



World Day *of* Prayer *for the* Sanctification *of* Priests · JUNE 11, 2021 ·

Mass Prayers & Readings

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Missal · Proper of Time, Solemnities of the Lord
in Ordinary Time
Lectionary · no. 171

First Reading · Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9

Resp. Psalm · Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Second Reading · Ephesians 3:8-12,14-19

Verse before Gospel · Matt 11:29ab
or 1 John 4:10b

Gospel · John 19:31-37

Universal Prayer

SAMPLE INTENTIONS

For all priests, that God may renew deep within them the Spirit of holiness and unite them more fully to Christ, the High Priest.

That, with the help of the Holy Spirit, all priests will continue with courage and wisdom in their service to God's People.

That the members of the Body of Christ may continue to grow in unity through the ministry of the priesthood.

Spirituality

REFLECT on the Vine and the Branches · John 15:1-17

· <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/15> ·

PRAY St. Therese of Lisieux's Prayer for Priests

· <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/st-therese-of-lisieux-s-prayer-for-priests/> ·

LEARN more about Priests of the Diocese of Arlington

· <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/meet-our-priests/> ·

THANK the Priests in your local community





Religious Freedom Week

• JUNE 22-29, 2021 •

June 22 • Adoption and Foster Care

PROPER FEAST of **ST THOMAS MORE, MARTYR**

PRINCIPAL PATRON of the **DIocese of ARLINGTON**

In the Diocese of Arlington, the readings and prayers for St Thomas More must be used. The proper collect for St Thomas More is used and other prayers of the Mass are taken from the Common of Martyrs or the Common of Holy Men; the preface may be Holy Martyrs I, Saints I, or Saints II. The Gloria is said/sung. Readings are from the Memorial of Sts John Fisher and Thomas More (Lectionary no. 585).

- † **Pray** • that children waiting to be placed in a loving home and the caregivers who serve those children will find strength and support from the Church
- † **Reflect** • The command to care for the orphan appears throughout the Scriptures. Over the centuries, the Church responded to this call by building adoption & foster care institutions. The need for these institutions is as great as ever today, but they are being targeted for closures because of their religion. Intolerance for religious organizations has real consequences, & in this case, it is both vulnerable children & adults who want to work with faith-affirming agencies who suffer.
- † **Act** • Contact your U.S. Senators and Representative today and ask them to co-sponsor and support the federal Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act!

June 23 • Catholic Social Services during the Pandemic

WEDNESDAY of the **TWELFTH WEEK** in **ORDINARY TIME**

A Votive Mass or Mass for Various Needs and Occasions may be used.

A suggestion: Mass in Time of Pandemic.

- † **Pray** • that God would continue to grant Catholic institutions the wisdom and courage to serve a world suffering the effects of the COVID pandemic
- † **Reflect** • The COVID pandemic has inflicted deep wounds on our country. Grandparents and parents have been lost to families. Children have suffered during a formative time of life. Many people have lost jobs. Pope Francis calls the Church to help heal the world, and this world desperately needs healing. Thankfully, many people, including Catholics, stepped in to serve.
- † **Act** • Catholic Charities works to help the most vulnerable. Learn more about Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington and see how you can get involved today! www.cdda.net

June 24-29, next pages



Office of
DIVINE
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Les princes des prêtres interrogent Jésus de quell droit il agit (The Chief Priests Ask Jesus by What Right Does He Act in This Way), 1886-1894, by James Tissot (French, 1836-1902) © public domain. Brooklyn Museum, purchased by public subscription, 00.159.204

June 24 · The Equality Act

SOLEMNITY of the NATIVITY of the ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

The prayers and readings for the Solemnity must be used.

- † **Pray** · that the dignity of all people will be respected in our country
- † **Reflect** · Every human person is made in God's image and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. The Equality Act purports to protect people experiencing same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria from discrimination in these and other areas. But, by requiring all Americans to speak and act as if there is no meaningful distinction between the sexes and as if gender has no connection to the body, the Equality Act legally and socially harms Americans in serious ways and injures the common good.
- † **Act** · The Equality Act discriminates against people of faith and, by including a potential abortion mandate, threatens unborn life. Tell your elected officials to oppose it!
www.votervoices.net/USCCB/Campaigns/80967/Respond

June 25 · Church Vandalism

FRIDAY of the TWELFTH WEEK in ORDINARY TIME

A Votive Mass or Mass for Various Needs and Occasions may be used.

A suggestion: For Promoting Harmony (MVNO 15)

- † **Pray** · that Christian witness in the face of attacks on our churches will convert hearts to faith in Jesus Christ
- † **Reflect** · Recent years have seen a number of high-profile attacks on houses of worship. Beginning in May of 2020, there was a wave of attacks on Catholic churches and statues. Vandals entered churches and desecrated sanctuaries. Catholics must remember that we worship the Lord who reveals the truth and beauty of the gospel in his suffering and resurrection, and that we are called to respond to aggression with compassion.
- † **Act** · The USCCB Beauty Heals initiative invites us to learn about works of devotional art significant to local churches and how they inspire Catholics to live beautifully. www.usccb.org/BeautyHeals

June 26 · Catholics in Nicaragua

SATURDAY of the TWELFTH WEEK in ORDINARY TIME

A Votive Mass or Mass for Various Needs and Occasions may be used.

A suggestion: For Persecuted Christians (MVNO 19)

- † **Pray** · for our Catholic sisters and brothers who are suffering in Nicaragua
- † **Reflect** · When peaceful protests began in April 2018 in response to a decision to raise taxes and decrease pension benefits, the government's brutal response left at least 19 dead and over 100 missing. Demonstrations continue until today. Protests have been met with government-sanctioned violence to repress dissent and increasingly the government is targeting the Catholic Church. Government supporters continued to desecrate Catholic churches, and threaten religious and the faithful.
- † **Act** · Catholic Relief Services began working in Nicaragua in 1964. Support CRS's agricultural, emergency relief, health, and youth job training programs to help save lives. www.crs.org/our-work-overseas/where-we-work/nicaragua

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June 27 · Conscience Rights for Medical Professionals

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

The prayers and readings for the Sunday must be used.

- † **Pray** • that governments would respect the consciences of all people who care for the sick and vulnerable
- † **Reflect** • For centuries, Christians have carried on the healing ministry of Christ by building institutions dedicated to medicine and accompaniment of the dying. In recent years, activists have sought to undermine the Church's mission by forcing Catholic hospitals to perform procedures that destroy human life and undermine human flourishing, such as sterilization, gender reassignment surgery, and even abortion. It is unthinkable that we would undermine our mission to heal by destroying innocent life and harming the persons for whom we are called to care.
- † **Act** • While existing federal laws already protect some conscientious objections to abortion, sterilization, and gender reassignment surgery in theory, this protection has not proved effective in practice. Contact your elected officials in Congress and urge them to support the Conscience Protection Act!

June 28 · Christians in Iraq

MEMORIAL of ST IRENAEUS

For serious pastoral reason, a Votive Mass or Mass for Various Needs and Occasions may be used.

A suggestion: For the Progress of Peoples (MVNO 29)

- † **Pray** • for Christians in Iraq, and that people of all faiths in the land of Abraham may live in peace
- † **Reflect** • The Christian presence in Iraq has dwindled from an estimated high of 1.4 million to less than 300,000. Today, although ISIS was defeated, the threat from extremists remains as Christians who return to Mosul and the Nineveh Plains are often still subject to harassment, intimidation, and extortion; the task of rebuilding is daunting. Reflecting on his historic journey to Iraq, Pope Francis said, "We must work to ensure that the Christian presence in these lands continue to be what it has always been: a sign of peace, process, development and reconciliation between peoples."
- † **Act** • You can join various international Catholic agencies which provide humanitarian assistance by donating to the Knights of Columbus Persecuted Christian fund. www.kofc.org/secure/en/donate/persecuted-christian-fund.html

June 29 · Free Speech

SOLEMNITY of STS PETER & PAUL

The prayers and readings for the Solemnity must be used.

- † **Pray** • that Christians will have the courage to speak the truth with kindness and clarity, even in the face of adversity
- † **Reflect** • One of the promises of our country is that many voices, even voices expressing minority views, have a right to express themselves. Is that promise being fulfilled? On the feast day of two of our boldest preachers of the gospel, Sts Peter and Paul, who faced intense hostility, let us resolve to have the courage to speak the truth with grace. And let us pray that the Lord will give us the prudence to be creative and compassionate in our witness.
- † **Act** • Connect with the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty. Text FREEDOM to 84576 and sign up for First Freedom News, the Committee's monthly newsletter. www.usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty/first-freedom-news-monthly-newsletter