

# Saint Jerome Catholic Church

January 16, 2022



WHEN THE WINE RAN  
SHORT, THE MOTHER  
OF JESUS SAID TO  
HIM, "THEY HAVE NO  
WINE." - JN 2:3

2ND SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

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## St. Jerome Academy:

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## Child Center:

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## Website:

stjeromes.org

## Mass Schedule

- ◆ Monday-Friday 8am
- ◆ Saturday vigil 4:30pm
- ◆ Sunday 8:30am,  
10:30am, 12:30pm  
(Nigerian Community)
- ◆ Holy Days as announced

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

3pm to 3:50pm in the Gold  
Room, sign up via Flock-  
note



As for me and  
my household,  
we will serve  
the Lord.

JOSHUA 24:15



For the week  
of  
January 16

**Sunday:** Charles Andrew Roult;  
For the People

**Monday:** Edward & Dolores Mills

**Tuesday:** Jim Laddbush

**Wednesday:** Lloyd Creger

**Thursday:** Robert West

**Friday:** Regina Coakley



The spring 2022 session of the Endow women's ministry will be studying St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross: Edith Stein/ Seeker of the Truth.

There will be both a virtual group and in person group.

The virtual group will meet Monday evenings beginning January 31 via Zoom from 8:15pm to 9:30pm.

The in-person group will meet Wednesday mornings beginning February 2 and will meet in the Gold Room from 8:45am to 10:45am.

**Please register by January 17.**

To register, email [helizwright@hotmail.com](mailto:helizwright@hotmail.com) the following:

- 1) Which group you'll attend (Monday zoom or Wednesday in person)
- 2) Name
- 3) Email
- 4) Phone
- 5) Whether you'll buy a book on your own, or need a book purchased for you (books are \$35, or pay what you can)

## IT TAKES ALL KINDS

"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.

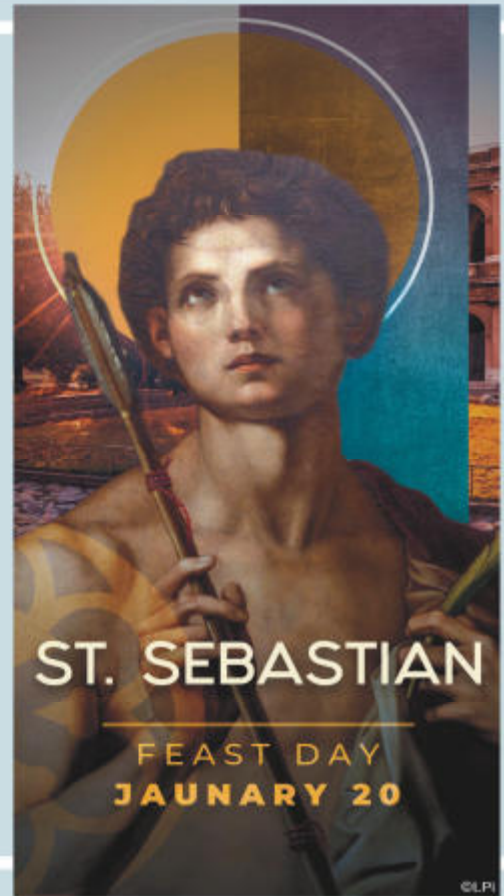
—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



# LIVE THE LITURGY

## 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 lifelong 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!



## Saint of the Week

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.



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

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.

*There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.*

*When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."*

*- Jn 2:1-3*

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