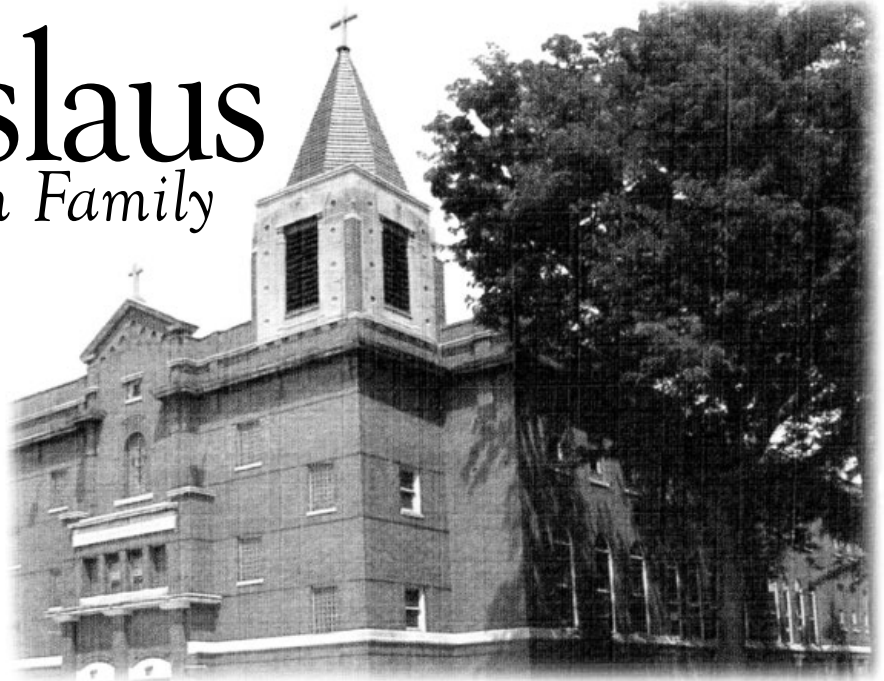


# St. Stanislaus

*Parish Family*

**January 16, 2022**  
**2nd Sunday**  
**In Ordinary Time**

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808 W. 150TH STREET · EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA 46312

#### PARISH STAFF

Msgr. John J. Siekierski, Administrator  
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director of  
Religious Education  
Angelica Agosto, School Principal  
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary  
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

#### OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday**  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)  
**Office Closed:** Wednesday,  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

#### TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rectory	398-2341
Convent	397-7059
School	398-1316

#### MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm  
Sunday 8:30am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

There are no weekday Masses or Word &  
Communion Services at this time.

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from  
4:00pm-4:15pm  
and after the 4:30pm Mass.

## WEEK OF PRAYER *for Christian Unity*

"I pray not only for them, but also for those  
who will believe in me through their word, so  
that they may all be one."

JOHN 17:20-21



## *Liturgical Notes for the Week*

Today the liturgical cycle of “Ordinary Time” begins with today’s Eucharist as we the Church celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The first is always The Baptism of the Lord. The chosen gospel is always the retelling of the Wedding Feast at Cana as it completes the three epiphanies concerning Jesus as he begins his public ministry. As John’s text is proclaimed Mary is met for the first time and in its content her first and last words will be spoken. So listen well and remember them! Notable also in John’s writing is his reference to the Mother of Jesus never refers to her by her personal name. The author’s of Living Liturgy explain this further.

The mother of the Lord is the discerning one who notices that the wine has run out. She stands before Jesus in the privileged role of mother and presents him with the problem. Jesus’ reply to her words have a note of rebuke as he calls her “Women,” not the expected response to one’s own mother. The mother is loved, but she is also an outsider—outside of Jesus’ free, unique relationship to God, his Father (John 7:4; 8:19; 12:27). This pain will thrust through her most deeply when she is again named as “woman” on Golgotha and is the beloved and last gift from whom Jesus dispossesses himself before he hands over his breath to his Father. Then well be the “hour” that Jesus tells his mother has not yet come at Cana. For some members of our faith community this new year is bringing “the hour of their wedding day.” For some others this year marks another year when the “I do” of their wedding day has become the hour of living in love day by day. For all of us living at this time when marriage is not being afforded its rightful respected place in society, it is good for us Roman Catholics to renew the teaching we hold concerning The Sacrament of Matrimony and what better “hour” to do that then now by praying and reflecting on the following articles from The Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers and The Catechism of the Catholic Church on this day when Jesus performed the first of his signs at a wedding in Cana to which heard his friends were invited as well as his mother.

### **Blessings**

*Parents may place their hands on their children’s heads in blessing. One or more of the parents speaks the blessing:*

We praise you, Lord, for your gentle plan draws together your children, N. and N., in love for one another. Strengthen their hearts, so that they will keep faith with each other, please you in all things, and so come to the happiness of celebrating the sacrament of their marriage.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### **Blessings**

Almighty and eternal God, you have so exalted the unbreakable bond of marriage that it has become the sacramental sign of your Son’s union with the Church as his spouse. Look with favor on all couples whom you have united in marriage as they ask for your continued help and the protection of the Virgin Mary. With them I pray that in good time and in bad they will grow in love for each other; that they will resolve to be of one heart in the bond of peace. Lord, in their struggles let them rejoice that you are near to help them; in their needs let them know that you are there to rescue them; in their joys let them know that you are there to rescue them; in their joys let them see that you are the source and completion of every happiness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **In Brief**

The marriage covenant, by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, has been founded and endowed with its own special laws by the Creator. By its very nature it is ordered to the good of the couple, as well as to the generation and education of children. Christ the Lord raised marriage between the baptized to the dignity of a sacrament (cf. CIC, can. 1055 § 1; cf. GS 48 § 1).

The sacrament of Matrimony signifies the union of Christ and the Church. It gives spouses the grace to love each other with the love with which Christ has loved his Church; the grace of the sacrament thus perfects the human love of the spouses, strengthens their indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life (cf. Council of Trent: DS 1799).

Marriage is based on the consent of the contracting parties, that is, on their will to give themselves, each to the other, mutually and definitively, in order to live a covenant of faithful and fruitful love.

Since marriage establishes the couple in a public state of life in the Church, it is fitting that its celebration be public, in the framework of a liturgical celebration, before the priest (or a witness authorized by the Church), the witnesses, and the assembly of the faithful.

Unity, indissolubility, and openness to fertility are essential to marriage. Polygamy is incompatible with the unity of marriage; divorce separates what God has joined together; the refusal of fertility turns married life away from its “supreme gift,” the child (GS 50 §1)

The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason the family home is rightly called “the domestic church,” a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity.



### Scripture Reflection

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one's toes with the expression of great glee. Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves. Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sister were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister's hand and exclaimed, "The ice cream man is here, isn't it great!" As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, "Yeah, I can't wait!" The experience of a child's delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life. Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus' wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love. God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God's celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus' mother to heart when she says, "Listen to him." This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus.



# Financial Blessings

**YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH LAST WEEK IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$2,470.00**  
Adult envelopes issued.....292 (January, 2022)  
Adult envelopes used.....81/28% (January 9, 2022)  
Food Pantry.....1 donation.....\$10.00  
*Thank You for your continued support! May God Bless You!*

**CONSIDERATION: Argue like you're right and listen like you're wrong.**

— Organizational Psychologist Adam Grant

### Everyday Stewardship

"If every flower wanted to be a rose," wrote St. Therese of Lisieux, "spring would lose its loveliness." Who is God asking you to be today? There is an obvious answer that springs to mind right out of the gate. God wants me to be a good person (a good father, a good husband) today; today, God wants me to be a saint. But this answer fails to get to the heart of the question. We are all striving today to serve the same Spirit, but we are given different gifts to do so. The one who has the gift of knowledge may fail if today he decides he wants to be a healer. The one who has the gift of "varieties of tongues" might falter in the expression of wisdom. Think about the wedding at Cana and the players in the scene: the servers, the guests, the bride and groom. They all have a unique role to play, and though it is to the servers that Mary gives the instruction, "Do whatever he tells you," her words apply to all. Today, are we called to be the servers — do we wait on God's instruction and carry it out, no matter how foolish or impossible it may seem to our human ears? Are we asked to be the disciples, to bear witness to a miracle and to give our testimony? Are we called to imitate the Blessed Mother herself and give encouragement to follow God's word? Let us examine our gifts and listen in the silence of our hearts to the direction of the Spirit. Then and only then, let us do whatever He tells us. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### Inspiration For The Week

Relationships are hard to clarify. Determining whether people in our lives are simply acquaintances and associates or a deeper level of friend is a journey that takes time. Identifying and celebrating those people who really care about us is a life-long adventure that involves both moments of intense elation and heartache. Some relationships are more easily definable than others. Two people who are in love must decide whether the love they share has the freedom and depth necessary for lifelong commitments. Other relationships may look like friendship but may harbor grave dysfunction and toxicity. Discernment is needed on all fronts. Our relationship with God also needs definition and discernment. God has taken creation as His spouse and human beings as His children. God delights in us and all that He has made. The wedding feast at Cana demonstrates God's investment in all of this, especially our happiness. Life is a time for celebration and great rejoicing!

# CLPI MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, January 17 - Martin Luther King Day;  
St. Anthony, Abbot**

**Tuesday, January 18 - January 18-25 is the Week of  
Prayer for Christian unity**

**Wednesday, January 19**

**Thursday, January 20 - St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr;  
St. Sebastian, Martyr**

**Friday, January 21 - St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr**

**Saturday, January 22 - Day of Prayer for the Legal  
Protection of Unborn Children**

4:30pm †Ana Zaragosa int. Linda Shoppa  
†Stella Sobilo int. Polish Roman Catholic Union  
of America, Society 413  
Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

**Sunday, January 23 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30am †Glenn Evans int. Havlin Family  
†Rev. Jozef Mucha int. Teresa Radziwiecki  
†Helen Wintczak int. Ladies Rosary Sodality

## Quote from Pope Francis

As we reflect on Paul's teaching during this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, may we be confirmed, together with all Christ's followers, in our pursuit of holiness and fidelity to the Lord's will.



## Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

**Question:** How can we pray for the dead throughout the year?

**Answer:** We commemorate the faithful departed on November 2nd each year. However, we can and should continue to pray for the dead. Our growth in Christian perfection takes a long time. At the time of our death, many of us might not be saints yet. But God, in His mercy, allows for those who love Him to experience purification after death. Our word for that state is Purgatory. It's the antechamber of heaven, so to speak. We know we're getting in the house, but we're not quite ready to go all the way in. There's rain to shake off our coats and dirt that's clogging our shoes. Here on earth, we can pray for the souls in Purgatory. One way is to request that your parish offer a Mass for the intention of a specific loved one. We can also remember the departed in our daily prayers. Just as we have special intentions for family and friends here on earth, we can pray for those who have died. It's also a good act of Christian charity to pray for the forgotten, those who have no one else to pray for them. God knows who they are!

## Question Of The Week

### First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah used marriage imagery (bridge and groom) to describe the Lord's love for his people, Israel. What do you see as some implications of this marriage imagery?

### Second Reading:

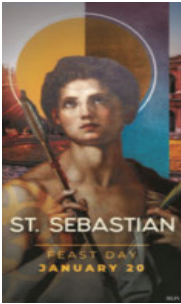
Paul taught the Corinthians that the individual gifts of the Holy Spirit are meant to benefit and unify the community of faith. How do you use your spiritual gifts within your faith community?

### Gospel:

Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana was one of the first public "signs" he performed revealing his divinity. It also showed Jesus' compassion, sparing the family shame at running short of wine. How do you imagine the family reacted to Jesus' intervention and rescue?



# Community Events



## St. Sebastian | January 20

Not much is known about the life of St. Sebastian (256 - 287), except that he was a Roman martyr whose name has been mentioned throughout history since early 350.

We see St. Sebastian many times in art, especially from iconic paintings from Guido Reni, Andrea Mantegna and Hendrick ter Brugghen. Historical scholars now agree that a spiritual story has the beloved saint entering the Roman army because only there could he assist Christian martyrs without arousing suspicion on himself. Eventually he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. Pierced with arrows, he was left for dead, but managed to survive. He recovered from his wounds but still refused to leave.

One day, St. Sebastian took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He confronted the emperor, condemning him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out, and St. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs. Today he is the patron saint of athletes.

**"DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT DARKNESS; ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT. HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE; ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT."**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

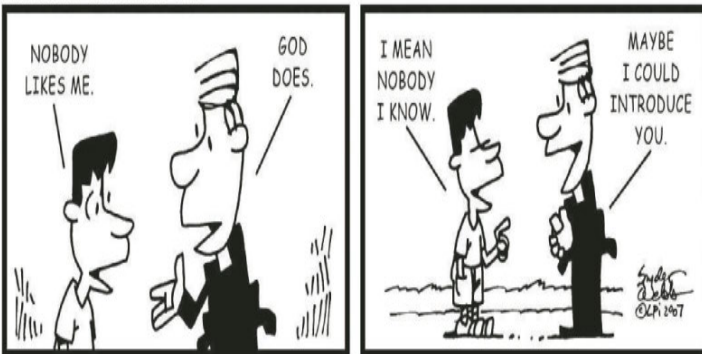


## For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life

**G**od our Creator,  
we give thanks to you,  
who alone have the power to impart the breath of life as you form each of us in our mother's womb;  
grant, we pray,  
that we, whom you have made stewards of creation, may remain faithful to this sacred trust and constant in safeguarding the dignity of every human life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Collect for Jan. 22, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**PUZZLE**  
Find the two identical jars.

**MISSION**  
What does Jesus tell you to do in his word, the Bible? Find out by reading the Bible for 15 minutes a day with your family. You could start by reading Luke.

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