

# The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Update: January 18, 2026



*"The Word became flesh and live among us. To all who received him, he gave the power to become children of God" (John 1.14,12)*

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> TO JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>

<b>Monday, 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Ferial</i>	<b>No Mass</b>
Office Closed		
<b>Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Renata Miketic	(A&T Miketic)
<b>Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>St. Agnes – Martyr</i>	
Office Closed	Parish Secretary Appreciation Workshop	
9:00 a.m.	+Renata Miketic	(A&T Miketic)
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
<b>Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Renata Miketic	(A&T Miketic)
6:45-8:15 p.m.	Choir Practice, Church	
<b>Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Renata Miketic	(A&T Miketic)
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
<b>Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup></b>		
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Confession	
5:00 p.m.	+Joelle Toal	(C&R Tracey)
<b>Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Liv. & Dec. Members of the DiFranco & DiFabio Families (N Vendittelli)	
11:00 a.m.	+Giuseppe Dragone (L&S Molinaro)	

### From the Pastor's Desk

**Dear Friends:** Last week, I wrote about how our diocese has been poisoning itself to better meet the pressing need of evangelization, that is, introducing and reintroducing all to the Person of Jesus Christ and all that He brings to bear on individual lives, communities, and the world. As the Light of the world, Christ has the power to illumine the ever-present darkness through His life and teachings and His very presence and power is continually communicated to us by the Holy Spirit directly through His Church. For you and me, perhaps having never lived without this divine perspective, it may be rather easy to take Christ's presence and accompaniment for granted,

without giving much thought to those (many) who daily live in quiet desperation, futility or even despair. None of this is necessary! I had mentioned in last week's column that it has become alarmingly evident that the Church and Her agencies must assume a more pronounced role in evangelization and Christian discipleship than in the past as traditional factors, most notably the family and the previously Christian-infused society are no longer equal to the task. As disciples, we cannot accept that this situation is hopeless. Prayer and action are needed. Steady, trusting prayer, knowing that the good work of opening the human heart to Christ will always be the work of God. And action, recalling that, throughout history, God has always chosen to involve human agents in His plan, blessing that which is offered and greatly multiplying it. This is why each disciple is called to put him/herself at God's disposal, giving Him their time, talent, and treasure. These precious resources are then blessed and multiplied for the building up of the Kingdom. The Church speaks of Stewardship of these three elements, all of which come from God and are therefore to be used in His sacred service.

There are 5 Precepts of the Church, which believers are required to observe to be in good standing.

1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
2. Making a sacramental confession a minimum of once per year.
3. Reception of Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season.
4. Observance of the laws of the Church concerning marriage.
5. Contribution to the Church's material needs according to one's ability.

Now, concerning the matter of contributing to the material needs of the Church, this is an obvious duty since our lives and worship must therefore follow the rules of earthly life. I am happy and grateful that here at Star of the Sea, and actually, at all of the parishes I have been privileged to serve, ample resources have always been forthcoming. Over the years, however, I have encountered those who do not always feel comfortable with their level of giving and who desire some guidance them in this area. Of course, there will always be those who try to give as little as possible, or who may resent even being asked to give anything. In a way, many Protestants have an "easier" time giving quite generously as they often have the Old Testament notion of "Tithing" presented to them as the ideal or even requirement. Next week, I will share some reflections on giving from a Catholic perspective for your consideration.

Until then, *Fr. Richard*

### Pope's Prayer Intention for the Month of January

For prayer with the Word of God:  
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU), January 18-25, 2026.** Every year, Christians from a different host country choose the theme and provide draft texts for the WPCU, with a final booklet being published in turn by an international writing team jointly appointed by the [Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity](#) and the [Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches](#). **This resource may be used to promote prayer for unity in your parish and is available on the WPCU website: - in English: [2026 WPCU Resources – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#) - in French: [Ressources pour la SPUC 2026 – Semaine de prière pour l'unité des chrétiens](#)**

**2025 Tax Receipts** – The office is busy working on 2025 Tax Receipts. They will be available for pickup the first week of February. Just a reminder that last year we issued 2 sets of tax receipts. The second issue was for the first 60 days of 2025. Therefore, your 2025 tax receipts are from March 1 – December 31, 2025. Please notify the office if you have any questions. Thank you.

**2026 Offertory Envelopes** – There are still Offertory Envelopes that haven't been picked up. Please check the main entrance of the church to ensure you have this year's box. **ALL OLD** contribution envelopes need to be **RECYCLED** as that number maybe allocated to another member. If you want to start using envelopes in 2026, please contact the parish office to get a box. Clearly print your information on the first couple of envelopes used in 2026. Thank You!

**Automated Fund Transfer (AFT) & E-Transfer Contributions** – if you are interested in setting up setting up AFT contributions for the new year. Please see the office for the form. E-Transfers can be made to [starofthesea@saintcd.com](mailto:starofthesea@saintcd.com). Please note all AFT and E-Transfer contribution are appreciated. We thank everyone for their continued support.

**Coldest Night of the Year** – February 28, 2026, You're invited to take part in the Coldest Night of the Year, a winter walk in support of people in our community who are experiencing homelessness, hunger, and hurt. This event brings people together to walk, learn, and raise funds that support local care and outreach. New in 2026: The St. Catharines walk will start and finish at the Niagara Pen Centre, offering both the traditional outdoor lived-experience walk and an indoor route for participants with mobility needs. See the poster on the community board for details. Register a team and join in making a meaningful impact on the coldest night of the year.

**World Marriage Day and Recognition of Significant Wedding Anniversaries** All married couples, especially those celebrating significant anniversaries in 2026 are invited to attend a Mass commemorating the **2026 World Marriage Day**. Bishop Bergie will preside at this special Mass on Sunday, February 8, 2026, at 3:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Catherine

of Alexandria (3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines). A reception will follow Mass. Married couples celebrating their 1st, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60th+ wedding anniversary in 2026 who would like to receive a congratulatory certificate from Bishop Bergie are invited to complete a registration form available at the parish office.

**PRAYER ANGELS** Our ministry is set up to pray for the parish's intentions. Please send by email or phone your concerns or cares and they will be passed on to the members of this group who will daily offer up your intentions to the Lord. Prayer is powerful. Let us help ease your troubles or shower the Lord with praises. Please call or email Marg 289-214-6679 [mgmartin113@gmail.com](mailto:mgmartin113@gmail.com)  
*'He who prays most receives most.'*  
*St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori*

**CWL CORNER**  
(Catholic Women's League)  
"Blessed are the Poor"  
E-transfer payments for CWL may be made to [cwlstarofthesea@gmail.com](mailto:cwlstarofthesea@gmail.com). Please remember to indicate which event in the subject line.

**Ladies of the parish!** Are you searching for something worthwhile that makes the best use of your time and talents? Please consider membership in our Star of the Sea, Catholic Women's League. It is a vital participant in the church. It is a valued partner for social justice. It is a respected advocate at all government levels. It is connected to the world and global causes. **Membership dues** are \$40 and are payable via e-transfer or by the collection basket. Please make sure to provide your contact information. Our CWL provides comfort, support and friendship. We welcome you!



Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup>	5 P.M.	9 A.M.	11 A.M.
Ministers of Holy Communion	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice
Lector	L Urquhart	M or K Wong	G LaRoche
Hospitality Ministers	A&R Hancock L Bourret	C DeLuca MA Uwagba W Riddle	Bott Family

WEEKLY COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS:	
January 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	
Parishioner Envelopes	\$3,688.00
Loose Collection: CAD	\$ 339.00
USD	\$ 0.00
Initial Offering	\$ 65.00
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	\$ 10.00
<b>Total Offertory Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,102.00</b>
<b>Our Special Needs</b>	<b>\$ 80.00</b>

*Thank you*  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU