

As we come to the end of the secular calendar year, I say good riddance to 2020! Let us all pray a rosary a day this new year that things improve. St Sylvester was the first Pope not to be martyred. He was pope during the time after the Church was made by Constantine the official religion of the Roman Empire. It was a time of tremendous growth and building of the Church both physically, with Church buildings, and spiritually, with a tremendous increase in the number of Catholics. It is a time that stands in stark contrast to today. Mass attendance is diminishing, and that was even before the COVID fiasco. Worldwide we now have governments antagonistic to religion in general and Catholic Church in specific. Again I ask everyone to pray a rosary every day in the new year.

We are planning to have a **24 hour Vigil for Life** at St Mary to coincide with the anniversary of Roe v Wade January 22. We will start with Mass Thursday evening, January 21 at 6:00pm and continue until 6:00pm Friday January 22. There will be a sign up sheet in the back of the Church. Please sign up for an hour time slot to come and offer prayers and reparation to Our Lord and His Mother for the scourge of abortion. Since Our Lord will be exposed in the Eucharist, it is customary that 2 persons are present at all times. Prayerfully consider offering up time for this worthy cause.

I want to thank **Fr. Homer Blubaugh** for all his help during this past year. He has been a true Godsend for our parish. He is a dedicated servant of the Lord and Holy Mother Church, and we are blessed to have him helping us. Pray for his continued good health.

On that note, I still have no news from the diocese regarding a new pastor. Another good reason to say at least one rosary a day in this coming new year.

Viva Christo Rey!!