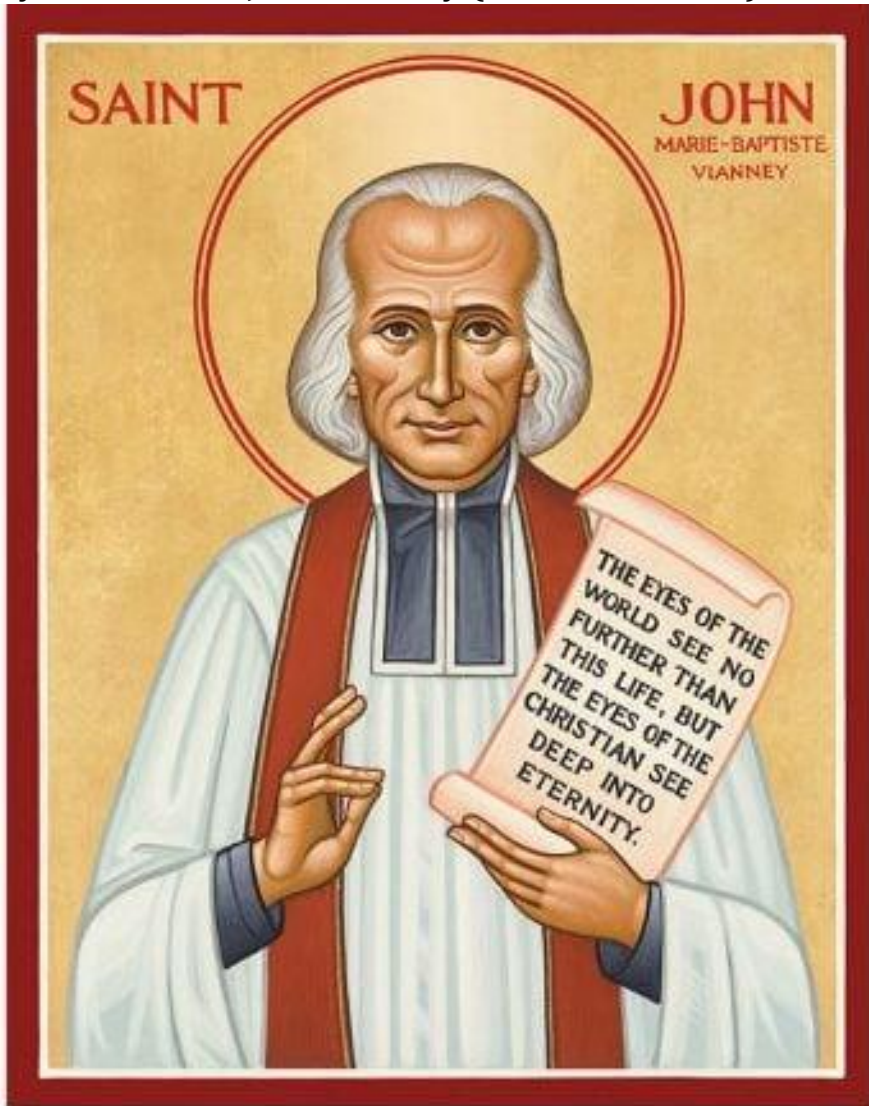


a devotion: "Faith in The Food CHRIST Gives"
by Saint Father John Vianney (1786 – 1859 AD)



https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=399

"We possess here among us a GOD, a Friend, A Consoler, and a Redeemer Who will ease our sufferings, Who promises us in this place of hardships such great bless that, with the bride in The SONG of SONGS [3:1-5] we may exclaim:

"Have you seen my Beloved? When you see Him, tell Him that I languish with love!" We not only possess Him in the immensity of Divinity, but have Him also as He was during the nine months in Mary's Womb, and again as He was on The Cross.

More fortunate than the first Christians, who had to go fifty or sixty miles for the happiness of seeing Him, The Church of every parish contains Him. Any congregation can, if it so desires, enjoy His Most Sweet Companionship.

O happy people, what I wish to show you today is how good GOD was in instituting The Adorable Sacrament of The Holy Eucharist. Our GOD no more loses sight of us than does a mother of her child that is beginning to walk.

"My GOD," cried Moses, "show me, if it pleases You, Your Countenance, then shall I possess all things that I want." [EXODUS 33:13-23]

How consoling for a Christian is the blessed thought that GOD sees him, that GOD witnesses his sorrows and his troubles, that GOD is by his side! What is still better, GOD presses him tenderly to His Heart!

O Christian people, how happy are you in the enjoyment of so many privileges which others have not! Am I not right when I say that The Presence of GOD is an endless happiness for the good Christian?

It is Heaven upon earth. Saint Bernard assures us that there are three Mysteries upon which he cannot meditate without feeling as if his heart would break with love and sadness: The First is The Mystery of The Incarnation, The Other that of The Passion of JESUS CHRIST, and The Third is The Most Adorable Sacrament of The Altar." *

PSALM 132:7-9

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTDYPAmAgM&list=RDrTDYPAmAgM&index=1>

7 We will go into His Tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool

8 Arise, O LORD, into Thy rest; Thou, and the ark of Thy strength.

9 Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let Thy saints shout for joy.

JOHN 19:25-30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2j3rGfoLCA>

25 Now there stood by The Cross of JESUS His Mother, and His Mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When JESUS therefore saw His Mother, and the disciple standing by, whom He loved, He saith unto His Mother, Woman, behold thy son!

27 Then saith He to the disciple, Behold thy Mother! And from that hour that disciple took Her unto his own home.

28 After this, JESUS knowing that all things were now accomplished, that The Scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

30 When JESUS therefore had received the vinegar, He said, It is finished: and he bowed His head, and gave up The Ghost.

Fr. Vianney was a parish Pastor in an age of post secular atheism and loss of faith in a Europe devastated by the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars. Fr. John rekindled the fire of Love in The Lord's people as a true Good Shepherd, as JESUS CHRIST Himself loves us.

<https://catholicexchange.com/why-st-john-vianney-remains-a-model-for-the-priesthood>

"John was born in 1786 in Dardilly, France, to devout peasants. He was ordained a diocesan Priest and assigned to the tiny village of Ars, where he worked great good through his attention to the poor, moving preaching and long hours in the confessional.

Popularly known as the "Curé d'Ars," John died in 1859. He is the patron of parish Priests. "Were we to realize fully what a Priest is on earth, we would die: not of fright, but of love. Without the Priest, The Passion and Death of our Lord would be of no avail..

What use would be a house filled with gold, were there no one to open its door?"* St. John Vianney, model of and patron Saint of parish Priests, pray for us and our Priests! Amen.

*[Saint John Vianney." The Magnificat, 8/04/2021. Memorial, p 60. Meditation for the Day, "Faith in The Food CHRIST Gives" by Saint Fr. John Vianney, p 64-65.]