

FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, February 6th St. Paul Miki and Companions

8:30 am - St. John – Mass for the people
 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 – Caroline del Castillo by Mary Lou Sales

Sunday, February 7th Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - St. John – Randy Mackay by his daughter Michele
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Gerard & Millard Roy by their children
 11:30 am - Queen of Peace – Marie & Adam Braun by M/M Reg Haselton
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

Monday, February 8th St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita

8:30am - St. Elizabeth – Raul del Castillo by Mary Lou Sales

Tuesday, February 9th

8:30 am - St. John – Wendyl Reis, Sr by Susan Dugan

Wednesday, February 10th St. Scholastica

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – *Holy Hour of Adoration with Confessions at St. John*
 5:15pm - St. John – Special intention for Sue

Thursday, February 11th Our Lady of Lourdes

8:30-am - St. John – Angela Balas by her cousin Amy Marcincinko

Friday, February 12th

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

Saturday, February 13th

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 – Mass for the people

Sunday, February 14th Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - St. John – Giovanna “Van” Belanger by children
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Ruth Blake by Lucie and Bradley Collette
 11:30 am - Queen of Peace – Anthony & Irma Rivard by M/M Moe Rivard
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed
 5:00 pm - St. Elizabeth – Traditional Latin Mass

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. 14, 2021	St. John	St. Elizabeth	Queen of Peace
LECTORS:	4pm 8:00am	9:35am	11:30am

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

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

The Traditional Latin Mass is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday of each month at St. Elizabeth, at 5pm. Please join us!

February 7, 2021

Parish Events

Feb. 7 th	8:45am	2 nd Grade @ FLC
	1:30pm	Family faith Formation (zoom)
	6–7:30pm	NO Confirmation
Feb. 14 th	6–7:30pm	Confirmation FLC

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/20-6/30/21 Budgeted Regular Collection: \$243,650
Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$67,360 + **On-Line:** \$45,266.55
Collections & Receipts: January 24, 2021 Reg .Ofortory: \$4026.85

SECOND COLLECTION

February 7: Stewardship
February 14: Church in Central & Eastern Europe

Praying for an End to Abortion

40 Days for Life begins Ash Wednesday and continues through the season of Lent to Palm Sunday. A group from the Parish is planning to pray the Rosary each day outside of St. John’s church, at the monument to the unborn, as a public witness of our support for life. If you would like to help us with this ministry, please contact Vicki Mednick (949) 293-7417.

Ash Wednesday Almsgiving Collection

There will be a special collection on Ash Wednesday to support Vermont Catholic Charities. This agency provides financial and emotional support to individuals and families throughout Vermont through the programs offered which include Counseling, Emergency Aid, Prison Ministry, and Residential Care Homes. Donations can be made through at <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/ministries-programs/catholic-charities/ash-wednesday-appeal/> or by mailing a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403. Please know that every gift—whatever the size—makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

February 8th: Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita

For many years, Josephine Bakhita was a slave but her spirit was always free and eventually that spirit prevailed. Born in Olgossa in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of 7, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means *fortunate*. She was resold several times, finally in 1883 to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan. Two years later, he took Josephine to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice’s Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Mimmina was being instructed, Josephine felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine. When the Michielis returned from Africa and wanted to take Mimmina and Josephine back with them, the future saint refused to go. During the ensuing court case, the Canossian Sisters and the patriarch of Venice intervened on Josephine’s behalf. The judge concluded that since slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885. Josephine entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. She soon became well loved by the children attending the sisters’ school and the local citizens. The first steps toward her beatification began in 1959. She was beatified in 1992 and canonized eight years later.

“Be good, love the Lord, pray for those who do not know Him. What a great grace it is to know God!”
 ~ St. Josephine Bahita

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February 11th: Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

On 11 February 1858, Bernadette Soubirous went with her sister Toinette and neighbor Jeanne Abadie to collect some firewood. After taking off her shoes and stockings to wade through the water near the Grotto of Massabielle, she said she heard the sound of two gusts of wind but the trees and bushes nearby did not move. A wild rose in a natural niche in the grotto, however, did move.

"...I came back towards the grotto and started taking off my stockings. I had hardly taken off the first stocking when I heard a sound like a gust of wind. Then I turned my head towards the meadow. I saw the trees quite still: I went on taking off my stockings. I heard the same sound again. As I raised my head to look at the grotto, I saw a lady dressed in white, wearing a white dress, a blue girdle and a yellow rose on each foot, the same color as the chain of her rosary; the beads of the rosary were white....From the niche, or rather the dark alcove behind it, came a dazzling light..."

She tried to make the sign of the Cross but she could not, because her hands were trembling. The lady smiled, and invited her to pray the rosary with her. Bernadette tried to keep this a secret, but Toinette told her mother. After parental cross-examination, she and her sister received corporal punishment for their story.

Three days later, 14 February, Bernadette returned to the Grotto. She had brought holy water as a test that the apparition was not of evil origin: *"The second time was the following Sunday. ... Then I started to throw holy water in her direction, and at the same time I said that if she came from God she was to stay, but if not, she must go. She started to smile, and bowed ... This was the second time."*

On 18 February, she spoke of being told by the Lady to return to the Grotto over a period of two weeks. She quoted the apparition: *"The Lady only spoke to me the third time. ... She told me also that she did not promise to make me happy in this world, but in the next."* Bernadette was ordered by her parents to never go there again. She went anyway, and on 24 February, she related that the apparition asked for prayer and penance for the conversion of sinners. The next day, she said the apparition asked her to dig in the ground and drink from the spring she found there. This revealed the stream that soon became a focal point for pilgrimages. Although it was muddy at first, the stream became increasingly clean. As word spread, this water was given to medical patients, and many reports of miraculous cures followed. The government fenced off the Grotto, declaring it off-limits. Bernadette, knowing the local area well, managed to visit the barricaded grotto under cover of darkness. There, on 25 March, Our Lady told her: *"I am the Immaculate Conception"*. On Easter Sunday, 7 April, her examining doctor stated that Bernadette, in ecstasy, was observed to have held her hands over a lit candle without sustaining harm. On 16 July, she went for the last time to the Grotto. *"I have never seen her so beautiful before,"* she reported.

The Church, faced with nationwide questions, instituted an investigative commission on 17 November 1858. On 18 January 1860, the local bishop declared that: *"The Virgin Mary did appear indeed to Bernadette Soubirous."* These events established the Marian veneration in Lourdes, which together with Fátima and the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the most frequented Marian shrines in the world, and to which between 4 and 6 million pilgrims travel annually.

Man's Purpose on Earth

(from: My Daily Bread)

CHRIST: MY CHILD, the highest goal of your life is union with Me in Heaven. Let your intentions throughout the day be guided by this truth. In all things be sure to stay on the path which leads to Heaven. Do not become too deeply interested in the passing desires and brief enjoyments of this earthly life.

I have given you everything that you are and everything you have. All things come to you from Me, the Supreme Good. Whatever comes, accept it, use it, enjoy it, as I wish and as much as I wish.

If you think only of satisfying yourself, without considering My approval, your mind becomes confused and your will becomes weak. Mistakes and sins will rob you of peace on earth and of unending happiness in Heaven. In all things, therefore, keep your eyes on Me.

Happy are those who desire only what I want, trying steadily to do My Will. Such people do not let themselves become completely absorbed by their daily activities. They frequently offer their activities to Me. They see the brevity of human contentment on earth.

Examine your motives in your daily words and actions. Find out how you may please Me more, and avoid everything which may draw you away from Me.

THINK: I was created for eternal happiness with God in Heaven. Everything else must take second place in my life, because if I lose Heaven, I will be losing everything. The sure guide to Heaven is God's holy Will. If I follow it in my daily life, every moment on earth will be a sure step toward the perfect happiness which my heart craves.

PRAY: My God and loving Father, grant me the wisdom to think, speak, and act each day as You want me to. May I never be such a fool as to disagree with Your supreme goodness and wisdom. Nothing on earth can bring me any lasting happiness. Therefore, let me never sin for the sake of anything. I want to live for the perfect happiness for which You created me. Amen.

Excerpt from the **ROMAN MARTYROLOGY**

"This Day, the Fourteenth Day of February: At Rome, on the Flaminian road, in the time of the emperor Claudius, the birthday [into eternal life] of blessed Valentine, priest and martyr, who after having cured and instructed many persons, was beaten with clubs and beheaded. Also, at Rome, the holy martyrs Vitalis, Felicula, and Zeno. At Teramo, St. Valentine, bishop and martyr, who was scourged, committed to prison, and as he remained unshaken in his faith, was taken out of his dungeon in the dead of night and beheaded by order of Placidus, prefect of the city. In the same place, the holy martyrs Proculus, Ephebus and Apollonius, who, whilst watching by the body of St. Valentine, were arrested and put to the sword by the command of the ex-consul Leontius ..."

~ "There are too many connections between the stories of the Valentine of Rome and the Valentine of Terni, including their places of martyrdom and burial, for us not to think they are one and the same person. Both give heroic testimonies of faith, both perform a miraculous healing that causes conversions, and both are martyred by beheading on the Via Flaminia in Rome. ... The tradition of his being patron saint of lovers finds its origin in an English text by Geoffrey Chaucer, according to whom birds start mating on Valentine's Day."