



ST PAULS MEDIA **pastoral ministry**
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MISSALETTE

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Memorial of Saint John Marie Vianney (A) — White

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BEYOND FAMILIARITY

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Carlos was a young boy who lived with his grandmother after his parents separated. His mother was teaching in a remote school. They were financially constrained, relying on the grandmother's modest pension and the mother's meager salary to support his education. The *Mariteses* (gossips) conjured up images of the boy's future. Some said he would be like his mother, a teacher; others saw him as his grandmother, a government official; still others assumed he would achieve nothing in life, like his father. The *Mariteses* were practically drawing a future for the boy. They rejected the idea that the boy could follow his own path in life.

In today's Gospel, Jesus experiences being rejected by those who know his family background and upbringing. The people are not able to see beyond the Jesus they have known and thus refuse to accept the Jesus in front of them, preaching with such profound authority. Jesus' townsfolk allow their familiarity to cloud their understanding of

God in their midst. The people fail to see the presence of the divine in the most unexpected person, Jesus.

In our day-to-day interactions, especially with persons who are close to us, we tend to allow our familiarity to control the way we encounter them. We hold a mindset that boxes others in who they were at a particular moment instead of recognizing their capacity for change and growth. While we see God working in our lives, empowering us to change for the better and hate sin, we do not give that same charity and understanding towards others who are also undergoing changes in their lives by the grace of God.

What happened to Carlos? He surprised his neighbors when he decided, midway in college, to enter the seminary. His mother gave him all-out support, and some neighbors contributed what they could. Carlos allowed the grace of God to work in his life to the point that the economic situation of his family normalized without

his having to stop schooling and find employment. He went beyond the future created for him by the *Mariteses*.

Indeed, it is easy to be so familiar with other people's situations that we tend to limit how God could work in their lives.

As we celebrate the memorial of St. John Marie Vianney, we may recall his experience of facing opposition in his ministry from the townspeople, priests, and, unsurprisingly, Satan himself. Before these trials, he often tried running away from his parish and living a life of solitude in a monastery, but he always found himself coming back. Despite the constant opposition he faced from those who thought in a worldly manner, John Marie continued to emulate the love of Christ that continually urges to love even the most unlovable, ungrateful, and selfish persons.

Let our familiarity with others lead us to love them more, accept them, and accompany them toward full maturity in Christ.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 132 [131]: 9)

(Recited when there is no opening song.)

Your priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with justice; your holy ones shall ring out their joy.

Greeting

(The sign of the cross is made here.)

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

Introduction

(These [or similar words] may be used to address the assembly.)

P—After hearing Jesus' teachings, the crowds who are present and from different places are left astonished in him. Like those people, may we who are present here, be converted through the intercession of St. John Vianney after hearing God's word in our celebration today.

Penitential Act

P—Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
(Pause)

P—Have mercy on us, O Lord.

All—For we have sinned against you.

P—Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All—And grant us your salvation.

P—May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All—Amen.

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—Lord, have mercy.

P—Christ, have mercy.

All—Christ, have mercy.

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—Lord, have mercy.

Collect

P—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Almighty and merciful God, who made the Priest Saint John Vianney wonderful in his pastoral zeal, grant, we pray, that through his intercession and example we may in charity win brothers and sisters for Christ and attain with them eternal glory.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Reading (Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37) *(Sit)*

The First Reading tells us of the festivals of the Lord on which you shall proclaim a sacred assembly.

A reading from the Book of Leviticus

THE LORD said to Moses, "These are the festivals of the LORD which you shall celebrate at their proper time with a sacred assembly. The Passover of the LORD falls on the fourteenth day of the first month, at the evening twilight. The fifteenth day of this month is the LORD's feast of Unleavened Bread. For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first of these days you shall hold a sacred assembly and do no sort of work. On each of the seven days you shall offer an oblation to the LORD. Then on the seventh day you shall again hold a sacred assembly and do no sort of work."

The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the children of Israel and tell them: When you come into the land which I am giving you, and reap your harvest, you shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest, who shall wave the sheaf before the LORD that it may be acceptable for you. On the day after the sabbath the priest shall do this.

"Beginning with the day after the sabbath, the day on which you bring the wave-offering sheaf, you shall count seven full weeks, and then on the day after the seventh week, the fiftieth day, you shall present the new cereal offering to the LORD.

"The tenth of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement, when you shall hold a sacred assembly and mortify yourselves and offer an oblation to the LORD.

"The fifteenth day of this seventh month is the LORD's feast of Booths, which shall continue for seven days. On the first day there shall be a sacred assembly, and you shall do no sort of work. For seven days you shall offer an oblation to the LORD, and on the eighth day you shall again hold a sacred assembly and offer an oblation to the LORD. On that solemn closing you shall do no sort of work.

"These, therefore, are the festivals of the LORD on which you shall proclaim a sacred assembly, and offer as an oblation to the LORD burnt offerings and cereal offerings, sacrifices and libations, as prescribed for each day."

—The word of the Lord.

All—Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 81)

R—Sing with joy to God our help.

1. Take up a melody, and sound the timbrel, the pleasant harp and the lyre. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast. **(R)**

2. For it is a statute in Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob, Who made it a decree for Joseph when he came forth from the land of Egypt. **(R)**

3. There shall be no strange god among you nor shall you worship any alien god. I, the Lord, am your God who led you forth from the land of Egypt. **(R)**

Verse before the Gospel

(1 Pt 1:25) *(Stand)*

All—Alleluia, alleluia. The word of the Lord remains forever; this is the word that has been proclaimed to you. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel (Mt 13:54-58)

P—A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All—Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS CAME to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue. They were astonished and said, "Where did this man get such wisdom

and mighty deeds? Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? Are not his sisters all with us? Where did this man get all this?" And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and in his own house." And he did not work many mighty deeds there because of their lack of faith.

—The Gospel of the Lord.

All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (*Sit*)

Prayer of the Faithful

P—On this feast of St. John Vianney, the universal patron of priests, let us pray to Jesus the Eternal High Priest and Good Shepherd to send the Church shepherd-priests after his own heart. we pray:

R—Lord, hear our prayer.

C—May you configure the ordained ministers in a new and special way to yourself, Lord Jesus Christ the Head and Shepherd who forms and strengthens them with your pastoral charity. We pray: **(R)**

C—May the love of the Church and the salvation of humankind become the first interest of priests in their pastoral charity that finds its full expression and nourishment in the Eucharist. We pray: **(R)**

C—Like St. John Vianney who spent most of his time in the confessional, may confessors act as your faithful servants, Lord, in the sacrament of Confession where every penitent will find a source of true interior peace. We pray: **(R)**

C—May priests learn from the poverty of St. John Vianney to subject all goods to your supreme good and your Kingdom. May they express this poverty in their availability to be sent where their work is most useful and needed. We pray: **(R)**

C—May the clergy and the lay faithful work hand in hand in your vineyard, Lord, where those touched by your grace are gathered in the Church where they give witness to their faith. We pray: **(R)**

C—Let us pray for the urgent concerns of our community and our personal intentions (*pause*). We pray: **(R)**

P—Lord, watch over the growth of vocations and priestly life in the Church. Through the intercession and prayers of St. John Vianney, bestow on the Order of Presbyters a full measure of your gifts. **All—Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts
(*Stand*)

P—Pray, brethren...

All—May the Lord accept...

Prayer over the Offerings

P—Receive, O Lord, we pray, the offerings placed on your altar in commemoration of blessed John Marie, so that, as you brought him glory, you may, through these sacred mysteries, grant us your pardon.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen.

Preface (*Pastors*)

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

P—Lift up your hearts.

All—We lift them up to the Lord.

P—Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All—It is right and just.

P—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For, as on the festival of Saint John Marie Vianney you bid your Church rejoice, so, too, you strengthen her by the example of his holy life, teach her by his words of preaching, and keep her safe in answer to his prayers.

And so, with the company of Angels and Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we acclaim:

All—Holy, Holy, Holy... (*Kneel*)

Acclamation (*Stand*)

All—We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

All—Our Father...

P—Deliver us, Lord...

All—For the kingdom...

Invitation to Peace

Invitation to Communion
(*Kneel*)

P—Behold the Lamb of God...

All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon
(Cf. Mt 24: 46–47)

Blessed is the servant whom the Lord finds watching when he comes. Amen, I say to you: He will put that servant in charge of all his property.

Prayer after Communion
(*Stand*)

P—Let us pray. (*Pause*)

May the partaking at the heavenly table, almighty God, confirm and increase strength from on high in all who celebrate the feast day of blessed John Marie Vianney that we may preserve in integrity the gift of faith and walk in the path of salvation you trace for us.

Through Christ our Lord. **All—Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

P—May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, (+) and the Holy Spirit.

All—Amen.

Dismissal

P—Go in peace.

All—Thanks be to God.



PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART *of Jesus*

Divine Jesus, you have said, "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you," behold me kneeling at your feet, filled with a lively faith and confidence in the promises dictated by your Sacred Heart and pronounced by your adorable lips. I come to ask this favor: *(Here silently mention your petition/s).*

To whom can I turn if not to you whose Heart is the source of all graces and merits? Where should I seek if not in the treasure which contains all the riches of your kindness and mercy? Where should I knock if not at the door through which God gives himself to us and through which we go to God? I have recourse to you, Heart of Jesus. In you I find consolation when afflicted,

protection when persecuted, strength when burdened with trials, and light in doubt and darkness.

Dear Jesus, I firmly believe that you can grant me the grace I implore, even though it should require a miracle. You have only to will it, and my prayer will be granted. I admit that I am most unworthy of your favors, but this is not a reason for me to be discouraged. You are the God of mercy and you will not refuse a contrite heart. Cast upon me a look of mercy, I beg of you, and your kind Heart will find in my miseries and weaknesses a reason for granting my prayers.

O Sacred Heart, whatever may be your decision with regard to my request, I will never stop adoring, loving, praising and serving you. My Jesus, be pleased to accept this my act of perfect resignation to the decrees of your adorable Heart which I sincerely desire may be fulfilled in and by me and all your creatures forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I know that there is but one thing impossible to you: to be without pity for those who are suffering or in distress. Look upon me, I beg of you, dear Jesus, and grant me the grace for which I humbly implore you through the Immaculate Heart of your most sorrowful Mother. You have entrusted me to her as her child, and her prayers are all-powerful with you. **Amen.**

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