



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 16, 2022

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Is 62:1-5

1 Cor 12:4-11

Jn 2:1-11



*Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.*

JOHN 2:10

BODAN SONJACHNY / SHUTTERSTOCK

## What's New?

**F**ew parties are more enjoyable than a wedding celebration. While the elegance of the flowers and the extravagance of the food and beverages captivate our senses, the real excitement is the love and promise of newness. New relationships are forged, a new family is created, and there's the possibility of new life. No wonder the relationship between God and the people is often described in marriage imagery, as we see in today's first reading.

This Old Testament passage is post-exilic. The alienation from God is over; the people and God are now reconciled. Much of the language suggests relationship: no longer *forsaken* or *desolate*, but now a *delight* and *espoused* (see Isaiah 62:4). Despite having been betrayed, God's mercy has transformed the nation back to its virginal state: "As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you" (62:5). This newness is something to celebrate.

The messianic character of the Cana story has long been recognized. All the newness I mentioned earlier is there, but newness now pertains to the entire community of believers and not simply to the marriage couple, who have no idea what is happening. An important detail of this story is the nature of the wine. What was originally water for ceremonial cleansing was transformed into wine, the quality of which was outstanding. This imagery tells us that there is a messianic banquet awaiting us, one that celebrates our intimate union with God. The joy we experience then will be intoxicating.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR Reflection

- ★ *How might you describe your relationship with God?*
- ★ *Do you feel alienated from God? Remember, God's mercy can change that.*

## Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

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Father Ken Robinson, Chaplain

### REFLECTIONS

On Saturday, January 22nd, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops has called for a universal 'Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children'. On that day, Catholic Christians are challenged to recall the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision (*Roe vs. Wade*) which removed all legal protection from the unborn and which has as a consequence resulted in the death of untold numbers of children whose lives have been terminated through legal abortion.

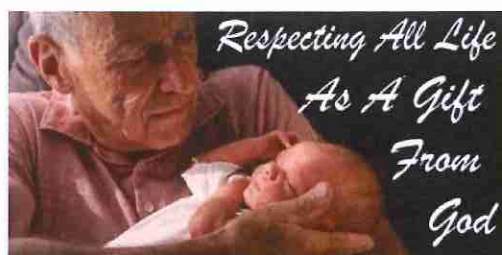
Since that legal decision, many Christians of various denominations have been united in the work to overturn that decision. This has been an effort through legal and judicial means as well as witnessing to our Christian faith through the annual March for Life and standing as witness at abortion clinics as well as continual prayer. It is important to remember that those who support abortion, under the guise of a political or social right, are not the enemy, but quite often are fellow Christians who believe differently. Our challenge is to win over these and all people to a greater understanding and respect for the dignity of the human person created by God. Sadly, over the years this effort to overturn *Roe vs. Wade* has become politicized, often resulting in shouting matches and even violence committed by both sides of the issue.

As we approach another Day of Prayer on January 22nd, we need to remember that this is not a time to dwell on

negatives or pursuing hatred for those supporting or providing abortions. That is certainly not in keeping with our Christian tradition. Christians stand for what is positive and we must valiantly promote the truth in the face of evil and indifference but we must do so above all with charity. We are challenged to remind ourselves that as God recognized each of us before we were born, and called us by name, so too may we recognize the value of each human life and pledge ourselves to continue to defend and nurture God's greatest gift to us.

We do not change hearts by attacking others, calling them names or engaging in attacks against them. Rather God changes hearts through the witness of our actions of goodness and through prayer. On the 22nd of January, we are challenged to set aside time for prayer and scripture reading, asking for the grace that the Church will need to be the stalwart defender of life it is challenged to be.

*From Father Ken*



## My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This week we begin the Second Sunday in Ordinary time. I am sure you have noticed the transformation in the Liturgical Color to green. Green is the Liturgical Color of Ordinary Time. It is considered the color of life and hope. During this first term of Ordinary Time families in different parts of the world leave their Nativity Set up until the Presentation of our Lord on February 2nd. According to Church practices, there are no First Sundays in Ordinary Time. The Sunday following the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is always the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We will have our first Advisory Council meeting of the year on January 20th. It will be in the Family Dining Room after Mass. If you have items of concern or suggestions, please discuss them with the following Advisor Council Members:

*Ann Welch	*Susan Urbanek
*Ramsie Martin	*Lorenzo Mendez
*Ed Bach	*Julie Miller
*Liz Freeman	*Clemente DeLaCruz

Betty Tighe requested that we have a Rosary Rally on Saturday January 22nd at 12:00 PM in the Chapel. This day is a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's ruling on *Roe v. Wade*. Please come and pray with us.

This month we sent a donation of \$1000.00 to Divine Word Missions. Thanks for your generosity.

During this period of curtailing social activities in the Village, we will continue to have all Sacraments (Mass, Confession & Anointing) on our regular schedule. Please use hand sanitizer before entering the Chapel, and practice safe distancing. At this time, the wearing of masks is optional.

Please note that the Knights of Columbus-sponsored Sandwich Making and Community Breakfast are cancelled for the month of January.

I pray all of you will stay healthy. During his January 1, 2022 public Mass, Pope Francis encouraged all Catholics to place their lives under the Protection of Mary, the Mother of God.

May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

*God Give You Peace,  
Mike Pierson*



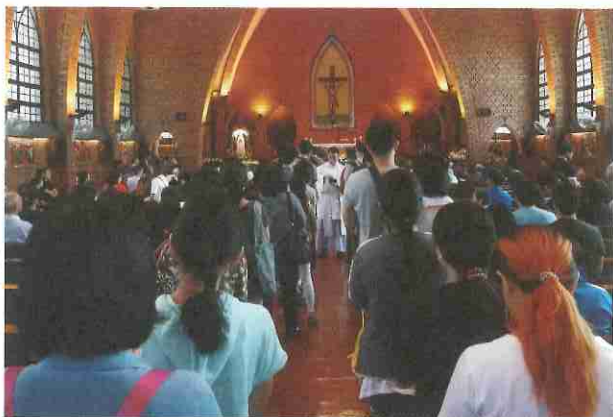
### Mass Intentions

- Jan. 16, 2022 Repose of the Soul of Jennifer Kemp  
By Tom & Ruth Kemp
- Jan. 17, 2022 Intention of Margaret Naccarella  
By Jack & Genie Kearney
- Jan. 18, 2022
- Jan. 19, 2022 Repose of the Soul of Ralph Messina  
By Jo Messina
- Jan. 20, 2022 Repose of the Soul of Eldon Lipp  
By Brian Foster
- Jan. 21, 2022 All Residents of Saint Francis Village  
Suffering from COVID-19
- Jan. 22, 2022 For the Intentions of all SFV Catholic  
Chapel Parishioners ( 9:00 AM Mass)
- Jan. 22, 2022 For the Intentions of all SFV Catholic  
Chapel Parishioners (5:00PM Vigil)

# Dear Padre,

**I work hard all week and look forward to sleeping in on Sundays. Why should I get out of bed and go to Mass?**

**I** imagine that your parish provides suitable Mass times, even for late sleepers. But there are overpowering reasons for attending Mass. First, I'll discuss how the Mass is our present-day connection with the Last Supper, the Passover meal Jesus celebrated with his apostles. As observant Jews, they commemorated their ancestors' escape from slavery in Egypt. Jesus used his



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final Passover meal to teach us how to escape a bondage crueler than the Jews experienced in Egypt—the enslavement of sin.

The next day, Good Friday, Jesus would die on the cross. Think of it: Jesus, the second person of the Trinity, became human to teach us about God's love for

us. The people's reaction to this goodness was to kill Jesus in an inhuman way.

In response, God would have been justified in destroying the world, as he did in reaction to the people's depravities during Noah's time. Instead, God gave us further evidence of his patience and forgiveness. There is nothing our Father would not forgive, including the sin of killing Jesus. At the Last Supper, Jesus said: "This is my blood..., which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

Jesus' death, which we remember during the Mass, liberates us from sin. It also liberates us from death itself. Because Jesus in his mortal body was willing to die, he shows us the plan God the Father has for each of us—a resurrection like Jesus'. The Eucharist is our thanksgiving for these gifts from God.

*Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)*



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*We go to Mass because we are sinners and we want to receive God's pardon, to participate in the redemption of Jesus, in his forgiveness. The confession which we make at the beginning is not pro forma. It is a real act of repentance! I am a sinner and I confess it—this is how the Mass begins!*

GENERAL AUDIENCE, FEBRUARY 12, 2014

## Calendar

### Monday

JANUARY 17

St. Anthony,  
Abbot

1 Sm 15:16–23

Mk 2:18–22

### Tuesday

JANUARY 18

Weekday

1 Sm 16:1–13

Mk 2:23–28

### Wednesday

JANUARY 19

Weekday

1 Sm 17:32–33,

37, 40–51

Mk 3:1–6

### Thursday

JANUARY 20

Weekday

1 Sm 18:6–9; 19:1–7

Mk 3:7–12

### Friday

JANUARY 21

St. Agnes,

Virgin and Martyr

1 Sm 24:3–21

Mk 3:13–19

### Saturday

JANUARY 22

Day of Prayer for  
the Legal Protection  
of Unborn Children

2 Sm 1:1–4, 11–12,

19, 23–27

Mk 3:20–21

### Sunday

JANUARY 23

Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2–4a, 5–6, 8–10

1 Cor 12:12–30

or 12:12–14, 27

Lk 1:1–4; 4:14–21