



Ephesus Notes

A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

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VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 74 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAINT OF THE DAY

**December 30: Pope St. Felix I
(Roman Martyrology).**

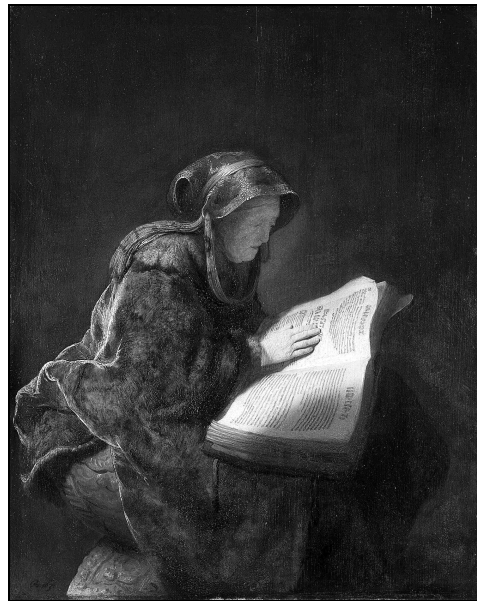
St. Felix I was pope from 269 to 274, in the reign of Emperor Aurelian. He was buried in the Catacomb of St. Callistus on the Appian Way.

Today's Gospel tells of the prophetess Anna, a widow of eighty-four who never left the Temple and spoke about the Child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: Whose face is Rembrandt thought to have used for his 1631 painting of the prophetess Anna?

A: His mother's; it was long called "Rembrandt's Mother."



The Prophetess Anna, Rembrandt (1631), Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“She never left the temple, but
worshiped night and day with fasting
and prayer.”

—*Luke 2:37, of the prophetess Anna (today's Gospel)*

THE PRAYER TO JESUS, OUR FRIEND (ST. CLAUDE DE LA COLOMBIÈRE, PART)

O Jesus, You are my true friend, my only friend. You take a part in all my misfortunes; You take them upon Yourself; You know how to change them into blessings. ... All the humiliations attached to old age, or to loss of honor, will never detach me from You.

(*St. Lucy Prayer Book*)

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Mary, Queen of Peace, *Pray for us.*

Recommended Prayer Brochure: HF2 Litany of the Holy Family



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Luke 2:36-40, December 30, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

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

There was a **PROPHETESS**, Anna,
the **DAUGHTER** of **PHANUEL**, of the
TRIBE of **ASHER**.
She was **ADVANCED** in **YEARS**,
having lived seven years with her **HUSBAND**
after her marriage,
and then as a **WIDOW** until she was
EIGHTY-FOUR.
She never left the **TEMPLE**,
but **WORSHIPED** night and day with
FASTING and **PRAYER**.
And coming forward at that very time,

she gave thanks to God and spoke about the
CHILD
to all who were awaiting the **REDEMPTION**
of Jerusalem.
When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions
of the law of the Lord,
they returned to Galilee,
to their own town of **NAZARETH**.
The child grew and became strong, filled with
WISDOM;
and the **FAVOR** of God was upon him.

Gospel text: Lectionary for Mass (USCCB), The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas.

FROM THE CATECHISM

575. How may we strengthen our filial trust?

Filial trust is tested when we think we are not heard. We must therefore ask ourselves if we think God is truly a Father whose will we seek to fulfill, or simply a means to obtain what we want. If our prayer is united to that of Jesus, we know that he gives us much more than this or that gift. We receive the Holy Spirit who transforms our heart.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 575