

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Update: February 15th, 2026



"Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom" (Matthew 11.25)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

FEBRUARY 16TH TO FEBRUARY 22ND

Monday, 16th	<i>Ferial</i>	No Mass
Office Closed		
Tuesday, 17th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	CWL Diocesan Mass	(B Aubin)
	St. Aubin	
Wednesday, 18th	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Helen & +Michael Prokopich and Liv. & Dec. Members of the Paroyan, Prokopich, Artinian & DiMaurizio Families (M Paroyan)	
10:00 a.m.	St. Ann's SCHOOL Mass	
11:45 a.m.	St. Teresa of Calcutta SCHOOL Mass	
6:00 p.m.	Liv. & Dec. Members of Star of the Sea	
Thursday, 19th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Luigino Minicucci	(M Minicucci)
6:45-8:15 p.m.	Choir Practice, Church	
Friday, 20th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Pietro & +Marianna DiFranco (N Vendittelli)	
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
4:15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	
5:00 p.m.	+Faithful Deceased of Star of the Sea	
Saturday, 21st		
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Confession	
5:00 p.m.	+Umberto Donatelli	(L Ferrante)
Sunday, 22nd	<i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	
9:00 am.	Liv. & Dec. Members of the DiFranco & DiFabio Families (N Vendittelli)	
11:00 a.m.	+Luigino Minicucci	(M Minicucci)
	+Robert & +Jean Shakespeare (K Shakespeare-Eckstein)	

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends: For decades now, I have been giving a percentage of the salary paid to me by the parish in support of our Lord's work. This accomplishes two things. First,

by giving an amount proportionate to my income, I am reassured that there is some substance to my offering and that my contribution towards the work of God has not diminished in value as a result of inflation. Second, this substantive giving has tended to increase my level of gratitude to God even as it opens me to future blessings materially and otherwise.

As a child, I attended Mass with my family once or twice a year. I do not recall what they happened to place in the collection basket, however, I am supposing that it was a one or two dollar bill as this would have been something in the 70's and also would have been reflective of our level of investment in the parish. This is what one might call a "goodwill" offering. Later, in my early teens, my latent faith began to develop and I started attending Mass on my own and with my siblings. During those years, though I saw adults placing their envelope into the basket, I would throw in loose cash, typically, \$3 or \$4, which was the amount of my hourly earnings at my parttime job. This continued over the next number of years and it was not until I found myself working beside a Protestant Christian during a summer job in a factory early in the 90's when the topic of giving arose. I had already heard of the concept of tithing by then, but had not met anyone who practiced it. Perhaps I had asked my coworker how he and his family could afford to do that because of his reply. "We can't afford not to tithe," he said. He then went on to speak about the various blessings he had received over time and how the Lord really looks after things in his family's life. And this, after losing a much better paying job in management in another company. He challenged me on that front and also, on allowing my faith to be visible. Grace said together in the lunchroom is an example of this. Now, to go from dropping whatever happened to be in my pocket that day into the collection, to a full tithe of 10% overnight, was not something I was prepared to do. Instead, I decided to start with \$20 –nearly 2 hours' wages. I was very aware of what was leaving my possession and it was sobering. The feeling did not last for long, however, and the sense of making a contribution that could make more happen for God and His Church, was something I began to look forward to. Of course, I am grateful for the fact that, despite the pronounced secularism in our nation, the ability of the Church and a variety of charities to offer a charitable tax receipt as a fair bit is extracted from the taxpayer. Also, the fact that these charitable donations allow the giver to have just a bit more say in where his/her dollars go, is a blessing which I pray continues well into the future. Now, you are likely wanting to remind me of the fact that giving the first tenth of one's yield is an Old Testament norm. This is, indeed correct. As I looked at some writings from the earliest days of the Church, it quickly became apparent that the 10% tithe was no longer being presented as the expected standard. Now what? More next week.

In Christ, *Fr. Richard*

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Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of February

For children with incurable diseases – Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Star of the Sea Blanket Drive: There are over 700 people in our city that are unhoused, for whatever reason. 101 are children ages 0 to 5, 37 ages 16 to 24 and this is only an estimate. With this in mind, we are asking for your support in the donation of a new or clean gently used blanket that we will gratefully accept from now until March 7 in the church hall. They will then be delivered to Out of the Cold. When a client comes in for a hot meal, they will be offered a blanket if they wish one and they can take it with them when they leave....Who knows? One blanket could save a life!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner -- Don't miss this enjoyable annual event!

February 17, 2026 2 sittings: 5pm and 6pm, Tickets available at the door: \$8 small, \$12 large

40 Days for Life, a campaign of peaceful prayer and fasting to end abortion, runs from Feb. 18 to Mar. 29. **Star of the Sea Parish** has been designated to keep vigil on Thursday March 12 from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Please sign up with a friend for an hour outside the hospital or, make plans to offer an hour in adoration right here in the church! It is prayer that can change hearts! Can you spare an hour to help save a life? Volunteers with sign-up sheets will be at the back of the Church next Sunday. You can also visit 40daysforlife.com and click on "Niagara Falls" to sign up online

First Annual Overnight Winter Retreat. High School Youth are invited to the Diocese of St. Catharines' First Annual Overnight Retreat starting at 6:30pm on February 12, 2026 and ending at 2:00pm on February 13, 2026. The retreat will take place at Jericho House (10845 Rathfon Road, Port Colborne ON). The cost of the retreat is \$100.00. Please register at <https://form.jotform.com/260156619738061>. For more information, contact Francesco Capisciolto, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, 905-684-0154, Ext.204 or youth@saintcd.com.

'Pro-life 101' Teen Night: The Diocese of St. Catharines in partnership with Choose Life Niagara invite teens to join us for a 'Pro-life 101' evening with Katie Somers on Sunday, February 22, from 6:00-9:00 pm at St. Alexander Church in Fonthill. We will learn facts and apologetics on abortion, play games, and spend time socializing with other pro-life youth! The evening will begin at 6:00pm with Holy Mass, with the rest of the program starting at 7:00pm. Please register here or email info@chooselife.ca or youth@saintcd.com for more information.

Students for Life is a pro-life club starting at Niagara College (Niagara-on-the-Lake campus). This club is dedicated to upholding the value of all human life. We will meet several times a month to discuss pro-life topics, take part in fun activities, and educate others on this cause! If you are interested in joining or have questions, please register [here](#) or email studentsforlife1@gmail.com.



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

'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. Please remember to indicate which event in the subject line.

Please be reminded that all ladies of the parish are welcome to join in our **Lenten Retreat** being held on Saturday, Feb. 28 after 9:00 a.m. Mass, from 9:45-11:30 a.m. We look forward to seeing you there!

Membership dues are still being accepted. Please continue to be a part of our dedicated group of ladies! As a member, you receive discounts for a number of events throughout the year! New memberships are always welcome. The cost is \$40 and is payable via e-transfer to cwlstarofthesea@gmail.com



Feb 21 st /22 nd	5 P.M.	9 A.M.	11 A.M.
Ministers of Holy Communion	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice
Lector	R Jesik	G Rego	A Piller
Hospitality Ministers	P Waters M Ford C Tracey	Zacharchuk Family	Bott Family

WEEKLY COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS:

February 8 th , 2026	
Parishioner Envelopes	\$2,770.00
Loose Collection: CAD	\$ 346.00
USD	\$ 0.00
Total Offertory Collection:	\$3,116.00
Our Special Needs	\$ 185.00

Thank you
MAY GOD BLESS YOU