

THIRD SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 24, 2021

Saturday, January 23rd

8:30 am - St. John – *in pectore*
 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 24th: 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 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

Monday, January 25th Conversion of St. Paul

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

Tuesday, January 26th SS Timothy and Titus

8:30 am - St. John – Gregory Marcinko by his sister Amy

Wednesday, January 27th St Angela Merici

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – *Holy Hour of Adoration with Confessions at St. John*
 5:15pm - St. John – living & dec'd members of the Gibson/Dempsey families

Thursday, January 28th St. Thomas Aquinas

8:30 am - St. John – Bobette Jaffee by Amy Marcinko

Friday, January 29th

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – George Thurston III by the VT ST K. of C.

Saturday, January 30th

8:30 am - St. John – *in pectore*
 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 – Special Intention by a parishioner

Sunday, January 31st 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - St. John – *in pectore*
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Melanie Jaffee by Amy Marcinko
 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

Feb. 7, 2021	St. John	St. Elizabeth	Queen of Peace
LECTORS:	4pm K.Gilding 8:00am H. Robertson	9:35am J. Simard	11:30am D. Rooker

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

1. Go to: nekatholic.formed.org
2. Click on REGISTER to create a personal account

A Message of Gratitude: Time certainly goes by quickly and before we know it we haven't remembered those who have been so kind to us. I would like to thank the parishioners who have been so good to me this year. This Christmas season has brought wonderful gifts, much generosity and kindness. I am very blessed to work for a parish who appreciates me and is good to me. Thank you all so much for being kind; know that you are in my prayers and I ask for you yours in as well. ~ Sue

Please consider using the Online Giving tool for your weekly donations. Visit our website at: nekatholic.com and click "Give Online" to sign up!

Parish Events

Jan. 17 th	4:00 pm	Catechetical Training
23 rd	3:00 pm	K. of C.
31 st	6:45pm	St.V.d Paul Ctr
31 st	6:00pm	Confirmation/Ctr

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/20-6/30/21 Budgeted Regular Collection: \$243,650
Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$67,360+ **On-Line:** \$42,594.55
Collections & Receipts: December, 2021 Reg .Offeratory:\$3270

SECOND COLLECTION

January 24: Church in Latin America
January 31: Souper Bowl (Helping the St. V. de Paul Society)

St. Thomas Aquinas Prayer Before Holy Communion

Almighty and Eternal God, behold I come to the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. As one sick I come to the Physician of life; unclean, to the Fountain of mercy; blind, to the Light of eternal splendor; poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore, I beg of You, through Your infinite mercy and generosity, heal my weakness, wash my uncleanness, give light to my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I thus receive the Bread of Angels, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, with such reverence and humility, contrition and devotion, purity and faith, purpose and intention, as shall aid my soul's salvation.

Grant, I beg of You, that I may receive not only the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord, but also its full grace and power. Give me the grace, most merciful God, to receive the Body of your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, in such a manner that I may deserve to be intimately united with His mystical Body and to be numbered among His members. Most loving Father, grant that I may behold for all eternity face to face Your beloved Son, whom now, on my pilgrimage, I am about to receive under the sacramental veil, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

St. Thomas Aquinas Prayer After Holy Communion

I thank You, Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, for having been pleased, through no merit of mine, but of Your great mercy alone, to feed me, a sinner, and Your unworthy servant, with the precious Body and Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that this Holy Communion may not be for my judgment and condemnation, but for my pardon and salvation. Let this Holy Communion be to me an armor of faith and a shield of good will, a cleansing of all vices, and a rooting out of all evil desires. May it increase love and patience, humility and obedience, and all virtues. May it be a firm defense against the evil designs of all my visible and invisible enemies, a perfect quieting of all the desires of soul and body. May this Holy Communion bring about a perfect union with You, the one true God, and at last enable me to reach eternal bliss when You will call me. I pray that You bring me, a sinner, to the indescribable Feast where You, with Your Son and the Holy Spirit, are to Your saints true light, full blessedness, everlasting joy, and perfect happiness. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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!

January 25th: The Conversion of St. Paul

The phrase “kick against the pricks” or, “kick against the goads”, occurs in Acts 26:14, where St. Paul retells the story of his conversion, which is more fully recounted in Acts 9. St. Paul says: *And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And He said, I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest.* The English word *pricks* comes from the root Greek word *kentron*, which is sometimes translated as *goads*. This word has the idea of a “sharp, pointed projection used in stinging.” The prick or goad was a pointed stick that was used to urge some stubborn animal to move. Sometimes the animal refused to move and would kick back at the pointed object and as a result stab itself on the goad or prick. The word *kick* is translated from the root Greek word *laktizo* which has the basic meaning of “to hurt by resistance.” Simply put – “to kick against the pricks” implies someone is resisting and in the process is hitting a sharp object. In the ancient Greek and Roman times, the phrase was a well-known expression indicating that someone was opposing a deity. Put all together, our Lord told Paul that he was only hurting himself in his effort to eliminate Christians. He was unknowingly opposing God.

Saul (a.k.a. Paul) was fighting against God and the expression “kicking against the pricks” suggests that he was suffering in the process. There are those today who are fighting against God and they either do not care or do not know it. We can pray that they will understand and stop, for they work against their own salvation.

Indulgences

The eternal punishment due mortal sin is forgiven through sacramental Confession, but every sin, including venial sin, is a turning away from God toward an unhealthy attachment to creatures. This attachment, which is a temporal punishment, is only healed through penance: “While patiently bearing sufferings and trials of all kinds and, when the day comes, serenely facing death, the Christian must strive to accept this temporal punishment of sin as a grace. He should strive by works of mercy and charity, as well as by prayer and the various practices of penance, to put off completely the ‘old man’ and to put on the ‘new man.’” The temporal punishment is suffered either during life on earth or in purgatory after death. As a help the Church offers indulgences to the faithful. An indulgence does not forgive the guilt of sin, nor does it provide release from the eternal punishment associated with unforgiven mortal sins, but it does remove some (*partial*) or all (*plenary*) of the temporal punishment owed. The faithful should avail themselves of this help, which the Church gives in virtue of her role as “keeper of the keys,” drawing from the ocean of unused merit accrued by Christ, the Blessed Mother and the Saints, through the penance that they suffered. This grace applied to the individual helps him detach from sin, and turn more firmly to God.

“In failing to confess, Lord, I would only hide You from myself, not myself from You.”

~ Saint Augustine

Plenary Indulgences for the Year of St. Joseph

The Apostolic Penitentiary has issued a Decree granting Plenary Indulgences for the “Year of St. Joseph,” which lasts from December 8, 2020 through December 8, 2021, and has been announced in honor of the 150th Anniversary of Pope Pius IX’s proclamation of St. Joseph as the “Patron of the Universal Church”. In the Decree, specific options for the granting of Plenary Indulgences have been announced.

A Plenary Indulgence is granted to the faithful under the *usual conditions*: 1.) Sacramental Confession 2.) reception of Holy Communion 3.) and prayer for the Pope’s intentions (*Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be*). Confession can be received within 20 days *before* or *after* the day the Plenary Indulgence is sought, but Communion and prayers for the pope should be on the day. Also one must be free of all sin, mortal and venial while doing the work of the indulgence.

Plenary Indulgence Options for Year of St. Joseph

The Plenary Indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord’s Prayer (the Our Father), or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. “St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us”, the Decree reads, “to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, (and) to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God’s will.”

The Plenary Indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph’s example, will perform a Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy. St. Joseph “encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence, and loyalty in carrying out our duties,” the Decree notes.

The prayerful recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples is another way of obtaining the Plenary Indulgence, in order that “all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love, and prayer that was in the Holy Family” of Nazareth.

Also, everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work, can also obtain the Plenary Indulgence.

The Plenary Indulgence is also granted to the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the *Akathistos* to St. Joseph (for the Byzantine tradition), or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution; because, as the Decree notes, “the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt shows us that God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he runs away, where he experiences rejection and abandonment.”

In addition to these options, a Plenary indulgence may be gained by the faithful who will recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, especially on the feast days of St. Joseph, on the 19th of each month during the Year, and on every Wednesday during the Year, which is a day traditionally dedicated to the memory of St. Joseph in the Latin Church.

The Plenary Indulgence is also extended to the sick, the elderly, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes. They, too, can obtain the Plenary Indulgences if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.