

St Vincent Pallotti

Born: April 21, 1795

Died January 22, 1850

Feast Day: January 22

It's no secret that today's society is what many call a 'post Christian' society. Truth becomes whatever you want it to be despite all logic that would say otherwise. Topics that were universally considered immoral for several millennia have in the past two decades become mainstream. Speaking about anything contrary to this new religion of secularism leads you to be shunned, mocked, even harassed. Yet we are brothers and sisters called to do just that. We are called to be witnesses to Christ and the Gospel throughout the whole world but especially to those in our immediate vicinity. I know brothers and sisters that such a command by our Lord is difficult especially as we do not wish to offend anyone and lead them further away from the Church. Hence, it is imperative that we seek how to be prudent and discerning in how we chose to approach others. Additionally, we should seek also to attend classes or listen to instructive podcasts which help to give critical distinction to Catholic teachings on a wide variety of topics so we can be better prepared to be good witnesses to the Faith.

Now at the same time as being witnesses to those around us we should be working to promote Catholic teaching in our nation through voting for Catholic sponsored initiatives, electing officials who are closely aligned with Catholic teaching, and by helping with the many Catholic organizations which work to promote Catholic social teachings. As we do this, we can look with inspiration at St Vincent Pallotti. Keeping fresh in mind the French Revolution which was vehemently anti-Catholic and had spread its revolutionary ideas to the rest of Europe, St Vincent was determined that there needed to be an organization in Italy to fight against the growing secularism that was infiltrating the country. He indeed founded such an organization that would receive recognition from the Pope. This zeal that St. Vincent had for promoting Catholic teaching was so notable that he was called a Saint by those around him (even by the Pope!) during his life.

Brothers and sisters look to the example of St. Vincent. We know as Catholics that the greatest good is to attain Heaven and we have the responsibility to seek to help others know this truth as assist them on their journey towards that final end. We cannot say that we love our neighbor as Christ commanded us to do if we fail in this most urgent of tasks. As I have mentioned, there are many groups which you can join and assist in this monumental task and if you have questions about which ones you could join never hesitate to ask anyone at the Parish. Most important of all brothers and sisters, pray for the courage that is needed to be a witness to Christ in the world. St. Vincent Pallotti pray for us.