



Sunday Mass Readings for 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2024, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year	
1st Reading	Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Alleluia	Mark 1:15
Gospel	Mark 1:14-20

### 1st Reading - Jonah 3:1-5, 10

1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying:  
 2 "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you."  
 3 So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it.  
 4 Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed,"  
 5 when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.  
 10 When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. (4a) Teach me your ways, O Lord.

4 Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;  
 teach me your paths,  
 5 Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
 for you are God my savior.

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

6 Remember that your compassion, O LORD,  
 and your love are from of old.  
 7 In your kindness remember me,  
 because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

8 Good and upright is the LORD;  
 thus he shows sinners the way.  
 9 He guides the humble to justice  
 and teaches the humble his way.

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

### 2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

29 I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them,  
 30 those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning,  
 31 those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

### Alleluia - Mark 1:15

R. Alleluia, alleluia.  
 15 The kingdom of God is at hand.  
 Repent and believe in the Gospel.  
 R. Alleluia, alleluia.

### Gospel - Mark 1:14-20

14 After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:  
 15 "This is the time of fulfilment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."  
 16 As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen.  
 17 Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."  
 18 Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.  
 19 He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets.  
 20 Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

## Saint of the Day

### St. Agnes of Rome, Virgin and Martyr

#### St. Agnes of Rome, Virgin and Martyr a brief life History

Date of Birth	291 AD
Country of Birth	Italy in Europe
Profession	Virgin and Martyr
Place of Work	Rome, Italy
Date of Death	304 AD
Place of Death	Rome, Italy
Feast Day	21 <sup>st</sup> January
Beatification	By Pre-Congregation
Canonization	By Pre-Congregation

Patron Saint of:  
Betrothed couples;  
Chastity;  
Children of Mary;  
Colegio Capranica of Rome;  
Crops;  
Gardeners;  
Girl Guides;  
Girls;  
Rape victims;  
Virgins;

#### St. Agnes of Rome, Virgin and Martyr Short life History

St. Agnes was but twelve years old when she was led to the altar of Minerva in Rome and commanded to obey the persecuting laws of Diocletian by offering incense.

In the midst of the idolatrous rites she raised her hands to Christ, her Spouse, and made the sign of the life-giving cross.

She did not shrink when she was bound hand and foot, though the gyves slipped from her young hands, and the heathens who stood around were moved to tears.

The bonds were not needed for her, and she hastened gladly to the place of her torture. Next, when the judge saw that pain had no terrors for her, he inflicted an insult worse than death: her clothes were stripped off, and she had to stand in the street before a pagan crowd; yet even this did not daunt her.

"Christ," she said, "will guard His own." So it was. Christ showed, by a miracle, the value which He sets upon the custody of the eyes. Whilst the crowd turned away their eyes from the spouse of Christ, as

she stood exposed to view in the street, there was one young man who dared to gaze at the innocent child with immodest eyes. A flash of light struck him blind, and his companions bore him away half dead with pain and terror.

Lastly, her fidelity to Christ was proved by flattery and offers of marriage. But she answered, "Christ is my Spouse: He chose me first, and His I will be." At length the sentence of death was passed. For a moment she stood erect in prayer, and then bowed her neck to the sword. At one stroke her head was severed from her body, and the angels bore her pure soul to Paradise.

#### Today's St. Agnes of Rome Feast Day Quote:

Her innocence endeared St. Agnes to Christ, as it has endeared her to His Church ever since. Even as penitents we may imitate this innocence of hers in our own degree. Let us strictly guard our eyes, and Christ, when He sees that we keep our hearts pure for love of Him, will renew our youth and give us back the years which the canker-worm has wasted.

Sunday Mass Readings Homily for 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B  
21<sup>st</sup> January 2024 Catholic Sunday Readings Homily Theme: I Will Make You Fishers of Men - Mark 1:14-20, Matthew 4:18-22

#### Sick Of the Parish:



Please pray for all the Sick in our three Parishes "My Payers and Good Wishes to All."

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