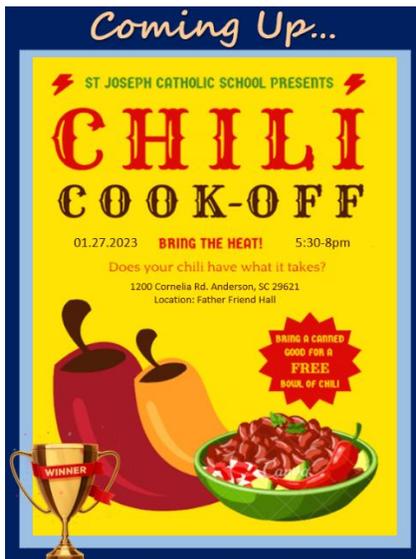


January 20, 2023

Good Morning!

Save the date - one week from tonight. The school chili cookoff. Admission is free with the donation of a canned good. Next week is the beginning of Catholic Schools Week and the students are busy collecting cans to donate to the Soup Kitchen in Anderson. (See the picture below - they are off to a great start)! If you want to compete in the cookoff, please call the school to let them know. Otherwise, come along and enjoy some SJCS community fun - vegetarian options will be available too!



1. Today's Readings: [Friday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: A layman who became pope, St. Fabian, and a young officer in the army, St. Sebastian, both were martyred and are celebrated together today in the Church. Martyr means "witness" and these men, along with

Daily Parish Communication

countless others gave their lives for our Lord. May we learn from their heroic love for Our Lord and His Church.

3. Quotes of the Day:

~"Our predecessors received from the Apostles and delivered to us that our Savior Jesus Christ, after having made the Last Supper with his Apostles and washed their feet, taught them how to prepare the Holy Chrism." *St. Fabian*

~"The devil strains every nerve to secure the souls which belong to Christ. We should not grudge our toil in wrestling them from Satan and giving them back to God." *St. Sebastian*

***St. Fabian and St. Sebastian, Pray for Us!***  
***St. Joseph, Pray for Us!***

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## Saint Fabian



Pope St. Fabian was the first layman ever to be elected to the papacy. Before entering into his pontificate in 236, Fabian was a humble and well-respected farmer.

Upon the death of his predecessor, Pope Anterus, Fabian traveled with some companions to Rome to mourn his passing with the faithful and to be present when the new pope was elected.

While attending the council to determine who Anterus' successor would be, a dove suddenly appeared and descended upon the head of Fabian as a clear sign of his divine election. By unanimous vote, Fabian was instantly chosen as the next pope.

During his fourteen-year pontificate, the Church enjoyed relative peace under Emperor Philip, and Fabian was able to do much to consolidate and develop the Church.

He died a martyr's death in 250 and was one of the first victims of the persecution under Emperor Decius, who considered him a rival and personal enemy. He was buried in the Catacomb of Calixtus.

## Saint Sebastian



Celebrated alongside St. Fabian is the Roman martyr, Sebastian.

Though the narrative of his story is largely unhistorical, legend tells us that he was a young officer in the imperial army, who secretly dedicated himself to the spiritual and temporal assistance of the Christians and martyrs.

It was he who exhorted Sts. Marcus and Marcellianus to constancy in the Faith and inspired them with the courage to face their deaths when they began to waver under the pleas of their friends.

Being thus discovered, Sebastian was condemned by Emperor Diocletian and delivered over to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death.

Miraculously, he survived though and was nourished back to health by St. Zoe, a convert of his and mother of Sts. Marcus and Marcellianus.

Refusing to flee, Sebastian confronted the Emperor again and harshly reproached him for his cruelty to the Christians.

He died in 288 after being clubbed to death and his body thrown into the common sewer. It was privately removed, and he also was buried in the cemetery of Calixtus.

*Source: [americaneedsfatima.org](http://americaneedsfatima.org)*