

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Wednesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Blaise, Bishop, Martyr; Saint Ansgar, Bishop

The candles blessed yesterday at the beginning of Mass may be used by the priest today for the blessing of throats through the intercession of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. He is said to have been martyred in the early 4th century and had worked miraculous healings, particularly of the throat. Saint Ansgar was a Benedictine monk known for his missionary work in Denmark and Sweden. He became the bishop of Hamburg, Germany, passed to the Lord in the year 865, and is known as the “Apostle of the North”.

Wonderful words of encouragement and exhortation from the letter to the Hebrews as we all “struggle against sin”. Let us “endure [our] trials as ‘discipline’”.

Faith is needed to work miracles, Jesus reminds us in the Gospel, because “He was amazed at their lack of faith.” May we believe that “the Lord’s kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.” A healthy fear of the Lord is a respect and belief in the awesome power of God. May we grow in faith as we are disciplined by the Lord.

God Love You!

Fr. Jim Staravich

