3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS INTENTIONS AND READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 23—*Memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00am Intentions of the Parishioners
Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14 / Mark 3:20-21
Vigil Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00pm †Rudy Fusco by his wife, Vivianne
Sunday, January 24—*The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00am †Joseph Lewanduski by John & Barbara Suo
10:30am †Louis & Louise Lengyel by their Family
4:30pm †Phyllis Rahn by her Family
Jonah 3:1-5, 10 / 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 / Mark 1:14-20
Monday, January 25—*Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle*
7:30am Deceased priests & religious & the souls in Purgatory by John & Barbara Suo
Acts 22:3-16 / Mark 16:15-18
Tuesday, January 26—*Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops*
7:30am Peter Gorton *(living)* by the Tuesday Prayer Group
2 Timothy 1:1-8 / Mark 3:31-35
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration
Wednesday, January 27—*Weekday*
7:30am †Marian Kosinski by her Grandchildren
Hebrews 10:11-18 / Mark 4:1-20
Thursday, January 28—*St. Thomas Aquinas*
7:30am †Patricia Hurley Cherico by Helen & Anthony Finateri
Hebrews 10:19-25 / Mark 4:21-25
Friday, January 29—*Weekday*
7:30am Living & deceased members of the Pope, Spillane & Lavenski families by John & Barbara Suo
Hebrews 10:32-39 / Mark 4:26-34
Saturday, January 30—*Memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00am Intentions of the Parishioners
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 / Mark 4:35-41
Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00pm †Louis Lakatos by his Mom
Sunday, January 31—*The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00am †James Byrne by James & Helen Kelly
10:30am †William Mezzo, Sr. by his Family
4:30pm †Deceased members of the Salesian community by the Bingham Family
Deuteronomy 18:15-20 / 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 / Mark 1:21-28

Rest in Peace

Those who have died in the pandemic.

To their families & friends, we offer our prayers & sympathy.

Stewardship

"Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life"
Caring for and Sharing with Each Other
"G I F T S"
Giving In Faith Through Stewardship
Discover your God-given gifts and find a place in our community to give your gift back to God in gratitude and service.
Treasure (Resources): Financial Report

$ 1,277.00 Envelope Offertory for January 17, 2021
$ 394.00 Loose Offertory for January 17, 2021
$ 283.00 Fuel & Electric
$ 491.00 Previous Weeks
$ 250.00 Online Giving
$ 2,695.00 Subtotal
$ 188.65 Cathedraticum
$ 2,506.35 Total that stays in the Parish for our use.

Thank you for giving your "first fruits" back to the Lord!
May God return your generosity to you 100-fold!

Staff

Father Binny Issac SDB, **Pastor**
Thomas Festa, Facilities Manager
Jeff Bingham, Parish Secretary
Helen Finateri, Bookkeeper
Cornell Bialicki, Music Director & Organist
Anita Gawronski, Parish Council President
Nancy Hanson, Parish Minister

Finance Council

Father Binny Issac, Matt Fortney, Michael Mason, David Whidden, Don Duman (Trustee) & Cindy Russo (Trustee)

Ministries

Pro-Life: Dorothy Deitelbaum
Raffle: Don & Jackie Duman
Attic Treasures: Joan Bettencourt
Food Bank: Barbara Salerno & Paul Beauchemin
Cooking Club: Joanne Ramos
Adult Faith Formation Minister: Sherri-Lyn Raimo
Retreat Coordinator: Mary Welch
Holy Name Society President: Don Duman
Our Lady's Guild Co-Presidents: Cindy Russo and Chie Knapp

Some thoughts on today's scripture: Mark 1:14-20

Christ the Lord Jesus Christ ushers in the third age in the history of humanity. First there was the age of creation, when mankind lived in the fullness of communion with God and the freshness of an absolute beginning. This ended with original sin and the subsequent fall from grace, after which the second age began, the age of the Promise. God promised Adam and Eve that he would send a Savior to free the human family from domination by the devil. (cf. Genesis 3:15). In this second age, God gradually prepares the world through the education of his chosen people, Israel, for the arrival of Jesus Christ, whose advent marks the time of fulfillment ("the time has come"—the third age), when God actually enters into time and space in order to rescue it from sin and destruction. The end of this third age will yield the new heavens and the new earth, the definitive and final victory of Christ's eternal Kingdom.

As pressing and absorbing as current affairs may seen to the men and women of every historical epoch, it is the presence and action of Jesus Christ in and through his Church that gives the human story its true meaning and propels its fundamental drama. All things hinge on Jesus Christ, because he alone holds the key to communion with God, and only that can satisfy the human heart.

Evidence of his continuing intervention in history surrounds us. One of the most eloquent signs is the ongoing flow of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Just as Jesus called his apostles to leave everything and follow him two thousand years ago, so he continues to call men and women today. Each vocation is proof of his Lordship, proof that the King still reigns. Asking the Lord to keep calling, and asking him to give courage and faith to those he calls, should be a part of every Christian's prayer life—nothing bolsters the Kingdom more.

Christ the Teacher "The Kingdom of God" is one of Christ's most frequently used phrases. He came to establish it, he rules it, and he taught us to pray constantly for its coming (*Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done…").* In his initial announcement of its arrival, Jesus gives us the first lesson about what it entails.

"The Kingdom of God is close at hand," he proclaims, and then he adds, "repent and believe the Good News." The "Kingdom of God" merely refers to wherever things are done God's way, wherever his will and his eart infuse life into the souls of men and women. To repent means to turn away from doing things our own, selfish way (which is the way we tend to do things ever since Adam and Eve set the unfortunate precedent). To believe in the Good News means to trust that God's way, God's will, is the best choice. If we trust in the love, wisdom, and power of God, we will have the courage to fashion our lives according to his standards (which are made clear and practical in the Church's teachings). If we recognize our own limitations and selfish tendencies, we will have the necessary humility to repent. If we want to enter this Kingdom and share in its unequaled vitality and meaning, we simply need to trust in God more than ourselves—over and over again.

Christ the Friend From St. John's Gospel we know that Jesus had already met and spent time with the four apostles whom he calls so suddenly in this passage. It's important to keep this in mind: far from unexpectedly demanding an irrational abandonment of family, career, and previous plans, Jesus built up a relationship of mutual knowledge and trust before he invited Peter, Andrew, James, and John to become his full-time disciples.

Likewise, only as we cultivate a true friendship and an intimate and ongoing exchange of hearts with our Lord will we be able to hear and heed his call in our life. This is not a God who demands blind obedience to his awesome power; this is Jesus Christ, true man, who meets us right where we are and walks along the shore of our lives, who wishes to get to know us, to spend time with us, and to call us by our names. This is a Lord and God who wants our friendship, so that he can share his life with us.

Christ in My Life It's so easy to lose sight of you in my life, Lord. You exercise your authority so gently. I know that history hinges on you, and yet, I still let myself get worried and angry and perturbed by minutiae. Jesus, increase my faith, strengthen my hope, and enlighten my mind – make me your convinced and formidable disciple.

I have heard your call in my life, Jesus, more than once. You have looked into my eyes and invited me to follow you more closely, just as you did with the apostles. Thank you for coming into my life. I am sorry for the times I have been unfaithful. Call me again, Lord, today, so that I can show you my love and loyalty by leaving behind everything that's not your will.

You called these apostles because you wanted to give them a mission in life, something so worthwhile that you didn't hesitate to invite them to leave their careers and their families. You have given me a mission too. Thank you, Lord, for giving me direction and meaning. Make me a fisher of men for your Kingdom.

Fr. John Bartunek, LC

As you consider your offerings for the Parish, we would like to remind you that Mass Stipends and the Sanctuary Lamp are available for remembrance of your loved ones. A donation of $10 is requested for each Mass or sanctuary lamp.
Your gifts benefit the entire Parish in many ways!

OUR LADY'S GUILD

The Guild will not meet in the month of January. The next meeting will take place on Monday, February 8, 2021 beginning at 6:30pm.
We will meet, weather permitting, in the Vern Maxwell Family Center.

ONLINE GIVING

Simple! Beneficial to you and the Parish!
https://saintvincentferrerchurch.weshareonline.org
During these times, those who are not able to attend Mass are encouraged to use Online Giving at the website shown above. This is a service provided to us by our bulletin publisher.

READERS for the weekend of January 23 & 24

4:00pm Judi McKinney
8:00am Sean Leahy
10:30am Bob Harkey
4:30pm Sherri-Lyn Raimo

VIRTUS Protecting GOD'S CHILDREN

Parishioners in active ministries (lectors, catechists, aides, ministers, etc) need to attend a training session in child protection. The Virtus Training session entitled "Protecting God's Children" is being offered via a Zoom meeting within the Archdiocese of Hartford.
Important: Register online only at:
www.virtusonline.org

Protecting God's Children for Adults
Where: Online
When: TO BE ANNOUNCED
Estimated length of session: 3 hours
Spaces remaining: TBA
All attendees must preregister with a valid cell phone number and email address. You must have a computer with audio and camera to attend. No child under 18 can be in the room during the session.

Baptism

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." (John 6:35)
Parents (who are registered here) and godparents are prepared at a class next held **February 2nd at 6:30pm.** Please call the Office to sign up. If you missed a class you previously signed up for, you **must** sign up again for the new class; nothing is assumed.

Godparents **must** be confirmed and obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their own Catholic parish.
Baptisms normally take place here on the 2nd or 3rd Sundays of the month after the 10:30am Mass, but other weekends are possible depending on other events.

Prayer in time of pandemic
Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages, "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.
Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.
Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. *America—the Jesuit Review*

CCD Grades 1—6

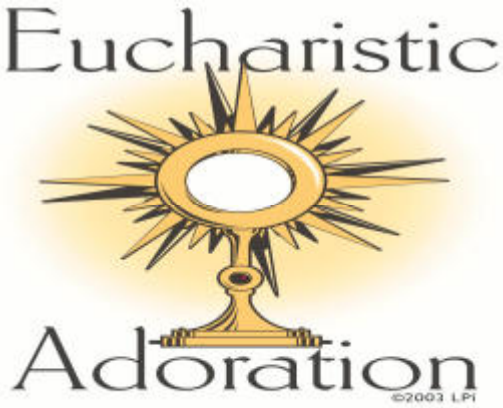
If you missed the Registration dates, you will have to register at St. Francis Parish Center, 294 Church Street (former school building) Monday through Friday 8AM—12 Noon. Masks are required. This is an $85 Registration Fee (same as last year—CHECKS ONLY). As always, if the fee poses a financial hardship, let me know. NO CHILD will be left out.
Please send to:
St. Francis Parish Center 294 Church St. Naugatuck, CT 06770
Mr. Lenny Tiscia 203-490-9861

January 24th —Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The appointed time of God's in-breaking is fulfilled. God's kingdom has drawn near. *Come after Me.* Jesus called Andrew and Peter and James and John. He calls still in our day. Are you willing to listen to the call and follow him as a priest or religious?
Call **Fr. Michael Casey**,
Director of Vocations
Pastoral Center Telephone: 860-761-7456
Email: vocations@aohct.org or

Tuesdays

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration after Mass.



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Parish website: saintvincentferrerchurch.org
Email Father Binny: binnyissacp@gmail.com
Phone Father Binny @ 203-723-7497

EVENT SUMMARY THIS WEEK AT ST. VINCENT FERRER

Sunday	1/24/2021 Masses @ 8:00am and 10:30am and 4:30pm //
Monday	1/25/2021 Mass @ 7:30am //
Tuesday	1/26/2021 Mass @ 7:30am (***followed by Adoration***)
Wednesday	1/270/2021 Mass @ 7:30am //
Thursday	1/28/2021 Mass @ 7:30am //
Friday	1/29/2021 Mass @ 7:30am //
Saturday	1/30/2021 Mass @ 8:00am // ***Confessions @ 3:00pm*** // Vigil Mass @ 4:00pm

Following Him:
a Reflection on the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

As Elijah comes upon Elisha working on his family's farm, so Jesus sees the brothers working by the seaside. And as Elisha left his mother and father to follow Elijah, so the brothers leave their father to come after Jesus.

As Jesus' promise—to make them "fishers of men"—evokes Israel's deepest hopes. The prophet Jeremiah announced a new exodus in which God would send "many fishermen" to restore the Israelites from exile, as once He brought them out of slavery in Egypt (Jeremiah 16:14-16).

By Jesus' Cross and Resurrection, this new exodus has begun (Luke 9:31). And the apostles are the first of a new people of God, the Church—a new family, based not on blood ties, but on belief in Jesus and a desire to do the Father's will (John 1:12–13; Matthew 12:46–50).

From now on, even our most important worldly concerns—family relations, occupations, and possessions—must be judged in light of the Gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle. The first word of Jesus' Gospel—repent—means we must totally change our way of thinking and living, turning from evil, doing all for the love of God.

And we should be consoled by Nineveh's repentance in today's First Reading. Even the wicked Nineveh could repent at Jonah's preaching. And in Jesus we have "something greater than Jonah" (Matthew 12:41). We have God come as our savior, to show sinners the way, as we sing in today's Psalm. This should give us hope—that loved ones who remain far from God will find compassion if they turn to Him.

But we, too, must continue along the path of repentance—striving daily to pattern our lives after His.

Scott Hahn

Archdiocesan Marriage Enrichment Celebration. The Archdiocesan Office of Family Life will hold its 14th annual Marriage Enrichment Celebration on Sat., Feb. 6, 2021, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please join us for an evening of prayer, reflection and fun centered on the theme: "The Unforeseen of Quarantine: Viewing our Sacrament with 2020 Vision." Due to ongoing pandemic restrictions, this year's program will be virtual and conducted over the internet. Participants can join with either video/audio or just audio connections. There is no cost for the program, however, if your circumstances allow, please consider a donation to local family-centered charities negatively impacted by COVID-19. Instructions for signing into the program will be provided with your registration confirmation. To register or obtain more information, contact Tom and Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or email to tfinnphd@gmail.com.
Please R.S.V.P. by February 4th, 2021.

Our weekly **Bible Study** meets each Friday (if the weather outside is not frightful) at 7:00pm in the Vern Maxwell Family Center.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL DINNER

Our next meal for the St Vincent de Paul Shelter is on Sunday, January 24, 2021. The meal will be Chili, Corn Bread, Salad and Cake. We will need the following items: Diced Tomatoes, Tomato Sauce, Red Kidney Beans, Corn Bread Mix, Salad Dressing, Cake Mix and Cans of Frosting. Thank You for your support.

MONEY COUNTERS
1/25Andy & Nancy Hanson
2/1 Mabel Herring & Mary Welch
2/8 Jean Rostowsky & Debbie Bingham
2/15 Martha Gorton & Anita Gawronski
2/22 Donna Hanlon & Helen Kelly

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