

Daily Reflections

Sunday, Jan 17, 2021: SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Lifestyles of the brave and mobile

Media coverage is thick concerning the lifestyles of the rich and famous. The lives of the truly heroic, on the other hand—faithful spouses, conscientious parents, the working poor, folks who turn their lives around after addiction or costly misdirection—are mostly hidden from view. Faithful discipleship requires effort, quiet persistence, and most of all, movement in the spirit. Followers don't stand still, unchangeable in opinions or behaviors.

Growth is required. The terms of the deal are as follows: "Come—and see."

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42 (65). "Rabbi . . . where are you staying?" He said to them, 'Come and you will see.' "

Monday, Jan 18, 2021: Abide your time this week

For more than 100 years, Christians around the world have been observing annually the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan. 18-25). For Catholics, this week is an opportunity to also ponder the Decree on Ecumenism from Vatican II. Is your diocese or parish participating in this healing effort? For resources, visit the World Council of Churches at Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. As you pray, call to mind this year's theme: "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit."

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22 (311). "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?"

Tuesday, Jan 19, 2021: Pray the pope's prayer for peace

Exactly 60 years ago tomorrow, John F. Kennedy gave an inaugural address that quoted Romans 12:12, reminding citizens to be "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation." One year later, Pope John XXIII became a secret intermediary between Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, speaking a message of peace to the entire world during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Haunted by the experience, he penned his final encyclical, *Pacem in Terris*, stressing the church's Christian duty to address international issues of peace and human rights—speaking to all persons "of good will," not only Catholics. Pray for peace and the perseverance of hope.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28 (312). "Hold fast to the hope that lies before us."

Wednesday, Jan 20, 2021: MEMORIAL OF FABIAN, POPE, MARTYR

Be open to the Spirit of surprise

In the year 236, Fabian left his farm and headed to Rome. He wanted to be in town for the election of a new pope. The furthest thing from his mind, or anyone's mind, was that he would be elected. Legend holds that as clergy discussed worthy candidates, a dove landed on the head of bystander Fabian. Thinking it was a sign from the Holy Spirit, the crowd elected Fabian by acclamation. A kind and capable administrator, he had the respect of both the faith community and three different emperors in a period of rare peace. Although that peace eventually ended and persecution cost him his life, Fabian's legacy endures. Be open to unexpected visitations of the Holy Spirit!

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6 (313).

"Come up here before us."

Thursday, Jan 21, 2021: MEMORIAL OF AGNES, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Draw inspiration from women of faith

Today we honor both Saint Agnes, virgin and martyr, and, in some places, Our Lady of Altagracia, protectress of the Dominican Republic. The devotion to both grew from grassroots popularity; that is, ordinary Christians were moved by their stories and lifted them up for veneration. Saint Agnes was executed for her faith in the fourth century. Our Lady of Altagracia is an image of Mary in the Dominican Republic that, according to legend, kept mysteriously moving to an orange grove until a church was built there. Centuries later memories of both women continue to inspire the faithful. Take a moment to reflect on women of faith who inspire you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 7:25—8:6; Mark 3:7-12 (314). "Jesus is always able to save those who approach God through him."

Friday, Jan 22, 2021: Embracing your inner apostle

How many apostles did Jesus call? If you said 12, well, you are sort of correct. Indeed, Jesus appointed 12 followers to be his close companions, to learn from him, and to preach the Good News. But it doesn't stop at 12. Jesus continues to call forth apostles in the church. We have bishops who continue the mission via the tradition of apostolic succession. We also have every single person in the church, including you! "The whole church is apostolic, in that she remains . . . in communion of faith and life with her origin: and in that she is 'sent out' into the whole world," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church. How will you respond to your call to apostleship?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19 (315). "Jesus went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him."

Saturday, Jan 23, 2021 MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, RELIGIOUS

Remarkable, two times over

Imagine leaving all that is familiar to minister in a far-off land. Now imagine doing it twice! German-born Marianne Cope came to the United States as a young woman and, as a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Syracuse, New York, became a founding leader of St. Joseph's Hospital in the city, one of the first general hospitals in the country. Then in 1883 she relocated with six other sisters to Hawai'i to care for persons suffering leprosy and to help develop the medical infrastructure of the island chain. Pray today for an ounce of the courage and sacrifice she modeled for us all.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14; Mark 3:20-21 (316).

"Jesus came with his disciples into the house."

ST. MARY'S Catholic Church

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jan 17, 2021

Mission Statement

Our mission is to form Christian Communities that will glorify God by our loving and serving one another, and to extend our love, support, and compassion to the needy.

**Reverend Robert Sayer,
Pastor
(843) 957-2198
Rsayer@Charlestondiocese.org**

**Ann Mitchum
Parish Secretary**

**Diocesan Office of Child
Protection Services
843-261-0430**

Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister 843-856-0748

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00am
Sunday 9:30am
Wednesday 9:00am
Friday 9:00am

Confessions Wed & Friday
8:00 – 8:30

. Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament - the first Friday
of the month following Mass

PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



WELCOME: Welcome to St. Mary's! Although we are not fully participating in our Parish Mass and activities at this time, we look forward to returning to normal schedules and opportunities to meet and greet each other once again. In the meantime, we pray that all our parishioners and their families remain safe and well during these most unusual times!

We offer our sympathy to the family of Bea Clair, a longtime parishioner at St. Marys. Bea died at the age of 98 on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2011.

ST. MARY'S OUTREACH: We will resume food collections in 2021. "Well done, my good and faithful servant". THANK YOU!

ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB: We are reading "The Girl's Still Got It" by Liz Curtis Higgs. This book is the story of Ruth. "Walk with Ruth as she travels from Moab to Bethlehem, certain of her calling, yet uncertain of her future". We meet in person at 4199 Hwy 165, just down the street from the church. If you are interested in attending the meeting via Zoom, please leave a message at (843) 729-1644 and leave your email address. We will send you a Zoom invitation to the next meeting. Everyone is welcome to join at any time.

St. Mary's Outreach is selling Note cards. All can be viewed in the parish center. Prices are marked.

Envelopes for the first quarter of 2021 have been sent out. If you did not receive them in the mail, please contact the office by email or 843 889 8549, leave a message. If you received them in error, please call the office.

Volunteers Wanted: To help count Sunday donations, unusually after 9:30 Mass on Sunday. If interested, please email Carolyn at: carolyn29449@email.com

PRAY FOR US



Doyle Adams, Linda Adams, K. Baker, d, Barbara Barrs, Hazel Basilio, , Chester Broton, Jr., Betty Butler, Allison Condon Chappell, Jack Cooper, Maryanne Cortez, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Ken Fleming, Larry Gerth, Ruth Gerth, Bob Glenn, Elizabeth Good, Hugh Gorman, Sally Gorman, Krista Groover, Petrina Jacques, Mary & Rod Jaros, DeeDee Huck, Milagros Lamar, Rowena Aquino Livingston, Jane Morley, Mary Lydia Moskow, Sarah Proulx, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Eloise Stroud, Richard Unger Larry Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Edward Wolf, Jose Yabut, and All Parishioner of our parish family.

Record of Faithfulness

**Thanks to all who have mailed in their contributions.
01/10/2021**

Envelopes:	\$ 2430.00	Main&Repair	\$ 388.00
Loose	\$ 1.00	Jan 1	\$ 65.00
Votive	\$ 34.00	Church in Africa	\$ 1.00
Total	\$ 2465.00		

Attendance 8 am 26 9:30 am 23


Please call or email the rectory at: (843) 889-8549, stmarys165@charlestdiocese.org or stmarys165@gmail.com with any bulletin announcements.

Please pray for our country in this time of unrest that we may come through this as a more united and fair-minded nation.

A PRAYER FOR GOVERNMENT

WE PRAY O GOD OF MIGHT, WISDOM AND JUSTICE, THROUGH WHOM AUTHORITY IS RIGHTLY ADMINISTERED, LAWS ARE ENACTED, AND JUDGMENT DECREED, ASSIST WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND FORTITUDE THE PRESIDENT OF THESE UNITED STATES, THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION MAY BE CONDUCTED IN RIGHTOUSNESS AND BE EMINENTLY USEFUL TO YOUR PEOPLE OVER WHOM HE PRESIDES; BY ENCOURAGING DUE RESPECT FOR VIRTUE AND RELIGION; BY A FAITHFUL EXECUTION OF THE LAWS IN JUSTICE AND MERCY; AND BY RESTRAINING VICE AND IMMORALITY.

ARCHBISHOP JOHN CARROLL (1791)



What are you looking for? (John 1:38)

Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist, but he knew that John wasn't the Messiah—and that's who he was looking for. Today, let's reflect on this Gospel passage to give us insight into our own searching and finding. "What are you looking for?" (John 1:38). Have you ever asked yourself that question? We all experience a longing at times—and we might not even know why. We may try to satisfy that inner ache with something fleeting, and it may satisfy us for a time. But the longing always returns, because what we are looking for can't be found outside of us. We are searching for God.

"Come, and you will see" (John 1:39). We have to be willing to take a step in faith and accept this invitation from Jesus to spend some time with him. Jesus might be inviting us to speak with him in Eucharistic Adoration or to delve more deeply into the Scriptures. He might want us to find a brother or sister in Christ to guide and accompany us. But if we don't take that first step, we won't be able to "see" him. "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:41).

Andrew was so excited when he met Jesus that he found his brother, Simon, and told him the good news. That's the joy we too feel when we turn to Jesus and experience his love and mercy. We realize, once again, that only he can truly fulfill us.

We will all experience longings from time to time and feel tempted to satisfy them in all the wrong places. What "wrong places" do you tend to go to? Do these quick fixes really satisfy? Today, ask the Holy Spirit to prompt you to go to the Lord when you're feeling those yearnings. Only by making a conscious effort to "come and see" Jesus will you finally find what you have been looking for all along.

"Jesus, help me to see that only you can satisfy the deepest desires of my heart."

Word Among Us