



“FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”



AUGUST 9, 2015

This past week, on August 4th, we celebrated the feast day of St. John Mary Vianney (1786-1859), that wonderful parish priest who was the pastor of the tiny parish church of Ars, France. Besides the fact that St. John Vianney is the patron of parish priests, and therefore beloved by all of us, I personally have special affection for him because 22 years ago on his feast day, August 4th, I decided to go to the seminary. On that day I knew very little about St. John Vianney, but I came to see God's providence in my life by receiving the grace to say yes to the priesthood on the very feast day of the patron of parish priests. If there is one thing that the "Cure of Ars", as he became known, was famous for it was the number of hours he spent in the confessional, and the mercy and wisdom with which he administered the sacrament of penance. Here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel we have confessions available every Saturday from 4:00pm - 5:00pm, and any other time upon appointment.

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My guess is that if St. John Vianney were pastor here, one of the first things he would do would be to offer more times for confessions. We all need confession. I try to confess my sins at least once a month, plus any other time that I need it for a particular sin I have committed. Maybe it's not so easy for you all to find a good time for confession. Can you help me by suggesting convenient times for extra confession hours? How about before one or two of the masses on Sunday? Thank you for all of your prayers and hard work for our beloved parish.