

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the
Archdiocese of Seattle



January 14, 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Columban Church

506 First St. S | Yelm, WA 98597

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Saturday 5:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:00 AM (Tuesday-Friday, Except First Fridays)

Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays 6:30 PM

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Baptism & Wedding Preparation Contact the Parish Office

St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St S | Tenino, WA 98589

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM

First Friday Mass 9:00 AM

Confessions Sunday 7:30-7:45 AM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Providing emergency assistance for those in need.

Help Line: 360-458-1904

Parish Office Hours at St. Columban Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Friday by appointment

Sacramental Emergencies: 208-572-5251 *The church may be open for prayer during office hours upon request.*

Entrance Antiphon: *All the earth shall bow down before you O God, and shall sing to your name O Most High!*

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40 "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel Acclamation: *We have found the Messiah:*

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Gospel: John 1:35-42

Communion Antiphon: *We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.*

On the Cover: Church of Saint-Martin, Laignelet, France . South façade Tympanum, User GO69 on Wikimedia Commons

www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

360-458-3031

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Welcome to St. Columban

Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY January 15

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Rosary Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church

TUESDAY January 16

NO 9AM MASS

Funeral for Richard Suver RIP 10:00 a.m. Church

St. Peter Circle 9:00 a.m. St. Peter

Winter Clothes Closet 6:00PM-8:00 p.m. Small Hall

Spanish Prayer Group 6:30 PM Hall

WEDNESDAY January 17 St. Anthony of Egypt, Abbot

Mass 9:00 a.m. Int: Lorenzo Martinez Church

Bible Study 10:00 a.m. St. Peter

Winter Clothes Closet 2-4 p.m. Small Hall

THURSDAY January 18

Mass 9:00 a.m. +In mem: Brian & Martin Baker Sr. RIP Church

Winter Clothes Closet 6-8 p.m. Small Hall

Novena for Life 6 p.m. Church

Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Church

Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Small Hall

FRIDAY January 19

Mass 9:00 a.m. Church

Homeschool Enrichment 9:45 a.m. RE Bldg

Novena for Life 6 p.m. Church

SATURDAY January 20

St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr. St. Sebastian, Martyr

Confession 3:30PM Church

Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00PM Int.: Pro Populo Church

Novena for Life 6 p.m. Church

SUNDAY January 21 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Confession 7:30-7:45AM St. Peter

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM Int.: Pro Populo St. Peter

Religious Ed 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. RE Bldg

Confirmation 9:15 a.m.—10:15 a.m. Sm. Hall/Youth Space

Sunday Mass 10:30 AM Int.: Pro Populo Church

KofC Breakfast 11:45 a.m. Large Hall

Novena for Life 6 p.m. Church



We proclaim the Roman Catholic faith to the communities of McKenna, Nisqually, Rainier, Roy, Tenino, and Yelm in southeast Thurston and southwest Pierce counties.

Are you registered? Registration ensures that we know you are here, makes us aware of your needs and gifts, but most of all it helps us to welcome you to the parish! Stop by and introduce yourselves! The Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday, 9:30am to 2:00pm or call us for an appointment on Fridays. You may also register online at saintcolumbanyelm.org/

Announcements

Palms from Palm Sunday last year are now being collected for Ash Wednesday. Please place your Palms in the basket in the narthex.

Thank you to the volunteers and Altar Society who helped us take down the Christmas Decorations.

The Knights of Columbus have many upcoming events coming open to all parishioners. See their spot on page 4.

Respect Life

The annual Baby Bottle Drive during the month of January collects donations of loose change or cash to support PREPARES of Western Washington, which helps both expectant mothers and families with young children. Bottles are available in the narthex and are due back by Sunday January 28th. If you still have any bottles from last year, please return them to the church.



The **Spanish Prayer Group** is hosting the **9 Days for Life Novena** starting Tuesday January 16th at 6PM here in the church. If you can't make it, visit 9daysforlife.com to sign up to receive daily prayers from January 16th through the 24th.

Announcements continue on page 4.

Connect with us

WEBSITE saintcolumbanyelm.org

LIVESTREAM

youtube.com/@stcolumbanyelm

SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook.com/saintcolumbanyelm

ONLINE GIVING

pushpay.com/g/saintcolumbanyelm

PARISH STAFF

(360) 458-3031

Fr. Brian Thompson In Office: Tu-Th/AM

Priest Administrator

frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org x6

Jennifer Langham In Office: M-Thu

PA for Admin, Liturgy, & Music

jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org x1

Matthew Tolar In Office: M-Tu/AM

PA for Admin, Bookkeeping & Records

matthew@saintcolumbanyelm.org x4

Gabriela Makinster In Office: Tu-Th

Elementary & Adult Faith Formation,

gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org x2

*habla Español

Chad Lucero

Youth Ministry & Confirmation

chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org x3

Steven Slater St. Columban Maintenance

steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Gilberto Espino St. Peter Maintenance

gilberto@saintcolumbanyelm.org

A Word from Father Thompson



There is a literary trope called the “Three Faces of Adam” which refers to a triad of roles that characters, especially male characters, in a story inhabit at different times of life and experience. The idea of the trope is to explore how our real-life emotions, roles, and outlook on the world change throughout life, as well as responsibilities.

The general idea is that the first stage is man who is filled with potential, drive, and potency but generally lives for himself and his own ambitions. Even if he has duties to fulfill, they are external to him and not wholly “who he is.” This man may be the, or a, “good guy,” but even if he is the protagonist or is doing courageous acts, he is too self-focused truly to be a hero yet. This stage has names such as the Hunter, Rouge, Knave, or Squire. He can be edgy, misunderstood by the order of society, and this can make him exciting, plucky, or dashing. However, he is clearly immature, and that immaturity limits him (even if he hasn’t yet learned to see or admit it).

The second stage, is the man who has honed his skill and, having internalized his duty and devoted himself to something bigger than himself, at the cost of roguish freedom, is in the place where he can truly be a hero. He is no longer the hunter or rogue, motivated by his own glory and hunger for adventure, brooding over how the rest of the world couldn’t possibly understand someone as unique and gifted as he; However, he does on some level stake his self-worth and value on his own activity: yes, his power is directed to service, but he has a degree of self-satisfaction in his ability to be of heroic service. This face of Adam is often called the Knight.

The most mature face of Adam is called things like Magus (wise man), Lord, or Prophet; it is often—and quite naturally—associated with age. The character now has wisdom, he has purged himself of immature vainglory, he knows the true value of service to others. However, there is a catch: that wisdom came at the cost of age and the toll past heroic efforts and sacrifices took on him. The Magus can no longer be the hero himself; in becoming the Magus, he had to learn to let go of being the protagonist and to pass the torch to others: calling the rouge out of his selfish immaturity and desire to be both praised for his unique gifts yet misunderstood, and into selfless service of others; and directing the active heroism of the Knight while also passing on the wisdom the Knight will need when age and sacrifice in turn makes him the Magus. Yet, even the wise old man has character development left and is not static or perfect by any means: His struggle is that his wisdom was gained at the cost of regrets and scars that now acutely ache, the Knight and especially the Rogue do not always listen to his wisdom (which, ironically, could save them from making the same mistakes receiving the same scars), every blessing he gives costs him something he cannot get back, and he knows that he will even have to one day let go even of the role of mentorship and decline to helpless senility and ultimately death. The Magus’s mission is to come to terms with the reality that the story will continue without him.

More to come on this in the next few weeks.

In Christ

F. Thompson

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



FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND*

Stan Villadelgado,
Robert Fisher, Tina
Wilson, Marcella
Thornton, Grace Dvorak,
and Joe Judge.

FOR THE DECEASED

Richard Suver and all the
souls in purgatory,
especially those who have
no one to pray for them.

FOR OUR EXTRAORDINARY INTENTIONS

All those in harm’s way,
especially those
experiencing natural
disasters and terrorism.

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE POPE FOR JANUARY

For the Gift of Diversity in
the Church: Let us pray
that the Spirit help us
recognize the gift of
different charisms within
the Christian community,
and to discover the
richness of different ritual
traditions in the heart of
the Catholic Church. *Our
Father..., Hail Mary...,
Glory Be...*

*The church may be open
for prayer during office
hours upon request.*

*To add a name to this list or request a Mass
Intention please contact the parish office. All
submissions must have permission from the
named individual or an authorized family
member for privacy purposes. St. Columban
Prayer Chain: Confidential and private prayer
chain. To join, contact the parish office.

Ministries & Events

Whether you are new to the parish or have been here for many years, we encourage you to share your time, talents and treasures in support of the mission of our parish community. Contact Jennifer Langham at the Parish Office for more information about events and to connect with a group: 360-458-3031x1 / jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org



Altar Society

A team of talented parishioners beautifully maintain and clean the Church every Thursday after Daily Mass.



Daughters of Mary daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org

All women of the Parish are invited. Next monthly meeting is **Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 6 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Bring your favorite snack to share!

Liturgical Ministries parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Altar Servers, Choir, Greeters/Ushers, Readers

Knights of Columbus kofc@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Council 17152 and Assembly 3742 meets monthly third Wednesdays of every month. Next council meeting is **Jan. 17, 5:30 p.m.** The assembly meeting follows.

Open to all Catholic gentlemen committed to the exemplification of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism and to the defense of the priesthood.

Next Sunday Breakfast Jan. 21 following the 10:30 Mass. Knights please come help starting at 8 a.m. All Parishioners are welcome to eat; donations are accepted to help offset costs.

Spaghetti Dinner Saturday January 27 following the 5 p.m. Mass. Tickets are on sale after Sunday Masses.

Chili Contest & Football Watch Party Feb. 11th at 3 p.m.

Blood Drive Feb. 15 12-5 p.m. Sign up for an appointment at redcrossblood.org and search with our Zip Code 98597.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul 360-458-1904

Our chapter is composed of parishioners who provide assistance and prayerful healing to those in need in our community. Members meet weekly and monitor the helpline.

St. Peter Circle 360-264-4856

Second Tuesdays every other month, beginning in January at St. Peter Tenino. Next meeting this Tuesday March 12.

Prayer Groups

Rosary group Mondays 7 PM in the Church,
Spanish Group Tuesdays 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

Winter Clothes Closet

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. October thru March. Donations of Coats, Knit Caps, Gloves, Warm socks, Scarves, Raincoats, and Rain boots are always welcome. Please remember that all donations should be of the highest quality, something you would wear. Donation boxes are located in the narthex.

Outside Events & Notices

**Sacred Heart Crab Feed, Friday, February 9, 6pm at Hal-
len Hall** The Holy Name Society of Sacred Heart in Lacey is hosting their 56th annual Crab Feed. Cost is \$38 for an all-you-can-enjoy dinner, with beer & Vino included. No ticket sales at the door, contact Mr. John Huff for Tickets: (360) 584-2323 or jn13_1_16@hotmail.com

The Confraternity of the Holy Names Society promotes reverence for the Sacred Name of Jesus Christ, obedience and loyalty to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church, and the personal sanctification and holiness of its members.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Retreats: : Feb 9-11, 2024 at LaQuinta in Tacoma, Mar 8-10, 2024, Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, Spokane, Apr 26-28, 2024 in Everett. Visit www.me.org or contact: Jeff and Sandy Corneil 360-930-2321

Project Rachel—Hope and Healing After Abortion English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814 projectrachel@ccsww.org If you are suffering from the experience of an abortion, you do not need to walk alone. We offer a compassionate and confidential environment for those who suffer the effects of an abortion. Find hope and healing after abortion at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.

Financial Stewardship Report

Give Online using Pushpay
St. Columban



St. Peter



	Dec. 23-25		Dec. 30 - Jan.1	
Ordinary Income	St Columban	St Peter	St Columban	St Peter
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	\$4,769.13	\$1,519.00	\$1,274.00	\$528.00
Online Giving	\$2,225.00	\$230.00	\$1,665.00	\$460.00
Net	\$1,194.13	\$749.00	(\$2,861.00)	(\$12.00)
Holy Day	\$412.00	\$0.00	\$337.00	\$30.00
St Vincent DePaul	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$0.00
Sacramentals	\$30.02	\$17.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
(Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)				
Flowers	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$91.17
Building Fund	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

St. Columban Parish Pastoral Council Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf • St. Peter Advisory Commission Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org • Parish Finance Council Joseph Judge (St Columban), Mari Evans (St Peter)

Faith Formation

Elementary Religious Education

Links to related articles & blogs will be posted in the emailed bulletin and on our social media channels.



Faith Formation K-5

Jan 21 Class

Jan 28 Class

(First Holy Communion Parent Meeting during class time)



The Attendance Challenge!

Our volunteer catechists are committed to planning lessons

and activities for each scheduled class—right up to the last class day's celebration. Let us all please remember to honor and respect our volunteers' efforts with good attendance—right up to the end of classes in May.

Remember...

If classes are cancelled due to snow or ice, a flocknote text Message will be sent out. Regardless if there is class or not, always keep your family's safety foremost in your decision to come to



2023-2024

Tuition reminders will be handed out during the next couple of weeks.

Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)/Adult Faith Formation

Classes meet Tuesdays 6:30-8pm in the Religious Education building. These classes are open to all adult learners and to those seeking the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.



Next Class is January 16th and the lesson will be the Sacrament of Confirmation. Fr. Thompson will be our instructor. Fr. Thompson will help us understand the church's teaching about Confirmation as well as the ceremonial words and actions.

Youth Ministry & Confirmation (Grades 6-12)

Join us for fellowship & discipleship! Youth Ministry meet monthly for a mini-retreat or weekly for on Wednesday evenings for faith sharing. Contact Mr. Lucero for schedule. No Confirmation classes resume January 14; next class January 21.

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Jesus is the Father's Emissary. From the beginning of his ministry, he "called to him those whom he desired; . . . And he appointed twelve, whom also he named apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to preach." From then on, they would also be his "emissaries" (Greek *apostoloi*). In them, Christ continues his own mission: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." The apostles' ministry is the continuation of his mission; Jesus said to the Twelve: "he who receives you receives me."

Jesus unites them to the mission he received from the Father. As "the Son can do nothing of his own accord," but receives everything from the Father who sent him, so those whom Jesus sends can do nothing apart from him, from whom they received both the mandate for their mission and the power to carry it out. Christ's apostles knew that they were called by God as "ministers of a new covenant," "servants of God," "ambassadors for Christ," "servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God." (CCC 858-859)

Mrs. Makinster
Elementary & Adult Faith Formation,
gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org
360-458-3031 x2 *habla Español*

At St. Columban, we provide an opportunity for

children and youth to learn about their Catholic faith and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through study, prayer, and community service.



Mr. Lucero
Youth Ministry & Confirmation



chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org
360-458-3031 x3

Our Youth Ministry Values

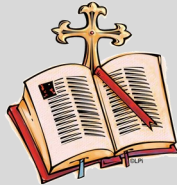
1. Our primary identity is as beloved sons and beloved daughters of God, no matter what. You are here because God wanted you here. Willing our existence, God create each of us out of love to love and for love.
2. We glorify God by striving to fully live our state in life. God gave us families and communities where we learn our faith, pray for each other's needs, and build virtue together as members of his Church, the Body of Christ.
3. As pilgrims on a journey together we are always on mission. We attend Holy Mass and receive the sacraments to better endure the trials of life, train us to be of service to one another, and to prepare us for eternal life in Heaven.



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of January 14, 2024

Reflect and Respond to the Sunday Mass Readings:



First Reading:

The LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Sm 3:10)

In the Lord's call to Samuel, Eli teaches Samuel the importance of "listening" to God's voice. Can you name something you have heard from the Lord?

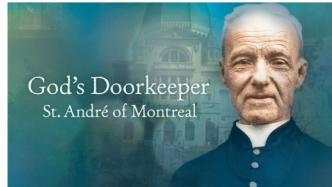
Second Reading: *Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. (1 Cor 6:15, 17)*

St. Paul saw our physical bodies as a temple of the Holy Spirit, destined to be raised after death just as Jesus was raised from the dead. What are some ways to treat your body with reverence and respect?

Gospel: *So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. (Jn 1:39)*

In John's account of the call of the first disciples, we hear the first words Jesus speaks in the Gospel of John: "What are you looking for?" How can you convince family or friends that Jesus is what we all should be looking for?

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. Reflections, select clip art and content are ©LPi, our bulletin publisher.



God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



The Bible Collection - Genesis

Experience the epic tale of creation in this Christian anthology that details the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and Noah and the Ark.



Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968. Blessed with incredible spiritual gifts, including healing, bi-location, reading of souls, and the stigmatic wounds, Padre Pio was a powerful witness for Christ, and a great spiritual guide to countless souls for over fifty years.

Our Church has a subscription to FORMED.org, a streaming service with multitudes of Catholic videos, audiobooks, and e-books for the whole family. Go to formed.org/signup and enter our parish name to redeem your FREE membership. Once logged-in, access these suggestions at watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed

Search for FORMED in your device's app store to watch on the go or on your TV.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and ignatius press

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Father Flood © LPi



"Did you hear about the runner who lost the race to a religious sister?"



"The runner was **second to nun**"

FUN FACT! Men and women called to religious life still enjoy all kinds of activities — cooking, reading, traveling, and yes ... even running races.

Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

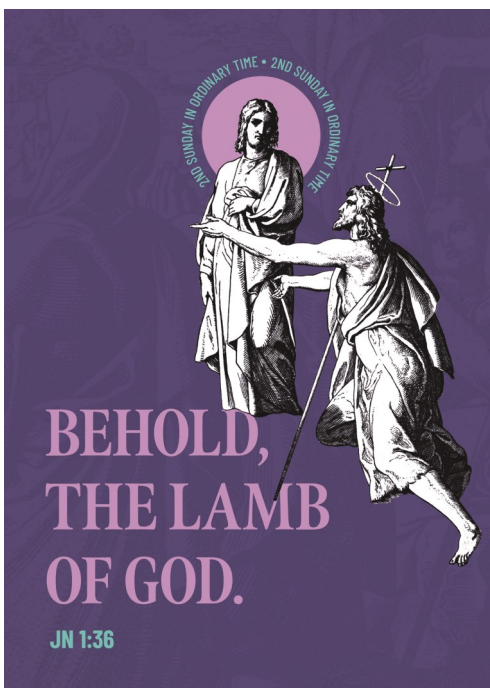
CHAPTER II. The Nature and Excellence of Devotion.

THOSE who sought to discourage the Israelites from going up to the Promised Land, told them that it was “a land which eateth up the inhabitants thereof;” that is, that the climate was so unhealthy that the inhabitants could not live long, and that the people thereof were “men of a great stature,” who looked upon the new-comers as mere locusts to be devoured. It is just so, my daughter, that the world runs down true devotion, painting devout people with gloomy, melancholy aspect, and affirming that religion makes them dismal and unpleasant. But even as Joshua and Caleb protested that not only was the Promised Land a fair and pleasant country, but that the Israelites would take an easy and peaceful possession thereof, so the Holy Spirit tells us through His Saints, and our Lord has told us with His Own Lips, that a devout life is very sweet, very happy and very loveable.

The world, looking on, sees that devout persons fast, watch and pray, endure injury patiently, minister to the sick and poor, restrain their temper, check and subdue their passions, deny themselves in all sensual indulgence, and do many other things which in themselves are hard and difficult. But the world sees nothing of that inward, heartfelt devotion which makes all these actions pleasant and easy. Watch a bee hovering over the mountain thyme;—the juices it gathers are bitter, but the bee turns them all to honey,—and so tells the worldling, that though the devout soul finds bitter herbs along its path of devotion, they are all turned to sweetness and pleasantness as it treads;—and the martyrs have counted fire, sword, and rack but as perfumed flowers by reason of their devotion. And if devotion can sweeten such cruel torments, and even death itself, how much more will it give a charm to ordinary good deeds? We sweeten unripe fruit with sugar, and it is useful in correcting the crudity even of that which is good. So devotion

is the real spiritual sweetness which takes away all bitterness from mortifications; and prevents consolations from disagreeing with the soul: it cures the poor of sadness, and the rich of presumption; it keeps the oppressed from feeling desolate, and the prosperous from insolence; it averts sadness from the lonely, and dissipation from social life; it is as warmth in winter and refreshing dew in summer; it knows how to abound and how to suffer want; how to profit alike by honor and contempt; it accepts gladness and sadness with an even mind, and fills men’s hearts with a wondrous sweetness.

Ponder Jacob’s ladder:—it is a true picture of the devout life; the two poles which support the steps are types of prayer which seeks the love of God, and the Sacraments which confer that love; while the steps themselves are simply the degrees of love by which we go on from virtue to virtue, either descending by good deeds on behalf of our neighbor or ascending by contemplation to a loving union with God. Consider, too, who they are who trod this ladder; men with angels’ hearts, or angels with human forms. They are not youthful, but they seem to be so by reason of their vigor and spiritual activity. They have wings wherewith to fly, and attain to God in holy prayer, but they have likewise feet wherewith to tread in human paths by a holy gracious intercourse with men; their faces are bright and beautiful, inasmuch as they accept all things gently and sweetly; their heads and limbs are uncovered, because their thoughts, affections and actions have no motive or object save that of pleasing God; the rest of their bodies is covered with a light shining garment, because while they use the world and the things of this life, they use all such purely and honestly, and no further than is needful for their condition—such are the truly devout. Believe me, dear child, devotion is the sweetest of sweets, the queen of virtues, the perfection of love. If love is the milk of life, devotion is the cream thereof; if it is a fruitful plant, devotion is the blossom; if it is a precious stone, devotion is its brightness; if it is a precious balm, devotion is its perfume, even that sweet odor which delights men and causes the angels to rejoice.



Children as Commodities

Read the full version at
respectlifeprogram.org/children-commodities.

At seventeen, Natalie* discovered that her parents had contracted with another woman to become pregnant using her father’s sperm and the woman’s own egg. Natalie became estranged from her parents, hurt that money, rather than the physical expression of married love, was the context in which she was brought into the world. Since the advent of IVF (in vitro fertilization), the floodgates have been opened to bringing about reproduction through egg and sperm donation and surrogate pregnancies. Yet these technologies are fraught with medical, legal, and moral complications. Children deserve to not be created as a product of reproductive technology, but to be given by God, and to be born through married love.

**Children
deserve to
be given by
God, born of
married love.**

*Name changed for privacy. This is a summary of a USCCB Respect Life Program article by the same name and is reprinted with permission. © 2019, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

iStock.com/nevodika



9 DAYS FOR LIFE
JANUARY 16-24

Pray to protect human life!

Join Catholics nationwide in prayer for the protection of human life! You can download the novena or get the daily prayers and reflections by email or text message.

9DAYSFORLIFE.COM



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD.

— JOHN 1:36 —



— SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024 —

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Sm 3:10)

Psalm:

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. (Ps 40)

Second Reading:

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. (1 Cor 6:15, 17)

Gospel:

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. (Jn 1:39)

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.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Come and see," Jesus said to the disciples who were curious to know about him. Today, he whispers this invitation into the deepest place of our heart. Have courage — go, and see what Christ has to show you.

Observances for the week of January 14, 2024

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Martin Luther King Day
Wednesday: St. Anthony, Abbot
Thursday: January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Saturday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the week

St. Clare of Assisi, a devoted follower and friend of St. Francis, centered her life around poverty, prayer, and the Eucharist. As the founder of the Poor Clares, she promoted a ministry of simplicity, adoration, and service to the poor.

Prayer of Discernment

Dear Lord,
Here I am! Help me to know the path You would have me walk, to speak the words You would have me speak, to love and serve those You put in my path. Amen.

Readings for the week of January 14, 2024

Sunday:

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10
(8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday:

1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and
23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday:

1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2,
9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday:

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a,
10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday:

1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday:

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/
Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday:

Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/
1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

As a priest, I'm amazed how happily married couples remember the tiniest details of their earliest encounters. They effortlessly report things like: "he wore a blue shirt," "we ordered brussels sprouts," "her hair was up in a bun," and "he spilled shrimp cocktail sauce at my family's open front door when it was ten degrees below zero," (that one's courtesy of my mom). We delight in remembering and speaking of when our new life of love began. The little details are glorious reminders that it's all real.

It's similar for John the Apostle. He tells us of the two disciples who followed Jesus into his house, **"...they stayed with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon."** Why does that tiny detail matter? Because *that's the time of day when they encountered the love of Jesus the Messiah in their lives*. Our religion is not primarily about abstract truths about God, no matter how true or sublime. It is about God meeting and saving us in our human nature. It's about a *human* relationship.

What was the time of day when you first recall encountering Christ and his Church? Who was there? What did you feel? How did things look and smell? What happened? Take some time to recall it in detail. For me, it was inside an old, rickety church on a hillside in Jerome, Arizona. It was about 9 p. m. on a Saturday evening. I was with my friends Jenny, Brad, and Laura. We were praying, singing, and laughing. When was it for you? Remembering the details isn't empty nostalgia. It reminds us now that God's love for us in our humanity is real.

— Father John Muir



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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Those Who Seek the Truth

In my work as a freelance writer, I have a regular column in the archdiocesan paper writing profiles of ordinary people in the local church. Laity, religious, and clergy alike — I hound them all to give me an interview, and when I do, the answer is almost always this: “You don’t want to talk to me. There’s nothing special about me.”

I always try to convince them that there is something remarkable about everyone who is searching for the truth. It is easy to think we are not made for holiness because we are ordinary people with ordinary habits, ordinary abilities, and ordinary sins. It is easy (and very convenient) to designate holiness as something belonging to Better People. People like the saints. People like the Disciples.

The Bible gives us next to no personal information about the disciples. There is no archdiocesan newspaper profile on Andrew and Simon that can give us insight into who they were before they became St. Andrew, Inaugural Disciple and Announcer of the Messiah, and St. Peter, First Pope and the Rock-Upon-Which-Christ-Built-His-Church.

Yet I find myself insatiably curious about it. What was their childhood like? What games did they play with each other as the sun set, before their mother called them into bed? What did they think of as they fell asleep at night? What secret jokes did they share to make each other laugh? What were they afraid of? What did they hope for? Who did they want to be?

Before they were towering figures of salvation history, Simon and Andrew were just two men searching for the truth. When they looked at Christ, there was something that made it click. Perhaps they themselves could not identify what it was, but their hearts whispered it nonetheless: *There it is. We finally found it.*

Isn’t that the best we can all hope for?

“Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’” — John 1:38

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do we make changes in the Mass? Some seem so small and unimportant. Are they really necessary?

Answer:

The celebration of the Eucharist is at the heart of our identity as Catholics. Our purpose as a Church community revolves around the Eucharist. Everything we are and everything we do is measured not only by how well we celebrate, but also by how well we live the sacrament. If that is so, then we as a community will always strive to celebrate the Mass as best we can. The reasons for some changes might seem more obvious than others, but there is a reason behind each one.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal is the introduction to the Missal that contains all the prayers for the celebration of the Mass. The Order of Mass we use now was issued in 1975 and, as often happens over the course of years, some questions have come up about the proper way of doing some things and whether or not other practices are acceptable. These changes clarify some things and make the celebration of the Mass more meaningful for everyone.

The opportunity is presented to us to better learn and understand each part of the Mass, which in turn should help us deepen our appreciation for its beauty and meaning. We will be a better Church if we have a clearer understanding and knowledge of Who and what we celebrate.

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.

- Jn 1:35-37

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

In the Lord's call to Samuel, Eli teaches Samuel the importance of "listening" to God's voice. Can you name something you have heard from the Lord?

Second Reading

Paul saw our physical bodies as a temple of the Holy Spirit, destined to be raised after death just as Jesus was raised from the dead. What are some ways to treat your body with reverence and respect?

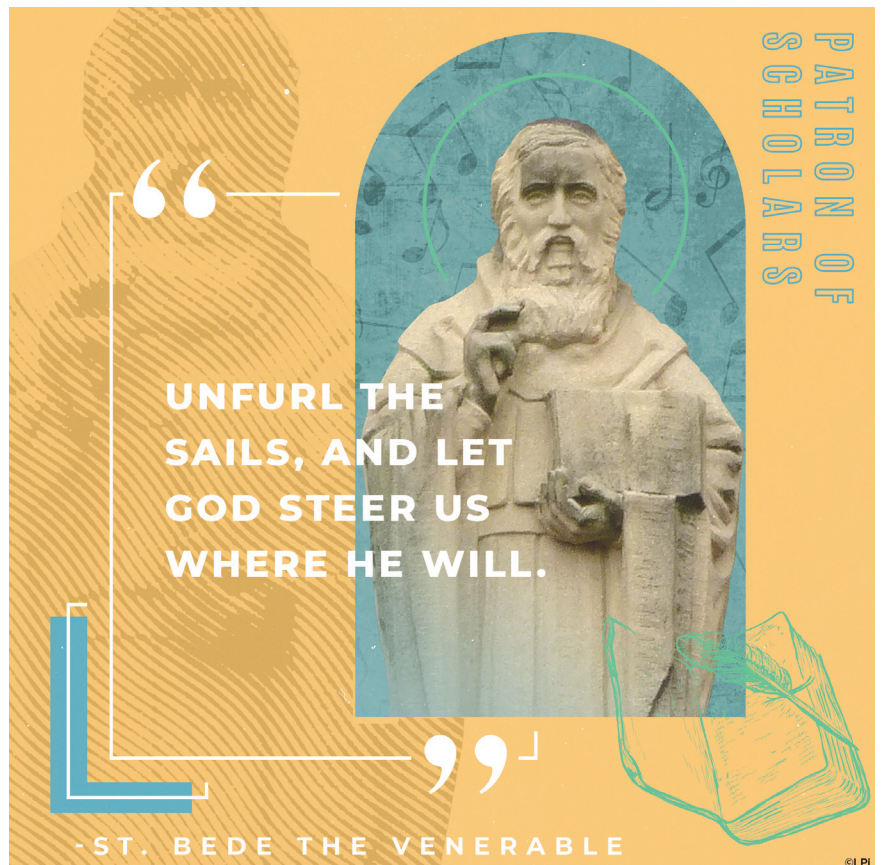
Gospel Reading

In John's account of the call of the first disciples, we hear the first words Jesus speaks in the Gospel of John: "What are you looking for?" How can you convince family or friends that Jesus is what we all should be looking for?



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Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi”—which translated means Teacher—“where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” - Jn 1:38-39a

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Prayer

Jesus, help me tell my family and friends about you.

Mission for the Week

Ask your family if you could include Kings' Cake in your holiday celebrations next year.

Sharing the Gospel

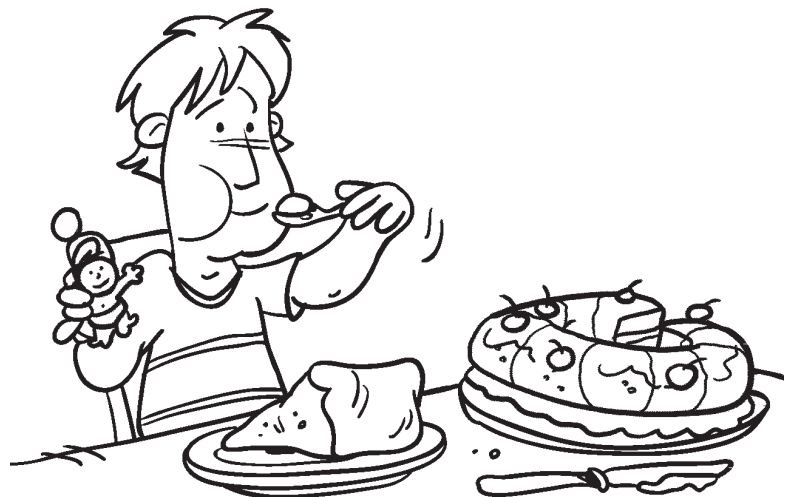
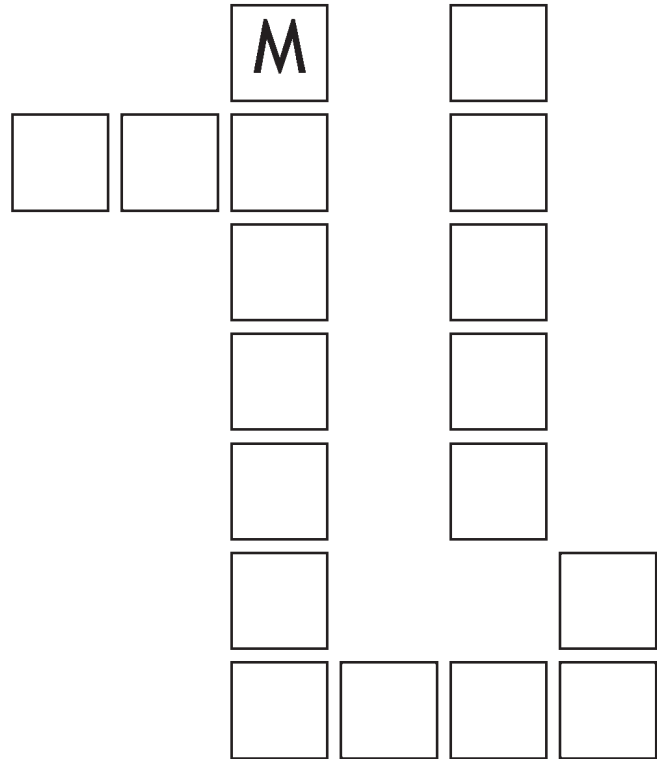
Mexican families share a special treat called a Kings' Cake on January 6th. Hidden inside the cake is one tiny little doll shaped like the baby Jesus. If you find Jesus in your piece of cake, you tell everyone. In today's Gospel, Andrew met Jesus for the first time. Andrew was so excited to find the Savior, he ran to tell his brother he had found Jesus.

Now color the picture!

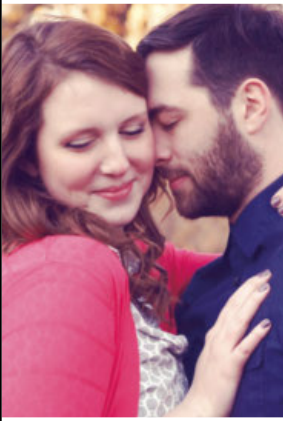


Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares.

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