

SECOND SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 17, 2021

Saturday, January 16

8:30 am - St. John – NO MASS
 9:00 am - 9:30 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 3:15 pm - 3:55 pm – *Confessions at St. John*
 4:00 pm - St. John – Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sunday, January 17, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - St. John – Mass for the people
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Keith Miille by M/Mrs. Ed Zuccaro
 11:30 am - Queen of Peace – Special thanks to President Donald Trump by Edward Hahr
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

Monday, January 18

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – John Wall, Jr by his estate

Tuesday, January 19

8:30 am - St. John – Andrew & Claire Tanych by the family

Wednesday, January 20, St. Fabian / St. Sebastian

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – *Holy Hour of Adoration with Confessions at St. John*
 5:15pm - St. John – Tony Handy by Dianne

Thursday, January 21, St. Agnes

8:30 am - St. John – Simone Carreau by the Daughters of Isabella

Friday, January 22, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – John Wall by the estate

Saturday, January 23: St. Marianne Cope / St. Vincent

8:30 am - St. John –
 9:00 am - 9:30 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 3:15 pm - 3:55 pm – *Confessions at St. John*
 4:00 pm - St. John – Lorraine Gagne Holland by Joan Hayes

Sunday, January 24: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - St. John – Mass for the unborn
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Deceased members of the St. E. Women's Group
 11:30 am - Queen of Peace – Mass for the people
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed
Please keep our parishioners in mind who are ill & in need of your prayers, especially: Pam Austin, Charlene Chase, Connie Lapage, Martin Fortin, Charlie Weis, & Randy Thomas, Dick and Anita Bedor

Jan. 24, 2021	St. John	St. Elizabeth	Queen of Peace
LECTORS:	4pm 8:00am Thomas Lovett	9:35am S. Mason	11:30am M Goldrick

The **FORMED** program is available to everyone in our parish. To start enjoying this free gift, please visit the FORMED website:

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PARISH EVENTS

Dec. 7th: 6pm-7:30pm FLC Confirmation Class/Ctr
 17th 10:00 am SFO
 17th 4:00 pm Catechetical Training
 19th 6:45pm St.V.d Paul .St.E
 20th 7:00[, K. of C. St E

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/20-6/30/21 Budgeted Regular Collection: \$243,650
Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$64,090+ **On-Line:** \$41,043.55
Collections & Receipts: December, 2021 Reg .Offertory:\$3246.00

SECOND COLLECTION

January 17: Catholic Education
January 24: Church in Latin America

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, Corpus Christi Conference offers assistance in name of Jesus to the needy in our community. To contact us call: Patrick McWilliams: 274-3542 Ann Lovett: 751-8187; or the Rectory: 748-8129 We will arrange a visit to see if we are able to serve you!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The following have celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this past weekend: Hadley Bailey, Aidan Choquette, Rikki Gingue, Carolyn Giroux, Elizabeth Godin, Brady Ingalls, Declan Johnston-McWilliams, Emma Lovett, Richard Rutherford, Gabriella Ste. Marie, and Kennedy Winn. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their First Holy Communion.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn

January 22nd has been designated by the General Instruction of the Roman Missal as "a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion." Life is at the heart of the gospel – a beautiful gift from God. When that gift is destroyed rather than treasured, a violent act is committed not just against God, but all humanity. As Pope John Paul II remarked, "The Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person, and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel." Each and every human being is created in the image of God and possesses inherent dignity and value. As the Scriptures tell us: *God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.* – Gn 1:26-27

As our nation prepares to inaugurate a self-proclaimed Catholic President, who at the same time has committed himself to the protection of the legal right to abortion, we are obliged as Catholics on this day, and over these next four years, to commit ourselves more seriously to prayer and penance that hearts will be converted, and our laws will protect the lives of all, especially the most vulnerable.

"Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother. Abortion is profoundly anti-women. Three quarters of its victims are women: Half the babies and all the mothers."
 ~ St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Two great Martyrs divide between them the honors of this twentieth day of January:--one, a Pontiff of the Church of Rome; the other, a member of that Mother-Church. Fabian received the crown of martyrdom, in the year 250, under the persecution of Decius; the persecution of Dioclesian crowned Sebastian, in the year 288.



January 20th: Feast of St. Sebastian

Saint Sebastian (c. AD 256 – 288) was an early Christian saint and martyr. He was killed during the Roman emperor Diocletian's persecution of Christians. He was initially tied to a post or tree and shot with arrows, though this did not kill him, but he was rescued and healed by Saint Irene of Rome. Shortly after his recovery he went to Diocletian to warn him away from his sins

against the Christians, and as a result was clubbed to death. He is a patron saint of archers and athletes and of those who desire a saintly death.

Also on January 20th: Feast of St. Fabian

After the short reign of Pope Anterus, Fabian had come to Rome from the countryside when the new papal election began. "Although present", says Eusebius, Fabian "was in the mind of none". While the names of several illustrious and noble churchmen were being considered over the course of thirteen days, a dove suddenly descended upon the head of Fabian. To the assembled electors, this strange sight recalled the gospel scene of the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at the time of his baptism by John the Baptist. The congregation took this as a sign that he was marked out for this dignity, and Fabian was at once proclaimed bishop by acclamation. Pope Fabian was the bishop of Rome from 10 January 236 to his death on 20 January 250. With the advent of Emperor Decius, the Roman government's tolerant policy toward Christianity temporarily ended. Decius ordered everyone in the Empire, with the exception of Jews, to demonstrate their loyalty to Rome by offering incense to the cult images of deities which represented the Roman state. This was unacceptable to Christians who took the commandment against idolatry with deadly seriousness. Fabian was thus one of the earliest victims of Decius, dying as a martyr on 20 January 250, at the beginning of the Decian persecution.

January 23rd: Feast of St. Vincent

Saint Vincent of Saragossa, the Protomartyr of Spain, was a deacon of the Church in Saragossa. Together with his Bishop, Valerius of Saragossa, he was apprehended during a persecution of Dacian the governor of Spain. Valerius was banished but Vincent was subjected to fierce tortures before ultimately dying from his wounds. According to details of his death, his flesh was pierced with iron hooks, he was bound upon a red-hot gridiron and roasted, and he was cast into a prison and laid on a floor strewn with broken pottery. But through it all his constancy remained unmoved (leading to his jailer's conversion) and he survived until his friends were allowed to see him and prepare a bed for on which he died. The saint's fame spread rapidly throughout Gaul and Africa - we have several sermons of St. Augustine given on his feast day. He is honored as patron in Valencia, Saragossa, Portugal, and is invoked by vintners, vinegar-makers, brickmakers, and sailors.

January 21st: Feast of Saint Agnes

Next to the Blessed Mother herself, St. Agnes is the Patron Saint of purity. Her double crown of virginity and martyrdom reminds us that purity of heart is the preparation needed to embrace the sacrifices that we're required to make to fulfill the obligations of our vocations. It was the Lord Who first spoke that Beatitude, viz. "Blessed are the pure of heart for they shall see God." The secret of the martyr: those who keep their eyes fixed firmly on God endure all things with Christ.

"Today is the birthday of a virgin; let us imitate her purity. It is the birthday of a martyr; let us offer ourselves in sacrifice. It is the birthday of Saint Agnes, who is said to have suffered martyrdom at the age of twelve. The cruelty that did not spare her youth shows all the more clearly the power of faith in finding one so young to bear it witness.

"There was little or no room in that small body for a wound. Though she could scarcely receive the blow, she could rise superior to it. Girls of her age cannot bear even their parents' frowns and, pricked by a needle, weep as for a serious wound. Yet she shows no fear of the blood-stained hands of her executioners. She stands undaunted by heavy, clanking chains. She offers her whole body to be put to the sword by fierce soldiers. She is too young to know of death, yet is ready to face it. Dragged against her will to the altars, she stretches out her hands to the Lord in the midst of the flames, making the triumphant sign of Christ the victor on the altars of sacrilege. She puts her neck and hands in iron chains, but no chain can hold fast her tiny limbs ...

"In the midst of tears, she sheds no tears herself. The crowds marvel at her recklessness in throwing away her life untasted, as if she had already lived life to the full. All are amazed that one not yet of legal age can give her testimony to God. So she succeeds in convincing others of her testimony about God, though her testimony in human affairs could not yet be accepted. What is beyond the power of nature, they argue, must come from its creator.

"What menaces there were from the executioner, to frighten her; what promises made, to win her over; what influential people desired her in marriage! She answered: *'To hope that any other will please me does wrong to my Spouse. I will be his who first chose me for himself. Executioner, why do you delay? If eyes that I do not want can desire this body, then let it perish.'* She stood still, she prayed, she offered her neck."

You could see fear in the eyes of the executioner, as if he were the one condemned; his right hand trembled, his face grew pale as he saw the girl's peril, while she had no fear for herself. One victim, but a twin martyrdom, to modesty and to religion; Agnes preserved her virginity, and gained a martyr's crown.

~ St. Ambrose



O glorious St. Agnes, by the living faith which animated thee from thy tender years and rendered thee so pleasing to God that thou didst merit a martyr's crown: obtain for us the grace to keep our holy faith pure within us and to profess ourselves Christians in both word and work. May our open confession of Jesus before men cause Him to bear a favorable witness to us before His eternal Father.