

# SAINT COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christi simus, non nostri  
*We belong to Christ, not ourselves*

## ST. COLUMBAN PARISH

506 First St. S. Yelm, WA 98597

360-458-3031

### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00AM –2:00PM

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Website: [www.saintcolumbanyelm.org](http://www.saintcolumbanyelm.org)

FORMED



### Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM

Sunday: 10:30AM

Daily Mass: Tues—Fri 9AM \*except 1st Fridays

*Rosary is said 30min prior to each Mass*

### Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick: Following First

Friday Devotions or by Appointment

Confession: Saturdays 3:30—4:30PM

First Friday Devotions: 6:30PM

*The church may be opened upon request*

*during office hours for private prayer.*

See Calendar on Page 3 for current schedule  
and updates

**St. Columban Prayer Chain:** Confidential and  
private prayer chain. Please contact the parish  
office to submit a request.

### St. Vincent De Paul

*Providing emergency assistance for those in  
need.*

**Help Line:** 360-458-1904

Please leave your name, phone number, and

## ST. PETER MISSION

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589

*For administrative assistance please  
contact St. Columban*

### Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:00AM

*Rosary is said 30min prior to Mass*

### Sacraments

Confession: Sundays 7:30 -7:45AM

Daily Mass (First Fridays): 9:00AM

Anointing of the Sick: by appointment

*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.*



*I will make you fishers of men*

**February 6, 2022**

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Today's Readings

**Entrance Antiphon:** *O come let us worship God, and bow low be-  
fore the God who made us; for he is the Lord our God.*

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

**Responsorial Psalm:** *In the sight of the angels, I will sing your  
praises Lord.*

**2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Come after me, and I will make you fishers of  
men.*

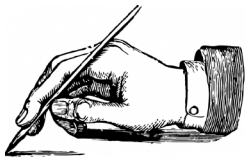
**Gospel:** Luke 5:1-11

**Communion Antiphon:** *I will come to the altar of God, to God who  
restores the joy of my youth.*

### **MASS ATTENDANCE**

In obedience to the most recent guidelines from the Archdiocese, public  
Mass at our parish is held with the following safety measures in place.

- ◆ Masks are required at this time unless you have a medical exemption
- ◆ Seating is on a first come first served basis, if you wish to remain  
distanced from others you may do so at your own discretion.
- ◆ Hand Sanitizer is provided



## Fr. Thompson's Reflections

### The Death of Philia Part I

A few weeks ago, I saw one of the more recent Disney movies. It was called *Luca* and was about a pair of young boys (actually fish-people have run away from the sea and turned into boys; It's a cartoon) and a girl (a normal human being) who become friends during a school summer break. It was a pretty sweet family-friendly story about the love of friendship and finding one's place in the world.

When the movie first came out, I remember hearing that some advocate for aberrant sexual ideologies had written an article interpreting the film as portraying budding romance between the boys. This is totally not the case, but someone interpreting such an innocent story in such a repulsive way reminded me of a worrying trend I have lamented for a very long time, and which is really harming young people, especially boys: the death of Philia in our society.

Philia is one of the several Greek words for love, and includes the platonic sort of love between friends. There are other kind of love: Storge—the natural empathy that comes from familial and human bonds, Xenia—affection and duty to guests and strangers, Eros—passionate and romantic (often, but not only sexual) love, Agape—selfless sacrificing love, and a few other rarer terms, but they all have a place in a healthy soul and life. Philia is the widest ranging sort of love that can span from delighting in a mere object on the lowest end, to one's closest life-defining friendships; what makes the difference in the intensity of Philia is the degree to which it is reciprocal. An object cannot love you back and lasts only as long as your appetite for it, but with a person one can delight in him and he can delight in you, and that delight and affection (perhaps which began with a mere object-like delight, such as a shared interest) can lead each of you to feel comfortable enough to make yourselves vulnerable to one another, exposing inner fears and dreams and joys and sorrows. If and as that risk of one's inner self is respected, and the friend reciprocates with trust in kind, the friendship deepens and grows (exploring this deeply but also in a profoundly innocent way is the real charm of that movie I mentioned).

Philia is part of most healthy relationships even when other kinds of love are present. Spouses, bound by Storge and hopefully Eros (though that waxes and wanes through life), should also be friends. Some of the great monastic or clerical saints, who were known as beacons of Xenia and Agape, often were extremely (spiritually) intimate friends with other holy people, sometimes helping them to be saints themselves. Yet, Philia remains its own kind of love and should continue alongside others even when other loves have blossomed; Philia is often the constant baseline and foundation upon which different and even higher loves build.

The story of Peter reconciling with Jesus after the Resurrection is a great example of this: Jesus asks Peter if he loves him three times, to repair Peter's three denials on Good Friday morning, but Jesus and Peter are using different words to talk about that love. The first two times Jesus asks "do you [Agape] me?" and Peter says, "Lord, you know that I [Philia] you," and Jesus calls him to deepen that love by continuing Jesus' mission and leading the Church. The third time, Jesus compromises and asks for mere Philia, and Peter gives it, but Jesus then describes what Peter's love will one day require: the total self-sacrifice of Martyrdom, which requires Agape. Jesus is not asking Peter for Agape instead of Philia, but that Peter needs his Philia to deepen enough to become a foundation for Agape.

With that foundation laid: more to come on the brokenness of our world and the death of Philia next week.

In Christ,

Fr Thompson

## Financial Stewardship

### Weekly Offering

	St. <u>Columban</u>	St. <u>Peter</u>
Weekly Goal	\$5,762	\$712
January 23	\$2,352	\$695

*Thank You for Your Generous Support!*

**CALLED TO  
SERVE as CHRIST**

*As of: November 15, 2021*

3 Year Goal for St. Columban: \$307,368  
Total Pledged: \$116,169 38% of Goal

3 Year Goal for St. Peter: \$54,327  
Total Pledged: \$26,897 50% of Goal



### Introducing the St. Columban Parish Library

Located in the Religious Ed Bldg

Open during Office Hours and  
Sundays before and after the  
10:30AM Mass.

## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Brian Thompson	<i>Priest Administrator</i>
Ext.6	<a href="mailto:frthompson@saintcolumbanvelm.org">frthompson@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>
Holly Dodd	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
Ext. 4	<a href="mailto:holly@saintcolumbanvelm.org">holly@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>
Katie Hennigan	<i>Faith Formation</i>
Ext. 3	<a href="mailto:katie@saintcolumbanvelm.org">katie@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>
Jennifer Langham	<i>Music, Liturgy &amp; Admin Support</i>
Ext. 2	<a href="mailto:jennifer@saintcolumbanvelm.org">jennifer@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>
Steven Slater,	<i>St. Columban Maintenance</i>
	<a href="mailto:steven@saintcolumbanvelm.org">steven@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>
Gilberto Espino	<i>St. Peter Maintenance</i>
	<a href="mailto:gilberto@saintcolumbanvelm.org">gilberto@saintcolumbanvelm.org</a>

### SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judith Cusick (Chairperson),  
Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier,  
Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf  
[parishoffice@saintcolumbanvelm.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintcolumbanvelm.org)

### SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson),  
Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz,  
Bob Bacon, Diane Weston,  
[stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanvelm.org](mailto:stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanvelm.org)

## Faith Formation



### CHILDREN'S PRAYERS

For the month of January, an average of 11 children in our Faith Formation program prayed 127 prayers every week. Keep up the good work faithful young prayer warriors!

Do your children know their basic prayers? Here are some to work on memorizing for February.

#### For older kids grades 2nd and up:

**Act of Contrition**-- My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

**For younger kids (pre- First Communion): Hail Mary**- Hail Mary, Full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

### In Our Prayers

*Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands all of our homebound brothers and sister and those who have asked for our prayers:*

Joseph Waters

Jessica Nash

Maria Luisa Fregoso

Paul Hennigan

Pam Henslee

Don Troyer

Mary Taylor

Lindy Parse

+ All those in harm's way.

+ For all those impacted by recent natural disasters.

+ For all those affected by the Coronavirus and for all first responders and caregivers.

#### Rest In Peace

Martin Samuel Baker, Immaculee Goldade

All the souls in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them.

To add a name please contact the parish office.

All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes.

### Faith Formation: Grades K-12

- K-5 Sundays from 9-10:15AM
- Confirmation Classes on Sundays from 12-1:15PM

Please see the parish website for a complete class schedule



Join us for RCIA Tuesdays at 6:30 in room 103 of the Religious Education building.

RCIA topic for this week is:  
**Moral Decision Making**

RCIA is open to all adult learners including, but not limited to, those seeking sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation). Please contact Katie Hennigan in the Faith Formation office for additional information.

[katie@saintcolumbanvelm.org](mailto:katie@saintcolumbanvelm.org)  
360-458-3031x3

### PARISH MINISTRIES

*For more information or to sign-up to volunteer with any of these ministries, please contact the parish office.*



**Daughters of Mary**  
St. Columban Catholic Church Yelm, WA

**February 8 Monthly Meeting**  
10:00AM Parish Hall

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 17152**

**February 16 Council Meeting**  
6:00PM Parish Hall



**St. Vincent de Paul**

**February 17 Monthly Meeting**  
7:00PM Parish Hall



**St. Peter's Circle**

**March 8 Monthly Meeting**  
9:30AM St. Peter Mission/Tenino



**ALTAR SOCIETY**

Cleaning the Church  
Every Thursday after Daily Mass



Please contact the parish office for more information, the latest updates, and schedule changes.

**February 7 Rosary Prayer Group**  
7:00PM St. Columban

**February 8 Daily Mass**  
9:00AM St. Columban  
6:30PM Spanish Prayer Group  
Parish Hall

**February 9 Daily Mass**  
9:00AM St. Columban

**February 10 Daily Mass**  
9:00AM St. Columban

**Bible Study**  
10:00AM St. Peter (Tenino)  
6:30PM St. Columban  
RE Bldg. Rm. 103

**February 11 Daily Mass**  
9:00AM St. Columban

**February 12 Confession**  
3:30-4:15PM St. Columban

**5:00PM Vigil Mass**  
St. Columban

**February 13 6th Sunday OT Year C**  
**ST. PETER MISSION TENINO**

7:30-7:45AM Confession  
8:00AM Mass

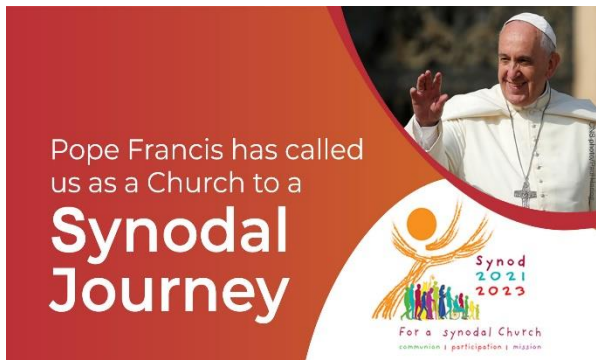
**ST. COLUMBAN**

9:00AM Religious Ed  
10:30AM Mass  
**Rite of Acceptance/RCIA**  
11:45PM Confirmation Year 2

### 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/saintcolumbanvelm](http://flocknote.com/saintcolumbanvelm) or visit our website [saintcolumbanvelm.org](http://saintcolumbanvelm.org)

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



The word “synod” means to journey together on the Way. In this synodal process, everyone around the world is invited to listen to God’s word, celebrate the Eucharist, and reflect upon our experience as the Church. For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission is Pope Francis’ call for the largest consultation of the human family in history, and it includes all of us in Western Washington!

You are invited to journey together to prayerfully read the signs of the times together and discern how the Holy Spirit is calling all of us, as the Body of Christ, to accomplish our mission here and now. We want to hear from everyone — especially people who have been marginalized or are often unheard.

**“Together, we move in one direction — the way of Jesus, the way of faith and salvation.” – Archbishop Paul D. Etienne**

For this process we kindly ask for your input on the following questions. All collected input will be submitted to Archbishop Etienne in May 2022 and then presented to Pope Francis at the end of June 2022.

### **Survey 1: How is this "journeying together" happening today in our local Church?**

*Like sheep of the Good Shepherd our Lord Jesus Christ, we place ourselves under the care of His herdsmen when we choose to follow Him; each flock under the guidance of the Pope, Bishops, and local Priests. Together we navigate the journey of faith.*

1. Describe an experience where you felt you were part of the flock in your local parish community.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Describe a time when you felt disconnected from your parish community and why.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How well do you feel connected to your diocese? Please tell us why or why not and what you feel could be done to improve your relationship with the diocese.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How well do you feel connected to the Catholic faith on a global scale and with the Pope? What do you feel can be done to improve this relationship?

**Survey 2: What steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?**

*The Holy Spirit guides in many ways to keep us connected to our Heavenly Father, the Holy Catholic Church, and each other. Reflect on the ways in which the Holy Spirit moves you to do so.*

1. Describe the ways which you feel the Holy Spirit guides you in your relationship with Christ.
2. Describe how you think the Holy Spirit guides you in your connection with your local parish.
3. Describe the ways you see the Holy Spirit at work in your local parish.
4. Describe the ways you seek the Holy Spirit at work in your diocese.
5. Describe the ways you see the Holy Spirit at work in the Catholic faith worldwide.

**Thank you for your feedback!**  
**Please return this form to the parish no later than May 1, 2022**



# National Marriage Week USA

MARRIAGE IS WORTH IT! • EVERY FEB 7-14



Called to the *Joy* of Love

For more information and resources, visit [foryourmarriage.org](http://foryourmarriage.org)

FOR  YOUR  
MARRIAGE



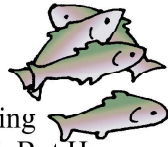
@foryourmarriage



# Fishers of Men



In today's gospel reading Peter had been out fishing all night and hadn't been able to catch any fish. When Jesus told him to let down the nets again he did it anyway. He was very surprised when the nets filled up with fish right away. And there were so many that the boat started to sink!



Jesus told Peter and his friends James and John that he was going to make them "fishers of men." But He didn't mean that they would catch people in nets! He was showing them that they had to bring people into the Church.



Who are the "fishers of men" today? Priests! They help people to come to the Faith by giving them the sacraments and teaching them the truth about God.

Answers to picture puzzle: top 2,4; middle 5,1; bottom 6, 3

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

# The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 6th, 2022



Luke 5:1-11

Peter had been fishing all night and caught nothing. But when Jesus told him to let the nets down again, they got filled right up! Can you draw enough fish to fill the nets?

# Saint Scholastica

February 10

SCHOLASTICA WAS BORN AROUND THE YEAR 480 IN ITALY. SHE WAS THE TWIN SISTER OF SAINT BENEDICT OF NURSIA.

BENEDICT AND SCHOLASTICA BOTH LOVED GOD AND DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO HIM AT A YOUNG AGE.

WHEN BENEDICT STARTED A MONASTERY SCHOLASTICA BEGAN A CONVENT.

Let's build here!

We can meet here every year to talk about God!

THE BROTHER AND SISTER VISITED EACH OTHER ONCE A YEAR.

THEN ONE TIME... This will be the last time you see Benedict...

BENEDICT REFUSED TO STAY LONGER WHEN SCHOLASTICA ASKED, BUT THEN SHE PRAYED AND A HUGE STORM CAME!

You refused my request but God listened!

THREE DAYS LATER WHEN BENEDICT WAS IN HIS MONASTERY HE HAD A VISION OF A DOVE GOING UP TO HEAVEN WHEN SCHOLASTICA DIED.

SAINT SCHOLASTICA AND HER BROTHER SAINT BENEDICT ARE A GREAT EXAMPLE TO US OF HOW BROTHERS AND SISTERS CAN HELP EACH OTHER TO BECOME HOLY. DO YOU EVER PRAY WITH YOUR BROTHERS OR SISTERS OR FRIENDS? YOU CAN HELP EACH OTHER BECOME SAINTS!

[thekidsbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:thekidsbulletin@gmail.com)

# Picture Puzzle: An Amazing Catch!

The pictures for this story are all mixed up! Sort them out by putting the right numbers in the corners.

So Jesus preached from Peter's boat.	The nets were completely filled!
They called James and John to help with the fish.	Jesus was preaching and a large crowd came.
They left their nets and followed Jesus.	Then Jesus told Peter to let down the nets.

February 6, 2022

WATCH

### BERNADETTE

Millions of people each year go on pilgrimage to Lourdes, a place where miracles frequently occur. Explore the origins of this miraculous place of encounter with the Lord in this movie which depicts Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette.



FORMED<sup>®</sup>

*Now!*

How and Why to Pray the Rosary  
with Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. John Sehorn

### FORMED NOW! HOW AND WHY TO PRAY THE ROSARY

As we celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes this week, we invite you to learn more about the Rosary! Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss how they pray the Rosary and how it has changed their lives!

LEARN

LISTEN

### TRUTH TO INSPIRE: ST. BERNADETTE OF LOURDES

This inspiring story depicts St. Bernadette and her encounters with the Blessed Mother. Learn more about the saint who Mary appeared to eighteen times!

### St. Bernadette of Lourdes



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.





**Put Out Into Deep Water**  
February 6, 2022  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

# At Home with Faith

**An encounter with Jesus is going to follow the pattern of Simon Peter's encounter with our Lord on the shores of Lake Gennesaret.** He sends us into "deep water" to discover deeper forms of life and love.



## 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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

This Sunday's Gospel reveals the dynamics of each person's encounter with Jesus. Peter is reluctant to follow Jesus' instruction, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." He knows it will lead him to a place he is afraid to go. After the catch, Peter feels unworthy to follow Jesus. Nonetheless, he follows.

Faith forces us to confront our own inadequacies. To lead our children into a life of faith, we parents must first confront our own shortcomings such as:

"I don't know enough."

"I am not perfect, who am I to preach?"

This can be difficult, but it prepares us to say the good things our family needs to hear.

### **Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8**

Though I am an unclean man, here I am, send me!

### **Psalms 138**

When I called, you answered me.

### **1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Christ appeared last to me, nonetheless I will preach.

### **Luke 5:1-11**

Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.

# At Home with Faith

## Talk

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

Deepen our own prayer life by putting out into deep water:

- **Take a moment for silent prayer:** Set aside a time for silent prayer, when you won't be interrupted. Create a space where you can really listen to God.
- **Ask God to help you pray:** Invite God to guide you in this time of reflection. This invitation can make our time of prayer more fruitful.
- **Read Luke 5: 1-11:** Read the Gospel about Peter's encounter with Jesus on the shores of Lake Gennesaret passage reverently. Take your time with the passage, really thinking about each part of the Gospel account.
- **Imagine yourself in the reading:** Read the Gospel account again. Imagine yourself at the shores of Lake Gennesaret with Jesus, having a conversation like the one he had with Peter. What does Jesus say to you? What kind of deep water does Jesus encourage you to enter in order for you to follow him?
- **Thank God for the time together and let what you learned guide you:** Let this time with Jesus guide you to take a step into a life that follows Jesus more authentically. Let the fruits of this reflection flow over into your relationship with your family.



Year of the Family  
Live the joy of God's love

Photo: Shutterstock

**“It is not helpful to dream of an idyllic and perfect love needing no stimulus to grow. A celestial notion of earthly love forgets that the best is yet to come, that fine wine matures with age. As the Bishops of Chile have pointed out, ‘the perfect families proposed by deceptive consumerist propaganda do not exist. In those families, no one grows old, there is no sickness, sorrow or death ... Consumerist propaganda presents a fantasy that has nothing to do with the reality which must daily be faced by the heads of families.’ It is much healthier to be realistic about our limits, defects and imperfections, and to respond to the call to grow together, to bring love to maturity and to strengthen the union, come what may.”**

### Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) #135

Marriage differs sharply from what we are tempted to imagine love should be. Like Jesus calling Peter into “deep water,” marriage forces us to confront those imperfections, weaknesses and failings we would prefer not to think about.

When we let Jesus lead us into this “deep water,” very good things happen. Through the challenges presented by the Sacrament of Marriage, God draws us out of ourselves into a much more deeper and rewarding way of life.

When we let Jesus lead us into this “deep water,” **very good things happen.**

For more on the Year of the Family, visit <https://archseattle.org/yof>

**For more resources, visit us online at:**

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



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022**

## **5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. - Lk 5:10-11

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 2022

- Sunday:** Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11
- Monday:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11/Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40/Mk 7:24-30
- Friday:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22/Mk 8:1-10
- Next Sunday:** Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

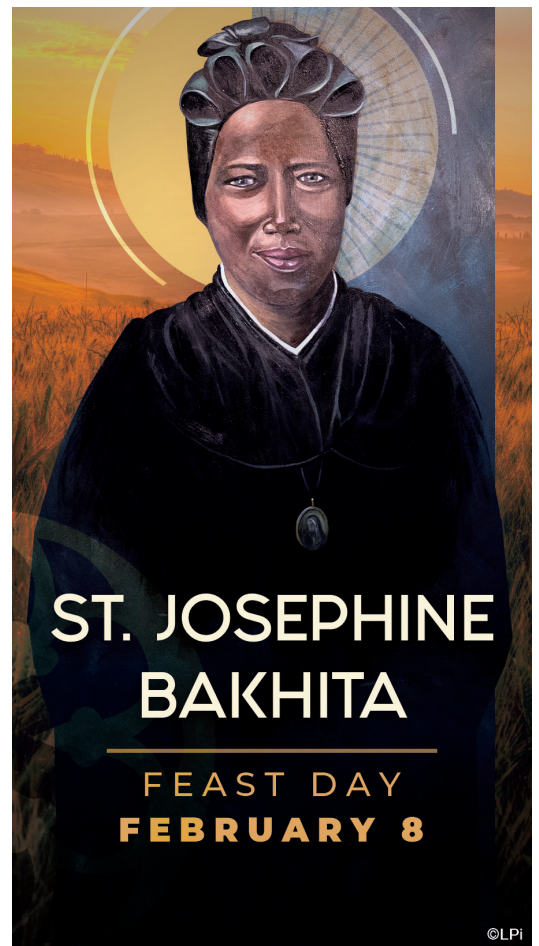
## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 2022

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
- Tuesday:** St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
- Thursday:** St. Scholastica, Virgin
- Friday:** Our Lady of Lourdes
- Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

When we encounter or even ponder God's magnificence, power, and awesomeness, we easily begin to feel our own smallness and perceived insignificance. After all, who can compete with eternal greatness, seraphim, or the ability to catch great numbers of fish? We unfortunately think that God's presence somehow overrides us, reduces our importance, and only seeks to judge our inadequacies and doubts. Things begin to change a bit when we realize that what we may have seen as overwhelming and frightening is really only unconditional, unmerited love. Love has tremendous majesty and power. When we listen to this power and stop seeing it as threatening or dooming, our fear dissipates and Divine friendship takes root. Remaining close to what we once preferred at a distance, we can journey to places we never thought possible and do things we never thought we could do. Strengthened by Divine friendship and encouraged by its life-giving power, we can say "here I am, send me!" when God asks, "whom shall I send?" Sin and fear no longer are of concern to the one who remains close to God in a bond of trust.



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

The story of St. Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) is a story that many people taken into slavery have experienced. Born in the Darfur region of Sudan, she was kidnapped at the age of 8 and sold into slavery many times. As she passed from owner to owner, she experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. It was only at the age of 13 that her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul in Sudan. It was here that she was fortunate to receive kindness, respect, and peace from her new master.

She was later handed over to the Canossian Sisters when she made the case that slavery had been outlawed in Italy for years. She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church in 1890, where she took the name Josephine. She later entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later.

St. Josephine Bakhita's next 50 years were spent serving people through cooking, sewing, embroidery, and housekeeping. She was a source of encouragement and her constant smile won people's hearts, as did her humility and simplicity. Today she is known as the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"  
"Here I am," I said; "send me!" (Is 6:8)



## PSALM

In the sight of the angels I will sing your  
praises, Lord. (Ps 138)



## SECOND READING

Therefore, whether it be I or they,  
so we preach and so you believed.  
(1 Cor 15:11)



## GOSPEL

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid;  
from now on you will be catching men."  
When they brought their boats to  
the shore,  
they left everything and followed him.  
(Lk 5:10-11)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
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## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

"Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man," these words, uttered by Simon Peter, can be found on any one of our lips. What real significance do I have in the big picture of God's Divine plan? Even though we try our best to hide it, we all suffer from a lack of faith. We get tired, confused, and often lack any sincere desire to put anything into our relationship with God. It's easier to simply reap whatever benefits the world has to offer and call it a day. Floating along on the superficial currents of life doesn't require much effort and seems to get us through the day. Confronting our own infidelity, apathy, weakness of spirit, and doubt in God's providence, how can we even remotely be considered a worthy vessel of God's presence or credible voice for His message?

This is the irony of faith. God doesn't seek the perfect vessels. He likes the broken ones. There is something to be said about living honestly and sincerely, and wrestling with sin, imperfection, and weakness rather than skipping through the peripheries of life with pretention, arrogance, and mendacity. If we believe ourselves to be our own "god" and serve only ourselves, we close the door to ever being used by the real and only True God. But, if we at least acknowledge that there is One greater than ourselves, then even in our deepest poverty and lowliness, God can enter.

Lessons are best learned from those who suffer. Only someone who has been lonely and lost can attest to the beauty of both Divine and human friendship. Only those who have really lost their way know what happens when they are found. Only those who are afraid know what it is to be calmed by God. The Gospel is messy because life is messy. There are no black and white solutions to problems and challenges that are hazy and gray. When our hesitancy to encounter God gets replaced by friendship with God, we become more aware of our dignity and the fact that we are loved just as we are. We cannot be afraid to share our struggles, reservations, fears, and sinfulness with others. Our genuineness and sincerity will speak of the God who blesses us in our weakness.

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### The gift of the Mission

Early on in my work in parish ministry, I had to deal with a tough human resources situation, letting some staff members go and stepping into a role that demanded more of my time and energy.

In moments like this, stewardship can feel burdensome. Things take a turn we didn't expect, perhaps in spite of our best efforts. Maybe more is asked of us than we want or feel prepared to give.

But that's when we need to remember that stewardship isn't a job that we apply for. It's a gift bestowed directly from God, the Creator of all, and that can be scary all on its own, if we are preoccupied with our own unworthiness. What we might want to do is fall on our knees like Simon Peter and announce, "Depart from me, Lord — I am sinful."

But what if we stop looking in the mirror and look instead to God?

All those years ago, when I was faced with that ministerial challenge, I asked my wife to join me. What started as a tough situation turned into a decade of shared ministry with her — an experience I wouldn't trade for anything. It was a burden that became a gift.

We must remember that God knows what He is about. In His mercy, He gives us what we need as everyday stewards. When God calls out, "Whom shall we send?" we — in all our sinfulness — are allowed to cry out "Send me, Lord!" And He sends us out and behold — our nets tear with the bounty we harvest in His name.

— 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:

Why don't Catholics add the "For yours is the Kingdom ..." prayer at the end of the Our Father like Protestants do? Where did it come from?

#### Answer:

The conclusion of the Lord's Prayer that you refer to is called a doxology, which is a prayer of glory and praise. This particular doxology we do use in the Mass. After the Our Father, the priest prays the prayer that begins, "Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil..." and the people respond with the doxology. The doxology is not found in the Bible, but it is very ancient. It was first found in The Didache, also called "The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles," which dates probably from about the year AD 90. It was a letter of instruction to early converts to Christianity. Protestantism dates only to the sixteenth century, so the doxology is actually a Catholic prayer. Some scholars and the catechism (#2760) indicate that the doxology was connected to the celebration of the Eucharist and was not used apart from it.

Remember, both the Lord's Prayer and the Eucharist were part of the "mysteries of faith," things taught only to believers. Ironically, a remnant of a prayer used during the celebration of the Eucharist has come to be used widely by many Christian churches that do not celebrate the Eucharist! Truth is indeed stranger than fiction!

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Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing.

**- Lk 5:5-6**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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## **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture**

### **First Reading**

Isaiah eagerly volunteered himself to serve the Lord after seeing God's holy presence. How open are you to responding to God's call in your life?

### **Second Reading**

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel ("good news") tradition he received and taught about Jesus' resurrection appearances. What do you tell others about your faith in Christ?

### **Gospel Reading**

In Luke's account of the call of the first disciples, he focuses almost exclusively on Peter and his interactions with Jesus. What lessons are we to learn from Luke emphasizing Peter's humility and obedience to Jesus' call?



5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A person with a backpack stands on a rocky peak, looking out over a vast sea of clouds at sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, golden light, and the clouds below are illuminated from the bottom, creating a dreamlike atmosphere. The person is silhouetted against the bright light of the sun.

# IN THE SIGHT OF ANGELS,

*I sing.*

PSALM 138

*Jesus said to  
Simon, “Do  
not be afraid;  
from now  
on you will  
be catching  
men.” When  
they brought  
their boats  
to the shore,  
they left  
everything  
and followed  
him.*

*- Lk 5:10-11*

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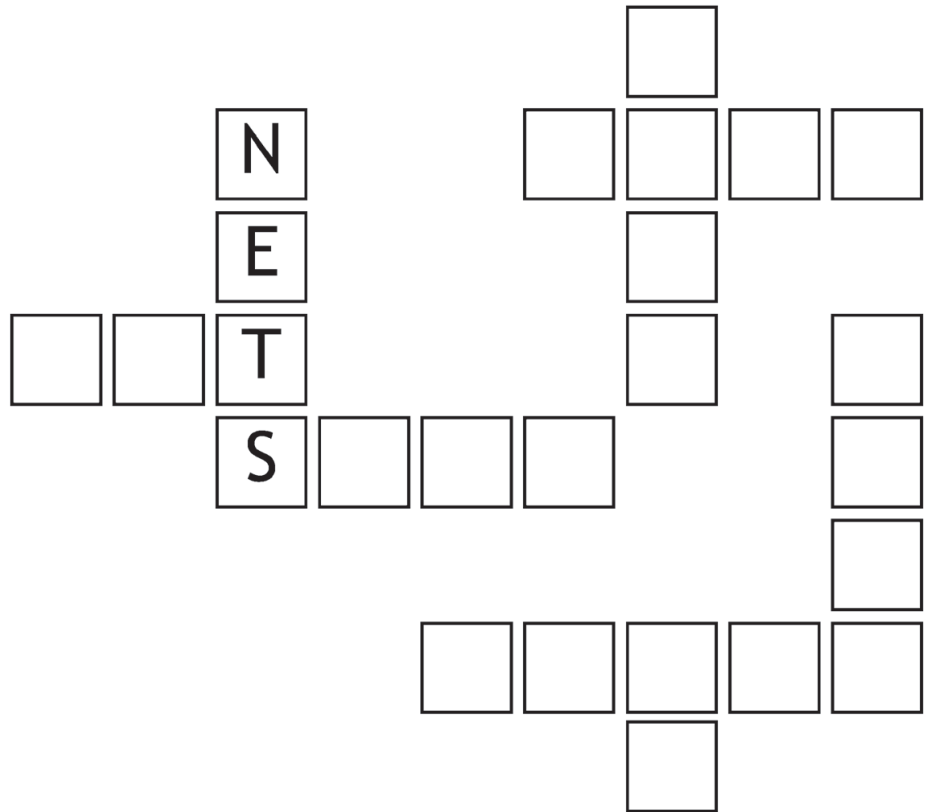


# KIDS CORNER

## READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares

Let your nets down to catch some fish.



### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Jesus was powerful enough to control the fish in the sea! Peter caught no fish by himself one night.

With Jesus' help, Peter caught more fish than his boat could carry. When Peter saw what Jesus did, he was afraid. How would you feel?

### PRAYER

Dear God, your power is so amazing!

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK

With your parents, try turning on a lamp while it isn't plugged in. It doesn't work, does it? That's how we need to be plugged in to God, to do his work. Without him, what we try will never work.





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