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Ephesus Notes



A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

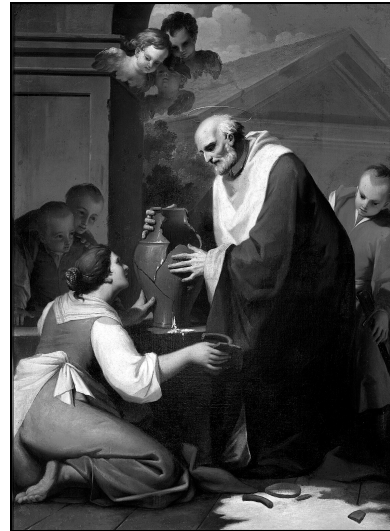
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VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 67 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAINT OF THE DAY

December 23: St. John of Kanty, Priest.

St. John of Kanty (Cantius) was born in 1390 at Kęty in Poland. A priest and professor at the University of Kraków, he was loved for his humility and generosity: he gave nearly all he had to the poor and slept little, on the floor. He made a pilgrimage on foot to Jerusalem and four to Rome. He died on December 24, 1473, and was canonized in 1767.



The Miracle of St. John of Kanty, Tadeusz Kuntze (c. 1767), National Museum, Kraków

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek.”

—*Malachi 3:1 (today's first reading)*

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: What did St. John of Kanty do, the story goes, when robbers had taken his purse?

A: He ran after them with coins he had forgotten in his cloak; ashamed, they gave everything back.

PRAYER BY ST. CLEMENT OF ROME

We beseech You, Master, to be our helper and protector. Save the afflicted among us; Have mercy on the lowly; Raise up the fallen; Appear to the needy; Heal the ungodly; Restore the wanderers of Your people; Feed the hungry; Ransom our prisoners; Raise up the sick; Comfort the faint-hearted.

(St. Lucy Prayer Book)

Mary, Dawn of the Sun of justice, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: JB3 St John the Baptist Litany



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Luke 1:57-66, December 23, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	E	J	U	D	E	A	S
I	R	Z	C	T	H	E	R	S	I	F	O	I	E	I
R	R	E	L	A	T	I	V	E	S	I	R	G	L	G
T	R	C	W	B	H	G	F	T	J	O	P	H	I	N
H	J	H	I	L	L	H	E	O	K	O	N	T	Z	S
A	M	A	Z	E	D	B	D	N	P	A	I	H	A	W
R	O	R	L	T	U	O	E	G	I	R	B	C	B	C
W	U	I	K	C	I	R	C	U	M	C	I	S	E	T
V	T	A	S	J	J	S	M	E	R	C	Y	T	T	D
S	H	H	J	C	O	U	N	T	R	Y	J	O	H	N

When the time arrived for **ELIZABETH** to have her child

she gave **BIRTH** to a **SON**.

Her **NEIGHBORS** and **RELATIVES** heard that the Lord had shown his great **MERCY**

toward her,

and they **REJOICED** with her.

When they came on the **EIGHTH** day to

CIRCUMCISE the child,

they were going to call him **ZECHARIAH** after his father,

but his mother said in reply,

"No. He will be called **JOHN**."

But they answered her,

"There is no one among your relatives who has this name."

So they made **SIGNS**, asking his father what he wished him to be called.

He asked for a **TABLET** and wrote, "John is his name,"

and all were **AMAZED**.

Immediately his **MOUTH** was opened, his **TONGUE** freed,

and he spoke **BLESSING** God.

Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed

throughout the **HILL COUNTRY** of **JUDEA**.

All who heard these things took them to heart, saying,

"What, then, will this child be?"

For surely the hand of the Lord was with him."

Gospel text: Lectionary for Mass (USCCB), Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent.

FROM THE CATECHISM

81. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"?

Given by the angel at the time of the Annunciation, the name "Jesus" means "God saves". The name expresses his identity and his mission "because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Peter proclaimed that "there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we can be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 81