Pete, Blaine St. Romain, Robert David, Jr, Robert Paul David, Gert Simoneaux, Kristi Wisdom, Juanita Prestenbach, Barbara Rivet, Bill Vincent, Judy Cornwell, Ella Ryker, Brenda Dawson, Mike Reed, Rhodes Family, Jaret Matte, Carl Written, Mary Liles, Jean Derise, Barry Clark, Ross Mire, Ina Miller, Greg Verret, Doug Pillsbury, Aubry "Poochie" Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock, Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeanson, Crue Hotard, Vanessa Solet, Dawn Spinella, Laila Claire Gardemal, Cynthia Athinson, Logan Gros, Ella Ryker, Special Intentions, Belinda Fabre Lee, Rosa Rosado, Armando Rosado, Glen Cormier, SJ Sampey, Ruby Breaux, Barbara D. Aucoin, Sarah Ford, Carlo Streva, Jr, Danny Barras, Lynn Rose Pete Allen, Lanny Theriot, Jim Turner, Kevin Cothron, Bill Ford, Sr., Lynette Rink, Emily Dupre, John Meir, Sheila Toups, Priscilla Hebert Sampey, EJ Landry, Dr. Keith Comeaux, Brent Driskill, Sharon Rulf Guidry, Wiley Magee, Barbara Cothron, and Rhonda Cothron Cook.

**St. Bernadette Church Offerings**  
December 27-28, 2025  
Offering.....\$2,964.00  
Christmas Offering.....\$3,537.00  
Thank you for your generosity!

# MASS Intentions

## Saturday, January 10th

### Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

† NJ Hebert †Trey Smith †Thomas Rivet, Jr  
†Thomas Rivet III †Thomas Rivet IV †Ray LaHoste, Jr  
†Raymond LaHoste, Sr, †Clarence & Ella Walker  
†Mary Bernard Blanchard †Peggy & Albert Hebert  
†Red & Yvonne Anne Adams †Claire Torres Ingalls  
†Patricia & Donald Torres, Sr †Louis & Gertie Berthelot  
†Emma Hackney †Murphy L. LeBlanc †Miranda Pennison  
†Kim Ordogne †Velma & Eldridge Williams  
†Curtis & Althea Verret †Thomas Beadle †Allen Duhon  
†Jim Aloisio †Gene Bosworth †Holy Souls in Purgatory  
†Tracey Peterson & John Ourso Families.

## Sunday, January 11th

### 7:30 am

†Albert Solet †Luke Guillot †Maria & Ruben Trevino  
†Ruby & Roland Crappell.

### 10:30 am

†Rose Lipari †Ruth Wiggins †Terry Wiggins  
†Carlo Streva, Sr †Don Lasseigne Family - Living & Deceased  
†Neat Simon Family - Living & Deceased  
†Landry & Justilian Families - Living & Deceased.



JUDEA	PROPHET	APPEARANCE
EAST	HOMAGE	SCRIBES
FRANKINCENSE	HOUSE	JEWS
NEWBORN	BETHLEHEM	OVERJOY
JESUS	SHEPHERD	MAGI
DILIGENT	ENTERING	MYRRH
STAR	GOLD	HEROD

## AN ECHO OF THE THREE WISE MEN

Raymond Brown, the great New Testament scholar, found an echo of the story of the Three Wise Men in the story of King Balak and the prophet Balaam in the Old Testament. Balak was a king of the Moabites. When the Israelites left Egypt under the leadership of Moses, like king Herod who feared the birth of the Messiah and wanted to kill him, King Balak feared the Israelites wanted to destroy Moab, so he planned to destroy them. To accomplish his purpose, Balak summoned a famous prophet, Balaam, to place a curse on Israel.

Balaam was an interesting character; he was a non-Israelite, and a practitioner of enchantment. He was capable of doing both good and evil. Balaam, the prophet, came from the east along with two

servants, thereby, making the number three, like the Magi. And when he came, commanded to curse Israel, the Holy Spirit foiled King Balak's efforts by blessing Israel through Balaam and foretelling the future greatness of Israel and the rise of its royal ruler. Balaam prophesied and said, "A star will come forth from Jacob, and a scepter will rise from Israel."

Like king Herod who massacred all the infants in Bethlehem 2 years-old and younger so that he wouldn't miss the newborn King, the wicked king Balak tried to do the same thing by using a magus to destroy the Israelites, but his efforts were foiled.

## FOLLOWING A STAR

In the stories of Jesus' birth, two special groups of people came to visit the newborn babe: the shepherds and the Magi. The Church has no special feast to commemorate the visit of the shepherds, but we have this special feast of Epiphany today to celebrate the visit of the magi. Why is that? It is because the visit of the Magi is an eye-opener.

The shepherds learnt of the birth of Jesus through a direct Revelation from angels appearing in the midnight sky, and they believed the Message. This is direct and supernatural Revelation. Many of us have no problem with that. The Magi, on the other hand, learnt of the birth of Jesus by observing a star. The star did not say anything to them. They had to interpret this natural sign of the star to know what it meant and where it led. If we remember that the Magi, or the three wise men, divined God's will by reading the movements of the stars and other heavenly bodies, then we can see how the visit of the Magi challenges some of our popular beliefs.

## Sunday Homilies

While away, Father Thainese will be posting his homilies online.

## Thai Springs

Participatory Church

Visit his online site at

[www.thaisprings.info](http://www.thaisprings.info)

