

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Why was Christ and His mother present at this marriage?

In order to honor this humble and God-fearing couple who, with faithful hearts, had invited Him and His mother to their wedding; to give us an example of humility; to assist them in their poverty, and save their good name by changing water into wine; to reveal His dignity as the Messiah to His disciples by this miracle; and to sanctify by His presence the marriages that are contracted in the spirit of the Church.

Alas! how few marriages of our time could Jesus honor with His presence, because He is invited neither by fervent prayer, nor by the chaste life of the couple: He is excluded rather, by the frequent immorality of the married couple and their guests.

Why was Mary interested in this married couple?

Because she is merciful, and the Mother of Mercy, and willingly assists all the poor and afflicted who fear God. From this incident, St. Bonaventure judges of the many graces which we can hope for through Mary, now that she reigns in heaven; "For," says he, "if Mary while yet on earth was so compassionate, how much more so is she now, reigning in heaven!" He gives the reason by adding: "Mary now that she sees the face of God, knows our necessities far better than when she was on earth, and in proportion to the increase of her compassion, her power to aid us has been augmented." Ah! why do we not take refuge in all our necessities to this merciful mother, who although unasked assists the needy?

Why did Christ say to Mary: Woman, what is it to me and to thee?

This seemingly harsh reply of Christ was no reproach, for Mary had made her request only through love and mercy, and Christ calls those blessed who are merciful, but he wished to show that in the performance of divine work, the will of His heavenly Father alone should be consulted. He meant to remind her that He had not received the gift of miracles from her as the son of woman, but from His eternal Father, in accordance with whose will He would do that which she asked when the hour designed by God would come. Though the hour had not come, yet He granted the wish of His mother, who knew that her divine Son refused none of her requests, and so she said to the servants: "Whatsoever He shall say to you, do ye." Behold the great power of Mary's intercession! Neglect not, therefore, to take refuge in this most powerful mother!

What are we taught by the words: My hour is not yet come?

These words teach us that we should in all things await God's appointed time, and in things belonging to God and His honor, act only by divine direction, without any human motives.

What does the scarcity of wine signify?

In a spiritual sense the want of wine may be understood to signify the lack of love between married people, which is principally the case with those who enter this state through worldly motives, for the sake of riches, beauty of person, or who have before marriage kept up sinful intercourse. These should ask God for the forgiveness of their sins, bear the hardships of married life in the spirit of penance, and change the wrong motives they had before marriage; by doing so God will supply the scarcity of wine, that is the lack of true love, and change the waters of misery into the wine of patient affection.

Why did Christ command them to take the wine to the steward?

That the steward, whose office required him to be attentive to the conduct of the guests, and to know the quality of the wine, should give his judgment in regard to the excellence of this, and be able to testify to the miracle before all the guests.

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Church of the Child Jesus & St Joseph



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Confessions:

Sundays:	7:20-7:50am; 9:50-10:20am
Thursdays:	10:30-10:50am
First Fridays:	6:30-6:50pm
Saturdays:	8:30-8:50am

Liturgical Offices		
Sunday 16th January : Second Sunday after the Epiphany (II cl)		
6:45 am	Low Mass	Second Collection Parish
8:00 am	Low Mass	
10:30 am	Sung Mass	
5:30 pm	Vespers, Rosary and Benediction	
Monday 17th January: St Anthony, Abbot (III cl)		
7:15 am	Low Mass	
9:00 am	Low Mass	
6:00 pm	Rosary followed by Low Mass	
Tuesday 18th January: Feria (IV cl) <i>St Prisca</i>		
7:15 am	Low Mass	
9:00 am	Low Mass	
6:00 pm	Rosary and Benediction followed by Low Mass	
Wednesday 19th January: Feria (IV cl) <i>Sts Martyrs</i>		
7.15 am	Low Mass	
9:00 am	Low Mass	
6:00 pm	Rosary followed by Low Mass	
Thursday 20th January: Sts Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs		
7:15 am	Low Mass	
10:00 am	Holy Hour for priests followed by Mass	
6:00 pm	Rosary only	
Friday 21st January: St Agnes, VM (III cl)		
7:15 am	Low Mass	
9:00 am	Low Mass	
6:00 pm	Rosary followed by Low Mass	
Saturday 22nd January: St Vincent and Anastasius, M (III cl)		
7:15 am	Low Mass	
9:00 am	Low Mass and Novena	
Sunday 23rd January : Third Sunday after the Epiphany (II cl)		
6:45 am	Low Mass	
8:00 am	Low Mass	
10:30 am	Sung Mass	
5:30 pm	Vespers, Rosary and Benediction	

Parish Help	
Cleaning Roster – Saturday 22nd January, 2022 – Cembrano family	
Morning Tea & Cakes –	
8:00 am	Coffee:
10:30 am	Coffee:
In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs Catherine Fox who recently passed away. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Marguerite Tawarf; John Carrigy; Hilda Demajo; Anthony Sultana; Tim Luntengen; Zoe Bassan	

Other Mass Centres Sunday, 23rd January, 2022		
Singleton: 10:00 am	Armidale: 9:30 am	

Eucharistic Crusade: January intention is for many holy priests.

Church Cleaning Roster: The new church cleaning roster is looking very empty for the upcoming year. Please do sign up. Thank you and may Almighty God bless you a hundredfold.

Piety Store: There will be a piety store set up in the parish hall selling religious books, missals, rosaries and statues this Sunday, 16th January.

Retreats: It is hoped that a retreat will be held at Holy Cross Seminary as follows: • Women's Retreat: 24th – 29th of January 2022
Please note that the retreat will run dependent on restrictions, etc. If you would like to attend, please visit <https://hcs.fsspx.org/en/retreats-holy-cross-seminary>