



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

BOGDAN SONJACINNY / SHUTTERSTOCK

What's New?

Few 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.

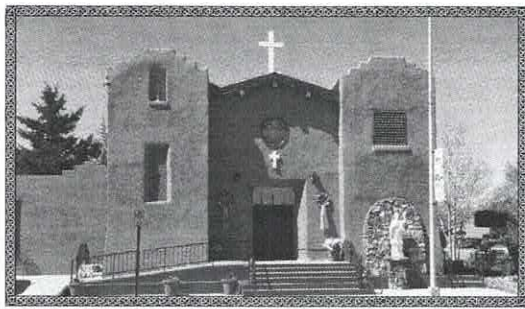
This Old Testament passage is post-exilic. The alienation from God is over; the people and God are now reconciled. Much of the language suggests relationship: no longer *forsaken* or *desolate*, but now a *delight* and *espoused* (see Isaiah 62:4). Despite having been betrayed, God's mercy has transformed 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.



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

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Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Baltz
Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard
Secretary: Laekyn Wagner
Religious Education: Rose Ramirez
Adult Religious Education: Fr. Joseph Baltz

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Tuesday: 9:00AM-5:00PM
Thurs, 8:00AM -1:00PM
Closed on Mon, Wed, Fri

Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)
Contact Pastor

Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)
Contact Fr. Joseph -6 Months Prior

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

JANUARY 16TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Wednesday: 12:10pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday 6pm to 7 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass 1st Saturday of the Month:10:30am

St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00

Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
This is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal  
covenant, Which will be poured out for you & for many for the for-  
giveness of sins.  
Do this in memory of me.*

**Masses will be offered Jan. & Feb. 2022**

+ All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members

**SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
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|                     |                                                         |                                                                                  |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sat, Jan 15.</b> | +Rebecca Stewart<br>+Leoray Vigil<br>+Michael Raines    | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter |
| <b>Sun, Jan. 16</b> | +Ronnie J. Rael<br>+Inez Romero<br>+Pula & Petra Valdez | by Deano & Danielle Arellano<br>by Dolores Montoya<br>by Dolores Montoya         |
| <b>Tue, Jan. 19</b> | +Elida Valdez                                           | by Rose Cardenas                                                                 |
| <b>Sat, Jan. 22</b> | + Rebecca Stewart<br>+Leoray Vigil<br>+Michael Raines   | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter |
| <b>Sun, Jan. 23</b> | +Inez Romero<br>+ Mike Raines                           | by Dolores Montoya<br>by Lupe Raines                                             |
| <b>Tues, Jan 25</b> | +Joseph Trujillo<br>+Margaret Heringa                   | by The Trujillo Family<br>by Loretta Butler                                      |
| <b>Sat, Jan. 29</b> | +Richard Arguello<br>+Barbara Campsey                   | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter                             |
| <b>Sun, Jan. 30</b> | +Mike Raines                                            | by Lupe Raines                                                                   |
| <b>Sat, Feb. 5</b>  | +Maria Belen Simoes<br>+Richard Arguello                | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter                             |

**God, our Spouse and Lord of Life**

"As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall your God rejoice in you." Today's first reading from Isaiah shows us how much God delights in human life. He rejoices in us as in a bride.

He gives himself to us as a bridegroom is called to do for his beloved. He protects and defends us, and leads us to the life that never ends. His commitment to humanity is the source of ours. Like him, we are to give ourselves for the good of others, starting with the most vulnerable lives – children at the very beginning of their development in the womb.

This week, January 22nd, marks the sad anniversary of the Roe vs Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized the killing of those children by abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy. This remains the single most destructive and barbaric public policy in our nation, and hundreds of thousands of Americans march in Washington, in San Francisco, and in many other cities at this time of year calling for a change. Moreover, this coincides with our nation's honoring of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose dream of equality for all under the law needs to be applied now to the children in the womb. This is a work around which Christians of all denominations should unite, and this week also marks the week of prayer for Christian Unity

**Weekly Collections Summary: Dec. 2021 & Jan. 2022**

|                | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| January 8-9    | \$2,089.00 | \$ 553.00   |
| January 1-2    | \$2,051.00 | N/A         |
| December 25-26 | \$3,254.00 | \$ 588.50   |
| December 18-19 | \$5,269.00 | \$ 338.00   |

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**Please visit the following very informative websites:**

- [www.archdiocesesantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesesantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Jan 22– Shelley Carter
- Sun, Jan 23– Chase Carter
- Sat, Jan 29– Raymond Saccoccia
- Sun, Jan 30– Effie Walker

# 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



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

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