

Christi simus, non nostri. + We belong to Christ, not ourselves.



August 23, 2020—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. COLUMBAN PARISH

506 First St. S, Yelm, WA 98597
360-458-3031 parishoffice@sc-sp.org
Office: M-Th 9AM-12PM; 12:30-2PM

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM
Saturday: 5 PM

Wednesday Mass: 9 AM
Anointing of the Sick: By Appt.
Confession: Friday 4:00—5:00 PM

Rosary begins 30 min.
before all Masses

ALL PARISH EVENTS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

*The church may be opened upon request
during office hours for those wishing to
pray inside.*

www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

ST. PETER MISSION

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589
360-264-2124 gaby@sc-sp.org
Office: Monday, Friday 10:30AM – 2PM

Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM
Confession: Sunday 7:30 -7:45AM
Anointing of the Sick: by Appt.

St Peter Advisory —
stpeteradvisory@sc-sp.org

DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS, ALL MASSES ARE BY RESERVATION ONLY AND WILL BE HELD ON THE ST. COLUMBAN CAMPUS

MISSION STATEMENT - WE ARE A CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY THAT SEEKS TO PLACE GOD FIRST, TO KNOW HIM, AND TO GROW IN HOLINESS TOGETHER. WE STRIVE TO LIVE THE GOSPEL THROUGH THE EUCHARIST, IN OUR TEACHING AND WAY OF LIFE.

For emergency assistance contact Society of St. Vincent de Paul: 360-458-1904. Please leave your name, number, and details of your need.

SAINT COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

WELCOME! Please contact the office to register as a parishioner, for questions about any announcement, how to prepare for a sacrament, schedule a funeral or Mass Intention or to update your contact information.

PARISH OFFICE: (360) 458-3031

Fr. Dean Mbuzi, Priest Administrator
Ext.6 frdean@sc-sp.org

Patricia Selsor,
Bookkeeper Ext.2 pat@sc-sp.org

Katie Hennigan, PA for Faith
Formation Ext. 3 Katie@sc-sp.org

Chad Lucero, PA for Youth Ministry &
Confirmation Ext.4 chad@sc-sp.org

Jennifer Langham, PA for Liturgy &
Admin Support Ext. 5 parishoffice@sc-sp.org

Chris Bixby,
Director of Music music@sc-sp.org

Steven Slater, St. Columban
Custodian steven@sc-sp.org

ST. PETER OFFICE: (360) 264-2124

Gaby Makinster, St. Peter Admin
gaby@sc-sp.org



FORMED

www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Intentions

Pray for all those affected by Covid-19 and for first responders and caregivers.

Aug 26—Mark Wall RIP

In Our Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands Mona Guffey, Joseph Waters, Oneida Blagg, Jess and Jessica Nash, Maria Luisa Fregoso, Dawn Bauer, Don Troyer, and Michael Mauss, and all those in harm's way.

Rest in Peace: Jackie Raygo
Nathan Williams

Financial Stewardship

St. Columban St. Peter

Weekly Goal	\$5,762	\$712
Aug 16th	\$3,018	\$942

From the Apostolic Constitution *Divino Afflatu* of Saint Pius X, Pope

The song of the Church

The collection of psalms found in Scripture, composed as it was under divine inspiration, has, from the very beginnings of the Church, shown a wonderful power of fostering devotion among Christians as they offer to God *a continuous sacrifice of praise, the harvest of lips blessing his name*. Following a custom already established in the Old Law, the psalms have played a conspicuous part in the sacred liturgy itself, and in the divine office. Thus was born what Basil calls the voice of the Church, that singing of psalms, which is the daughter of that hymn of praise (to use the words of our predecessor, Urban VIII) *which goes up unceasingly before the throne of God and of the Lamb*, and which teaches those especially charged with the duty of divine worship, as Athanasius says, *the way to praise God, and the fitting words in which to bless him*. Augustine expresses this well when he says: *God praised himself so that man might give him fitting praise; because God chose to praise himself man found the way in which to bless God*.

The psalms have also a wonderful power to awaken in our hearts the desire for every virtue. Athanasius says: *Though all Scripture, both old and new, is divinely inspired and has its use in teaching, as we read in Scripture itself, yet the Book of Psalms, like a garden enclosing the fruits of all the other books, produces its fruits in song, and in the process of singing brings forth its own special fruits to take their place beside them*. In the same place Athanasius rightly adds: *The psalms seem to me to be like a mirror, in which the person using them can see himself, and the stirrings of his own heart; he can recite them against the background of his own emotions*. Augustine says in his Confessions: *How I wept when I heard your hymns and canticles, being deeply moved by the sweet singing of your Church. Those voices flowed into my ears, truth filtered into my heart, and from my heart surged waves of devotion. Tears ran down, and I was happy in my tears*.

Indeed, who could fail to be moved by those many passages in the psalms which set forth so profoundly the infinite majesty of God, his omnipotence, his justice and goodness and clemency, too deep for words, and all the other infinite qualities of his that deserve our praise? Who could fail to be roused to the same emotions by the prayers of thanksgiving to God for blessings received, by the petitions, so humble and confident, for blessings still awaited, by the cries of a soul in sorrow for sin committed? Who would not be fired with love as he looks on the likeness of Christ, the redeemer, here so lovingly foretold? His was the voice Augustine *heard in every psalm, the voice of praise, of suffering, of joyful expectation, of present distress*.

The Feast Day of Pope St. Pius X is August 21st

Pax et bonum
Fr. Dean

SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judith Cusick (Chairperson),
Sheila Johnson,
Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge
parishoffice@sc-sp.org

SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson),
Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz,
Bob Bacon, Diane Weston,
stpeteradvisory@sc-sp.org

For daily Mass readings and Event Calendar please see our Monthly Insert, found in the narthex and on our website.

Faith Formation

All Faith Formation classes will resume in September

Registration is available through the summer



PARENTS OF RETURNING STUDENTS

Please check your email regarding the 2020-21 Faith Formation year. If you did not receive an email, please contact Katie in the Faith Formation Office to make sure you are on our mailing list.

katie@sc-sp.org 360-458-3031x3



R.C.I.A.

R.C.I.A. classes for the 2020-2021 year will

resume in

September. If you would like more information, please contact Katie in the Parish Office:

360-458-3031x3 or katie@sc-sp.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

If you are interested in baptizing your child and would like more information, please contact Katie Hennigan in the Parish Office.

katie@sc-sp.org or 360-458-3031x3

Bonus Bulletin Content!

To save on printing, some extra bulletin content will now be exclusively found in the online edition of our bulletin, which is also emailed weekly to parishioners.

Sign up at flocknote.com/saintcolumbanyelm or visit our website saintcolumbanyelm.org

All Masses will resume with modifications, see below for details

MASS RESERVATIONS

In accordance with the Governor's instructions and guidance from the Archdiocese, public Mass at our parish has resumed. Attendance will be limited to 70 people and reservations must be made in advance.

To make a reservation, please contact the Parish Office.

360-458-3031 ext. 5
Mon-Thurs from 9AM-2PM

Reservations end every Thursday at 2PM and please note that leaving a voicemail does not confirm your reservation.

Weekend Mass:

Vigil	5PM
Sunday	8AM
	10:30AM

Weekday Mass

Wednesdays at 9AM.

**This will also be by reservation only and reservations end Tuesdays at 2PM.*

Confession

Fridays 4-5PM
Sundays from 7:30—7:45AM

Important Things to Remember

- ◆ Masks will be required and only persons from within the same household will be seated together.
- ◆ Please arrive at least 20 minutes early for Mass. You will be checked in by a Greeter and then seated by an Usher.
- ◆ We recommend you bring your own missal with you for the readings as they will not be provided.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Outdoor



Saturday
August 29th
8AM—1PM

Coffee Hours-Women's Club

No events until further notice.

DONATE NOW



Annual Catholic Appeal

Thank you to all who returned your pledges. The Catholic Appeal Campaign supports over 60 ministries and services in the Archdiocese. Once our goal is reached, every dollar and every prayer will be returned to the parish and mission for our special projects. *Please do not send blank envelopes as it delays the process.*

Goal for St. Columban: \$29,466

Total Pledged as of August 2, 2020
\$25,158 85% of Goal

Goal for St. Peter: \$4,651

Total Pledged as of August 2, 2020
\$5,864 126% of Goal

Thanks to our advertisers listed on the back of this bulletin! They make this publication available to the Parish at no cost to us.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Annual Outdoor



Saturday August 29th at St. Columban

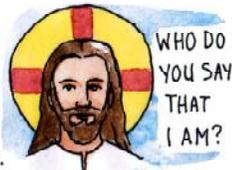
8AM-1PM

Accepting useable items in good working condition.
Contact John Scotto (206-805-9279) for drop off information
or to schedule pickup if needed.

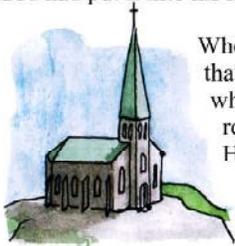
**MATTRESSES, PAINT, VEHICLE BATTERIES, TIRES, AND FLAMMABLE/HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

"You Are Peter."

Today in the Gospel reading, Jesus asked His disciples who people thought that He was. Everybody seemed to think He was someone special, but none of them knew who He really was. When Jesus asked the disciples themselves who they thought He was, Simon said that He was "the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Simon only knew this because God had put it into his mind.

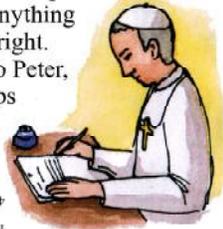


WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?



When Simon had said this, Jesus said that his name would now be Peter, which means rock, and that on this rock He would build His Church. He made Simon Peter the first pope. He also said that the gates of Hell would not prevail against the Church. Jesus was assuring us that He would always protect the Church from error.

Now whenever the pope, or the bishops who are agreeing with the pope, teach anything about God, we know that they are right. Jesus gave the teaching authority to Peter, and he passed it down to the bishops through all the centuries until now. Isn't that pretty amazing?



Answers to Crossword: ACROSS: 5: Netherworld 7: on 9: he 10: give 11: rock 13: head 14: an 17: flesh 19: Jesus 21: set (or put) 22: name 23: have 24: son DOWN: 1: Peter 2: Church 3: are 4: prevail 6: do 8: not 10: God 12: keys 15: never 16: we 17: Father 18: Heaven 19: I 20: Simon 23: he

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 23rd, 2020

Who do you say that I am?



YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD.



Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood have not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.

What were Peter and Jesus saying in today's Gospel reading?

Look in the mirror to find out!

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

BIRTHDAY: JUNE 24
DEATH: AUGUST 29

THE BIRTH OF JOHN WAS ANNOUNCED TO HIS FATHER ZACHARY BY AN ANGEL. AT FIRST HE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT BECAUSE HE AND HIS WIFE WERE SO OLD.

Your wife will bear a son.

Impossible!

WHEN MARY, WITH JESUS INSIDE HER, WENT TO VISIT ELIZABETH, JOHN, WHO WAS STILL INSIDE HIS MOTHER, LEAPED FOR JOY!

Cousin Elizabeth!

WHEN JOHN GREW UP, HE LIVED IN THE DESERT WHERE HE ATE ONLY LOCUSTS AND HONEY.

Repent of your sins!

HE BEGAN BAPTIZING PEOPLE AT THE JORDAN, PREPARING THEM FOR JESUS.

WHEN JESUS CAME, JOHN BAPTIZED HIM. HE TOLD PEOPLE TO FOLLOW JESUS.

Behold! The Lamb of God!

JOHN TOLD KING HEROD HE WAS WRONG TO MARRY HIS BROTHER'S WIFE, HERODIAS, SO THEY PUT HIM IN PRISON.

It is against God's law!

WHEN THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS DANCED FOR HEROD HE PROMISED HER WHATEVER SHE ASKED FOR. HERODIAS TOLD HER TO ASK FOR THE HEAD OF ST. JOHN.

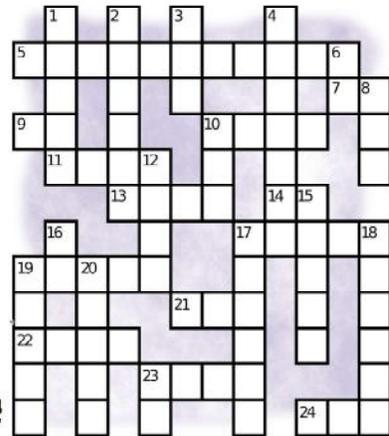
Behold him in prison.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST IS LIKE A SIGN-POST THAT POINTS TO JESUS. EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS WEIRD, HE PREACHED THE TRUTH. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS FREEDOM AND HIS LIFE FOR THE TRUTH. LIKE ST. JOHN, OUR LIVES SHOULD BE LIKE SIGNS THAT DIRECT PEOPLE TO GOD AND TO THE TRUTH.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

"Who do you say that I am?" CROSSWORD

See how well you know what happened in today's Gospel story!



- ACROSS
5. "...the gates of the _____ will not prevail..."
 7. "...this rock I will build my Church..."
 9. "Whatever you bind on earth shall _____ bound in Heaven."
 10. "I will _____ you the keys of the kingdom..."
 11. "On this _____ I will build my Church."
 13. Jesus made Peter the _____ of the Church on earth.
 14. "Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed _____ Heaven."
 17. "_____ and blood have not revealed this to you..."
 19. _____ asked them, "Who do you say that I am?"
 21. God _____ Peter in charge of His Church on earth.
 22. Jesus changed Simon's _____ to Peter.
 23. "Flesh and blood _____ not revealed this to you..."
 24. "...You are the Christ, the _____ of the living God!"
- DOWN
1. _____ said, "You are the Christ..."
 2. "On this rock I will build my _____."
 3. "Blessed _____ you, Simon..."
 4. "...the gates of the netherworld shall not _____"
 6. "Who _____ people say that the Son of Man is?"
 8. "Flesh and blood have _____ revealed this..."
 10. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living _____!"
 12. "I will give you the _____ to the kingdom of Heaven."
 15. When will the gates of the netherworld prevail against the Church?
 16. _____ belong to the Church that Jesus started.
 17. The Heavenly _____ revealed to Simon who Jesus was.
 18. "...the keys to the kingdom of _____"
 19. "Blessed are you, Simon, son of _____"
 20. Peter's name before Jesus changed it.
 23. Jesus ordered the disciples to tell no one that _____ was the Christ.

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

AUGUST 23-29, 2020



The new school year is about to begin! Start off the school year with a prayer. We're praying for you and your families.

Prayer to Begin a School Year/Semester

Blessed are you, Lord God,
Creator of body and mind and heart;
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge
to guide your people in all their ways.

At the beginning of this new school year (or semester/term)
we implore your mercy:
bless the students, teachers, and staff of N.,
that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love
as we learn from you and each other
how to follow your Son Jesus.

Expand the horizons of our minds,
that we may grow in wisdom,
understanding, and knowledge;
deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways;
and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.

Glory and praise to you, Lord God,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

R/. Amen

I will give thanks to
your name, because
of your kindness
and your truth:
When I called, you
answered me; you
built up strength
within me.

—PS 138:2-3



TAKE THE 'CIVILIZE IT' PLEDGE

The escalating incivility of our country's political discourse has nearly paralyzed our government, while attacks on life and dignity, injustice, violence and a throwaway culture persist. The bishops of Washington state noted in a pastoral statement issued earlier this year:

"We must reverse these trends and heal our political divisions. The human suffering we witness at home and abroad urges us not to delay in our response. We must learn again how to work with people who hold different political positions and keep the pressing priorities paramount. We cannot let disagreements derail our efforts on the common good."

As we approach the 2020 election, Washington's bishops are inviting Catholics to join the U.S. bishops' Civilize It campaign (civilizeit.org) by taking the pledge.

TAKE THE PLEDGE

CIVILIZE IT
★ ★
DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE



I PLEDGE:

1. CIVILITY

To recognize the human dignity of those with whom I disagree, treat others with respect, and rise above attacks when directed at me.

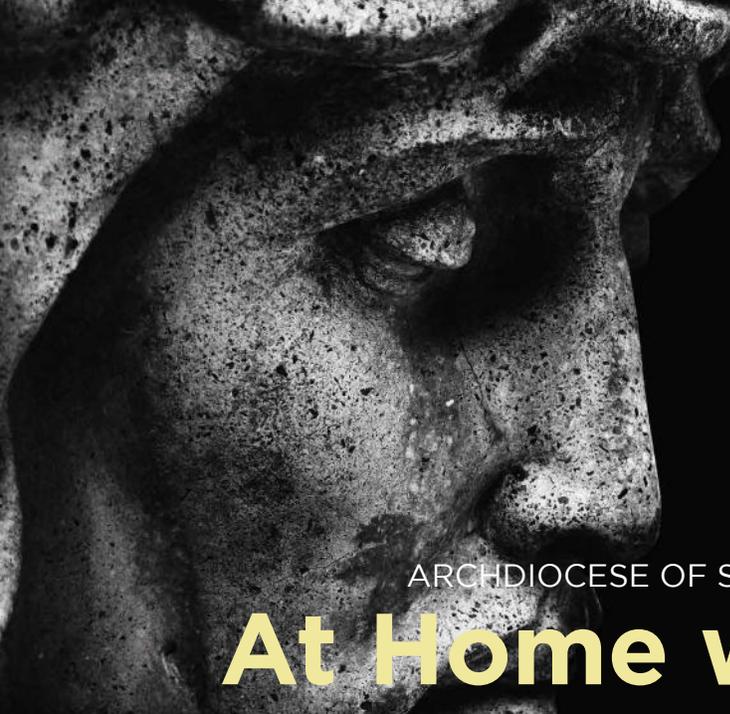
2. CLARITY

To root my political viewpoints in the Gospel and a well-formed conscience, which involves prayer, conversation, study and listening. I will stand up for my convictions and speak out when I witness language that disparages others' dignity, while also listening and seeking to understand others' experiences.

3. COMPASSION

To encounter others with a tone and posture which affirms that I honor the dignity of all and invite others to do the same. I will presume others' best intentions and listen to their stories with empathy. I will strive to understand before seeking to be understood.





Who do you say that I am?
August 23, 2020
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

Jesus asks the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” We can learn about Jesus by studying scripture or listening to others speak of him. But Jesus is inviting us to get to know him personally, with our own hearts.



Jesus' question to the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” marks a critical turning point in the history of salvation. Simon, son of Jonah, answers, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” In response, Jesus gives him a new identity: “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.”

When we realize who Jesus really is — God among us — everything falls into place. Are we friends with Jesus? Have we told our children about him? If we aren't sure, let's take this opportunity to do so.

Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Isaiah 22:19-23

He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

Lord, your love is eternal.

Romans 11:33-36

How inscrutable his judgements and unsearchable his ways!

Matthew 16:13-20

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

At Home with Faith

Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Three ways we can help our children grow closer to Jesus:

- **Reflect.** Before talking with your children about their relationship with Jesus, it helps to think about your own relationship with him. In a quiet place, ask for God's help in hearing his voice. Read Matthew 16:13-20, and then imagine yourself standing in the place of Peter when Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Offer your own answer to that question. If you need help, ask Jesus to help you see how he has been at work in your life so you can help your children recognize him in their life too.
- **Ask.** Invite your children to imagine they were Peter in Matthew 16:13-20. How would they answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" Your priest or deacon may have preached on the passage at Mass. You might share your own experience getting to know Jesus in your life. What's important is that your children are encouraged to think about how Jesus is part of their life.
- **Ask again.** As your child prepares for bedtime, ask them this question again. You may even read Matthew 16:13-20 a second time. Encourage them to talk with Jesus in their prayer about where they think he has been part of their life. Also encourage your child to ask Jesus to get to know him better. Remind them that praying to Jesus can be a conversation where they let him know that they want to become closer to him. Let them know it makes Jesus happy when they want to know him better.



When did you fall in love with Jesus?

*A Reflection from Deacon Eric Paige
Director, Office of Marriage and Family Life*

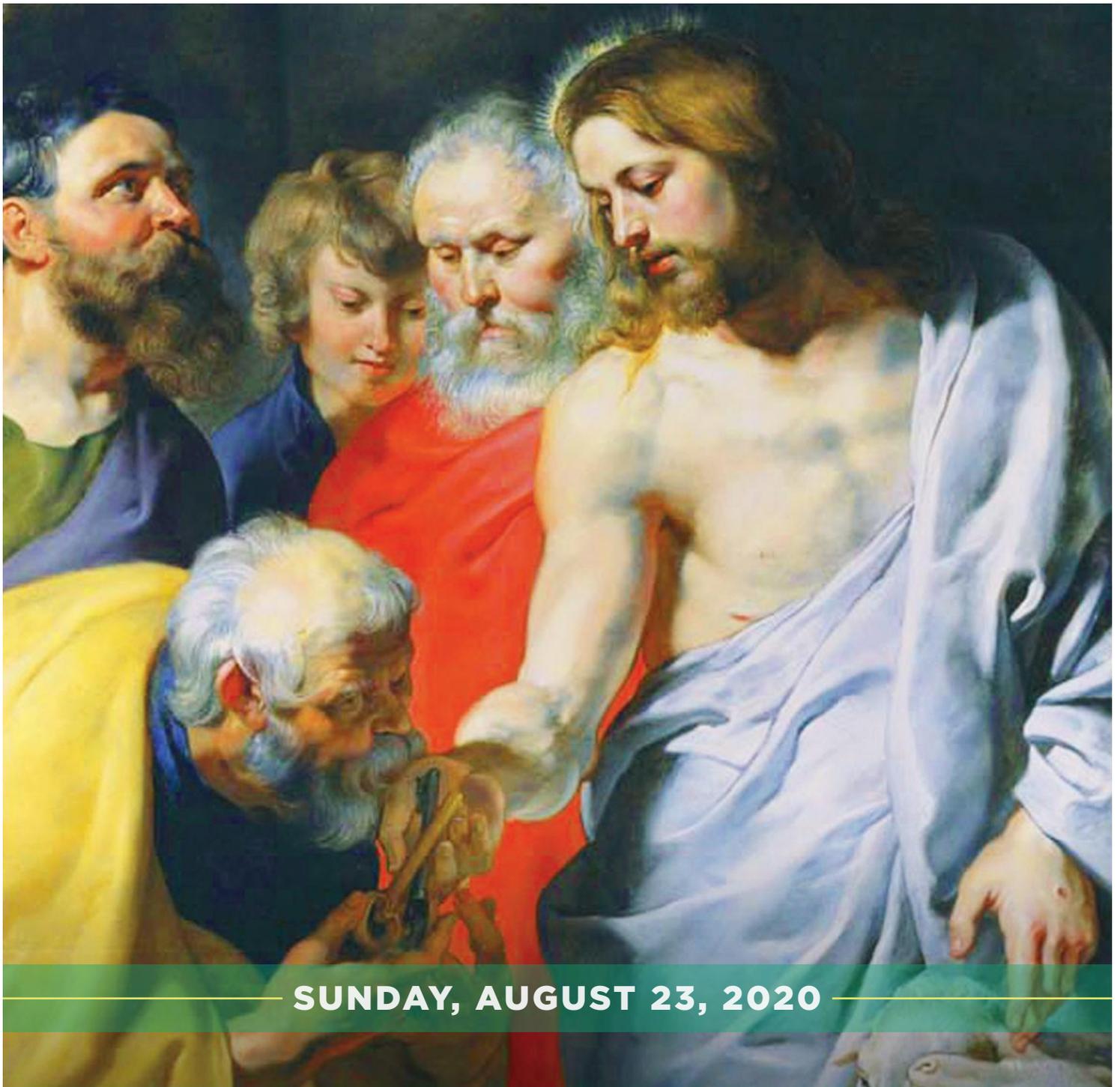
One of the best retreats I have participated in was built around a simple question: "When did you fall in love with Jesus?" Answering this question took real thought, consideration and prayer. It prompted me to realize how Jesus had been present to me in really important ways throughout my life.

This question also helped me to share with others on the retreat with a new kind of openness and honesty. Then, hearing the answers from others on the retreat let me know them with a new kind of depth and appreciation. By the time the retreat concluded, we all became much more aware of how Jesus is present to us.

It takes work to share with our children how Jesus is part of our personal lives. We have to take some time to reflect about how we have gotten to know him. It then takes a little courage for us to start the conversation. It's worth the effort, though. These conversations can really help us to grow closer to Jesus, and to one another.

**For more resources, including previous issues of
At Home with Faith, visit us online at:**

<https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith>



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2020

- SUN 8/23** Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/
Mt 16:13-20
- MON 8/24** Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
- TUE 8/25** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26
- WED 8/26** 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32
- THR 8/27** 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51
- FRI 8/28** 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13
- SAT 8/29** 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/
Mk 6:17-29
- SUN 8/30** Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

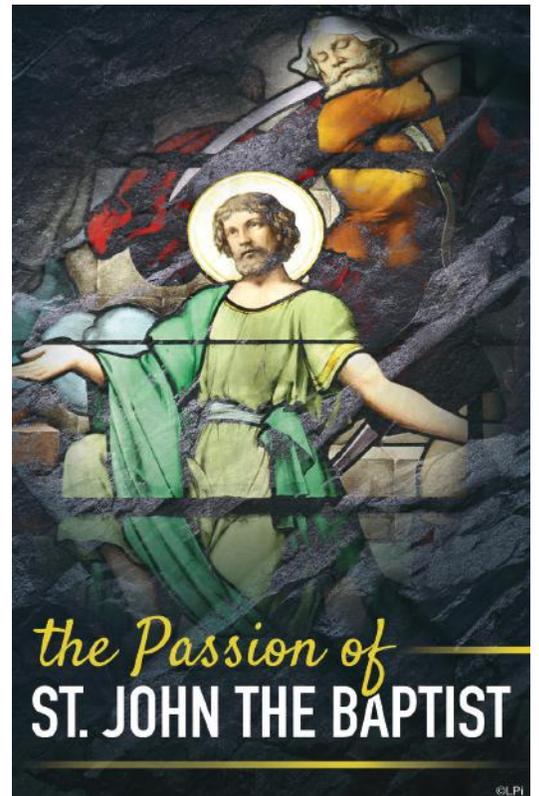
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2020

- Sunday:** 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Bartholomew, Apostle
- Tuesday:** St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
- Thursday:** St. Monica
- Friday:** St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** The Passion of St. John the Baptist
- Next Sunday:** 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

To stand in the presence of God is to stand in the presence of incomprehensible mystery. We are people of proofs and facts. With good reason, we are becoming more doubtful of what presents itself to us, as technology makes it easy to fabricate false images and distort what is actually true. What we think is real actually may not be. We become skeptical. Does this skepticism affect our relationship with God? To have faith in God means that we must be willing to trust in the absence of full knowledge. To know the mind of God means we would know God himself, and that is impossible. To acknowledge Jesus as the Christ means we acknowledge that the reality and presence of an incarnate God has a fundamental claim on who we are. When we name this truth, we participate in a depth of knowledge that stretches us far beyond the scope of our minds. It brings us to silence, which is the only way to touch our soul.



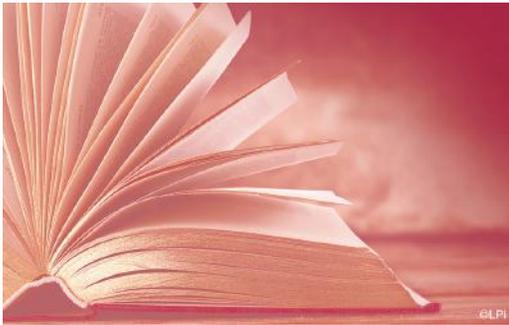
— — — — —

*Say to Jesus
as the apostles
did: "Lord,
teach us to
pray."*

— ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

— — — — —

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut when he shuts, no one shall open." (Is 22:22)



PSALM

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (Ps 138)



SECOND READING

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways! (Rom 11:33)



GOSPEL

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." (Mt 16:18)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

The Choice of Stewardship

What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Priestly Ordination of Men

Question:

Why are only men allowed to be priests or deacons in the Church?

Answer:

One of the most debated and — in some circles — contentious teachings of the Church is that only men can be ordained as priests and deacons. Critics see it as a way of strengthening a patriarchal system in which women have little or no voice. Those who support this teaching look to New Testament teaching (where we read of Jesus choosing only men to be apostles) and the long-standing practice of the Church. This was certainly the perspective of St. John Paul II who, in his 1994 apostolic letter, *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*, closed the discussion on the possibility of ordaining women as priests.

In the letter, he reflected on the dignity of women and their call to share in the life and mission of the Church, but he concluded by solemnly declaring that “the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgement is to be definitely held by all the Church’s faithful” (no. 4).

This position has been upheld by Pope Francis in interviews, most notably as he returned from his 2016 visit to Sweden.

The ordination of women to the diaconate is another question and one which is being studied. In 2016, Pope Francis created a 12-member commission to study the question from several perspectives (theological, liturgical, historical, etc.). The commission issued an initial report for Pope Francis who later said that the commission had not yet produced a “definite response” to the question because of a lack of agreement on the role of female deacons in the Early Church.

For now, however, regardless of what changes might come from ongoing study and debate, the Church continues to reserve ordination to the diaconate to men only, recognizing a vital link between the diaconate and the priesthood and the lack of certainty about the presence and function of female deacons throughout history.

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"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

- Mt 16:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The Lord condemns Shebna (a scribe under King Hezekiah) for ignoring Isaiah's prophetic warning and elevates Eliakim with "a seat of honor." How well do you listen to prophetic voices?

Second Reading

We hear today Paul's concluding remarks from Romans 9:11 (reflections on God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles). Paul contends that God's ways are beyond our understanding. Do you find this comforting or unsettling?

Gospel Reading

Jesus informs Peter that his confession of him as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" is divinely inspired. How do you imagine Peter personally reacted to the news of this revelation?



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

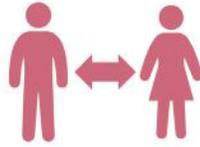


LITURGICAL LIFE

3 EASY STEPS

To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



Wash Your Hands

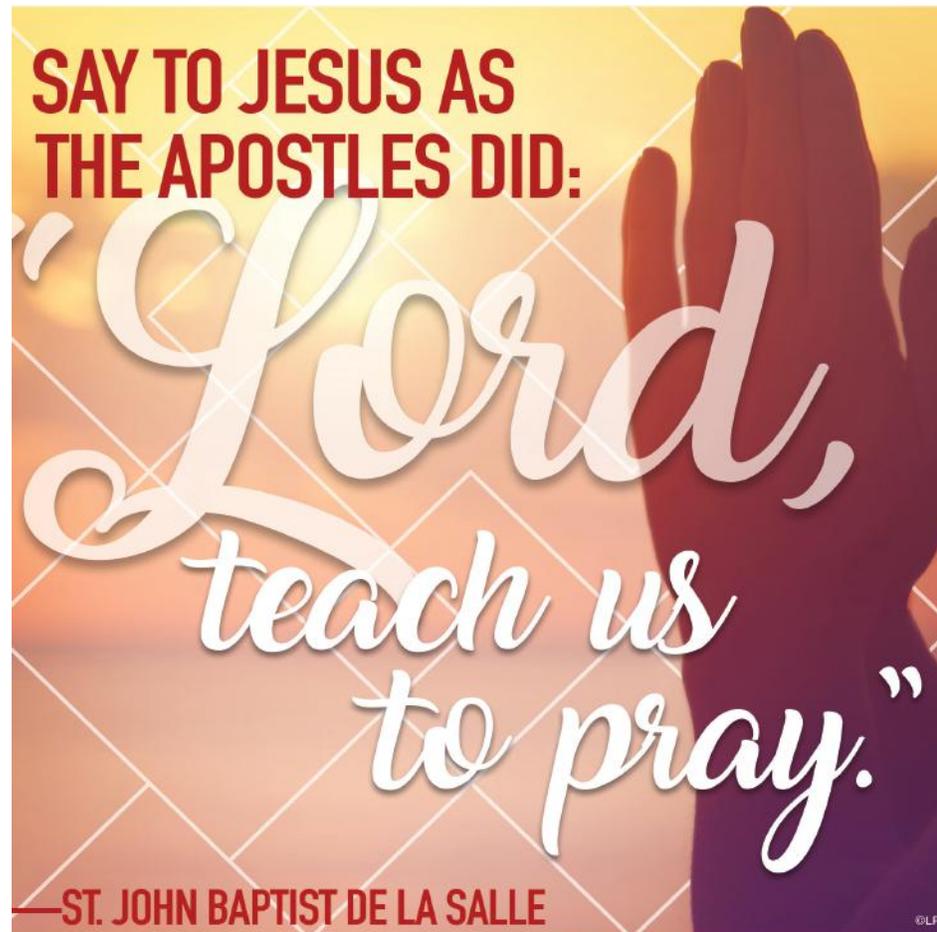
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



*He said to them,
“But who do you
say that I am?”
Simon Peter said
in reply, “You are
the Christ, the Son
of the living God.”
Jesus said to him
in reply, “Blessed
are you, Simon
son of Jonah. For
flesh and blood
has not revealed
this to you, but my
heavenly Father.”*

- Mt 16:15-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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KIDS CORNER

READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

In this Gospel, Jesus asked his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ, the Messiah, the Savior. It is hard to keep a secret. When you are told a secret, the first thing you want to do is tell everyone you meet. If you were blind and Jesus made you see, it would be difficult to keep it a secret. You would probably run here and there telling everyone.

PRAYER

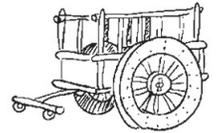
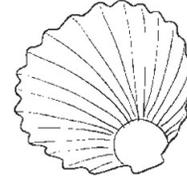
Jesus, now I can tell everyone that you are Christ, our Savior.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

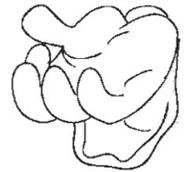
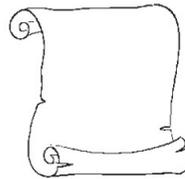
I will share my favorite Bible verse about Jesus with a friend.

Which picture name **begins** with this letter? Circle the picture that starts with that sound.

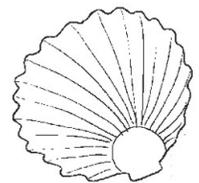
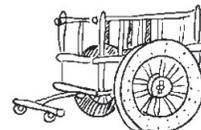
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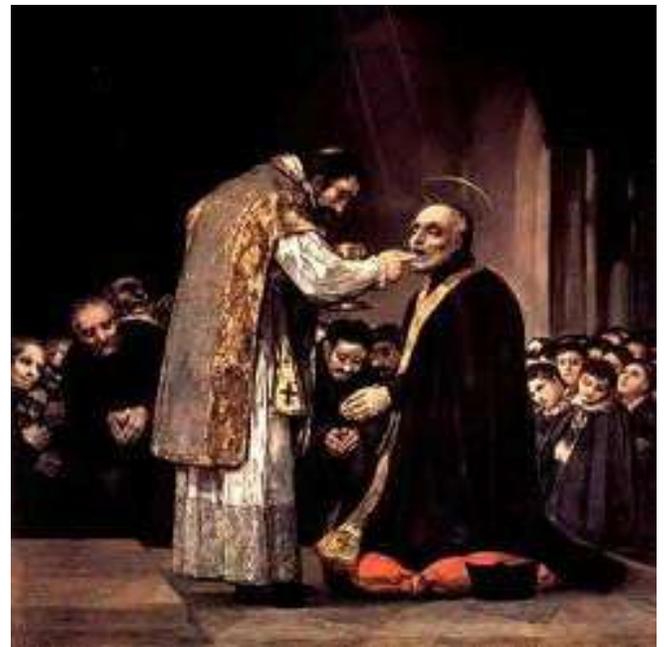


Saint Joseph Calasanz

DATES: 1556–1648

FEAST DAY: AUGUST 25

This Spaniard studied law at the University of Lerida and was ordained a priest in 1583, despite his father's hope that he would be a soldier. He became vicar general of a Spanish diocese, but in 1592 left for Rome, where he joined the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and worked with neglected children. In 1597 he established the first free school in Rome with three other priests. This work led him to found the Clerks Regular of the Religious (or Pious) Schools, known as Piarists. He overcame internal and external opposition and served as superior general of the order. He was canonized in 1767, and in 1948 Pope Pius XII named him the patron saint of Christian schools. He is also a patron of students.



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