

The Sunday Encore



More News and Announcements from St. Francis de Sales Parish

Sunday, January 1, 2023

The Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God (New Years' Day)

A New Year's Day Prayer

The following is a prayer for God's blessing for our New Year by Debbie McDaniel:

"Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day. We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said 'no,' 'not yet,' or 'wait.' We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts."



You're Invited-Archbishop Dennis M. Schrurr's Study Of The Mass

Each Sunday from January 8 to February 12, Archbishop Schnurr will e-mail you a 25-minute episode from Word on Fire's video series The Mass featuring Bishop Robert Barron, along with his own brief insights. The series is as beautifully filmed as it is engaging, and this is an incredible chance to reinvigorate our love for Jesus in the Mass. Please sign-up for this series by going to www.catholicaoc.org and on the homepage click Study The Mass With Archbishop Schnurr

New Year's Resolutions For Catholics

Each week in the month of January, we will offer one possible New Year's resolution for Catholics to commit to during 2023. Please consider if one or more of these would be a helpful practice for you and your relationship with God.

Resolution: Make More Time For Spiritual Reading

"You will not see anyone who is striving after his advancement who is not given to spiritual reading. And as to him who neglects it, the fact will soon be observed in his [lack of] progress."

-St. Athanasius

If you want to make progress in your walk with God in 2023, spiritual reading should be high on your list.

Your best bet is to stick to the classics written by Catholic saints known for their practical spiritual wisdom—such as Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Therese of Lisieux, and John of the Cross.

There are also audio books available for many classic Catholic titles.

The four gospels and the letters of St. Peter and St. Paul are also excellent choices for reading, being the inspired Word of God.

If you struggle with finding the time to read, make a list of books that you'd like to complete in 2023 and pray that God will show you how you can find the time to read them. Maybe this will mean cutting out TV time or slimming back on unnecessary social activities.

The time you spend feeding your soul is time better spent.

Marriage Moments And Parenting Pointers: Food For Thought And Actions

Marriage Moments-As we transition to a new year, many people make resolutions to start new positive habits. Maybe you're already satisfied with your marriage, but there's always room for deepening your love. Pick one new action—perhaps a daily honest compliment, a favor, praying together...OK, even if only once a week feels doable, DO IT.

Parenting Pointers-The Epiphany: The traditional date for the arrival of the Three Kings is January 6 which marks the 12th Day of Christmas. Make a cake. Wrap three coins in foil and hide them in the batter. Whoever gets the slice with the coins is King/Queen for a day and gets out of chores. Be wise but have fun too.

Living Laudato Si' Eco-Tip Of The Week From The SFdS Parish "Green Team"

Ideas For Reducing Our Cluttered Spaces:

- The Easy One:* Read the short REDUCE section of *Global Stewards*. Green Eco Tips for Sustainable Living
- The Challenging One:* Choose at least one item from Global Stewards that you are not already doing and at on it this week.
- Impossible:* Read all of the comprehensive *Global Stewards* website (<https://www.globalstewards.org/index.htm>) and see if you can do 99% This is such an exhaustive list it is virtually impossible to do everything but see how far you can get.

This Week From U.S. Catholic Magazine

Please visit *U.S. Catholic Magazine* at www.uscatholic.org for this week’s reads and other informative and inspiring articles.

Both are posted on the homepage:

What Are The '12 Days Of Christmas'?: For Catholics, The 12 Days Are Really Only Part Of Our Christmas Observance by Bryan Cones

When Teaching Kids About Jesus, Let Them Take The Lead: “Jesus Lives In Your Heart” Means Something Very Different To A 3-Year-Old by Teresa Coda.

Vocation Thought For The Week

As we begin a new year today, please consider rededicating yourself to your role in vocation ministry to being attentive and willing to suggest a priestly or religious vocation to those who show the potential for one.

Pro-Life Gathering For Her

A Pro-Life Gathering For Her is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2023 from 8:15 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. at St. Susanna Catholic Church in Mason. The day will include a mass, national and local pro-life speakers, coffee and lunch. Purchase tickets at CincinnatiRightToLife.org

They Said It:

Drive carefully. It’s not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.

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“It is with the smallest brushes that the artist paints the most exquisitely beautiful pictures.”

*Blessed Andre Bessette, Religious
The Optional Memorial (U.S.A.)
January 6*