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Office hours: Mon - Thur 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., **Fri Closed**

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time



January 24, 2021



Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor

1567–1622

Patron Saint of writers and journalists

*A gentleman of sterling character and many talents
leaves a legacy*

St. Francis de Sales was born to a noble family at Chateau de Sales in the Kingdom of Savoy near Geneva, Switzerland on August 21, 1567. He was a Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Francis was both intelligent and gentle. From a very early age, he desired to serve God. He knew for years he had a vocation to the priesthood, but kept it from his family. His father wanted him to enter a career in law and politics. In 1580, Francis attended the University of Paris, and at 24-years-old,

received his doctorate in law at the University of Padua. All the time, he never lost his passion for God. He studied theology and practiced mental prayers, but kept quiet about his devotion. To please his father, he also studied fencing and riding. God made his will clear to Francis one day while he was riding. Francis fell from his horse three times that day. Every time he fell, the sword came out of the scabbard, and every time it came out, the sword and scabbard came to rest on the ground in the shape of the Christian cross. After much discussion and disagreement from his father, Francis was ordained to the priesthood and elected provost of the Diocese of Geneva, in 1593, by the Bishop of Geneva. During the time of the Protestant reformation, Francis lived close to Calvinist territory.

During the time of the Protestant reformation, Francis lived close to Calvinist territory. He decided he should lead an expedition to bring the 60,000 Calvinists back to the Catholic Church. For three years, he trudged through the countryside, had doors slammed in his face and rocks thrown at him. In the bitter winters, his feet froze so badly they bled as he tramped through the snow. Francis' unusual patience kept him

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working. No one would listen to him, no one would even open their door. So, Francis found a way to get under the door. He wrote out little pamphlets to explain true Catholic doctrine and slipped them under the doors. This is one of the first records we have of religious tracts being used to communicate the true Catholic faith to people who had fallen away from the Church. The parents wouldn't come to him, so Francis went to the children. When the parents saw how kind he was as he played with the children, they began to talk to him. By the time Francis returned home, it is believed he brought 40,000 people to the Catholic Church. He forged wonderful alliances with Pope Clement VIII and Henry IV of France, and in 1601 Francis joined Henry IV on a diplomatic mission. He was to give Lenten sermons at the Chapel Royal. Henry grew attached to Francis and saw him as a 'rare bird' who was devout, knowledgeable and a gentleman. In 1602, Bishop Garnier died and Francis was consecrated Bishop of Geneva, although he continued to reside in Annecy. He only set foot in the city of Geneva twice—once when the Pope sent him to try to convert Calvin's successor, Beza, and another when he traveled through it.

In 1604, Francis took one of the most important steps in his life—the step toward extraordinary holiness and mystical union with God. In Dijon, Francis saw a widow listening closely to his sermon—a woman he had seen already in a dream. Jane de Chantal was a dedicated Catholic Christian on her own, as Francis was, but it was only when they became friends, they began to become saints. Jane wanted him to take over her spiritual direction, but, not surprisingly, Francis wanted to

wait. "I had to know fully what God himself wanted. I had to be sure that everything in this should be done as though his hand had done it." Jane was on a path to mystical union with God and in directing her, Francis was compelled to follow her and become a mystic himself. Years after working with Jane, he made up his mind to form a new religious community. In 1610, he founded The Order of Visitation. Francis was overworked and often ill because of his constant load of preaching, visiting, and instruction—even catechizing a deaf man so he could take first Communion. He believed the first duty of a bishop was spiritual direction and wrote to Jane, "So many have come to me that I might serve them, leaving me no time to think of myself. However, I assure you that I do feel deep-down- within-me, God be praised. For the truth is that this kind of work is infinitely profitable to me." For him active work did not weaken his spiritual inner peace but strengthened it. He gave spiritual direction to most people through letters, which attested to his remarkable patience. "I have more than fifty letters to answer. If I tried to hurry over it all, I would be lost. So, I intend neither to hurry or to worry. This evening, I shall answer as many as I can. Tomorrow I shall do the same and so I shall go on until I have finished."

During this time, it was wrongly thought that achieving real holiness of life was a task reserved for only for the clergy and those in religious life, and not for lay men and women. In addition, that only contemplatives, people who withdraw from active participation in the world, could really achieve holiness. Francis insisted that every Christian was called to holiness and sanctity, lived within their own state in life. In holding that belief, he reflected the teaching of Jesus and the early Church Fathers. Francis laid the groundwork for the teaching of the Second Vatican Council on what is now called the universal call to holiness. It reaffirms the teaching of Jesus and the early Church that every Baptized Christian is called to sanctity, no matter what their career or state in life. In every career and state in life, Christians can become more and more like Jesus Christ. That is, after all, what holiness really means. Francis gave spiritual direction to lay people who were living real lives in the real world. He had proven with his own life that people could grow in holiness while involved in a very active occupation. He also recognized that Christian marriage and family life is itself a call to holiness.

His most famous book, INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE, was written for ordinary lay people in 1608, not just the clergy and religious. Written originally as letters, it became an instant success all over Europe—though some clergy rejected the notion that lay men and women could achieve holiness in the experience of their daily life. Some tore it up because Francis

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encouraged dancing and jokes! For Francis, the love of God was like romantic love. He said, "The thoughts of those moved by natural human love are almost completely fastened on the beloved, their hearts are filled with passion for it, and their mouths full of its praises. When it is gone, they express their feelings in letters, and can't pass by a tree without carving the name of their beloved in its bark. Thus, to those who love God can never stop thinking about him, longing for him, aspiring to him, and speaking about him. If they could, they would engrave the name of Jesus on the hearts of all humankind." The key to love of God was prayer. "By turning your eyes on God in meditation, your whole soul will be filled with God. Begin all your prayers in the presence of God." For busy people living in the world, he advised, "Retire at various times into the solitude of your own heart, even while outwardly engaged in discussions or transactions with others and talk to God." The test of prayer was a person's actions. "To be an angel in prayer and a beast in one's relations with people is to go lame on both legs." He believed the worst sin was to judge someone or to gossip about them. Even if we say we do it out of love we're still doing it to look better ourselves. We should be as gentle and forgiving with ourselves as we should be with others. As he became older and more ill he said, "I have to drive myself but the more I try the slower I go." He wanted to be a hermit but he was more in demand than ever. The Pope needed him, then a princess, then Louis XIII. "Now I really feel that I am only attached to the earth by one foot..." He died on December 28, 1622, after giving a nun his last word of advice: "Humility."

St. Francis de Sales was beatified on January 8, 1661 and canonized on April 19, 1665 by Pope Alexander VII. He is often featured with the Heart of Jesus and a Crown of Thorns. In 1923, Pope Pius XI named St. Francis de Sales the patron saint of Catholic writers and the Catholic press because of the tracts and books he wrote. He is also the patron saint of the deaf, journalists, adult education, and the Sisters of St. Joseph. His feast day is celebrated on January 24. — *Catholic.org*



Here are the Mass times for Wednesday, February 17, 2021

8:30 a.m. – English

5:30 p.m. – English

7:00 p.m. – *en español*

Pastoral Corner by Fr. John

Walking the Camino is on my "bucket list." For those who are unfamiliar with the Camino, it is the ancient route that countless pilgrims have journeyed (mostly on foot) through the Spanish country to arrive at the city of Santiago de Compostela to pray at the tomb of St. James the Apostle in the basilica that bears his name. Such a trek is not for the faint of heart. It is a journey that would require someone to pack light and be prepared to encounter many obstacles or trials along the way. For many the Camino is a life-changing experience. The Camino is symbolic of our lifelong journey of faith. As the Camino would require to pack lightly, the same is true in our walk of faith with Jesus.

Both the First Reading and the Gospel this Sunday highlight the requirements in our walk of faith with Jesus. Being a missionary disciple of Jesus Christ equates to this walk of faith with Jesus.

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Both the First Reading and the Gospel this Sunday highlight the requirements in our walk of faith with Jesus. Being a missionary disciple of Jesus Christ equates to this walk of faith with Jesus.

Our walk with Jesus means that we must be willing to pack lightly and be ready for hazards or obstacles along the way. To follow Jesus means we must also be willing to change for the better. The life of a disciple of Jesus Christ is rooted in an ongoing and daily conversion of life. An authentic disciple should never be satisfied with who they are today but rather want to strive each day to become the better version of themselves. The action of conversion is liberating oneself from excessive baggage and weight. The walk of faith is already hard in and of itself, why would we want to make it more difficult by holding on to unnecessary burdens? Just think of the times when any of us have overpacked when going on a trip! I know I am guilty of such a thing!

All of us must be engaged daily in this conversion and transformation. We have the people of Nineveh or the first disciples of Jesus who made the first step. They all made the decision to change and leave their old self behind in order to be who God created them to be. The same is true for us.

To be a Christian, we must be eager and willing to abandon our old ways to be free to follow Jesus. Jesus wants to take us somewhere where no bucket list destination could ever match up; however, to get there we must be willing to pack lightly. We just need to make that first step and have faith that Jesus will handle the rest. Do you trust Him? □

Rincón pastoral por el P. Juan

Caminar por el Camino está en mi “lista de cubos”. Para aquellos que no están familiarizados con el Camino, es la antigua ruta que innumerables peregrinos han recorrido (principalmente a pie) por el país español para llegar a la ciudad de Santiago de Compostela para rezar ante la tumba de Santiago Apóstol en la basílica que lleva su nombre. Tal caminata no es para los débiles de corazón. Es un viaje que requeriría que alguien empacara la luz y esté preparado para encontrar muchos obstáculos o pruebas en el camino. Para muchos el Camino es una experiencia que cambia la vida. El Camino es un símbolo de nuestro camino de fe de toda la vida. Como el Camino requeriría empacar a la ligera, lo mismo es cierto en nuestro caminar de fe con Jesús.

Tanto la Primera Lectura como el Evangelio de este domingo ponen de relieve los requisitos de nuestro camino de fe con Jesús. Ser discípulo misionero de Jesucristo equivale a este camino de fe con Jesús. Nuestro caminar con Jesús significa que debemos estar dispuestos a empacar a la ligera y estar listos para los peligros u obstáculos en el camino. Seguir a Jesús significa que también debemos estar dispuestos a cambiar para mejor. La vida de un discípulo de Jesucristo está arraigada en una conversión diaria y en el que va de la vida. Un discípulo auténtico nunca debe estar satisfecho con lo que son hoy en día, sino más bien quiere esforzarse cada día por convertirse en la mejor versión de sí mismos. La acción de la conversión se está liberando del exceso de equipaje y peso. El camino de la fe ya es difícil en sí mismo, ¿por qué queríramos hacerlo más difícil aferrándonos a cargas innecesarias? Sólo piensa en los momentos en que cualquiera de nosotros ha empacado en exceso cuando se va de viaje! ¡Sé que soy culpable de algo así!

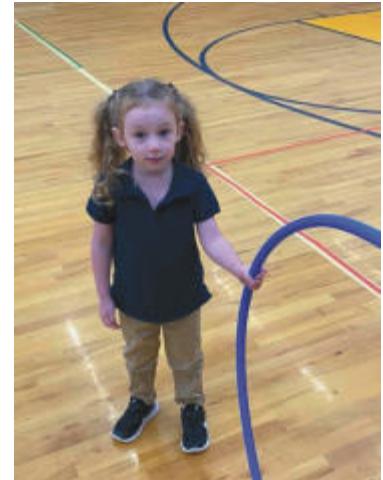
Todos nosotros debemos participar diariamente en esta conversión y transformación. Tenemos al pueblo de Nínive o a los primeros discípulos de Jesús que dio el primer paso. Todos ellos tomaron la decisión de cambiar y dejar atrás su antiguo yo para ser quien Dios los creó para ser. Lo mismo es cierto para nosotros. Para ser cristianos, debemos estar ansiosos y dispuestos a abandonar nuestros viejos caminos para ser libres de seguir a Jesús. Jesús quiere llevarnos a un lugar donde ningún destino de la lista de cubos pueda coincidir, sin embargo, para llegar allí debemos estar dispuestos a empacar a la ligera. Sólo tenemos que dar ese primer paso y tener fe en que Jesús se encargará del resto. ¿Confías en él? □

Catholic Schools Week

St. John the Baptist Catholic School has been thriving both in person and digitally this year for all students **preschool – 8th grade!** We would love to show you the school and add your children to our classes! With small class sizes we are able to accommodate daily in person learning, and the latest technology allows us to still provide digital learning for those that wish to remain home. Financial aid is available to all those that need it to provide a Catholic education for their children.

Catholic schools week begins on January 31st –February 5th and during this week we will be scheduling private tours for those interested in joining our amazing school! Registration for the upcoming 2021-22 school year begins on **March 1st for returning families** and **March 15th for new families**. Some limited availability to transfer for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

Open house: In person on February 7th from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.. Masks and socially distancing guidelines will be followed. We are also providing individual family tours available daily, Please contact Lucero Silva (school office manager) at **503-654-0200** or email to set up a tour with any questions you might have to lsilva@sjbcatholicschool.org. Come be a part of all the wonderful things going on at SJB!





◆ Sun. Jan 24:

- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration/Adoracion – Church
- 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria

◆ Wed. Jan 27:

- 1:30 p.m. – **School Mass Only – 6th Grade Leading**
- 6:30 p.m. – Divina Misericordia (español)- Iglesia
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation Classes – Cafeteria

◆ Sat. Jan 30:

- Fr. John's Birthday!!!!

◆ Sun. Jan 31:

- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration – Church
- 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria

◆ Wed. Feb 3:

- 1:30 p.m. – **School Mass Only – 5th Grade Leading**
- 6:00 p.m. – St Vincent de Paul – Jordan Room
- 6:30 p.m. – Divina Misericordia (español)- Iglesia
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation Classes – Cafeteria

◆ Fri. Feb 5:

- **No School – In-Service Day**

◆ Sun. Feb 7:

- 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Open House Grade School
- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration – Church
- 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria

◆ Wed. Feb 10:

- 1:30 p.m. – **School Mass Only – 4th Grade Leading**
- 6:30 p.m. – Divina Misericordia (español)- Iglesia
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation Classes – Cafeteria

◆ Sun. Feb 14:

- **Happy Valentines Day**
- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration – Church
- 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria



◆ Mon. Feb. 15:

- **No School** – President's Day

◆ Tue. Feb 16:

- **No School – In-Service Day**



Happy Birthday Feliz cumpleaños

Birthday Blessings for you Fr. John! The Grace of God shines in you, though you, and all around you. *Thank you* for all that you do for this parish.

Please take a moment to send a card and wish Fr. John a Blessed Birthday.



*Kathy Saylor ♥ Tam an Tran
♥ Family of Harold Eckman ♥
Family of Lulu Kabigting*

Please contact the office if you, or someone you know needs our prayers!

parishoffice@sjbcatholicchurch.org



January 24 – January 30

In memory of Rudy Lisac

From Sue Lisac

Sat. / Sab. Jan 23:	8:30 a.m. – † Ivy & Giltus Gomez – Donnel Gomez
Sun. / Dom. Jan 24:	4:00 p.m. – † Leo Nolet – Lee Nolet
	7:30 a.m. – † Jim, Ruth & Tony Kelty, Eric – Mary Brewer
	9:30 a.m. – † Brenden Daily – Michelle Colocado
	12:00 noon - † Malvina Nolet – Lee Nolet
Mon. / Lun. Jan 25:	8:30 a.m. - † Ed Goin – Bill & Lorrrie Blaufus
Tues. / Mar. Jan 26:	8:30 a.m. – Valerie Aschbacher – Ray Talarasky
	7:00 p.m. – † Malvina Nolet – Lee Nolet
Wed. / Mie. Jan 27:	8:30 a.m. – † Aileen Wilkins – Ed Wilkins
	1:30 p.m. – † Harold Eckman – Doris Geber
Thur. / Jueves Jan 28:	8:30 a.m. – † Deceased Members of YLI - YLI
	7:00 p.m. – Jesus Jimenez – Maria Flores
Fri. / Vie. Jan 29:	8:30 a.m. – † Lourdes Borromeo – Maria Santos
Sat. / Sab. Jan 30:	8:30 a.m. – † Deceased Members of YLI – YLI
	4:00 p.m. – † Bruce White – Young White
Sun. / Dom. Jan 31:	7:30 a.m. – Antoinette Santos (Birthday) – Maria Santos
	9:30 a.m. – Farida Holland (Birthday) – Maria Santos
	12:00 noon - † Malvina Nolet – Lee Nolet



Our Staff

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Tue-Sat: 8:30 a.m. English
 Tues. & Thurs.
 7:00 p.m. En español
 Sat: 4:00 p.m. Vigil
 Sunday: 7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
 12:00 p.m. En español

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday - 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Sabado - 2:30-3:30 p.m.

"St. John the Baptist Catholic Community, inspired by the Spirit of Christ, reaches out, educates, helps and nurtures all people, as we worship and serve Our Heavenly Father".



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