

“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him...”

(Mk 9:7)

Divine Liturgy
Sunday at 11:30 am
Our Lady of Victory
1559 Roxbury Rd.
Columbus, OH

**WE ARE SO BLESSED TO CELEBRATE
OUR ANNUAL PARISH FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND.
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First Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:7-17

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone,
was so glorious that the Israelites could not look intently at the face of Moses
because of its glory that was going to fade,
how much more will the ministry of the Spirit be glorious?
For if the ministry of condemnation was glorious,
the ministry of righteousness will abound much more in glory.
Indeed, what was endowed with glory has come to have no glory in this respect because of
the glory that surpasses it.
For if what was going to fade was glorious,
how much more will what endures be glorious.
Therefore, since we have such hope, we act very boldly,
and not like Moses, who put a veil over his face
so that the Israelites could not look intently at the cessation of what was fading.
Rather, their thoughts were rendered dull,
for to this present day the same veil remains unlifted when they read the old covenant,
because through Christ it is taken away.
To this day, in fact, whenever Moses is read,
a veil lies over their hearts,
but whenever a person turns to the Lord the veil is removed.
Now the Lord is the Spirit,
and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

The Gospel: Matthew 12:22-32

He also said to them,
“Amen, I say to you,
there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of
God has come in power.”
After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by
themselves.
And he was transfigured before them,
and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.
Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus.
Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,
“Rabbi, it is good that we are here!
Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”
He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified.
Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice,
“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”

Saint of the Week: John Vianney (Curé of Ars)

The word Curé is a French word meaning pastor. Ars is a village in the countryside about 20 miles north of Lyon, south-east of France.

The Curé of Ars is St. John Marie Vianney, born on May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, France.

He was the fourth of six children born to a farming family. At the time of his birth, the French Revolution was in progress and Catholics and their priests had to worship in secret.

The Vianneys, who were devout Catholics, went to distant farms to hear Mass, celebrated clandestinely by loyal priests who risked their lives to bring the sacraments to their flocks. Realizing that, Vianney began to look upon them as heroes.

He made his first communion at the age of 13 in a neighbor's kitchen. During the Mass, the windows were covered so that the light of the candles could not be seen from outside. Even in his old age tears streamed down his cheeks whenever he spoke of that

unforgettable day, and all his life he treasured the plain rosary beads his mother gave him on the occasion. At the age of 17, around the year 1803, John Vianney became aware of his vocation to become a priest but unfortunately had no prior education so he went to be tutored first at the "presbytery-school" in the neighboring village of Écully, conducted by the Abbé Balley. and then in 1813, entered the seminary. Vianney struggled with school, especially with Latin, since his past education had been interrupted by the French Revolution.

His inadequate acquaintance with Latin made it impossible for him either to grasp what the lecturers said or to reply to questions put to him in that learned tongue.

At the end of his first term, he was asked to leave. His grief and disappointment were indescribable. Once again M. Balley came to the rescue and studies were privately resumed at Ecully. But the student failed twice at the examination preceding ordination. Seriously in doubt whether to ordain him or not, the reluctant bishop decided to conduct a private examination in an audience with Vianney. His moral qualities and piety were judged to outweigh by far any deficiencies in his academic assets.

In February of 1818, because of his apparent ineptness, he was appointed to Ars, a village of 230 inhabitants, and was told that there was little religion or love there. The town was so small and unknown that Vianney got lost trying to find it. A young shepherd pointed him in the right direction, and thus Vianney replied: "You have shown me the way to Ars, I will show you the way to heaven!" The statue pictured above immortalizes that encounter.

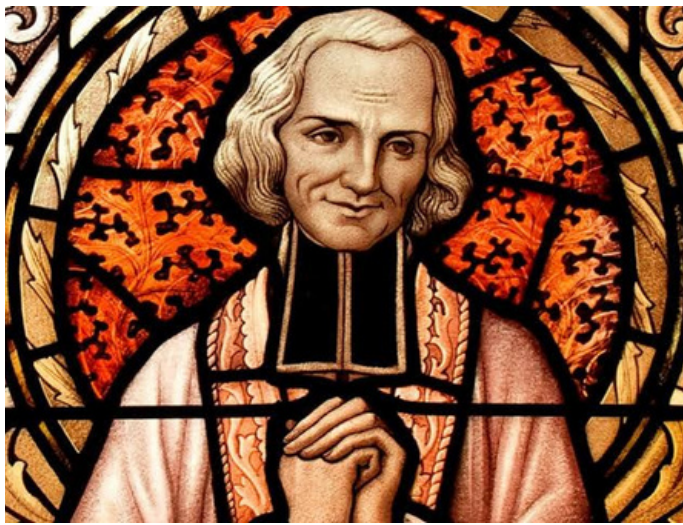


RENCONTRE
DE M^r VIANNEY
ET DU PETIT BERGER
LE 9 FEVRIER 1818

He lived a life of extreme poverty and utmost piety. Within ten years of his assignment to Ars, an average of three hundred people visited Ars daily. In the year 1858, an estimated 100,000 pilgrims flocked to Ars. The frail Cure began hearing confessions at 1 o'clock in the morning, and spent from 13 to 17 hours a day in the cramped confessional.

John Vianney's gift as a confessor is what drew thousands of penitents to line up, sometimes three days in advance, to experience what many recalled as his ability to see into the deepest recesses of the soul.

St. John Vianney died peacefully on August 4, 1859. In 1904, his still intact heart was removed and is displayed in a reliquary in a separate chapel. He was canonized in 1925 and was named later the Patron of Parish Priests throughout the world. Pilgrims can also visit the home of the Curé of Ars, which was preserved the way he left it. It contains the bed set on fire by the devil (part of the trials the devil tried to inflict upon him) as well as the Saint's rosary, breviary, library and other personal items.



No account of the life of the Cure of Ars would be complete without at least a passing mention of his singular devotion to St Philomena, the celebrated Virgin and Martyr of the early Church. His devotion to her grew after somebody brought one of her relics to him after their visit to Rome.

He erected a chapel and a shrine in her honor when he undertook the restoration of the village church.

To quote his own words:

"Remain humble, remain simple; the more you are so, the more good you will do."

"Do not distrust the Providence of God.

He who made your corn to grow will assuredly help to gather it in."

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