



January 14, 2024
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Collection January 7, 2024

<i>Regular Collection</i>	<i>\$1530.00</i>
<i>Catholic Virginian</i>	<i>55.00</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>75.00</i>
<i>Attendance</i>	<i>37</i>

January 21, 2024

Lector: Dan Grubb
Commentator: Gaby Stanley
Ushers: Stanley/Klima
Eucharist Ministers: Thompsons

Readings for January 21, 2024

Reading 1	Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Reading 2	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel	Mark 1:14-20

Prayer List -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Megan Talbert, Rosanna Vallo, Stephen Petrowski, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Raegan Ray, Rommy LoMascolo, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Father Bernie, Shannon Yates, Lynn Canty, Chuck Yates, Ron Morgan, Sue Dasse, Tod Young, Shelia Zellars, Donna Gilmore, Adam Conner, Aaron Quain, Cora Wojciechowski, Linda McCann, Jim Hopkins, Mary Ann Phillips, Maggie Thomas, and Larry Riffey.
Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions,

Information about St. Edwards- Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at:
<https://stedwardpulaski.org>

Change in Distributing Holy Communion-Due to the recent rise of respiratory infections/disease in the state/nation, we are suspending the use of the cup at Mass until further notice. The Holy Eucharist will only be given in the form of the host.

January Birthdays

<i>Brenda Lessard</i>	<i>Jan. 1</i>
<i>Larry Riffey</i>	<i>Jan. 3</i>
<i>Brenda McLawhorn</i>	<i>Jan. 4</i>
<i>Cora Wojciechowski</i>	<i>Jan. 18</i>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January Anniversaries

<i>Bill & Jean Jennings</i>	<i>Jan 13</i>
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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Praying As We Age

Prayer is essentially about nurturing our relationship with God. We can have a relationship with each of the persons of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We can also have a relationship with the saints. As we grow older, all of our relationships in life tend to change. And, experience has shown that our relationship with God goes through some changes as we age. What are those changes and how can we prepare for them and experience them with grace?

Praying in Times of Crisis

Daily Prayer This Week

Ordinary Time is the longest Season of the Church year. This year we have seven or eight weeks of Ordinary Time before Lent begins. These weeks between the Christmas season and Lent are an important time to continue to work on our habits of focusing our desires early in the day and talking with the Lord throughout the day, in the background of our busy lives. This is how we become "contemplatives in action" and find intimacy with God without leaving the context of our real lives.

How do we do that with the hectic pace of our lives? We hear people say "I don't have time to pray." It isn't about finding more time but more focus in our day with God. With this type of focusing and active consciousness, we find ourselves surprised at the time we really do have. There are dozens of times in all of our days during which our minds are occupied with something: a song, re-playing the last event, practicing a conversation with someone, having an imaginary argument with someone, thinking through the "to do" list of the day. We can learn to fill these times with whatever we choose. If we choose to let it be about our relationship with our Lord, it transforms our lives.

It all begins with our mornings. This week, when we first get up and perhaps for a few moments in the shower or getting dressed, let's tell the Lord that what we desire today is to be more conscious of how what we do this day is responding to his call to me to be his disciple. Then, during the day, in those moments while driving or shopping or walking down the hall to a meeting, we can talk about how we are living our call in this or that activity we are engaged in. That conversation may get more detailed and specific in this or that set of events.

Each evening, for even a few moments, we can review our day's momentary conversations, recognizing the moments of real connection and grace and giving thanks for them, and resolving to take even greater advantage of these opportunities the next day.

Times of crisis are, perhaps, the most important times to turn to God. Sometime we cry, "Help me!" or "Please!" or "Save me!" God wants to be there for us. God wants us to turn and ask for intimacy, comfort and help.

For many of us, this is a very difficult time to pray. We don't exactly know what to ask for. We feel like asking for a miracle, but experience might have shown us that asking for miracles in the past has left us disappointed. We may even have become cynical about God - having asked for help when I really needed it, and not getting what I asked for. Perhaps I prayed that my grandmother would recover from her illness and she didn't. Maybe I prayed that my biopsy would come back negative, but it didn't. I might have asked for a raise I desperately needed and didn't get it. Did I pray to rescue a deteriorating relationship, and my prayer wasn't answered?