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Second Sunday of Ordinary Time



January 17, 2021



Saint Sebastian, Martyr

Late Third century — January 20

**Patron Saint of athletes, soldiers,
and victims of the plague**

*A tough soldier recovers from near martyrdom, only
to be killed later for Christ*

The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and the Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary are the most universally depicted scenes in Christian art. There is perhaps not a Catholic church the world over which does not house one or the other image, and often both. But today's saint, **St. Sebastian**, follows close behind in terms of popularity and ubiquity. The iconic presentation of the wounded saint shows Sebastian's hands and arms bound to a post, his head tilted toward the heavens, and his almost naked body filled with arrows.

It is a powerfully evocative image. It suggests that the archers took their time. They were not rushed. They did not act in the heat of anger. Criminal psychologists note that killers only cover the faces of victims who they know. Killers normally don't mind seeing how their victims suffer or react. It seems that with Sebastian there was no hooded executioner. No anonymous hangman. The men in Sebastian's firing squad must have gazed right into his eyes before they unleashed the tension in their bows. And when their arrows buried themselves in Sebastian's torso, the archers must have heard his low moans. Perhaps there was an element of recrimination in all of this. Perhaps it was personal.

Sebastian was a professional soldier in the higher echelons of the Roman army. After his conversion to Catholicism, he went to Rome, around the year 300, likely seeking martyrdom. We can imagine that his fellow soldiers understood his conversion as betrayal or disloyalty to the empire, and that this explains the unique manner of the assassination attempt. But, in the end, the attempt was a failure. Saint Sebastian, the tough soldier, survived the arrows, was nursed back to health by a woman known to history as St. Irene, and

Continue to page 2

Continued from page 1

later earned the martyr's crown by being clubbed to death. By the year 300 A.D., the Roman emperors' attempts to eradicate Christianity were too little too late. Nobles, senators, slaves, cobblers, carpenters, generals, men, women, foreigners, and natives had all converted. Men and women of every class and occupation. By 300 A.D., Christians comprised a significant portion of people at every level of society, up and down and around every Roman road. When high-placed soldiers such as St. Sebastian were willing to die for Christ, it was a sign there was no going back to Rome's pagan roots. All that was needed was a Christian emperor to solidify the change. That would come soon enough in the person of Constantine. Saint Sebastian's heroic death was a harbinger of a world about to change.

St. Sebastian's martyrdom was so widely known that he was honored through the construction of a Church on the Appian Way just outside of Rome. Saint Sebastian's church is still visited by pilgrims today, along with the Christian catacombs beneath it. His legacy carries on!

Pastoral Corner *by Fr. John*

Children often ask each other "what would you like to be when you grow up?" My earliest memory of an answer to this question was to be a fireman. Obviously, I did not follow that career path. On the other hand, there have been times as a priest where I have been called in "to put out fires" in the lives of others. So perhaps I did have an idea what I would become when I grew up, just didn't have the full picture.

Many in the Church often distinguish a vocation to only those who pursue ordained ministry (the priesthood or diaconate) or religious or consecrated life. This couldn't further from the truth. The fact of the matter is all of us who have been baptized have a vocation. Furthermore, we all share a common vocation to be holy and authentic missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. This vocation is lived out in a variety of ways. As said earlier, there are men and women called to active ministry in the Church such as men who are ordained as priests and deacons and lay women and men who serve in a variety of leadership and ministerial roles at the parish and diocesan levels. There are numerous consecrated women and men who live out the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience in a religious community. Also, there are men and women who choose to live as single men and women. Lastly, the largest are those who married and witness to each other and to the world true and an authentic love. Ultimately, an authentic vocation is one that is lived in service of others. Living out that vocation leads to a fulfilled and well-lived life.

So, whether one is a bishop or priest, married or single, and a religious sister or brother, our vocations are to lead others to Jesus Christ. In the Gospel this Sunday, John the Baptist models the essence of a vocation: "John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." We are to lead others to Jesus through our witness. Others should encounter Jesus in our words and actions in the manner we live out our vocation.

How does one discern how to live out this common vocation? A simple answer is: "listen!" As with the Prophet Samuel, so does God speak to us in similar ways. Often God's invitation is not obvious or even clear. We both need an Eli-like teacher and the capacity to tune out the noise in order to hear God's voice. He is calling each of us to holiness and mission. We need to support the vocation of our children, youth, and young adults. We need to inspire and encourage them to be open to the possibility of ordained or lay ministry in the Church. Parents can be both the solution or problem to the shortage of priests and religious in the Church. Equally, all married couples should witness married love to all. Marriage is more than the wedding on the beach or romance, it's a Sacrament. Spouses bring Jesus through their unity and fidelity through their married love.

Money cannot buy a well-lived and fulfilled life. Such a life is only possible taking a risk by saying: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." □

Rincón pastoral

por el P. Juan

Los niños a menudo se preguntan el uno al otro “¿qué le gustaría ser cuando crezcan?” Mi primer recuerdo de una respuesta a esta pregunta fue ser bombero. Obviamente, no he seguido ese camino profesional. Por otro lado, ha habido momentos como sacerdote en los que he sido llamado “para apagar fuegos” en la vida de los demás. Así que tal vez tuve una idea de lo que me convertiría cuando creciera, simplemente no tenía la imagen completa.

Muchos en la Iglesia a menudo distinguen una vocación sólo a aquellos que persiguen el ministerio ordenado (el sacerdocio o el diaconado) o la vida religiosa o consagrada. Esto no podría alejarse de la verdad. El hecho es que todos los que hemos sido bautizados tenemos vocación. Además, todos compartimos una vocación común de ser santos y auténticos discípulos misioneros de Jesucristo. Esta vocación se vive de diversas maneras. Como se dijo anteriormente, hay hombres y mujeres llamados a un ministerio activo en la Iglesia, tales como hombres que son ordenados como sacerdotes y diáconos y mujeres y hombres laicos que sirven en una variedad de funciones de liderazgo y ministeriales a nivel parroquial y diocesano. Hay numerosas mujeres y hombres consagrados que viven los consejos evangélicos de pobreza, castidad y obediencia en una comunidad religiosa. Además, hay hombres y mujeres que eligen vivir como hombres y mujeres solteros. Por último, los más grandes son los que se casaron y se testifican unos a otros y al mundo verdadero y auténtico amor. En última instancia, una auténtica vocación es aquella que se vive al servicio de los demás. Vivir esa vocación conduce a una vida cumplida y bien vivida.

Por lo tanto, ya sea que uno sea obispo o sacerdote, casado o soltero, y una hermana o hermano religioso, nuestra vocación es guiar a los demás a Jesucristo. En el Evangelio de este domingo, Juan el Bautista modela la esencia de una vocación: “Juan estaba de pie con dos de sus discípulos, y mientras veía pasar a Jesús, dijo: ‘He aquí, el Cordero de Dios.’” Debemos guiar a los demás a Jesús a través de nuestro testimonio. Otros deben encontrar a Jesús en nuestras palabras y acciones en la forma en que vivimos nuestra vocación.

¿Cómo se percibe cómo vivir esta vocación común? Una respuesta simple es: “¡Escucha!” Al igual que con el profeta Samuel, también Dios nos habla de maneras similares. A menudo la invitación de Dios no es obvia ni siquiera clara. Ambos necesitamos un Maestro Eli como y la capacidad de afinar el ruido para escuchar la voz de Dios. Nos llama a cada uno de nosotros a la santidad y a la misión. Necesitamos apoyar la vocación de nuestros niños, jóvenes y jóvenes adultos. Debemos inspirarlos y alentarlos a estar abiertos a la posibilidad de un ministerio ordenado o laico en la Iglesia.

Los padres pueden ser tanto la solución como el problema de la escasez de sacerdotes y religiosos en la Iglesia. Del mismo modo, todas las parejas casadas deben ser testigos del amor matrimonial hacia todos. El matrimonio es más que la boda en la playa o el romance, es un sacramento. Los esposos traen a Jesús a través de su unidad y fidelidad a través de su amor matrimonial. El dinero no puede comprar una vida plena y bien vivida. Una vida así solo es posible arriesgándose diciendo: “Aquí estoy, Señor; Vengo a hacer tu voluntad.” □

Social Justice Sundays

Dear St. John the Baptist Community,

I would first like to wish you all a Happy New Year with best wishes and blessings for the year ahead of us. Although we are only a few weeks into the new year it almost feels that we are a few months into the year with all that has transpired in the last few weeks in our city, country, and around the world. With so much chaos, confusion, and fear continuing to envelop the times we find ourselves in, how are we to respond? While there is no simple answer that solves the world’s problems, we are called to answer these and all dilemmas with Christ-like love, acknowledging the humanity and inherent dignity of one another. This leads me to our pillar of the month: **Rights and Responsibilities.**

Continue page 4

Continue from page 3

This pillar of Catholic Social Teaching is sometimes misconstrued into long lists of the responsibilities and rights that Catholics inherently possess as self-proclaimed Catholics. However, this is not the case. At the core of the CST pillar of **Rights and Responsibilities** is the inherent dignity we possess as humans formed in the image and likeness of God. Dignity is the right every human being is created with. Our responsibility is to ensure that every human being at every stage of life is treated with that dignity God creates us all with. Because of the dignity we are created with at conception, this pillar also includes the right life. On the matter the US Catholic Bishops say "human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency". Every life is sacred at every stage and therefore is our responsibility as Catholics to protect, acknowledge, and meet the needs of every human life. No one person is created with more dignity than another and at every stage and state of life from womb to tomb, each sacred life must be treated as such. This is our responsibility. As the world around us seems to break apart and intolerance for the other is normalized, we must respond to the call to acknowledge the inherent dignity and sanctity of every person, period.

I will speak more specifically on how we are called to acknowledge that dignity and sanctity but for now I encourage us all to look at one another with the same love God created us each with. Blessings to all of you and please don't shy away from stopping by and saying hello to me at Mass or in the office.

*In Christ,
Lauren*

Domingos de Justicia Social

Querida Comunidad de San Juan Bautista,

¡Feliz Año Nuevo! Felicidades y bendiciones para este año 2021. Aunque estamos unas semanas después del nuevo año casi se siente que estamos a pocos meses del año con todo lo que ha ocurrido en las últimas semanas en nuestra ciudad, país y en todo el mundo. Con todo lo caos y miedo continuando envolviendo los tiempos que nos encontramos ¿cómo debemos responder? No hay una respuesta sencilla que resuelve los problemas del mundo, nosotros estamos llamados a responder a estos y todos los dilemas con amor semejante a Cristo, reconociendo la humanidad y la dignidad inherente de los demás. Esto me lleva a nuestro pilar del mes: **Derechos y responsabilidades**. Este pilar de la Enseñanza Social Católica a veces se interpreta erróneamente en largas listas de las responsabilidades y derechos que los católicos poseen inherentemente como católicos autoproclamados. in embargo, este no es el caso. En el núcleo del pilar CST de **Derechos y Responsabilidades** está la dignidad inherente que poseemos como seres humanos formados a imagen y semejanza de Dios. La dignidad es el derecho con el que se crea todo ser humano. Nuestra responsabilidad es asegurar que cada ser humano en cada etapa de la vida sea tratado con ese Dios de dignidad crea a todos nosotros con. A causa de la dignidad somos creados con en la concepción, este pilar también incluye la vida correcta. Sobre la cuestión, los obispos católicos estadounidenses dicen que "la dignidad humana puede ser protegida y una comunidad sana sólo puede lograrse si se protegen los derechos humanos y se cumplen las responsabilidades. Por lo tanto, toda persona tiene un derecho fundamental a la vida y un derecho a las cosas necesarias para la decencia humana". Cada vida es sagrada en cada etapa y por lo tanto es nuestra responsabilidad como católicos de proteger, reconocer y satisfacer las necesidades de toda vida humana. Ninguna persona es creada con más dignidad que otra y en cada etapa y estado de vida desde el vientre hasta la tumba, cada vida sagrada debe ser tratada como tal. Esta es nuestra responsabilidad. A medida que el mundo que nos rodea parece romperse y la intolerancia hacia el otro se normaliza, debemos responder a la llamada a reconocer la dignidad inherente y la santidad de cada persona, período.

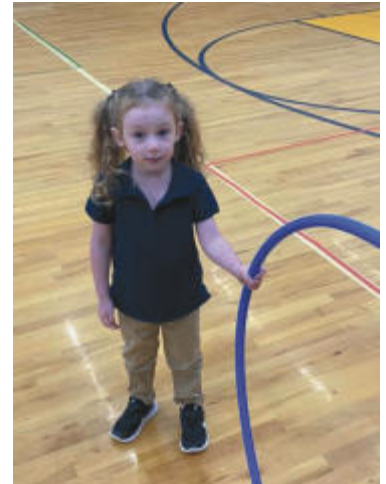
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Catholic Schools Week

St. John the Baptist Catholic School has been thriving both in person and digitally this year for all students **preschool – 8th grade!** We would love to show you the school and add your children to our classes! With small class sizes we are able to accommodate daily in person learning, and the latest technology allows us to still provide digital learning for those that wish to remain home. Financial aid is available to all those that need it to provide a Catholic education for their children.

Catholic schools week begins on January 31st –February 5th and during this week we will be scheduling private tours for those interested in joining our amazing school! Registration for the upcoming 2021-22 school year begins on **March 1st for returning families** and **March 15th for new families**. Some limited availability to transfer for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

Open house: In person on February 7th from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.. Masks and socially distancing guidelines will be followed. We are also providing individual family tours available daily, Please contact Lucero Silva (school office manager) at 503-654-0200 or email to set up a tour with any questions you might have to lsilva@sjbcatholicsschool.org. Come be a part of all the wonderful things going on at SJB!



What's Happening??

- ◆ **Sun. Jan 17:**
 - 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration — Church
 - 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria
- ◆ **Mon. Jan 18:**
 - Holiday – **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- ◆ **Wed. Jan 20:**
 - 6:30 p.m. – Divine Mercy, Spanish – Church
- ◆ **Thur. Jan 21:**
 - 6:30 p.m. – Legion of Mary, Jordan Room
- ◆ **Fri. Jan 22:**
 - 8:30 a.m. – **School Mass – 6th Grade**
- ◆ **Sun. Jan 24:**
 - 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration — Church
 - 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop – Cafeteria
- ◆ **Wed. Jan 27:**
 - 6:00 p.m. – St Vincent de Paul – Jordan Room
 - 6:30 p.m. – Divine Mercy, Spanish – Church
- ◆ **Thur. Jan 28:**
 - 6:00 p.m. – Legion of Mary, Jordan Room
- ◆ **Fri. Jan 29:**
 - 8:30 a.m. – **School Mass – 5th Grade**
- ◆ **Sat. Jan 30:**
 - **Fr. John's Birthday!!!!**
- ◆ **Sun. Jan 31:**
 - 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Adoration — Church
 - 5:00 p.m. – Boys Scouts / Girls Troop — Cafeteria
- ◆ **Wed. Feb 3:**
 - 6:00 p.m. — Divine Mercy, Spanish — Church
- ◆ **Thur. Feb 4:**
 - 6:00 p.m. – Legion of Mary, Jordan Room
- ◆ **Fri. Feb 5:**
 - **No School today**
 - **In-service**



Continúa de la página 4

Hablaré más específicamente sobre cómo estamos llamados a reconocer esa dignidad y santidad, pero por ahora nos animo a todos a mirarnos unos a otros con el mismo amor con el que Dios nos creó cada uno. Bendiciones a todos ustedes y por favor no huya de detenerse brevemente y decir hola a mí en Mass o en la oficina.

En Cristo Rey,

Vicki



*Kathy Saylor ♥ Tam an Tran
♥ Harold Eckman ♥ Family of
Lulu Kabigting*

*Please contact the office if you, or
someone you know needs our
prayers!*

parishoffice@sjbcatholicchurch.org



January 17 – January 23

*In memory of Cecelia
VanDyke*

From Sue Lisac

Sat. / Sab. Jan 16:	8:30 a.m. – Sr. Juana Gutierrez, SSMO – Ray Talarsky 4:00 p.m. – † Malvina Nolet – Lee Nolet
Sun. / Dom. Jan 17:	7:30 a.m. – † James Cameron – Jean Hill Rutter 9:30 a.m. – † Daniel Francis Campbell IV – Janis Hootman 12:00 noon - People of St. John the Baptist
Mon. / Lun. Jan 18:	8:30 a.m. - No Mass
Tues. / Mar. Jan 19:	8:30 a.m. – Jim Braun - Vern & Yvonne Braun 7:00 p.m – No Mass
Wed. / Mie. Jan 20:	8:30 a.m. – † Aileen Wilkins – Ed Wilkins
Thur. / Jueves Jan 21:	8:30 a.m. – † Leo Kabigting – Maria Santos 7:00 p.m. – No Mass
Fri. / Vie. Jan 22:	8:30 a.m. – † Lourdes Borromeo – Maria Santos
Sat. / Sab. Jan 23:	8:30 a.m. – † Ivy & Giltus Gomez – Donnel Gomez 4:00 p.m. – † Leo Nolet – Lee Nolet
Sun. / Dom. Jan 24:	7:30 a.m. – † Jim, Ruth & Tony Kelty, Eric – Mary Brewer 9:30 a.m. – † Brenden Daily – Michelle Colocado 12:00 noon - † Malvina Nolet – Lee Nolet



Our Staff

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Rudy Lopez, Music Ministry Coordinator
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Tue-Sat: 8:30 a.m. English
Tues. & Thurs.
7:00 p.m. En español
Sat: 4:00 p.m. Vigil
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m. En español

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday - 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Sabado - 2:30-3:30 p.m.

"St. John the Baptist Catholic Community, inspired by the Spirit of Christ, reaches out, educates, helps and nurtures all people, as we worship and serve Our Heavenly Father".

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