

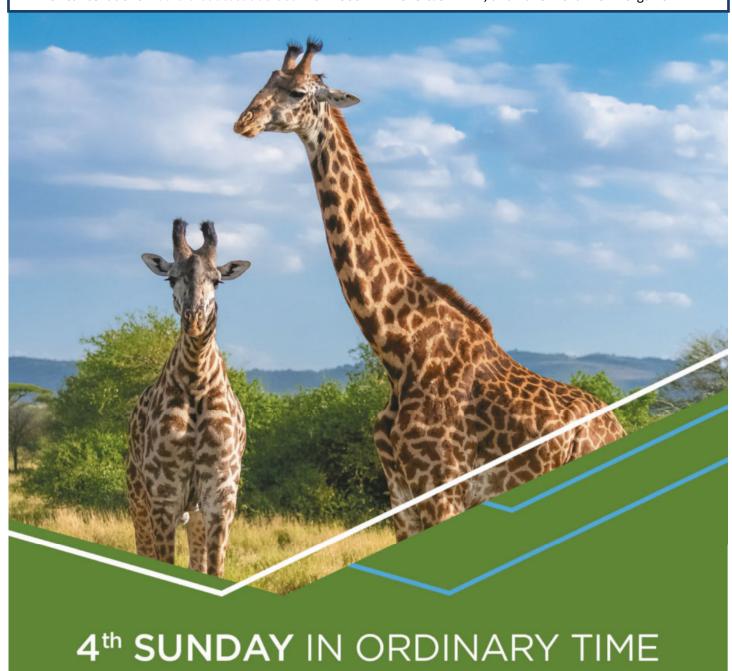
## - ST. MARY

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH STAR CITY

3346 University Ave. Morgantown, WV 26505 • 304-599-3747

## January 30, 2022 • 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Times: Saturday, 6:00pm, Sunday, 8:30am, 11:00am, en español a la 1:00pm Daily Mass\*: Mon.-Fri. 9:00am, Mon. 6:30pm, Wed. 12:00pm \*please see schedule inside for any changes or cancellations. Radio broadcast at 8:30am on 1300AM WCLG & 92.1FM, and TuneIn channel Morgan 92.1



## St. Mary Parish

#### **Pastor**

Rev. John P. McDonough papajohnwv@msn.com

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Jose Mauricio Henriquez mhenriquez@dwc.org

Rectory Phone: 304-225-0506

## Parish Office

#### Address:

3346 University Ave Morgantown, WV 26505

#### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:30pm Closed Holy Days & some Public Holidays

#### Office Staff

Brenda DeVito Theresa DeMasters

#### **Phone**

304-599-3747 / 304-599-1996

#### **Email**

stmaryschurch@comcast.net

#### Website

www.stmarystarcity.com

## Mausoleum Accounts & Management Angela Merinar 304-841-2101

Angela Merinar 304-841-2101 angelamerinar@gmail.com

## **Faith Formation & Youth Ministry**

Cynthia Friesen 304-225-1163 stmarystarcityfaithformation@gmail.com

Nancy Ferrari nickliz@aol.com

## Music & Liturgical Ministries Coordinator

TamI Alexander 304-698-7625 tamialexander@gmail.com stmarystarcitymusic@gmail.com

## **Hispanic Ministries**

Maria Garcia 304-685-7595 stmaryhispanicministry@gmail.com

Tommy Mullenex 304-777-8876 tommymullenex@yahoo.com

## St. Ursula Food Pantry & Outreach

Sr. Rachel Blais, S.C. rachel.blais@gmail.com

#### Phone

304-599-3822

#### Fmail

stursulaoutreach@gmail.com

St. Francis de Sales Central School 304-291-5070

## Prayer Requests

Barbara Fedikovich 304-599-3910 Rena Cyphert 304-599-6642



## Are you registered in the Parish?

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of the parish family.

Clearly stating your Catholic commitment in all its dimensions brings many advantages, recognition, and responsibility.

At St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, our policy, is that you must be registered and participating in Sunday Mass regularly before a baptism can take place, or for the initial meeting with the pastor in the case

of marriage.

Regular attendance is also required for adults who are asked to be a godparent or sponsor at another parish, in order that a letter can be sent stating that they are a practicing Catholic and a registered member of a parish faith community.

Even though you may have attended Mass here for months, or even years, we would like for you to be registered.

Please pick up a registration form at the church or parish office, or register online at <a href="mailto:stmarystarcity.com">stmarystarcity.com</a>
For more information, call the parish office at 304-599-3747.

## **Sacraments**

**Baptism:** (Birth – Age 7) Parents are required to participate in a preparation program before the celebration of Baptism. Parents must be registered and attending Sunday Mass regularly. Please contact the parish office for information.

**Reconciliation:** 30 minutes prior to each daily Mass

**Order of Christian Initiation:** Children 7-14 years of age, and Children 15 years of age and older & Adults— *The Order of Christian Initiation*, RCIA, please contact Cynthia Friesen at 304-225-1163 or stmarystarcityfaithformation@gmail.com

**Marriage:** Engaged couples planning to marry at St. Mary Church should be practicing Catholics, participating in Sunday Eucharist regularly. Also, they must participate in a Marriage Preparation Program. Call the Parish Office for information. At least **six months notice** is required. *No date for a wedding will be set over the phone.* 

**Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound:** When a parishioner is confined to home or hospital because of illness or advanced age, call the Parish Office. We will be happy to make arrangements to bring Holy Communion.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Upon request and communally as scheduled

## **Bulletin Deadline:**

Tuesday@Noon, email or written copy please, no bulletin announcements will be taken over the phone Email: stmaryschurch@comcast.net Subject line: attn: Bulletin, and include topic of announcement

## Spirituality of the Readings – The Carpenter's Son?



This week the other shoe drops. Last week Jesus spoke in a Nazareth synagogue and now we will hear the people's reaction to his message.

A hint: they will try to throw him off a cliff.

To see why, look at how bold Jesus was. First he searched out a prediction of the Messiah from the book of Isaiah. Here are the words he read in the synagogue:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives

and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. (Isaiah 61:1-3)

The people loved him for this. But then he applied the reading to himself!

He said, "today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing" (Gospel)! "This scripture passage" was known to all as referring to the Messiah. They saw clearly that Jesus was actually claiming to be the Messiah!

The synagogue was stunned. He had grown up in their midst. He was the carpenter's son, the one they used to see weekly in this same synagogue. Why in the world would a local man come up with such a bizarre story?

We already know why.

At the Jordan river, when he had received baptism, the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him and a voice from the heavens said, "You are my beloved son, and in you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:21-22)!

The Father's voice, out loud! Jesus' public ministry had begun. He was openly the anointed servant of God.

Immediately he fled into the desert to brood and to pray. His divinity formerly had been lodged mainly at the depths of his human awareness. Now it had to be drawn up into consciousness and dealt with.

He was human, as well as knowing the divine answer deeply, and so he was attracted to the wrong answers too, ones suggested by the devil. Turn his divinity into self-satisfaction, into power, into reputation. He was authentically tempted. But each time he refused.

Now, as Luke says, he came back to Nazareth in the power of the Spirit. It became obvious why he had selected that passage from Isaiah in the synagogue. Isaiah's words were about him! He had heard it from God at his baptism.

How were the Nazarenes supposed to have any understanding of this? He looked like a madman claiming equality with God! To them he was simultaneously insulting his home town, his people, his country Israel, and God.

"He is out of his mind!" they shouted.

Jesus tells them that neither Elijah and Elisha, great prophets, could work their miracles in Israel, but went elsewhere to do them. "No prophet is accepted in his own native place," he says.

Suddenly he is claiming to be one of the prophets!

They pull him out to a cliff to throw him off, planning to annihilate such a blasphemer. He escaped somehow but now the ball was in motion. This scene—and it is the first one described in his public ministry—forecasts his remaining life. First loved and accepted, then led to his death.

In the coming months we will see him carry out all of this. What will he do? We must find out, because we are to be filled with the same Holy Spirit.

John Foley, SJ

## **Giving Summary**

**Sunday Offering:** 

\$2,541.00

**Online Giving:** 

\$1,963.35

**Attendance:** 346

## Recent/Upcoming Special Collections

## 1/16 Church in the Developing World

Combining 3 collections from previous years: Church in Latin America, Church in Central and Eastern Europe, Church in Africa

For ease of accounting, separate checks are preferred for all donations to different collections and purposes, including special collections, Mass intentions, memorials, and donations to different funds e.g. Trust Fund for the Poor, Debt Reduction, etc. Thank you for your help!



## **DONATE** TODAY

## **GIVE ONLINE!**

by clicking on the image on our website www.stmarystarcity.com.

## THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

January 30, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, 6:00pm George & Ada Bucklew

Sunday, 8:30am For the People

Sunday, 11:00am Intention of Celebrant

Domingo, 1pm Por la Comunidad de la Parroquia

Monday 1/31 St. John Bosco

No 9:00am Mass

6:30pm Intention of Celebrant

Tuesday 2/1 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Cindy Marasco

Wednesday 2/2 The Presentation of the Lord

No 9:00am Mass

12:00pm For all those suffering from COVID-19

Thursday 2/3 St. Blaise 9:00am Jean D. Boyle

Friday 2/4 Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Daily Mass

In the event of Closing of school due to inclement weather, there will be no Daily Mass or Prayer Service.

\*In the event of a funeral, morning Mass will be cancelled\*

February 6, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, 6:00pm For the People

Sunday, 8:30am Deceased Members of the Lucci Family

Sunday, 11:00am Carlos Medina, Sr.

Domingo, 1pm Por la familia Jimenez Magaña



## The Bread and Tabernacle Candle

the week January 30th are in memory of Andrew & Carol Mihallik,

from Jeff & Mary Mihallik.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

30 minutes prior to each Daily Mass Saturdays from 5-5:40pm as scheduled (Mon-Fri: 8:30am, Mon: 5:45pm, Wed: 11:30am) \*times may change based on any changes to the weekly Mass schedule



Mass intentions are being accepted for 2022. The suggested donation is \$20 for a weekend, \$10 for a

weekday. Please call the Parish Office if interested, 304-599-3747.

Please note that any Masses cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances such as a global pandemic, inclement weather, or a funeral, will be moved to the next available 'like' date and time e.g., Daily Mass on Tuesday moved to another Tuesday, 8:30 Sunday Mass moved to another 8:30, as available.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY

## Sunday, January 30

Blessing of Throats before and after all Masses 9:30am Religious Ed.

**RCIA** 

1:00pm NA Meeting

6-8:00pm High School Youth

Monday, January 31

5:00-6:15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7-9:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, February 1

6:30-8:00pm Angels in the Bible—Class 2

6:30pm Parish Pastoral Council Mtg-Narthex

6:30pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, February 2

6:30pm Meeting for Married Couples willing

to mentor engaged couples—L/L

Thursday, February 3

12:00pm Al-Anon—L/L

5:00pm Spanish Mass Music Rehearsal

Saturday, February 5

5:00-5:40pm Reconciliation

Sunday, February 6

9:30am Religious Ed.

**RCIA** 

1:00pm NA Meeting

6-8:00pm Middle School Youth



We will have
The Blessing of the Throats
before and after all
Masses this weekend,
January 29/30

If you, or any parishioner you know, are sick or homebound and would like a visit from Fr. John, please contact the Parish Office

Memorial Donations for Bread and the Tabernacle candle are now being accepted for the year 2022. The requested donation is \$40. Please call the Parish Office if you are interested. 304-599-3747.



Until further notice, Bishop Brennan asks that all those in attendance at Mass and any other meetings, social events, or other parish gatherings (including events with food) wear a

mask, other than young children under the age of 2.

Thank you for your cooperation in this act of Christian Charity.

St. Ursula Food Pantry needs:
\*Coffee, Tea, and
Hot Chocolate

Donate your favorite blend to share some warmth with others!

Baby & Toddler Program needs: \*Baby Wash & Shampoo

Dear parishioners,

Thank you for all that you do for St. Ursula. We had a successful year, thanks to your support. Whenever there is a need, you respond with your generosity. Every week, there are cans of food or other items to be picked up from the church. Often, when a loved one dies, you request that money be donated to St. Ursula in memory of that person.

Christmas was the best, thank you the entire Giving Tree team for organizing the Christmas gifts for our families. Some parents cried when they saw all the gifts for their children.

Thank you volunteers for all that you do, without you, we would not be able to be so organized.

Blessings,

Sister Rachel, Maria, and Julia

## St. Mary Church is looking for:

A part-time maintenance person— Duties include troubleshooting malfunctions in anything from toilets to ceiling fans, general handyperson & repair work, outdoor grounds maintenance (excluding mowing), such as sidewalk clearing in winter and weeding in summer, changing light bulbs, setting up and tearing down for rentals and parish events. This position will require some on call availability and weekend hours

**Snow removal options**—If you have any equipment and would like to volunteer, or put in a bid, or if you know of any reasonably priced plowing services, please contact the Parish Office.

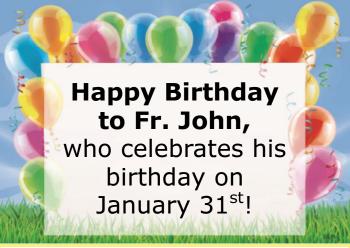


St. Mary Church Ruby Read Box, Take a Book, Leave a Book. Leisure reading materials only, please.

**Al-Anon** (for those affected by someone else's drinking) meets every Thursday at noon at St.

Mary Church. Information:

call 1-888-425-2666 or WSO@al-anon.org





Thank you to all those who donated extra blank note cards, Thank you cards, and birthday cards! We appreciate your extremely generous response!

## It's Tax Season!

We will be sending out tax receipts/ statements for 2021 by January 31, 2022, so keep an eye on the mail for your written acknowledgement of charitable contributions.

If you haven't received a statement **by February 14th** and would like one, please call or email the Parish Office: 304-599-3747, stmaryschurch@comcast.net



We have Hearing Assistance Devices available for use during Mass. If you would like one, please ask an Usher.



Donations for St. Ursula Food Pantry and Outreach may be placed in the labeled bins in the church and narthex, or dropped off in the baskets in the CFC entry.

NA Meetings St. Mary Church, Star City Tuesdays-6:30pm, Sundays-1pm To find other meetings near you, visit https://www.na.org/meetingsearch/



Text the word "starcity" to 84576 or connect with us

online at: StMaryStarCity.flocknote.com







## Birthdays

Jason-Anthony Adjeroh **Emil Alexander Richard Bajura James Barvinchak** Sean Beresford **Beth Bidwell Timothy Burke Christy Burkhart Jennifer Cain Nicole Cesa Brian Chang Maryann Cianfrocco-Boczek** Arlo Colistra **Blaze Colistra Dana Cowell Greg Cyphert Bryan Danhires** Wilson Davis **Brooklynn DeFebbo Robert Delansky Kavlee Domasky Charles Donnelly Mary Dorchak** Clifford Drach Elsa Espada Phillip Everly **Barbara Fedikovich Ross Felty Dorothy Ferrise Abram Finomore Katherine Gaines Karen Ghoraveb Ghassan Ghorayeb Thomas Gocke Carolyn Grove Kimberly Gutta** Makenna Hadrych Lydia Haley

**Mara Hathaway Grant Haves Edgar Hernandez Shirley Herstine Meghan Hickey** Kelli Hribar Jennifer Hribar **Lovely Joseph Trent Kerzak** Willa Lacy **Andrea Landis Emily Laskody Whitney Lavery** John Lavery **Estelle Lombardi Thomas Lombardi Eric London Melissa Lopez Robert Lynch** Megan Mahonev **Kathleen Maloney Christina Malonev Lauren Malv Elizabeth Mantini Giovanni Marcos** Eliza Mazezka **Maureen McCandless** Sarabeth McGaha Maria Medellin **Adam Moore Sandra Murdock Anthony Musick Maria Patrick Brittney Plum Patricia Polce Elizabeth Porter Gary Pyles** Elia Quedado

Abigail Riggleman **Nancy Romeo** Joseph Romeo Jenna Romeo **Frank Romeo Ashley Satterfield** Jacqueline Scott James Seckel **Brendan Sellaro** Victoria Sellaro Rebekah Shephard Riley Simpson **Donald Spacht Dale Stemple** Joan Stoldt **Tamara Stutler Mark Tarley** Amy Taylor **Lucille Theeke Taylor Thomas Kristin Tiberio** Jaime Valladolid Carol Vargo John Wells Whitney Wheeler **Kirsten Worley Candace Yachini** Joel Yednock

## Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays this month.

If you, or someone you know, is not listed here, or is listed in error, please notify the Parish Office so that we may update our census records.

St. Mary Church
February 2022

Mon Tue Wed
8:30am Reconciliation No 9:00am Mass or 9:00am Daily Mass in the Bible 2—L/L 6:30pm Meeting for 6:30pm No Beating for council meeting— ing to mentor engaged Narthex couples
9 9:00am Daily Mass 5:00-6:15pm Adoration 5:45-6:15pm Reconciliation 6:30pm Daily Mass 6:30pm Daily Mass 6:30pm Na Maeting 7 8:30am Reconciliation 9:00am Daily Mass 6:30am Daily Mass 6:30bm Daily Mass 6:30pm Daily Mass 6:30pm Daily Mass 7:00pm Daily Mass 6:30pm Mass 6:30pm Na Meeting 7 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 9:00am Daily Mass 6:30pm Mass 7 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 9:00am Daily Mass 7 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 9:00am Daily Mass 7 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Cally Mass 7 8:30am Cally Mass 8:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Cally Mass 8:30am Cally Ma
14 9:00am Daily Mass 9:30am Reconciliation 8:30am Reconciliation 5:00-6:15pm Adoration 9:00am Daily Mass 5:45-6:15pm Reconciliation 6:30-8:00pm Angels 12:00pm Daily Mass in the Bible—L/L 4 6:30pm Evangelization 7:00pm RCIA—L/L: Holy 6:30pm NA Meeting Committee Meeting Orders & Holy Matrimony 6:30pm NA Meeting Committee Meeting 7-9pm Boy Scouts
22 23 9:00am Daily Mass 8:30am Reconciliation No 9:00am Mass or 5:00-6:15pm Adoration 9:00am Daily Mass reconciliation 6:30-8:00pm Angels 12:00pm Daily Mass in the Bible—L/L 5 7-9pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm NA Meeting
9:00am Daily Mass 9:00am Daily Mass 5:00-6:15pm Adoration 5:45-6:15pm Reconciliation 6:30pm Daily Mass 7:00pm RCIA—L/L: Di- vorce/ Annulments/ Re- marriage in the Church 7-9pm Boy Scouts



## **EXPERIENCE WORLD YOUTH DAY**

An experience like no other, where young pilgrims from across the globe come together for a week of prayer, worship, and fellowship during which they radiate the joy of Christ to each other and to the world. Although many difficulties greet pilgrims, the graces that flow from these days ignite their faith for years to come.





with the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

## July 30-August 7, 2023

8-Day Pilgrimage with airfare from Pittsburgh

\$3,500

Payment Date	Amount	Cancellation Date	Fee
Mar. 1, 2022	\$ 300	As of deposit	\$300
Apr. 1, 2022	\$ 700	As of Apr. 15, 2022	\$800
July 1, 2022	\$ 700	As of July 15, 2022	\$800 + 50% airfare
Oct 1, 2022	\$ 700		
Jan. 5, 2023	\$ 700	As of Jan. 15, 2023	\$1,000+50% airfare
Apr. 1, 2023	\$ 400	As of April 15, 2023	No refunds

## To register, contact: Ryan Schaefer (304) 233-0880 ext. 375 rschaefer@dwc.org

## Safe Environment Reporting

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

## Will or Estate Planning

Are you thinking of remembering St. Mary Church in your will or estate plans? A bequest through a Last Will and Testament is the simplest way of creating a lasting legacy of support for St. Mary Church. Bequests should be made out to:

"The Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, or his successors in office," with a specification of the purpose for which the bequest is to be used, e.g. "for the use of St. Mary Parish"

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**January 30, 2022** 

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/

1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-

43

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32 Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or

15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

©LPi

## Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service ReportBishopAbuse.org (800) 276-1562

The Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops, and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. Where a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential. If you have any other kind of complaint about a bishop—such as parish assignments, church closings, or homily contents—please address those directly to your diocesan or eparchial bishop instead. Sexual abuse by a priest, deacon or a staff member or volunteer of the Church should be reported to the Office of Safe Environment for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. So, to be sure you get the help you need, phone numbers and addresses may be found at www.dwc.org under the accountability tab. If you are the victim of sexual abuse (or any other crime), please contact local law enforcement.

## Sunday, Jan 30, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Children should be seen, heard-and guided

It's been a tough two years on everyone, but especially on the kids. Childhood was upended by the pandemic. Schooling has been a heroic effort, and peer interactions have been stifled. This generation of young ones will have a special burden in trying to make up for lost time, missed opportunities, and natural social interactions. They've also learned unexpected lessons about global interconnectedness, the rich advantages of technology, and the bitter realities of social inequity. Today begins Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service," to remind us that our schools enable children to put what they learn in the context of gospel values. Support faith-based education!

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13; Luke 4:21-30 (72). "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you."

## Monday, Jan 31, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN BOSCO

#### Celebrating a lovely education

Saint John Bosco, a 19th-century Italian priest, was an educator ahead of his time. He understood the power of positive reinforcement long before modern psychology came along—and he applied this theory to teaching poor kids who had rough lives. His method? Quite simply, love. Rather than punish kids, he was kind. During Catholic Schools Week, offer a prayer of thanks for the educators who nurtured you through your formative years. Whether you went to Catholic schools or not, those special teachers were reflecting Christ's love back to you. Remember how their good works shaped the Christian you are today.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20 (323). "Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."

## Tuesday, Feb 01, 2022

### Catholic education for a better world

On this Tuesday of Catholic Schools Week, the focus is on the student. The National Catholic Education Association encourages schools to today recognize students' accomplishments—but also have them embrace the "grounding in faith, knowledge, and service" a Catholic education provides. In a June 2021 address to Latin American Catholic schools, Pope Francis expands this vision even more. He urges "welcoming schools" that "do not retreat into a selfish elitism, but that learn to live together with everyone . . . knowing that everything is connected." His wish? That "schools have conscience and create conscience." Pray for all Catholic students today.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mark 5:21-43 (324). "The girl, a child of twelve, arose immediately and walked around. At that they were utterly astounded."

## Wednesday, Feb 02, 2022

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

#### Comfort food for the soul

Mexican American neighborhoods will be filled with the sweet aroma of warm tamales today, served because of a special connection this day has to January 6, the Epiphany. On Epiphany, *La Rosca*, a cake in the shape of a crown, is shared by family and

friends in honor of the Magi, a.k.a., the three kings. The person who finds a small figure of Jesus hidden in their slice of cake is tasked with throwing a tamale party today, the day the infant Jesus is presented at the Temple. Welcome Jesus to your table today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). "When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."

## Thursday, Feb 03, 2022

#### Lift up her voice

Servant of God Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange, O.S.P., died on this day in 1882. Born into a well-educated family of means in the Caribbean, she immigrated to Baltimore in the early 1800s as a free black woman in a slave state. Seeing the need for education among her fellow Caribbean immigrants, she taught out of her home, opened a school in 1828, took first religious vows a year later, and founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence. Mary Elizabeth and her fellow sisters devoted themselves to works of mercy and social reform, working with communities of color facing poverty, racism, and the degradations of slavery. Nearly 200 years later, the order's work continues strong, as does the canonization process for this remarkable woman. Let Mary Elizabeth's example inspire you to respond to injustice with courageous compassion.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13 (326). "The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them."

### Friday, Feb 04, 2022

### Invest your humanity

On this Friday of Catholic Schools Week, Pope Francis offers supportive words for Catholic educators. "To educate is an act of love, it is to give life. And love is demanding, it calls for the best resources, for a reawakening of the passion to begin this path patiently with young people. The educator in Catholic schools must be, first and foremost, competent and qualified but, at the same time, someone who is rich in humanity" and able to promote spiritual growth. For this, Francis said in 2014, "it is necessary to invest." How can you help support Catholic educators today?

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29 (327). "He added beauty to the feasts and solemnized the seasons of each year."

### Saturday, Feb 05, 2022

### Be careful what you ask for

The wisest thing Solomon ever did was to ask for wisdom. Given the chance to ask for anything, he didn't go the route of wealth, fame, immortality, but rather chose the road less traveled. For, as one biblical commentator put it, wisdom is "a bountiful crop with a meager harvest." Often personified in biblical testimony as the feminine face of the Divine, Proverbs tells us that she "cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: 'How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?'" We are Solomon, and the choice is ours to make. What will you choose?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34 (328). "The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. . . . 'In addition, I give you what you have not asked for.' "

## Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow-a day at a time



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## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 72

## Reading 1 Jer 1:4-5, 17-19

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed

you.

But do you gird your loins;

stand up and tell them all that I command you.

Be not crushed on their account,

as though I would leave you crushed

before them;

for it is I this day

who have made you a fortified city,

a pillar of iron, a wall of brass,

against the whole land:

against Judah's kings and princes,

against its priests and people.

They will fight against you but not prevail over

you,

for I am with you to deliver you, says

the LORD.

## Reading 2 1 Cor 12:31-13:13

Brothers and sisters:

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues,

but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy,

and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith so as to move mountains,

but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own,

and if I hand my body over so that I may boast,

but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind.

It is not jealous, it is not pompous,

It is not inflated, it is not rude,

it does not seek its own interests,

it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,

it does not rejoice over wrongdoing

but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things,

hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;

if tongues, they will cease;

if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

For we know partially and we prophesy partially,

but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child;

when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,

but then face to face.

At present I know partially;

then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three;

but the greatest of these is love.

## Gospel Lk 4:21-30

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying:

"Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hear-

And all spoke highly of him

and were amazed at the gracious words that came from

They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this prov-

'Physician, cure yourself,' and say,

'Do here in your native place

the things that we heard were done in Capernaum."

And he said, "Amen, I say to you,

no prophet is accepted in his own native place.

Indeed, I tell you,

there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years

and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent,

but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon.

Again, there were many lepers in Israel

during the time of Elisha the prophet;

yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."

When the people in the synagogue heard this,

they were all filled with fury.

They rose up, drove him out of the town,

and led him to the brow of the hill

on which their town had been built,

to hurl him down headlong.

But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away.

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