

Daily Reflections

Monday, Jan 20, 2020: MEMORIAL OF FABIAN, POPE, MARTYR; SEBASTIAN, MARTYR Ultimate discipleship This day is filled with martyrs. Fabian (c. 200-250) was elected pope when a white dove landed on his head during the voting, a clear sign to the electors. Christianity was still illegal, so he died in prison 14 years later. Sebastian (c. 256-288) died in Rome sometime after he was shot full of arrows. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-68), commemorated today, was gunned down by an assassin in Memphis, Tennessee. Despite being harassed by the government, Dr. King won the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize and was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Three men who shed their blood for what they believed inspire us to be activists for what we believe. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 15:16-23; Mark 2:18-22 (311). "To the upright I will show the saving power of God."

Tuesday, Jan 21, 2020: MEMORIAL OF AGNES, VIRGIN, MARTYR Take a stand Often throughout the church year we remember our martyrs, those women and men who were killed because of their faith in Jesus the Christ. These are sometimes difficult days to "celebrate" because on the one hand, we are grateful for and inspired by their faith. But on the other hand, the suffering they endured is horrific—torture, rape, mutilation, burning, and ultimately death. The martyrdom of Saint Agnes, for example, came because of her faith in Christ but was expressed by sexualizing and abusing her. When we celebrate our martyrs, we might also take a stand against torture and murder today. This indeed is a worthy form of reverence for the brave women and men, our martyrs and saints. What saint compels you to action on behalf of justice? TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Mark 2:23-28 (312). "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath."

Wednesday, Jan 22, 2020: DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN Lend a lifesaving hand The Sisters of Life are a women's religious order founded in 2004 in New York. More than 70 sisters each year provide aid and support to more than 1,000 pregnant women at their convents in Toronto and New York City. At one of their convents, women can stay as long as six months prior to giving birth and up to a year afterward. What are you and your parish doing to support pregnant women and mothers who need help establishing their families and creating a secure future for their children? TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mark 3:1-6 (313). "Looking around at them with anger and grieved at their hardness of heart . . ."

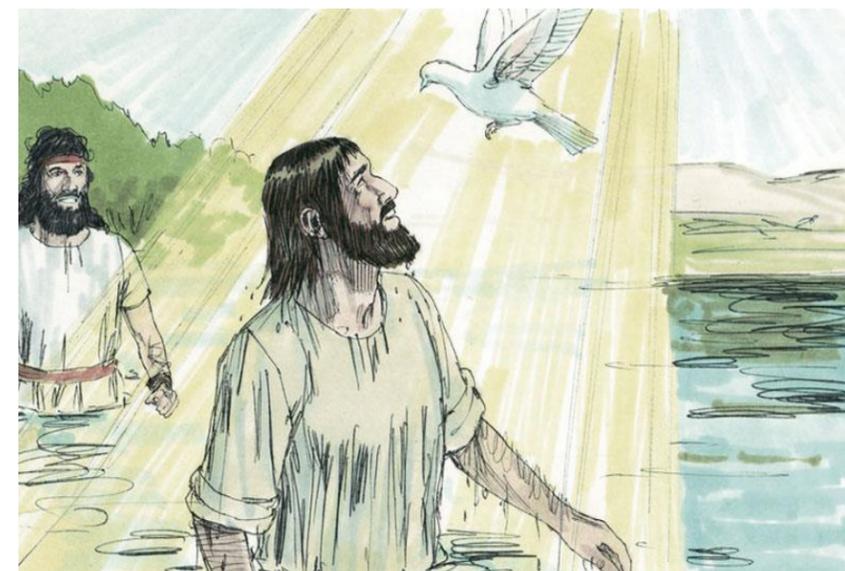
Thursday, Jan 23, 2020: MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, VIRGIN God's aloha at work Rarely is a saint's last name so apt. When more than 50 religious communities in Canada and the United States refused a request to work with lepers, Sister Marianne Cope, a Sister of St. Francis of Syracuse, responded, "I am hungry for the work." She and her sisters who served on Molokai, Hawaii were called "God's aloha," or God's love. She assured a dying Saint Damien that his work would continue, then brought beauty and artistry to challenging conditions. Encouraging laughter and gardens, she said, "We must make best use of the fleeting moments. They will not return." Do one thing to bring God's love and beauty to your living space, or someone else's, today. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mark 3:7-12 (314). "Hearing all that he was doing, they came to him in great numbers."

Friday, Jan 24, 2020: MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Include God in the conversation Francis de Sales (1567-1622) was a bishop and doctor of the church who encouraged the importance of lay spirituality. At the time, people thought that only priests and sisters were called to holiness. But Francis took the church back to its roots, encouraging laypeople to pray and find God in their daily lives. As a noted spiritual director he suggested: "Retire at various times into the solitude of your own heart, even while outwardly engaged in discussion or transactions with others, and talk to God." TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 24:3-21; Mark 3:13-19 (315). "He named twelve as his companions whom he would send to preach the Good News."

Saturday, Jan 25, 2020: FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE Be a force for unity Once he was blinded by light on the road to Damascus, Paul began to see with a clarity that amazed everyone who knew of him. As he preached the Good News, Paul began to speak persuasively against requiring Gentiles to follow Jewish law, while at the same time allowing Jewish Christians to keep their lifelong ritual practices. In the midst of diversity, Paul worked to unite the followers of Jesus. It is fitting that the feast of his conversion has been chosen as the final day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Today your work is to do something to bring unity in the midst of diversity. TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18 (519). "This man is the instrument I have chosen to bring my name

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

4255 Highway 165
Yonges Island, SC 29449-6011
(843) 889-8549 Fax (843) 564-1748
Email: stmarys165@charlestdioocese.org



"He is the One who will Baptize with the Holy Spirit"

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 19, 2020

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@Charlestdioocese.org**

**Deacon Charles LaRosa
(803)- 530-4339**

**Ann Mitchum
Parish Secretary**

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	8:00am
Sunday	9:30am
Wednesday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am
<u>Confessions on Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30am.</u>	
<u>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - the first Friday of the month following Mass</u>	

**Diocesan Office of Child Protection Services 843-261-0430
Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister 843-856-0748**

PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



WELCOME: Welcome to St. Mary's! We trust you find a welcoming community here. We invite you to come over to the Parish Center after Mass. New parishioners are asked to complete a registration form. You may deposit the forms in the collection basket or bring it over to the Parish Center. If you wish to receive weekly contribution envelopes, please call the Parish Center and leave your name and number. We encourage our new parishioners to become active participants in our parish. **Snacks today are provided by St. Mary's Outreach.**

WELCOME: We welcome Savannah Zimmerman and her children, Lillian, Eliot and Pearl to our St. Mary's family.

BAKE SALE: St. Mary's Outreach resumes the monthly bake sales **NEXT SUNDAY** following both Masses. Please bring your baked goods to the Parish Center before Mass. ALL donations are used for kitchen supplies and parish activities.

MASS INTENTIONS: You may request a Mass intention at any time. You may want to celebrate a birth, your birthday, an anniversary, commemorate a death, in thanksgiving, or any special occasion you wish to bring to the Mass. There are envelopes in the back of the Church or you can call the Parish Center and request a Mass.

ST. MARY'S OUTREACH: Thank you to all who attended the meeting last Sunday. We changed our name to reflect what we do. Besides supporting the parish activities, we want to be active in our local community. We are looking into ways we can support local families in the most meaningful ways we can.

LENT: St. Mary's Outreach is already making plans for Lent; a Lenten Retreat, Stations of the Cross, soup dinners, etc. More information will be available as we get closer to **Ash Wednesday, February 26.** We will begin collecting your palms at the end of January. These palms are burned and used for ashes on Ash Wednesday.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Our Lady of Mercy Outreach Neighborhood House is seeking volunteers to help prepare and serve lunch on Fridays. Please call Carolyn or Bryan Gibbs at (843) 769-4742 or email carolyn29449@gmail.com for more information.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



Doyle Adams, Linda Adams, Barbara Barrs, Hazel Basilio, Pat Botti, Chester Broton, Jr., Betty Butler, Bea Clair, Allison Condon Chappell, Jack Cooper, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Ken Fleming, Ruth Gerth, Bob Glenn, Elizabeth Good, Hugh Gorman, Sally Gorman, Tom Gould, Petrina Jacques, DeeDee Huck, Milagros Lamar, Rowena Aquino Livingston, Jane Morley, Mary Lydia Moskow, Sarah Proulx, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Eloise Stroud, Larry Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Edward Wolf.

**Record of Faithfulness
01/12/2020**

Envelopes	\$ 2,120.00	Solemnity of Mary	\$ 120.00
Visitors/Loose	\$ 119.00	Maintenance	\$ 750.00

Total \$ 2,239.00

Attendance	8:00am	28	8:00am	71
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Second Collection Today: Flower Offering
Second Collection Next Sunday: Church in Latin America

The Bishop's Annual Appeal collections will RESUME on Feb 2!

BOOK CLUB: We will meet on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 1PM in the Parish Center. We are reading "Signs of Life" by Scott Hahn – Forty Catholic Customs and their Biblical Roots. **We are reading to page 99. Why do we anoint the sick? "Sacramental anointing gives us the grace we need to face such trials. Oil heated, and oil strengthened. It heals us spiritually and it strengthens us spiritually."** You are welcome to join us at any time!

Mass of Anointing: Carter May Senior Living, Catholic Charities of SC, and the Order of Malta will be hosting a Mass and Anointing of the Sick with our Bishop, Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmone. All are welcome to attend Mass on Saturday, Jan. 25 at 10am with anointing to follow the mass. Mass will be held at Holy Family Chapel, 900 Orange Grove Road, Charleston, SC 29407. Light reception to follow.

There is an UPDATE form with your envelope box. We need current information on all parishioners. If you have lost the form, there are extras in the back of the Church. We are asking ALL parishioners to complete a form. You may drop your form off in the back of the church or in the Parish Center. THANK YOU for your cooperation!

"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the son of the world (John 1:29)

We hear these words at every Mass as the Host and Chalice are raised for all to see. They are so familiar that perhaps they have lost some of their force. So, let's take a closer look at this marvelous invitation.

Behold. Don't just glance. Behold. Look deeply, carefully, and prayerfully. Look with the expectation that you will discover something important. Trust that Jesus wants to reveal himself to you.

Behold, the Lamb of God. What are you beholding? God's greatest gift to the world-to you. You are beholding Jesus, the one true sacrifice sent from heaven. He is the spotless Lamb, innocent of all sin and meek and gentle of heart. He is the fulfillment of ancient Israel's Passover celebration. He has come so that you can pass over from death to life, from slavery to freedom.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away sin. Look closely. See in this Host the promise of forgiveness. See Jesus, who surrendered his body and blood on a cross for you. See Jesus, who has taken your every sin upon himself and brought it into the grave with him. See him rising again, leaving your sin behind in that grave, where it remains today, dead and buried. You are no longer bound by it. Jesus has borne it away and you can walk away from it too—step by halting step as you continue to place your faith in him.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Not just your sin. But the sin of every single person on earth, past, present, and future. No one is beyond his reach. No one is devoid of hope. Everyone can know forgiveness and freedom. Even the people you are struggling to forgive. **Behold him** and believe that he can bring reconciliation and healing to all people. **Behold the Lamb of God!** And receive him with joy and an open heart.

"Lord, I am not worthy. Only say the word and my soul shall be healed"
Word among us