

WHAT'S GOING ON AT SMA

Dear Jairo, my friend,

When you visited you asked about growing older.

How do I deal with getting older? One day at a time! I have seen a t-shirt that says something like "If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans for the future". Getting older is about your mind as much as your body. There is no way my forty year old self could have foreseen what my eighty year old self would have to deal with.

You are wise to eat well and exercise. Does that compensate for your love of potentially dangerous activities like sky diving and motorcycle riding? Only God knows. I have watched my sons at sixty pay for the fun things they did in their twenties. Our bodies also carry the history of our families' ailments. Some things we have no control over. One body can still smoke at over one hundred and another has a heart attack and dies at sixty.

Your mental and spiritual state has a profound impact on your health. Along the way I have been blessed with people who walked with me and helped carry my burdens. I truly believe that God sends the companions we need. Some will be in it for the long term, some will simply pass through. Some we will only recognize in hindsight. I have asked God if I am here for you or are you here for me. No answer so far! Maybe it will be like some friendships I have had where we took turns being strong for each other. I do pray for you regularly.

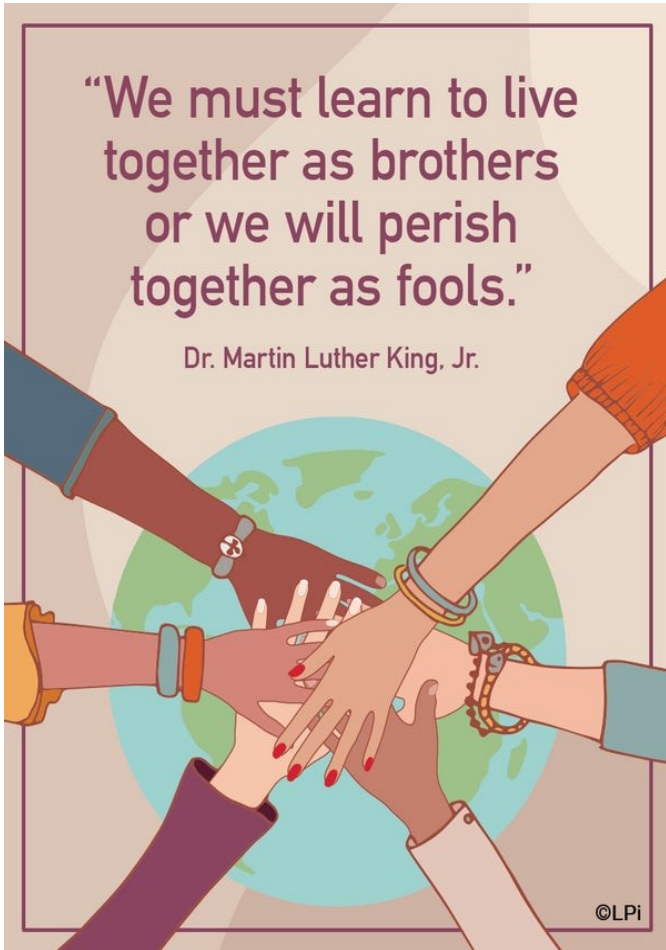
Flexibility is a big advantage both physically and mentally. We often find ourselves at a crossroads. The direction we thought we wanted to go is unavailable and something else presents itself. Graciously letting go of a plan and accepting something different is trusting in God's plan. There have been times when I felt as though I was being twisted into a pretzel by the unexpected events in my life. Relaxing into the change is good for your blood pressure as well as your mental health.

You talk about being/feeling old. When you are ninety you will look back at your young self and laugh!

Trust that you are not alone on your journey. Your good heart is recognized and you have the love and support of many people.

"We must learn to live together as brothers or we will perish together as fools."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



If you have small children in Mass please sit in the cry room. If your child is crying please take them out to the hall, and once they are calm return to the assembly.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ANNOUNCEMENT BY WEDNESDAYS
12 NOON .**

THEY WOULD BE POSTED IN THAT SUNDAYS BULLETIN.

HOLY HOUR/ADORATION

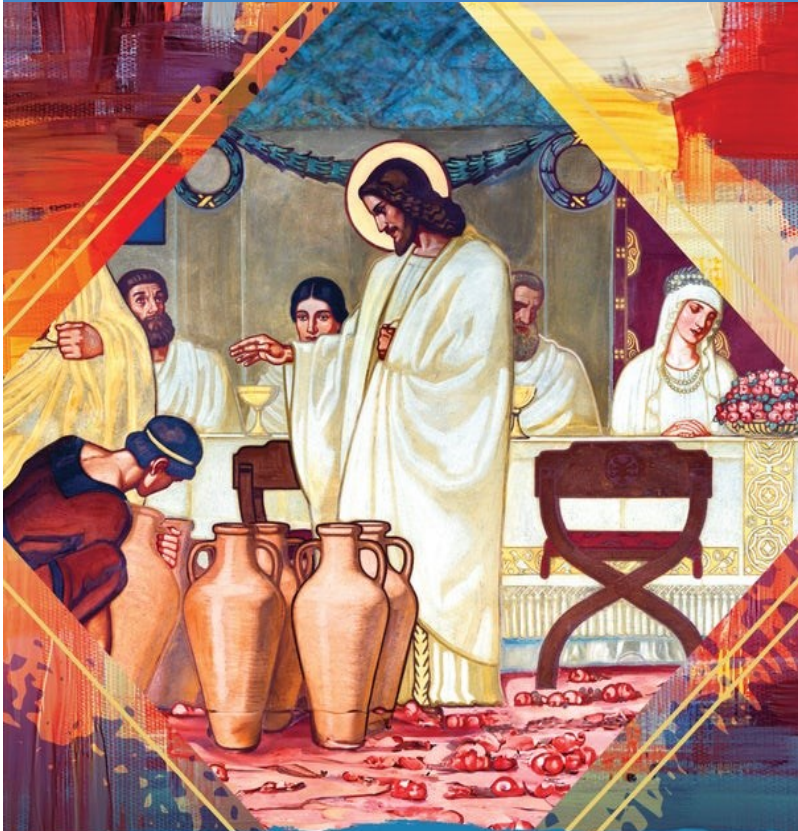
ALL DAY THURSDAYS

STARTING AFTER 8:00 AM MASS



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19th-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
"They have no wine." - Jn 2:3

2º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
"Ya no tienen vino". - Jn 2, 3

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Tuesday - Friday 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.

1821 White St, Anderson, SC 29624

Mission Statement

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, Anderson SC was founded in 1943 by the Franciscans of the Holy Name Province, New York. The intention then and today, was and is to, in the spirit of Jesus Christ and St. Francis, minister in and with the African American Catholic community and to reach out to the African Americans of Anderson County. Furthermore, all who come to St. Mary's from whatever background and ethnicity with a desire for Christian family will be regarded as brothers and sisters to us. We also see ourselves as called to live in Gospel relationship to the alienated and the poor of this community.

The Holy Father's prayer intention for the month of January 2025

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 9 A.M. (English) 12:30 P.M. (Español)

Tuesday - Friday: 8 A.M. (English)

Wednesday & Friday: 7 P.M. (Español)

Saturday: 4 P.M. (English)

Confessions: 1/2 hour before each Mass.

Holy Hour/Adoration: Thursdays (all day)

Food Pantry

Drop off any non-perishable food items in the church or parish hall bin. The following are food supplies we need to restock:

- Ramen Noodles
- Oatmeal Packets
- Snack Bars
- Breakfast Bars
- Cereal Boxes
- Jelly in plastic jars

THANK YOU

Parish Chorus Practice

Thursdays at 6:00 pm

HeatherJCHiley@gmail.com

Would you like to be an altar server?

Being an Altar Server, means serving God and God's people at Mass. This liturgical ministry is open to those to who have made their First Holy Communion.

Altar Servers assist the priest during Mass. There is no age limit

Homebound Ministry - Volunteers Needed

Provides a social connection to individuals who would benefit from a visit from a fellow parishioner.

This ministry, through volunteer effort, visits residences, nursing facilities and other home situations of parish members. Reasons for visits range from providing spiritual support to a friendly visit to someone who just wants to make a new friend.

The goal is to offer parishioners an encounter with other parishioners to experience God's goodness through the kindness of others. Any questions please contact:

officesma@charlestdiocese.org

Weekly Collections

Jan. 11-12

Operating: \$5,81700

B&G: \$12,260.00

Knights of Columbus

We are a Catholic men's organization serving our parish and community through donations of funds and time.

Anyone interested in finding out more can call Mike Massey at

864-314-3622.

Women's Council

3rd Monday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall

The Women Council is a ministry of service to the parish and community. All women in the church are welcome.

Men's Club

1st Wednesday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall

The Men's Club was organized as a fellowship for the men in the parish. All men in the church are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us every Thursday from 10:00-11:00 am, beginning January 23, and continuing through Holy Thursday, April 17.

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace..."

Deepen your understanding of scripture as we journey through the inspiring words of the St. Francis Peace Prayer. This Bible study will connect each line of the prayer to scripture, Catechism teachings, and wisdom from Church Fathers and Doctors of the Church, offering an exploration of faith, forgiveness, and discipleship. All are welcome!

To receive the lesson plan ahead of each weekly session, please send your contact information to charlie ofs@gmail.com and include "Bible Study" in the subject line.

MESSAGE FROM SMA FINANCE COUNCIL

A copy of the Balance Sheet will be included in the bulletin four times a year. The Finance Council meets quarterly and parishioners are welcome to attend any of the meetings. The next meeting is February 15, 2025.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

As a young man marries a virgin,
your Builder shall marry you;
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride
so shall your God rejoice in you. (Is 62:5)

Psalm:

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations. (Ps 96)

Second Reading:

But one and the same Spirit produces all of these,
distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.
(1 Cor 12:11)

Gospel:

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory,
and his disciples began to believe in him. (Jn 2:1)

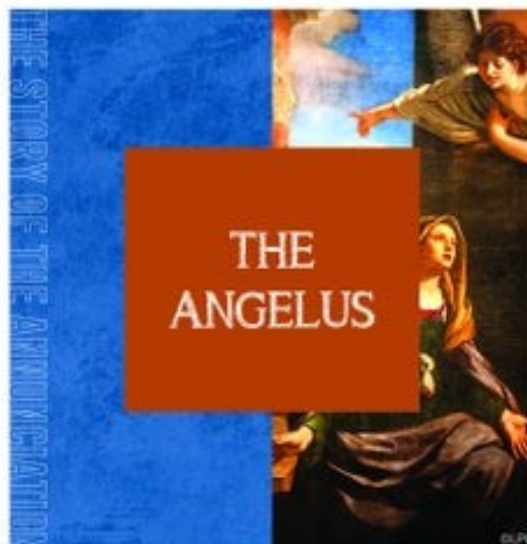
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

We are all the servants at Cana. Each of us, at various times, finds ourselves confused and unsure, empty where we should be full, unprepared where we should be ready. When we falter, Mary's words give us direction: "Do whatever he tells you."

Observances for the week of January 19, 2025

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr; Martin Luther King Day
- Tuesday:** St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
- Wednesday:** Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- Thursday:** St. Vincent, Deacon & Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin
- Friday:** St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
- Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Celebrate Catholic Schools Week



Devotions, Explained!

The Angelus is an ancient devotion whose practice developed over the course of several centuries. It is composed of three antiphons that tell the story of the annunciation, each followed by a Hail Mary. It is usually said daily at noon.

Prayer for the Miraculous

Oh God,
Oh God beyond my
understanding,
Bring Your soul-stirring power
into my life today.
In the places where people are
saying, "It can't be done" or
"There's no solution," act in such
a way that responds: "There is a
way, and there is a God, and He
loves me."

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of January 19, 2025

Sunday:

Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/
1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

Monday:

Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday:

Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c/
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday:

Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday:

Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/
Mk 3:7-12

Friday:

Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14/
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday:

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/
Mk 16:15-18

Next Sunday:

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15
(see Jn 6:63c)/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14,
27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A friend invited me to an invitation-only wine-tasting event. There were over two hundred varieties of wine. Having no idea how to approach such a massive selection, I wandered aimlessly among the tables, sipping this and that. At the end of the evening my friend asked if I had tried some of the exceptionally expensive wines. I hadn't. "The really good stuff disappears first," he said. "My man, you missed out on some amazing vino." I was so disappointed. I wasted my chance for amazing once-in-a-lifetime wine. The wine I tasted was, well, *blah*.

Don't we often feel a similar disappointment in life? I missed this or that opportunity. If only I had known. Optimism sputters and fades. The glory days are gone. The chances, it seems, for the really great things in life come and go so quickly. Then they are gone forever. The good stuff goes first. Then life is just *blah*.

Not so with the Lord Jesus. In Jesus' miracle at the wedding at Cana, the steward of the feast says, "**Everyone serves good wine first, and then...an inferior one**" (John 2:10). That's the natural downward progression of life. The good stuff disappears quickly. But he says of the groom (who symbolizes Jesus), "**But you have kept the good wine until now.**" This is the ever-improving trajectory of the realm of God's grace. With Jesus, the "good wine" of divine love, hope and peace gets better as our journey of faith progresses. Where are your greatest disappointments? Don't give in to the lie that the really good stuff is gone. Tell Jesus you've run out. Then learn how to taste *that* amazingly good wine, because he saves the best until now.

— Father John Muir

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."
- Jn 2:3-5

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Isaiah spoke of God's delight in Jerusalem and desire to see Israel as His spouse. What married couples do you know who genuinely take delight in each other?

Second Reading:

Paul taught the Corinthians that the gifts of the Holy Spirit to individuals are meant to benefit and unify the community. What gifts do you have that you think benefit others?

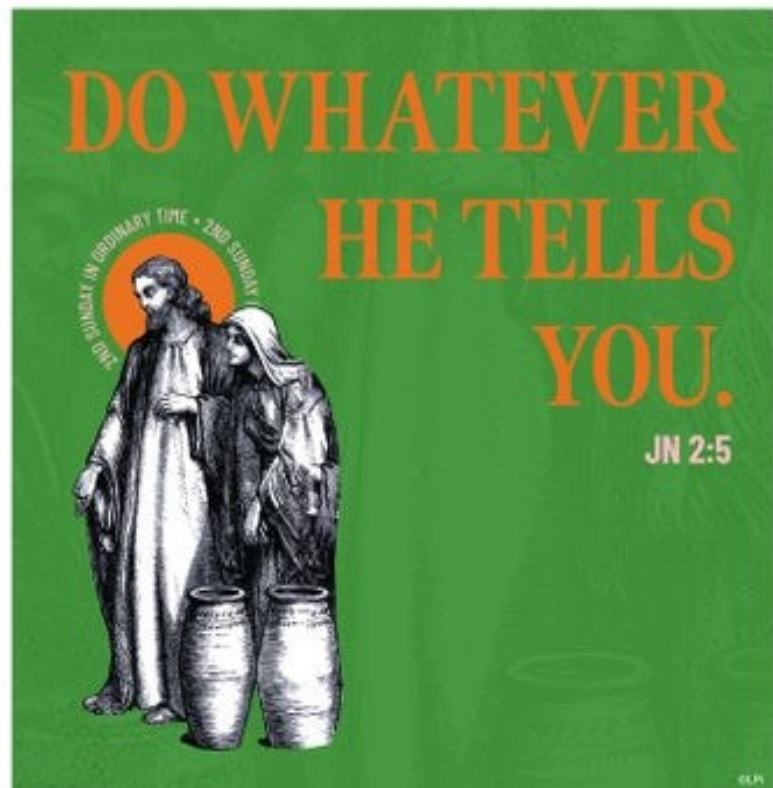
Gospel:

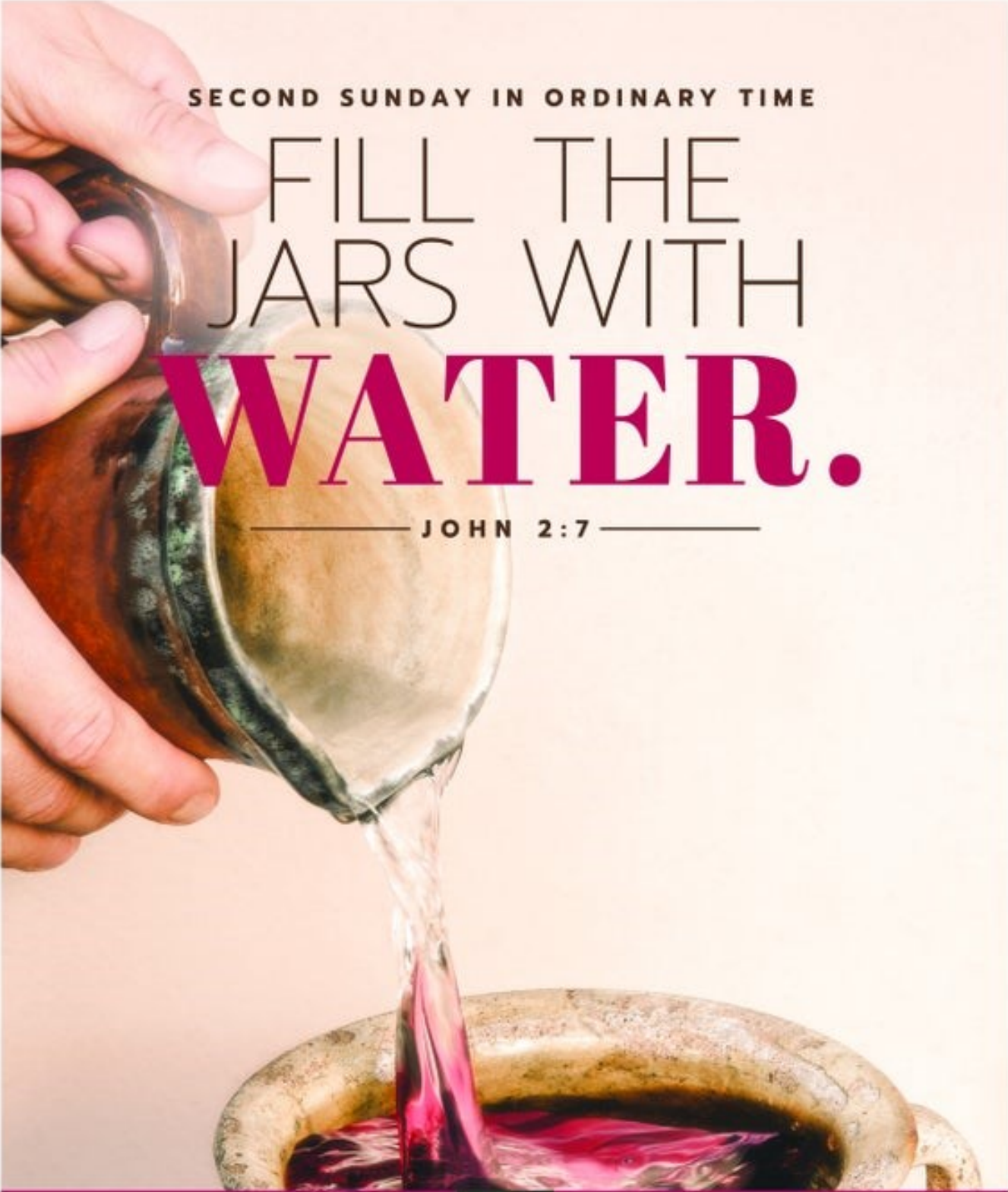
After all the wine was consumed, Jesus turned water into wine for the bride and groom at the wedding. When have you received an unexpected gift from someone?



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Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.



A hand is shown pouring clear water from a glass jar into a stone jar. The water is captured mid-pour, creating a dynamic splash. The background is a soft, light-colored wall.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FILL THE
JARS WITH
WATER.

— JOHN 2:7 —

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025