



Bible Quiz #45

The Book of Exodus (Chapters 21 - 25)

- What is the punishment for a man who strikes another man a mortal blow?
- While burning over a field or a vineyard if the man lets the fires spread to another's field, what restitution he has to make?
- What is the punishment given to a man who wrongs a widow or orphan?
- What are those three feasts in a year a Jew has to make a pilgrimage to celebrate feasts to God?
- Whom the Lord will drive out for the Israelites to occupy the land?
- Why are the Israelites not allowed to make covenant with other gods?
- What did Moses do at the end of reading the book of the covenant?
- What was the sign of the glory of the Lord settled upon Mount Sinai?
- Why did the Lord ask Moses to take a collection from the people?
- What was the aid/model that God showed Moses to make the Ark and its furnishings?

DUE: Monday, March 24th

Monday March 24	Tuesday March 25	Wednesday March 26	Thursday March 27	Friday March 28	Saturday/Sunday March 29/30
Act of Kindness Intentionally go out of your way today to help someone.	Read Luke 1:26-38 How do I respond when God asks me to do something unexpected?	Write and send a note to someone who has helped you grow in faith.	Tune in to EWTN to celebrate Mass with Fr. Thainese at 7am, 10:30am, or 11:00pm.	Attend and pray Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm.	Spend at least 15 minutes in the Adoration Chapel before or after Mass.

LENT REFLECTIONS Continued

Compassion:
As children we were often given a little cardboard container, a rice bowl, in which we would place coins, allowances, or the money we would spend on extras. This almsgiving was to provide money for the poor and vulnerable. But, what if we also saw almsgiving from the perspective of giving of ourselves? What if we did things for others without expecting anything in return: not a “thank you,” not a smile, *nothing*. What a true gift that would be—not only to them but also to ourselves as we would learn one of the essences of Grace: giving and expecting nothing in return.

Spiritual Awareness:
Finally, what if we changed our view of prayer during Lent. In other words, rather than simply adding a few prayers, we also sought periodic momentary periods of alone time during the day? Lent is designed to help us move from *chronos* (secular time and ways of viewing the world) to *Chairos* (embracing God’s perspective more deeply). Taking a few moments in the morning, can help us lean back, breathe deeply, and know God more deeply.

Don’t miss this Lent. Greater inner freedom, a richer sense of compassion, and a deeper sense of our relationship with God are waiting. Catholic author and physician Walker Percy in one of his novels wrote, “What if life is like a plane and you miss it?” Well, that is easy to do in today’s stressful world. And so, since Lent can help us prevent that from happening, isn’t this season a pure gift to us when we look at it, and act upon it, from that perspective?

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St. Bernadette Catholic Church

Bayou Vista

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent

Celebrating
Fr. Thainese Alphonse's

40
Years OF PRIESTHOOD
March 27th

Diocese of Lafayette

Saint Bernadette Church

Bayou Vista, Louisiana

www.dol-louisiana.org

Holy Mass

Weekends:
Saturday: 4:00 (Anticipated Mass)
Sunday: 7:30 am & 10:30 am
Weekdays: Tuesday - Friday -12:10 pm

Fr. Thainese will be concelebrating Mass at Our Lady of Angels Chapel on EWTN on Thursday, March 27th. Mass is on LIVE at 7 am.

Mass will be re-televised at 10:30am & 11:00pm.

March 27th is also the 9th anniversary of Mother Angelica's death.

Don't miss it

EWTN

MOTHER ANGELICA
OF THE ANNUNCIATION
1923-2016

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St. Anthony Church
Renigunta, India

Fr. Thainese's 25th Anniversary

இறைப்பணி

Kadapa Cathedral

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 25th
12:10 pm

†John Ourso †Danny Peterson
†Floyd & Mel Verret.


Wednesday, March 26th
NO MASS

Thursday, March 27th
12:10 pm

†John Ourso †Danny Peterson
†Choker & Greg Cart.

Friday, March 28th
NO MASS

Jonathan
Delatte, Chris
Hardy, Nick
Gardemal, Matt Bosworth,
Cameron Campos,
Matthew S. Landry, Luke
Zweigle, Kadin Dinger,
Caleb Von Buelow, Bart
Von Buelow, Rebecca
Rotolo, Jennifer Hebert,
Jonathan Jenson, Logan
Gros, Liam Guillotte, Elise
Buonopane, Alex Mund,
Jonah Foreman, Carson
LeBlanc.

 Gerald Hotard, AnnaLee Daigle, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Kenny Guillot, 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 Schlafve, Matt Braus, Nelwyn LaHoste, Jamie Huffman, Maria McGinnis, Sonya Meranta, Wilson Acosta, Sr., Christie Mayea, Steve Meranta, Kenny Meranta, JY & Elaine Mula, Benny Castalano, 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, Father Wilber Todd, Doug Pillsbury, Aubry “Poochie” Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock., Horace Pete, Jr., Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeansonne, Crue Hotard, Vanessa Solet, Dawn Spinella, Laila Claire Gardemal, Cynthia Athinson, Logan Gros, Seth Hepler, Ella Ryker, Special Intentions, Belinda Fabre Lee, Rosa Rosado, Armando Rosado Glen Cormier, SJ Sampey.

St. Bernadette Church Offerings March 15-16, 2025



Offering.....\$3,919.00
Bread & Wine Drive.....\$797.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Liturgical Ministries

Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min of Comm.	Altar Servers
Saturday Mar. 29	4:00 pm	Julia Hepler	Kathleen Louviere	Julia Hepler	
Sunday Mar. 30	7:30 am	Elaine Landry	Michelle Tholen	-----	
	10:30 am	Renee Garris	Becky Meranta	Pete Lipari	Christian Koen Rickey Luke L.

Saturday, March 29th
Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

†NJ Hebert †Trey Smith †Clarence & Ella Walker
†Yvonne Anne Adams †Julia Hernandez †Floyd Verrett
†David Stansbury †Velma & Eldridge Williams
†Thomas Rivet, Jr †Thomas Rivet III †Thomas Rivet IV
†Mary Bernard Blanchard †Ray LaHoste, Jr
†Raymond LaHoste, Sr †Peggy & Albert Hebert
†Holy Souls in Purgatory †Patricia & Donald Torres, Sr.
†Claire Torres Ingalls †Tracey Peterson & John Ourso Families.

Sunday, March 23rd
7:30 am

†Albert Solet †Luke Gulliot †Maria & Ruben Trevino
†Ruby & Roland Crappell

10:30 am

†Rose Lipari †Terry Wiggins †Ruth Wiggins
†Carlo Streva, Sr †Alice & Lester Waguespack
†William “Billy” Kennerson †Kelly A. Dupre,
Sr.†Scholler & McGinnis Families - Living & Deceased
†Landry & Justilian Families - Living & Deceased
†Garris Family - Living & Deceased.

Lent Reflections WEEK 3

3 refreshing
gifts of
Lent

Lent is a beautiful time of renewal that is often missed. Yet, just like an unexpected afternoon free, a chance to walk quietly alone in the forest or along the beach, Lent can provide the space to lean back into the now and take a deep refreshing breath with God when we see it in the proper perspective.

The two questions remain though:

1. Will we take this opportunity?
2. If we do, how should we best go about it in a simple, sincere way?

Sacrifice, almsgiving, and prayer are beautiful guides to living this season to the full. We need to revisit these, though, in ways they can offer us spiritual refreshment and new perspectives so that we do not run the danger of seeing Lent as just another thing to do in our already overburdened lives.

Freedom:

When we think of fasting, it is often seen as a negative act: We are giving up what we like and sometimes even feel we need. Yet, if we reframe the sacrifice of Lent as asceticism, then we see it in a different light—Making our desires and needs smaller so we can appreciate all that is already in our life more deeply. Sacrifice, the first element of Lenten discipline, then becomes something so much more.

Spiritual writer Henri Nouwen once said, “when you prune something properly, it blossoms more deeply—not less.” The same can be said of what we “give up” or sacrifice during Lent. Hopefully, what we choose—be it something to eat or drink, or a behavior that is not serving us or others well, such a sacred blossoming will take place.

**Continues on back page*

A JOURNEY OF BEING ON GUARD

I am privileged to celebrate the 40th anniversary of my priesthood on Thursday, March 27, 2025. It’s Ruby Jubilee. Silver jubilee of my priesthood was celebrated on 21st of May 2010 in my village with my family, relatives and friends. On this auspicious day of my priestly life I am happy to be the pastor of St Bernadette Church. I am thankful to God for this grace-filled life having served the people of God both in Kadapa (India) and Lafayette (US). I am indebted to both priests and the laity who were/are instrumental to carry out my priestly ministry in a fruitful manner. On this historic milestone of my priestly life, I would like to share with you some reflections, which reveal how God led *My Journey of Being on Guard*.

While I was doing my college studies I was asked to discontinue from seminary formation due to stomach trouble. After a surgery in 1978, I pursued the same studies and stayed in a paid hostel run by the Jesuits. I had gone for a wedding of one my relatives where my cousin, Mary, requested me to visit her home before I returned. Upon my visit to her, I was shocked when she asked me to marry her. She was wondering why I had to become a priest not marrying her. I escaped from her before she embarrassed me more and more. With firm determination I pursued my college studies with a degree in Philosophy. Then I joined the diocese of Kadapa which is in the neighboring State where Telugu language is spoken which was unknown to me.

My parents had come to the diocese for my diaconate ordination on 24th of April 1984. On the eve of my diaconate, my bishop had a grand celebration of his sacerdotal silver jubilee. While the celebration was going on, my dad expressed his displeasure for having joined that diocese. He said, “This is very dry place, looks like a desert and it is far from our home (some 300 miles); we don’t understand what they speak; don’t get ordained for this god forsaken place; come let us go home by the night train.” I remained silent, not wishing to say anything to him. I was ordained a deacon on the next day morning. Then my parents and some of my relatives came over there for my priestly ordination on March 27, 1985. Looking at a tiny church used as the cathedral, they didn’t mince words in disappointing me.

It so happened, my Bishop took up construction of a new cathedral and I was appointed as pastor of the cathedral in May 1990. In addition to being the pastor of the cathedral which had 8 mission stations, I was put in charge of supervising the construction of the cathedral. When my parents came for the cathedral dedication on February 19, 1992 they were surprised to see a massive structure of the cathedral with lots of flowers and lawn. They asked me, “is it the same place that we had come earlier; now everything looks so different and beautiful.” My mind voice was: ‘God writes in crooked lines.’

March 27th always falls in the Lenten season. This Thursday in the gospel, Jesus says “he who is not with me is against me” (Lk 11:23). Jesus implies that such a person is on the side of Satan. This statement speaks about the priestly life. An ordained priest is expected to be on the side of Jesus, not on Satan. A question often haunts me is - ‘how I am going to be on guard against Satan so that I will be with Jesus?’

When I recall my priestly life the following things pop up my mind. I need to be on guard against Satan means doing God’s works by exercising ministerial priesthood in the local church. It also means to say – ‘bloom where you are planted’ which remains as the motto of my priestly life. For me to be on guard against Satan involves a strict discipline. Structuring and prioritizing the time of the day, equipping knowledge on the Bible and theology, having some pastoral programs in the parish and being busy with the ministry, a strong desire to do something for the local community etc., were all part of my 40 years as a priest. On the whole, I had the work culture of being with the people, for the people, and by the people that brought me to this level.

There are many times I struggled to keep up the promise I made to God on the day of my ordination. But the good Lord always lifted me up time to time to continue serving the Lord and the people. No doubt, my personal prayer life and the celebration of the Holy Mass with devotion kept me going. And I am grateful to all those who were/are part of my JOURNEY OF BEING ON GUARD.

In the Service of the Lord,
Rev Thainese Alphonse