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



# January 24, 2021—3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# St. Columban Parish

506 First St. S, Yelm, WA 98597

## **Parish Office**

360-458-3031

Hours: Monday—Thursday 9AM-12PM; 12:30-2PM parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

## **Mass Schedule**

Sunday: 10:30AM Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM Daily Mass: Wednesdays 9:00AM Rosary is said 30min prior to each Mass

# **Sacraments**

Anointing of the Sick: By Appointment Confession: Fridays 4:00—5:00PM

## **Faith Formation**

Offered Sundays before and after the 10:30AM Mass, depending on grade RCIA: Tuesdays 6:30PM

#### **Adult Education & Outreach**

Contact the parish office for more information

Bible Study Thursdays 6:30PM

Hispanic Prayer Group Tuesdays 6:00PM

Rosary Prayer Group Mondays 7:00PM

The church may be opened upon request during office hours for private prayer

# ST. PETER MISSION

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589

## **Mission Office**

360-264-2124

Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays 10:30AM – 2PM gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org

# **Mass Schedule**

Sunday 8:00 AM Rosary is said 30min prior to Mass

# **Sacraments**

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

## **Adult Education & Outreach**

 ${\it Contact\ the\ mission\ of fice\ for\ more\ information}$ 

Bible Study Thursdays 10:00AM

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 the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 360-458-1904. Please leave your name, number, and details of your need.

Winter Clothes Closet Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:00PM—8:00PM

# 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@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Patricia Selsor, Bookkeeper Ext.2 pat@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Katie Hennigan, Faith Formation Ext. 3 Faith Formation katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chad Lucero, Youth Ministry & Confirmation Ext.4 Youth Ministry & Confirmation chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Jennifer Langham Liturgy & Admin Support Ext. 5 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chris Bixby, Director of Music chrisb@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Steven Slater, St. Columban Custodian steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

#### ST. PETER OFFICE:

#### (360) 264-2124

Gaby Makinster, St. Peter Admin gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org



# TORMED CORMED

# www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

# Daily Masses & Confession will be announced for the month of January

**Alternative Confession Times** 

**St. Michael's: S**aturdays 2-4pm **Sacred Heart**: Saturdays 3-4PM

# **In Our Prayers**

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands Joseph Waters, Jess & Jessica Nash, Ray Wilson, Paul Hennigan, Colleen Pallet, and all those in harm's way.

Rest in Peace: George (Chip) Beusch, Jose Luis Fregoso, Joseph Vadja

# **Financial Stewardship**

## St. Columban St. Peter

Weekly Goal \$5,762 \$712 Jan 10th \$3,013 \$621

#### From a homily by Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop

For love of Christ, Paul bore every burden

Paul, more than anyone else, has shown us what man really is, and in what our nobility consists, and of what virtue this particular animal is capable. Each day he aimed ever higher; each day he rose up with greater ardor and faced with new eagerness the dangers that threatened him. He summed up his attitude in the words: *I forget what is behind me and push on to what lies ahead.* When he saw death imminent, he bade others share his joy: *Rejoice and be glad with me!* And when danger, injustice and abuse threatened, he said: *I am content with weakness, mistreatment and persecution.* These he called the weapons of righteousness, thus telling us that he derived immense profit from them.

Thus, amid the traps set for him by his enemies, with exultant heart he turned their every attack into a victory for himself; constantly beaten, abused and cursed, he boasted of it as though he were celebrating a triumphal procession and taking trophies home, and offered thanks to God for it all: *Thanks be to God who is always victorious in us!* This is why he was far more eager for the shameful abuse that his zeal in preaching brought upon him than we are for the most pleasing honors, more eager for death than we are for life, for poverty than we are for wealth; he yearned for toil far more than others yearn for rest after toil. The one thing he feared, indeed dreaded, was to offend God; nothing else could sway him. Therefore, the only thing he really wanted was always to please God.

The most important thing of all to him, however, was that he knew himself to be loved by Christ. Enjoying this love, he considered himself happier than anyone else; were he without it, it would be no satisfaction to be the friend of principalities and powers. He preferred to be thus loved and be the least of all, or even to be among the damned, than to be without that love and be among the great and honored.

To be separated from that love was, in his eyes, the greatest and most extraordinary of torments; the pain of that loss would alone have been hell, and endless, unbearable torture.

So too, in being loved by Christ he thought of himself as possessing life, the world, the angels, present and future, the kingdom, the promise and countless blessings. Apart from that love nothing saddened or delighted him; for nothing earthly did he regard as bitter or sweet.

Paul set no store by the things that fill our visible world, any more than a man sets value on the withered grass of the field. As for tyrannical rulers or the people enraged against him, he paid them no more heed than gnats. Death itself and pain and whatever torments might come were but child's play to him, provided that thereby he might bear some burden for the sake of Christ.

The Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul is January 25.

Pax et bonum, Fr. Dean.

# SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

# SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION

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

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

# **Faith Formation**



# January 26th **Introduction to the Sacraments: Baptism**

Tuesdays at 6:30PM in the Religious Ed Bldg. Rm. 103

Also available via Zoom

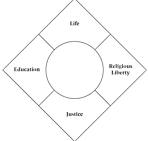


# CHILDREN'S PRAYERS

Children in the religious Education program are averaging 166 prayers every

week. Keep up the good work! Every prayer is a conversation with God.

"But if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and he will be given it." -James 1:5



For the last several years, a group of parishioners from Saint Columban has attended the March for Life at Saint Michael's in Olympia. The

March always takes place on the anniversary of the passing of Roe v. Wade on January 22, 1973 which federally legalized abortion. As of right now, there will be no official March for Life walk from Saint Michael to the capitol building due to COVID-19 restrictions. More information to follow.

Belief in the inherent dignity of each human life from the moment of conception until natural death is the most fundamental principle of our moral teaching as Catholics. This same principle also drives our care for the most vulnerable in our communities, our respect for and protection of religious freedom, and our focus on the basic human right of education to realize our full human potential. There will be a series of inserts for the month of January detailing the below graphic. For more information, visit https:// www.wacatholics.org/what-we-do/issues#

Together Strong: Life Unites.

## All Masses will resume with modifications, see below for details

#### MASS RESERVATIONS

In obedience to the COVID Safety Guidelines from the Archdiocese, public Mass at our parish has resumed with the following safety measures in place.

- Masks will be required. Those with a medical exemption will be seated according to Archdiocesan guidelines.
- Attendance will be limited to 90 people per Mass at St. Columban and 40 people per Mass at St. Peter.
- The cry room at St. Columban is limited to one family per Mass and will be reserved on a first come-first served basis.

Reservations at St. Columban: call the parish office at 360-458-3031 ext. 5

Reservations at St. Peter: call the mission office at 360-264-2124

If you are unable to call during office hours, please leave your name, phone number, and how many will be in your party and we will call you back to confirm your reservation.

Please note that leaving a voicemail <u>does</u> not confirm your reservation

# **Important Things to Remember**

- Only persons who are under the same reservation 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. Seating is first come, first served.
- We recommend you bring your own missal with you for the readings as they will not be provided.
- Please do not sing along with the Cantor in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines.

## **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



#### Women's Club

Coffee Hour and all other events suspended until further notice.



**Knights of Columbus** No events currently scheduled

# **FORMED**

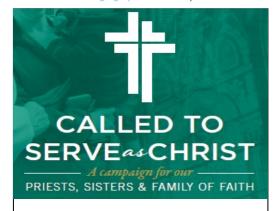
January 24, 2021



# **PAUL THE APOSTLE**

The story of Paul's life acts as an incredible witness to God's mercy and love as he went from persecuting the Church to proclaiming it to all the nations! This film brilliantly captures portrays this great missionary saint!

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



3 Year Goal for St. Columban: \$307, 368

As of: January 7, 2021

Total Pledged: \$164,000 53% of Goal

**Number of Families Participating: 292** 

Potential Share: \$24,600

3 Year Goal for St. Peter: \$54,327

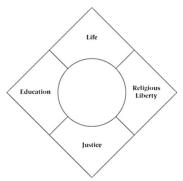
As of: January 7, 2021

**Total Pledged:** \$105,000 **193% of Goal** 

**Number of Families Participating: 45** 

Potential Share: \$43,350

Thank You for Pledging Your Support!



# **Religious Liberty**

"[N]o one can demand that religion should be relegated to the inner sanctum of personal life, without influence on societal and national life, without concern for the soundness of civil institutions, without a right to offer an opinion on



events affecting society. Who would claim to lock up in a church and silence the message of Saint Francis of Assisi or Saint Teresa of Calcutta?"

-Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel (no. 183)

# **Religious Freedom**

"Religious liberty is not only about our ability to go to Mass on Sunday or pray the Rosary at home. It is about whether we can make our contribution to the common good of all Americans." *Our First, Most Cherished Liberty, USCCB, 2012* "The human person has a right to religious freedom. This freedom means that all people are to be immune from coercion on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such wise that in matters religious no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to her or his own beliefs ... whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits."

Second Vatican Council, Declaration on Religious Liberty (Dignitatis Humanae), no. 2. The WSCC is working to defend religious freedom in Washington State and educate Catholics about the multiple ways it is threatened.

## **Conscience Protection**

"Conscience is the most secret core and sanctuary of a person. There the person is alone with God whose voice echoes in his or her depths." Second Vatican Council, Gaudium et Spes, no. 16

It is for this reason that the Church vigorously protects the right of conscience in matters ranging from medical professionals not being forced to assist with abortions to soldiers not being compelled to fight in war.

The WSCC endeavors to identify opportunities to strengthen the protection of conscience.



The freedom of religion is enshrined in Catholic social teaching, the U.S. Constitution, and the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A person's faith is closely bound to her/his individual conscience, and both warrant respect and protection.

Stay tuned to the next bulletin for more information. You can also visit https://www.wacatholics.org to for guidance on how you can support the bishops of Washington state in their efforts to protect the sanctity of life.

# Come, follow Me...



If God asked you to come and follow Him right now would you be ready to drop everything and follow? In today's Gospel reading that's exactly what happened to Simon and Andrew and James and John.

They had been working at their fishing nets when Jesus walked past and called them to follow Him.

We are all called to follow Jesus in some way. God wants some people to give up their lives for others like Jesus did, and some people IIe wants to look after the poor and sick. Some people are called to care for children and some to build things. Some people are called to be special followers of Our Lord as priests and religious.



Do you know how you can best follow Jesus? When you're young the best way to be like Him is to be kind to everyone and honour and obey your parents like the

Child Jesus did. Also, you can already start praying that when the time comes you will be know how to follow Our Lord in the way that you can serve Him best.

Answer to front page puzzle: I will make you frshers of men. Answer to True or False puzzle: 1.True. 2.false: 4.true. 5.false: 6.true.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

# Saint Francis de Sales January 24



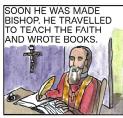














ST. FRANCIS
HELPED ST.
JANE
FRANCES DE
CHANTAL
START A
CONVENT
FOR WOMEN
WHO
COULDN'T
JOIN OTHERS

BEFORE HE BECAME A PRIEST, ST. FRANCIS WORKED AT TRYING TO BE HOLY IN ORDINARY LIFE. HE TRIED TO SHOW PEOPLE THAT HOLINESS IS NOT JUST FOR RELIGIOUS MEN AND WOMEN BUT FOR EVERYONE. YOU CAN PRAY TO ST. FRANCIS TO HELP YOU BE HOLY IN EVERY DAY LIFE.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

# The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 24th, 2021

What else did Jesus say when He called the fishermen? Find the letters that match the numbers in the net to fill in the spaces in the net and find out!



A E F H I K L M N O R S W U Y 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

# JONAH GOES TO MINEVEH: TRUE OR FALSE?

How well do you know the second part of Jonah's story? Which of these are true and which are false?

- 1. After Jonah's incident with being inside a whale for three days, God asked him to go to Nineveh again. True or false?
- 2. Jonah refused to do what God asked this time too. True or false?
- 3. Nineveh was only a small city, so Jonah walked across it in a couple hours. True or false?
- 4. Jonah cried out that in forty days the city would be overthrown. True or false?
- 5. The people ignored Jonah and went on with their lives. True or false?
- 6. All the people believed in God, proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth. True or false?
- 7. God saw what the people were doing and decided that the city would not be overthrown. True or false?





The Fulcrum Foundation's Celebration of Light is just around the corner! This virtual fundraising gala on Friday, January 29 will raise money for Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle and increase access to life-changing Catholic education.

Please join us!

Registration for the Celebration of Light is free and all are welcome! Please follow these easy steps:

- 1. Register online at <u>FulcrumFoundation.org</u>. Follow the links to either register or donate.
- 2. Choose to register as an individual or join a team to fundraise with others! Select your local Catholic school team or another group you know!
- 3. Choose the "Gather" or "Watch" experience.
  - o "Gather" allows you to enjoy our pre-show/after-show experience with your friends through virtual video chats and sets you up to view our online program.
  - o "Watch" signs you up to view our inspiring online program without the virtual chat experience.
- 4. Join us on Friday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. for our 30-minute program featuring inspiring videos about Fulcrum's work in the archdiocese and speeches from notable guests such as Archbishop Paul D. Etienne!

# About the Fulcrum Foundation Leveraging Support for Catholic Schools

For more than 150 years, Catholic schools in Western Washington have maintained a tradition of academic excellence and faith formation. However, in recent years it has become increasingly difficult for these schools to meet their operating costs while remaining affordable, especially in economically struggling communities. The Fulcrum Foundation tackles these complex challenges by partnering with schools and families, providing new programs and key financial assistance that increase access to an excellent and faith filled Catholic education.

#### Mission

Founded in 2002, the Fulcrum Foundation leverages financial assistance to support and strengthen Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle primarily through tuition assistance grants, school partnership grants, and grants for transformational leaders.

## Vision

In partnership with the Office for Catholic Schools, Fulcrum instills in children and families, Catholic schools, and throughout our community the hope for a better world and the ability to make it happen.



# We discover our deepest identity through our relationship with Jesus.

Let's help our children spend some time with him and discover their deepest identity.



St. Mark's description of how Simon and Andrew "abandoned their nets" to follow Jesus is an attention getter. They stopped what they were doing and abandoned their livelihood in order to be with him. James and John did the same thing. It doesn't make sense until we remember who Jesus is.

Jesus is the kingdom of God. Following him means acknowledging him as the absolute ruler of our lives. Because he is Lord of heaven and earth it makes sense to abandon everything else to follow Jesus. But doing this is going to require us to be a little different than those around us.

# Read

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

#### Don't have access to a Bible?

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

#### Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The people of Nineveh believed God.

Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Teach me your ways and your paths!

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

The world in its present form is passing away

Mark 1:14-20

The kingdom of God is at hand. Come after me.

# For more resources, visit us online at:

https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith

# At Home with Faith

# Talk

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

Prepare your child to be a little different:

- Talk about a time you or a family member were different because of your faith. Share a time when following Jesus required you to act differently than those around you: maybe going to Ash Wednesday Mass and people saying 'what's on your forehead' or not doing what your friends were doing because it was wrong. Describe how it felt to be the 'different' one.
- Ask your child if he or she has had to be different for Jesus and how it felt. Give them an opportunity to remember what it was like. If they have a hard time remembering a time, you might suggest a time that you observed them do the right thing even though they were the only one.
- Tell them how being different for Jesus can be hard, but can make a big difference. You might share a story from history, for example how Martin Luther King challenged society to teach everyone how God gives every human being dignity. He wasn't popular at the time, but he still followed God. We need to be brave like this, too.



Really following Jesus has always been hard because it requires us to be different. St. Paul talks about this when he tells the Corinthians to act differently than everyone else - not getting caught up in the fashions, fads and misplaced priorities of their day.

He still wants us to care for others as we "rejoice with those who rejoice [and] weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:15) But we always need to see ourselves first as subjects of the kingdom of God, ready to be different.

This is why we do things like:

- Go to Mass on Sunday when we want to sleep in;
- Give our time and money to care for those in need:
- Put down our phones so that we have time to pray; and
- Prepare for Jesus to call us to a vocation that will define our deepest identity.

All this makes us different. Sometimes, as Jesus promised, it will make others think we are a little weird. But, if we follow Jesus, it will not only help us to love him, it will also make us better friends, neighbors and family members.

# For more resources, visit us online at:

https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith

# **FORMED®**

# PICK OF THE WEEK

January 24, 2021

# WATCH

# THE BIBLE COLLECTION -**PAUL THE APOSTLE**

The story of Paul's life acts as an incredible witness to God's mercy and love as he went from persecuting the Church to proclaiming it to all the nations! This film brilliantly captures portrays this great missionary saint



# FORMED Now!

# **FORMED NOW! LETTERS OF ST. PAUL**

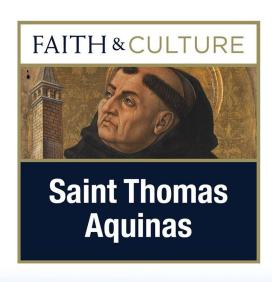
Outside of Jesus, the greatest teacher of the faith was Paul the Apostle. Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the great theologian known as the Apostle.

LEARN

# **LISTEN**

# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS WITH RANDALL SMITH

The Angelic Doctor is often associated with his Summa Theologica among his other great works. Join Drs Christopher Blum and Randall B. Smith as they explore some of the lesser known works of St. Thomas Aquinas.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



# DAY FOUR

January 24, 2021

# INTERCESSION

May expectant fathers lovingly support the mothers of their children in welcoming new life.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# REFLECTION

Fatherhood has its origins in God, who chose to reveal Himself to us as Our Father, sending his only Son for the sake of our salvation. Fathers therefore have a special role "in revealing and in reliving on earth the very fatherhood of God" (*Familiaris consortio* 25). Fathers are called to exhibit "generous responsibility for the life conceived under the heart of the mother" (*FC* 25). They are uniquely entrusted with the protection and defense of both mother and child and, in this way, in safeguarding the sanctity of human life.

As evidenced in our world today, the role of the father "is of unique and irreplaceable importance" (FC 25). Often women choose abortion because they do not have the support of the child's father, or—even worse—the father of the child pressures her to make the decision to abort. At the same time, it is important to acknowledge with compassion that men can also be overwhelmed by an unexpected pregnancy and that society increasingly tells them that they should have no say in their children's lives. In the face of these false messages, we pray that expectant fathers will find courage in the example of Saint Joseph—who embraced the role of father amid difficult circumstances—and offer loving, life-affirming support to the mothers of their children.

# ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Give up sleeping on your pillow—or even your bed—tonight. Offer this small sacrifice for the intention that expectant fathers will courageously answer their call to support both mother and child.
- Pray a decade of the Rosary for all expectant fathers, that through her intercession, Our Lady may inspire in them the virtues of Saint Joseph: <u>usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary</u>.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# **ONE STEP FURTHER**

Research continues to show that one of the top reasons a woman chooses abortion is due to a lack of financial resources. Read *Poverty and Abortion: A Vicious Cycle*, which explores the connections between abortion and poverty, and how the absence of fathers contributes to this ongoing cycle (respectlife.org/poverty-and-abortion).









# DAY FIVE

January 25, 2021

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Visit hopeafterabortion.org.

# INTERCESSION

May each person suffering from the loss of a child through abortion find hope and healing in Christ.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# **REFLECTION**

After more than four decades of legalized abortion, many children's lives have been ended, and many parents and family members suffer that loss—often in silence. Yet God's greatest desire is to forgive. No matter how far we have each strayed from His side, He says to us, "Don't be afraid. Draw close to my heart." Be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son. After repenting of sinning against his father, he returns from far away to seek forgiveness and work as a servant. But the father sees him approaching, runs to warmly embrace him, and hosts a banquet to celebrate his return. So, too, does God welcome all of His repentant children, no matter how serious the sin. Let us turn confidently to Our Lord, Who is love and mercy.

# ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Abstain from meat today.
- Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who are suffering the loss of a child through abortion, asking that they find healing and peace (<u>usccb.org/divine-mercy-chaplet</u>).
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# **ONE STEP FURTHER**

If a friend confided in you that she had an abortion, would you be able to listen and respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn how in *How to Talk to a Friend Who's Had an Abortion* (usccb.org/friend-had-abortion).









# DAY SIX January 26, 2021

# INTERCESSION

May expectant mothers choosing adoption receive grace and support in embracing this loving option.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# REFLECTION

Mothers placing their children for adoption often face many challenges along the way. One of the greatest obstacles can be inaccurately perceiving adoption as abandonment. But mothers who make an adoption plan for their children are not abandoning their children. Rather, they are exemplifying the sacrificial love of Christ on the Cross in choosing to do what is best for their children, even at great cost to themselves. Like Christ, they pour out their bodies and souls for the sake of another. The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that, in the face of fears and trials, we can "hold fast to the hope that lies before us. This we have as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm" (Heb 6:18-19). We pray that each expectant mother choosing adoption will be filled with "the peace of God that surpasses all understanding" (Phil 4:7) as she makes a loving choice for her child. Let us all cling fast to the anchor of hope, for we have received "a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba, Father!'" (Rom 8:15).

# **ACTS OF REPARATION** (choose one)

- Do you have a sweet tooth? Or do you prefer salty snacks? Pick your favorite kind of treat, and give it up for the day.
- Look up one of the Scripture passages from today's reflection, and spend some time with it in prayer. What is the Lord saying to you?
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# ONE STEP FURTHER

Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption suggests nine ways to offer ongoing support to a woman who is considering making an adoption plan for her unborn child (respectlife.org/mothers-considering-adoption). Many of the tips given are also helpful for supporting a friend who is experiencing a challenging or unexpected pregnancy, even if adoption has not been brought up. Supplemental resources regarding adoption can be found at usccb.org/adoption-resources.









# DAY SEVEN

January 27, 2021

# **INTERCESSION**

May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord's boundless mercy.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# REFLECTION

When God fashioned the human person in His own image and likeness, He destined us for eternal life with Him. Yet because of the sin of our first parents, death entered the world. The book of Genesis recounts the first occasion in which a person takes the life of another, as Cain violently kills his brother Abel. This instance of brother rising up against brother "at the very dawn of history is thus a sad witness of how evil spreads with amazing speed" (Evangelium vitae 8).

From the time of creation, disregard for human life has continued to spread. When we, like Cain, allow sin to find a place in our hearts, we become blinded to the truth. Sometimes this blindness might be so deep that we fail to recognize the undeniable humanity of unborn children. We may even tragically believe the lie that abortion is an act of compassion. But we know that "life, especially human life, belongs only to God: for this reason whoever attacks human life, in some way attacks God himself" (EV 9). Let us pray that all who support abortion will encounter the transforming love of the Father and, with repentant hearts, seek His mercy.

# ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Smile. Ask God today for the grace to be extra joyful and to share the light of Christ with those most in need of His love and mercy.
- Make an act of faith, hope, or love (<u>usccb.org/faith-hope-love</u>).
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# **ONE STEP FURTHER**

Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life) was written to reaffirm the value and inviolability of every human life and to appeal to all people to respect, protect, love, and serve every human life. A brief summary highlights key themes and foundational teachings from the papal encyclical, exploring how the Church's teachings regarding human life are at the heart of Jesus' entire Gospel message (respectlife.org/gospel-of-life-summary).









# DAY EIGHT

January 28, 2021

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

Although the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life is closed to in-person attendance due to health concerns, you can participate live from anywhere in the country on Thursday, January 28! Visit <a href="mailto:usccb.org/national-prayer-events-for-life">usccb.org/national-prayer-events-for-life</a> for more information.

# INTERCESSION

May civic leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# REFLECTION

The Declaration of Independence boldly affirms that first among our inalienable rights is the right to life, given to us by the Creator. Yet despite being so solemnly proclaimed, the right to life is today threatened and often denied, particularly at the moments when life is most fragile. Our laws should—first and foremost—protect life. But "our highest Court does not recognize children in their mothers' wombs as persons and claims that abortion is a constitutional right. Further, many political leaders work actively to increase access to abortion. Some falsely describe it as health care and even as a basic human right" (*Priorities at the Polls*). Laws and policies that legalize or promote an intrinsic evil like abortion violate the virtue of justice.

Those who work as public officials and civic leaders have a duty to serve the common good, and therefore have a profound obligation to safeguard this most fundamental right to life. Through our own prayer, witness, and civic participation, we can encourage our leaders to truly answer their call to protect the rights of all people. For "there can be no true democracy without a recognition of every person's dignity and without respect for his or her rights" (*Evangelium vitae* 101).

# ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Sacrifice some of your free time to do a small act of service, such as making breakfast for a family member, writing a note of encouragement to a coworker, or praying for the intentions of a friend.
- Sometimes restrictions on religious freedom constrain our efforts to live out the Gospel of life. We must be free to live out our Catholic faith in the public square. Offer this Prayer for Religious Liberty, that Christians may always be free to respect, protect, and defend human life: usccb.org/prayer-for-religious-liberty.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# ONE STEP FURTHER

When discussing faithful citizenship in 2019, the U.S. bishops reaffirmed, "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." Archbishop Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas and Chair of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities, explains more in *Priorities at the Polls*: respectlife.org/priorities-at-the-polls.

Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life), no. 101 © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann, Priorities at the Polls, Washington, DC: USCCB, 2020. Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States, Introductory Letter, p. 6. Washington, DC: USCCB, 2020. Copyright © 2020, USCCB, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.







# DAY NINE

January 29, 2021

March for Life, Washington, DC

# INTERCESSION

May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

# **PRAYERS**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

# REFLECTION

God has carefully, tenderly created every person in His own image and likeness, to be in a loving relationship with Himself. From each tiny child knit within a mother's womb, to every person approaching death, all are loved perfectly and completely by God: "It is therefore a service of love which we are all committed to ensure to our neighbor, that his or her life may be always defended and promoted, *especially when it is weak or threatened* [emphasis added]" (*Evangelium vitae 77*).

In a world in which those who are most vulnerable are so often overlooked and disregarded, Christ calls us to embrace and uphold the unconditional dignity of every human life. In answering this call, we help to build "a new culture of life, the fruit of the culture of truth and of love" (*EV* 77). May the Holy Spirit continually renew us as we strive to faithfully defend God's gift of life.

# ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Do you love your cup of tea or coffee? Abstain from caffeine today, or try your coffee black.
- "Unplug" for some time today, and reflect on how God may be asking you to help build a culture of life in your home, workplace, or Church community.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

# **ONE STEP FURTHER**

Watching the news and reading headlines, we may often feel helpless in the face of heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. When our efforts to make a difference feel small, it's important to remember that changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. It includes a willingness to be instructed by the Holy Spirit and a desire to be close to Jesus—the source of joy and love. *How to Build a Culture of Life* briefly explains where to start: respectlife.org/culture-of-life.





# The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



#ShareYourFaith: Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America at Mass (January 23-24)

For over 50 years, Catholics in the United States have participated in the Collection for the Church in Latin America as a concrete expression of solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Central and South American and the Caribbean. This year the needs of the Church in Latin America are even greater in the wake of the COVID pandemic. Your contribution to the collection on the weekend of January 23-24, no matter how small, is a chance for you to support religious education, evangelization, and formation of priests and religious sisters and brothers throughout the Americas. Join the conversation on Twitter #1church1mission and connect with us on Facebook and Instagram. Learn more visit <a href="https://www.usccb.org/latin-america">www.usccb.org/latin-america</a>.

# Poverty Awareness Month

As Poverty Awareness Month continues, take time to learn more about poverty in the United States, understand the root causes, and how people are helping themselves and others out of Poverty USA. <a href="http://www.povertyusa.org/learn">http://www.povertyusa.org/learn</a>







# Saint Paula | DATES: 347-404 | FEAST DAY: JANUARY 26

he patron saint of widows, Paula was a wealthy Roman widowed with five children at age 32. Another widow introduced her to St. Jerome, a priest and papal secretary to St. Damasus. Jerome became her spiritual director, urging a life of asceticism and charity. When he learned she was fluent in Greek, he enlisted her help in translating Greek biblical texts for his new Latin version of the Bible. Paula had joined the circle of nobility-born Roman women in Jerome's orbit, and followed him to the Holy Land when he left Rome. She taught herself Hebrew, and exhausted her wealth building a monastery, three convents and a hospital in

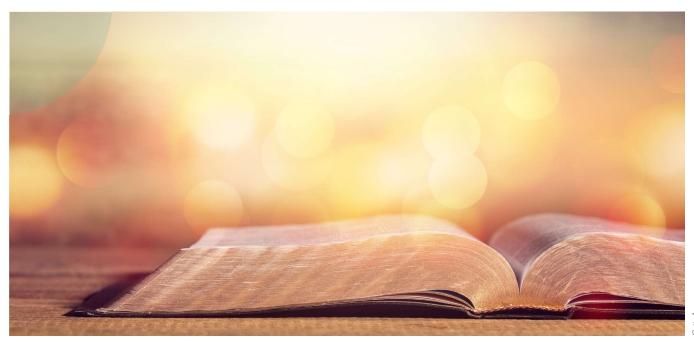


VS Photo



Bethlehem.

# Prayer to Overcome Indifference



setty Im

All too often, Lord, we turn away from the world's many problems, which seem too big, too complex, or too far away. Forgive us our indifference.

It is easier, Lord, to see only what is around us: our lives, our homes, our challenges. Forgive us our isolation.

Help us to see with your eyes: eyes which notice one another and help us understand.

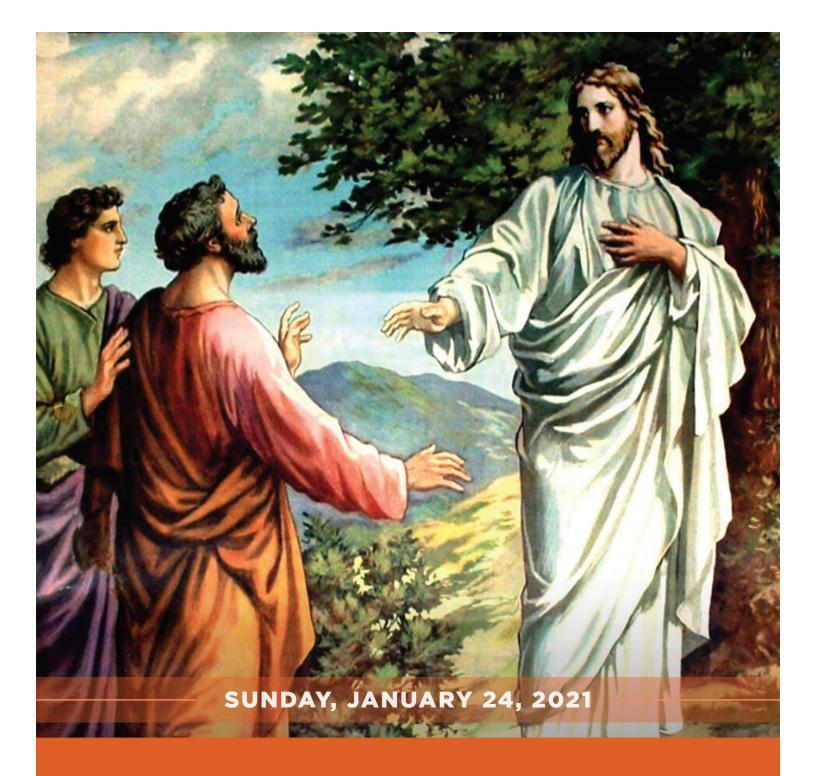
Help us to dream your dream: of communities that reach out and dialogue and where diverse people creatively cooperate.

Help us to be people of solidarity and action, so moved by prayer, encounter, and understanding that peace can become a reality.

Amen.







# 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

610

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

# **WEEKLY PRAYER**

# **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 24, 2021**

**SUN 1/24** Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

MON 1/25 Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18

**TUE 1/26** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 3:31-35

WED 1/27 Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 4:1-20

THR 1/28 Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Mk 4:21-25

FRI 1/29 Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40 [39a]/Mk 4:26-34

SAT 1/30 Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [cf. 68]/Mk 4:35-41

SUN 1/31 Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

# **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 24, 2021**

**Sunday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

**Tuesday:** Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops

Wednesday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin

**Thursday:** St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

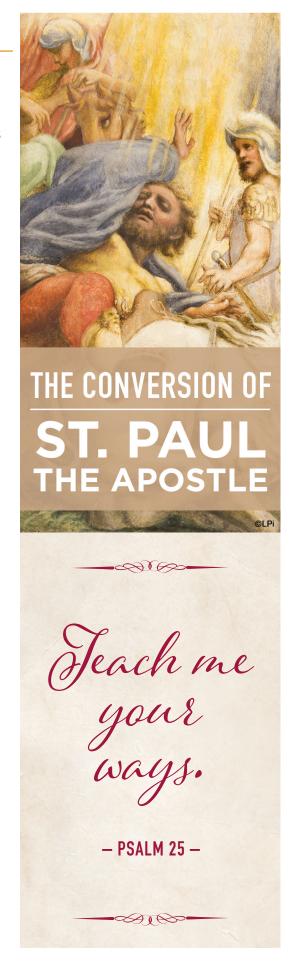
Saturday: BVM

**Sunday:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week

#### LIVE THE LITURGY

# Inspiration for the week

"Repent, and believe in the gospel." Some type of honest and sincere repentance is necessary for any type of authentic growth and maturity. We have to come to the realization, unless we are happy wallowing in immaturity and superficiality, that the way we have been doing things is not the best or the healthiest. There isn't a human being alive who hasn't acted foolishly or erratically at the cost of almost losing a treasured relationship. "Why did I act that way?" is a question we often ponder after some reflection and enlightenment. Faith works the same way. Stumbling through life and bumping up against meaninglessness, a person can begin to see that something significant is missing. They see that there is merit to a relationship with God and an embrace of faith. Before these can take root, sincere sorrow for past wrong doing, missed opportunities, errors in judgment, and short sightedness is necessary. Repentance is necessary. Then having realized that we were walking in darkness, we can rejoice that by God's grace we now see the light.



# CLPI

#### FIRST READING

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way,
he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them;
he did not carry it out. (Jon 3:10)



#### **PSALM**

Teach me your ways, O Lord. (Ps 25)



## SECOND READING

For the world in its present form is passing away. (1 Cor 7:31)



#### **GOSPEL**

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel. (Mk 1:15)

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# **WORSHIP & MEDITATION**



## **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

# **Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture**

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow.

When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come full view and we see how risky our random impassioned behaviors really have been. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others and reminds us that all is well.

# LITURGICAL LIFE

# RESPONDING Call

## **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

**Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments** 

#### **Give Until It Hurts**

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

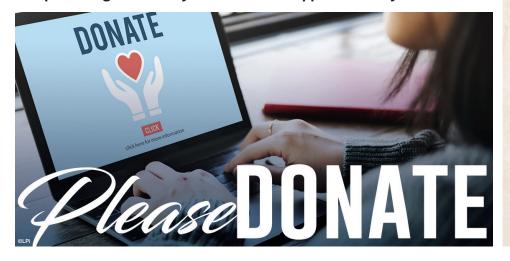
Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past.

— 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:

## Question:

Question: Do Catholics always need to receive communion in wafer form, or can it be different kinds of bread?

#### Answer:

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the most common form for the eucharistic bread is the small white communion "wafer" that is a ubiquitous part of the Catholic Mass. The instructions of the Church have been very specific regarding the make-up of the bread used in the Mass: "The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made ... it follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament" (see Redemptionis Sacramentum by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, no. 48). The Church's tradition of using a wheat-based bread is based on the bread that Jesus would have used at the Last Supper and is considered to be an essential part of the "matter" of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

As we consider the question of whether a "wafer" — which is properly called a "host" — should be used, we also must keep in mind that in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, leavened (i.e. "raised") bread is more often used. And so, while the thin, white "wafer" is most commonly used in the Roman Rite of the Church, the full expression of the Catholic tradition does allow for a more substantial form of bread to be used, but the tradition of using a simple wheat bread with no other additions or additives is considered essential.



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

- Mk 1:19-20

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

# LITURGICAL LIFE

# **OUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

#### First Reading

Although initially reluctant to be one of God's prophets, Jonah was ultimately successful in getting the Ninevites to repent of their sins. When do you find yourself resisting God's will?

#### **Second Reading**

In trying to awaken a sense of spiritual urgency, Paul taught the Corinthians that Christ's return was imminent and that, "time is running out." How can a sense of urgency aid one's spiritual life?

## **Gospel Reading**

In Mark's account of the call of the first disciples, Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, and John immediately answer Jesus' call to follow him. How would you describe your response to Jesus' call in your life?



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





# LITURGICAL LIFE

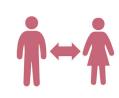
## **3 EASY STEPS**

# 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**

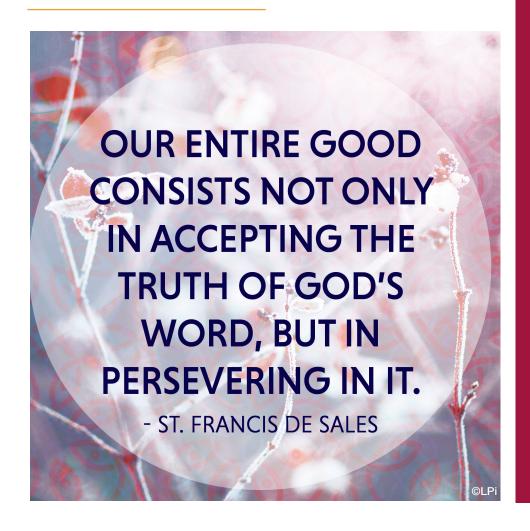
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

#### 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.



As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I

- Mk 1:16-17

will make you

fishers of men."

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

# ----

# READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

# SHARING THE GOSPEL

There's a colorful envelope addressed to you on the kitchen table. You see it's from your friend. You open it and find a party invitation inside. You parents say you can go! When Jesus invited Peter, Andrew, James and John to come along with him, they were just as excited to go. Jesus was the Savior and a good friend. They couldn't wait!

## PRAYER

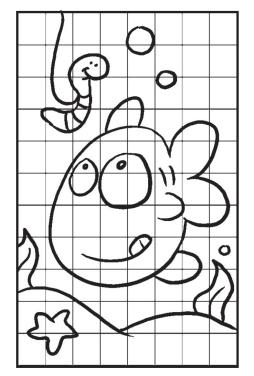
Jesus, I thank you for inviting me to spend time with you.

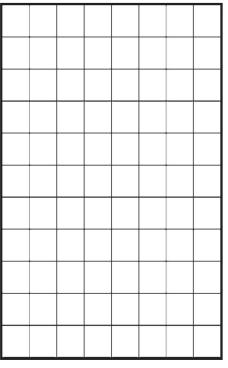
# MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus wants you to come to his home in heaven. Make a party invitation from Jesus to you. Use this invitation as a bookmark in your Bible.

# **KIDS CORNER**

Copy the picture square by square.













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