



John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by,  
he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God."

The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 14, 2024

### CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

510 Manley Street Navasota, TX 77868-3689

Location: 9677 South Highway 6

(936) 825-3920 FAX: (936) 825-7612 Email: [admin@christourlight.org](mailto:admin@christourlight.org)

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Facebook.



Website:





## Rosary Prayed in Common

Tues & Thurs: 5:40 pm  
Wed & Fri: 8:10 am  
Saturday: 5:15 pm  
Sunday: 7:15 am & 12:15 pm

## P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic Reparative Adoration)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays following the 8:30 AM Masses and will be reposed at 9:00 PM on Wednesdays, Thursdays at 5:45 PM before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass and Friday at 9:00 PM. The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease." Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024

### Dec. 31/ Jan 1

Regular Collection	\$ 4,555.00
Holy Day	\$ 45.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 90.38
First Offering	\$ 165.00
Altar Society	\$ 15.00
Children Offerings	\$ 49.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,363.13

### DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2023

2023 Parish Goal..... \$ 26,000.00

2023 Total Paid

(activity thru 12/31/23) \$ 25,203.00

Difference Goal vs. Paid \$ 797.00

## PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, **please** notify the parish office: 936-825-3920 or by email: admin@christourlight.org

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

English Baptism preparation is completed via an on-line video class. Spanish Baptism Classes will be held in person. Please call for Rosa or Felisa for class dates and times. All Documents, forms and classes must be completed prior to the next upcoming scheduled Baptism date, turned in, and approved by the Pastor.

The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebration; therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated at Christ Our Light.

For English Baptism, contact Susan Pilger at 979-219-1360. For Spanish Baptisms, contact Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974 or Felisa Paz at 979-255-4361.

## MEMORIAL CANDLES

The Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### JANUARY

<b>SUNDAY</b> Second Ordinary Time	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42 (65) Pss II
<b>14</b>	
<b>MONDAY</b>	1 Sm 15:16-23 Mk 2:18-22 (311)
<b>15</b>	
<b>TUESDAY</b>	1 Sm 16:1-13 Mk 2:23-28 (312)
<b>16</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>Saint Anthony, Abbot Memorial</b> 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Mk 3:1-6 (313) 15
<b>17</b>	
<b>THURSDAY</b>	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Mk 3:7-12 (314)
<b>18</b>	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	1 Sm 24:1-21 Mk 3:13-19 (315)
<b>19</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr</b> <b>Saint Sebastian, Martyr; BVM</b> 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mk 3:20-21 (316)
<b>20</b>	

### PASTOR:

Rev. Giovanni Hùng Nguyễn

### Permanent Deacons:

#### English Mass:

Garry Janota  
Russell Pasket

#### Spanish Mass:

Jose Lauro Huerta  
Rafael Millet

### Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass:  
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: (English) 8:00 am  
Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00 pm  
Sunday: (Vietnamese) 5:00 pm  
Weekday Mass:  
First Saturday 9:00 am  
Wed, Thurs, Fri 8:30 am  
Tuesday 6:00 pm (English)  
Thursday 6:00 pm (Spanish)

### Reconciliation Confession

Tues, Thurs  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays  
5:00 – 5:45 pm  
Confession by appointment:  
Parish Office  
Tel: 936-825-3920  
**Confesiones**  
Los martes, jueves y el segundo y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45 pm y por cita 936-825-3920

# PARISH LIFE

## MASS INTENTION

1- 14 - 24  
8am John LeFlore +  
1pm People of the Parish  
1- 15 - 24  
NO MASS  
1 - 16 - 24  
6pm Tasha Bienski +  
1 - 17 - 24  
8:30am Leo + & Francis Drabek +  
1 - 18 - 24  
8:30am Carlton John Mayo+  
6pm Jesus Orlando Sagrero+  
1 - 19 - 24  
8:30am Raymond Marchland+  
1 - 20 - 24  
6pm Vigil Mass Charles Noto +  
1-21-24  
8am People of the Parish  
1pm Jesus Nava+ & Reyes Nava+

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

1 - 14 - 24  
II Collection Maintenance Fund  
1 - 15-24  
4pm Legion of Mary SP, CH, CR  
5:15pm Adult Bible study, SPH  
1-16- 24  
5: - 5:45 pm Confessions  
1-17- 24  
6 - 7:15pm CCE Grades 1 - 5, SPH  
1-18- 24  
12 noon Legion of Mary Eng, CH, CR  
5-5:45 Confession  
7pm Sp Choir Practice  
1 - 19 - 24  
6am TMIY Menn's Group, SPH  
1 - 20 24  
5 - 5:45 Confessions  
1-21-24  
10:30 -12 noon CCE Grades 6-12, SPH  
3:30 - 5:30 pm Spanish Baptismal Class, CH  
4 - 5:30 pm Confirmation Workshop, SPH

**Photo Cover:** Young Catholics

**PRAY for THE CONTINUING RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF**  
the infirmed and homebound members of our community:

Retired Deacon:  
Gregory Jelinek  
Sarafina Alo  
Andrew Castillo  
Braxton Castillo  
Jo Ann Clepper  
Frank Crouch  
Elizabeth Culmer  
Eva Estrada  
Liz Estrada  
Lois Finke  
Fabryna Hitchcock  
Liz Johnson  
Rachel Kammel  
Mary Ann Knowles  
Liz Kubricht  
John Lawrence  
Christian Mills  
Leslie Mills  
France Munoz  
Primitivo Zamorano  
Anita Olguin  
Julian Olguin  
Matthew Oliver

Angelina Petersen  
Wallace Petersen  
Irene Ramirez  
Lucila Rivera  
Zek Rueda  
Rosalinda Salazar  
Josh Sechelski  
Sherrie Shiflett  
Lydia Torres  
Jessie Torres  
Polly Uilkie  
Jessie Valadez, III  
Crystal Winkler  
Steve Avendano  
Trần Thị Tuyết Mai  
Kim Sechelski  
Dawson Shiflett  
Phyllis Failla  
Steve Avendano  
Mary Ramirez  
Panchita Reyes  
Carol Woehler  
Steve Seymour

Call the parish office  
when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 936-825-3920. Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list. Thank you.

BUSINESS OFFICE:  
Guadalupe Diaz  
[lupediaz@christourlight.org](mailto:lupediaz@christourlight.org)  
Nelda Kurten  
[nelda@christourlight.org](mailto:nelda@christourlight.org)  
Bulletin & Weekly Announcement  
Deadline  
10 days in advance for new layout.  
Monday before noon for rush  
announcement.  
Email: [admin@christourlight.org](mailto:admin@christourlight.org)



## CONGRATULATIONS

*On your wedding*

LAURA & DANIEL (Feb 10)

ANNA & MIKE (Feb 17)

LIZ & JESUS (Mar 2)

FROM CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. (1 Samuel 3:9)

Samuel lay sleeping when he first heard someone calling his name. He ran to his mentor, but Eli was not calling him. So Samuel returned to bed, only to hear the voice twice more. When Samuel appeared at Eli's bedside for the third time, the priest realized that it was the Lord he had heard. The God who loves to speak to his people was now calling Samuel. So he gave Samuel timeless advice: "Reply, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening'" (1 Samuel 3:9).

This same God wants to speak to us! It's not hard to hear him, but like Samuel, we need to learn to listen. The good news is that God loves us and wants us to hear his voice. So let's take Eli's words to heart.

*Speak, Lord.* God wants you to know him. He's always speaking, always trying to reveal himself to you. You can believe that he has a message for you, so confidently express your desire to hear him. This means sitting before the Lord and fixing your heart on him alone. "Speak, Lord. I want to know you more."

*Your servant.* Everything we have comes from God. He is our Master, and we are his grateful and humble servants, eager to hear and obey his word. This means more than passively waiting for a message from the sky. It means offering yourself to the Lord with a willing heart, open to God's plans—even if they differ from your own. "I am your servant, Lord. I'm ready to do your will."

*Is listening.* It's not easy to hear God's voice when we're surrounded by noise. So to listen for the Lord, we will need to find a quiet place away from the clatter that can drown out the Lord's voice. We may need to silence our anxious thoughts and doubts, too. But with God's help, we can set aside those thoughts and listen for his voice instead. "Quiet my heart, Lord. I'm listening for you."

*"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."*

Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10. 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20. John 1:35-42

## Habla, Señor; tu siervo escucha. (1 Samuel 3, 10)

Samuel estaba acostado durmiendo cuando escuchó que alguien lo llamaba por su nombre. Corrió a donde su mentor, pero Elí no lo estaba llamando. Entonces Samuel regresó a la cama, solo para escuchar la voz dos veces más. Cuando Samuel apareció al lado de la cama de Elí por tercera vez, el sacerdote comprendió que la voz era la del Señor. Dios, que se deleita en hablarle a su pueblo, estaba llamando a Samuel. Así que le dio a Samuel un valioso consejo: "Responde: 'Habla, Señor; tu siervo te escucha'" (1 Samuel 3, 9).

¡Este mismo Dios quiere hablarnos a nosotros! No es tan difícil escucharlo, pero al igual que Samuel, necesitamos aprender a escuchar. La buena noticia es que Dios nos ama y quiere que escuchemos su voz. Así que apropiémonos de las palabras de Elí.

*Habla, Señor.* Dios desea que lo conozcas. Siempre está hablando, siempre está manifestándose en tu vida. Cree que él tiene un mensaje para ti y con confianza exprésale tu deseo de escucharlo. Esto significa sentarse delante del Señor y centrar tu corazón solamente en él. "Habla, Señor, quiero conocerte más."

*Tu siervo.* Todo lo que tenemos viene de Dios que es nuestro Señor, y nosotros somos sus siervos agradecidos y humildes, dispuestos a escuchar y obedecer su palabra. Esto significa más que simplemente esperar pasivamente un mensaje del cielo. Significa ofrecer tu vida al Señor con un corazón dispuesto, abierto a los planes de Dios aun cuando sean distintos a los tuyos. "Soy tu siervo, Señor. Estoy dispuesto a hacer tu voluntad."

*Estoy escuchando.* No es fácil escuchar la voz de Dios cuando estamos rodeados de ruido. De manera que para escuchar al Señor, necesitaremos encontrar un lugar tranquilo lejos del bullicio que puede ahogar la voz del Señor. También necesitamos silenciar el ruido provocado por la angustia y las dudas que se acumulan en nuestra mente. Pero con la ayuda de Dios, podemos dejar de lado estos pensamientos y en cambio escuchar su voz.

*"Habla Señor, tu siervo escucha."* Salmo 40 (39), 2. 4ab. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 1

Corintios 6, 13-15. 17-20. Juan 1, 35-42- Word Among Us.

## Around the Archdiocese

**Jan. 21, 2024 Workshop,** 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays, Emmaus Spirituality Center (12211 Memorial Dr., Houston). "Success: Full Living" six-week workshop (through March 3) on life skills with lectures, meditation, music, exercise, goal and life planning in small groups. Cost: \$175 per person, \$30 for SFL graduate. All six sessions must be attended to receive graduate certificate. info@emmausspiritualitycenter.com; 281-241-9678; emmausspiritualitycenter.com.

**Jan. 26-27, 2024 Aging conference,** Friday, and Saturday: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Prince of Peace - St. Andrew Community Center (19222 Tomball Pkwy., Houston). Office of Aging hosts "Nurturing The Roots of Our Communal Tree: A Catholic Conference to Honor and Support Aging," a two-day event with presentations and vendors that support pastoral and practical care for families with older adults. Friday's sessions are geared for parish leaders; Saturday is for older adults and family members. View agenda and register at archgh.org/aging.

**Feb. 1 Memorial Mass,** 7 p.m., Prince of Peace (19222 Tomball Pkwy., Houston). Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court of the Holy Family #2597 host the annual St. Gianna's Hope Memorial Mass for Infant Loss to honor and pray with families who have lost infant children or miscarried. Bring diapers, pullups, diaper wipes or formula to benefit Mercy Ministry. 281-381-0309; maryjalbert@sbcglobal.net.

**Feb. 4 World Day for Consecrated Life,** 11 a.m., Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (1111 St. Joseph Pkwy., Houston). Daniel Cardinal DiNardo is celebrant. Mass expresses gratitude for the gift of consecrated life and to pray for and with consecrated men and women religious.

**Feb. 10, 2024 Heart of Worship,** 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., St. Laurence (3100 Sweetwater Blvd., Sugar Land). Conference with talks on the Eucharist by speakers Patty Schneier and Father David Michael Moses, praise and worship, dinner, Mass and Adoration. Catered dinner from Carrabba's. Registration open to age 12 and older. Cost: \$30 early bird registration by Jan. 22, 2024, \$50 after. sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org; stlaurence.org/how.

**Dinner & Dance,** 6 p.m., St. Anne (1122 South Cherry St., Tomball). Knights of Columbus host dinner and dance with catered meal, music

and auction. Proceeds benefit religious vocations. Cost: \$50 per person. 346-645-3100, kc-11472.org.

**Feb. 11 Spaghetti Dinner and Fundraiser,** 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guardian Angel (5610 Demel St., Wallis). CDA Court #1538 host spaghetti dinner with meat sauce, salad, green beans, garlic bread and dessert. Event includes raffle, live and silent auction. Cost: \$12 for meal; donation for desserts, raffle tickets \$1. 281-224-0477; annamull66@att.net.

**Feb. 15-18, 2024 ACTS retreat,** Christian Renewal Center (1515 Hughes Rd., Dickinson). St. Hyacinth's Men's ACTS host a retreat focuses on entering into a new or deeper relationship with the Lord. juanm\_dp@hotmail.com.

**Feb. 17 Cursillo,** 9 a.m., Our Lady of Lavang (12320 Old Foltin Rd., Houston). Latino, Vietnamese and English Cursillo communities host Cursillo's Grand Ultreya. Event begins with 9 a.m. Mass.

**Feb. 17-18, 2024 Vintage Market,** Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Anne (2140 Westheimer Rd., Houston). Household goods, collectibles, furniture, sports equipment, books, jewelry and more for sale. Free, open to the public. 713-526-3276; www.saintanne.org/news-events/596-vintage-values.

**Feb. 16-18, 2024 Weekend marriage Retreat,** 7 p.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Sunday, Mary Queen (606 Cedarbrook Dr., Friendswood). Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a retreat for married couples who desire a richer, fuller life together. Couples learn the tools needed to keep their marriage strong. \$200 application fee.

houstonme.org; 281-734-0512; alfred.sandra.artea@wwme.org.

**Feb. 23-25, 2024 Weekend Retreat,** 5 p.m. Friday to 11 a.m. Sunday, Mother of Perpetual Help Retreat Center (3417 W. Little York, Houston). Marian Servants of the Incarnate Wisdom present "Healing Through the Power of Jesus Christ" with speaker Father Greg Bramlage, founder of the Missionaries of the New Evangelization. Cost: \$250 per person. info@marianservantshouston.org.

**Feb. 24 Women's Conference,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Michael the Archangel (1801 Sage Rd., Houston). Houston Catholic Women's Conference features keynote speaker Kathleen Beckman, Mass, confession and fellowship with other Catholic women from Houston. Cost: \$55; after Feb. 8, \$60. \$70 at the door, includes lunch. Register: houstoncwc.net. 281-948-6256; houstoncwc01@gmail.com.

**March 1-3, 2024 Weekend Spanish Retreat,** 3 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Sunday, Mount Carmel House of Prayer (9600 Deer Trail Dr. Houston). Spanish silent retreat for young adults and adults, men and women, provides a space to find God deep within. Cost: \$200, includes private room, shared bathroom and all meals. 281-799-0902.





### Pope's liturgical schedule includes canonization of Argentine Blessed

The Prefecture of the Papal Household releases the schedule of Pope Francis' liturgical celebrations for January and February, which includes the canonization of Blessed Maria Antonia of Saint Joseph de Paz y Figueroa, born in what is now Argentina.

**By Christopher Wells**

Pope Francis is set to canonize fellow Argentinian Blessed Maria Antonia of Saint Joseph de Paz y Figueroa in Saint Peter's Basilica on 11 February, the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Blessed Maria Antonia of St. Joseph spent much of her life promoting retreats in the Ignatian tradition following the expulsion of the Jesuits from Spain in the second half of the 18th century. She was beatified by Pope Francis in August 2016.

The canonization of Blessed Maria Antonia is part of a busy schedule of liturgical events for the Pope over the next few weeks. January-February liturgies

On the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, 21 January, the Holy Father will celebrate Holy Mass to commemorate the Sunday of the Word of God – an observance established by Pope Francis in 2019.

Later that week, on 25 January, Pope Francis will celebrate Second Vespers for the Solemnity of the Conversion of St Paul to mark the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

This year's Week of Prayer invites Christians to reflect on the Biblical text, "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10:27).

On 2 February, Pope Francis will preside at Holy Mass in St. Peter's Basilica for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The feast is also observed as the 28th World Day of Consecrated Life, and members of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life will be present for the papal liturgy.

Finally, the Holy Father is scheduled to take part once again in the ceremonies for Ash Wednesday on the Aventine Hill in Rome. He will continue the tradition, restored by Pope St. John XXIII, of marking the opening of the season of Lent in the Basilica of Santa Sabina.

The liturgy begins in the Church of Sant'Anselmo, where the local community gathers before the solemn penitential procession to the traditional station church of Santa Sabina, where Mass will be offered with the blessing and imposition of Ashes. Vatican News



### Basiliek van het Heilig Bloed (Basilica of the Holy Blood)

The Basilica of the Holy Blood was elevated to the status of Basilica in 1923, due to the special veneration of the Holy Blood. It consists of an upper and a lower chapel. The lower chapel, dedicated to Saint Basil, is a rare example of Romanesque architecture in the coastal region. The soberly decorated chapel is roofed by stone rib-vaulting on heavy pillars. Above the entrance to the side aisle, you'll notice a remarkable half-relief depicting the Baptism of Christ (School of Tournai, 12th century).

The 'Steegheere' staircase, with reconstructed bluestone facade, in transitional style between late Gothic and early Renaissance, leads you to the upper chapel. The [Relic of the Holy Blood](#), said to have been brought to Bruges by the crusaders, is kept here in the Chapel of the Holy Blood. The Chapel was built in the 15th century in the Gothic style, but is mainly important for its late-19th century neo-Gothic decoration.

The chapel also houses the museum of the Basilica, a kind of treasure chamber with numerous valuable works of art mainly related to the veneration of the relic of the Holy Blood. Among other things, several valuable works of art are kept here that are among the top pieces in Flanders, such as the Great Shrine of the Holy Blood manufactured by the silversmith Jan Crabbe in 1614. <https://www.visitbruges.be>

### How the Blood of Jesus Christ ended up in Bruges

According to the Gospel of Matthew (27: 60), [Joseph of Arimathea](#) was the owner of a garden in which was a new tomb. After the crucifixion of Jesus, he asked Pontius Pilate to be allowed to place the body of Jesus in that unused tomb. After Joseph of Arimathea took Jesus from the cross, he washed Jesus bloody body with cloths and then wrapped Jesus' body in a shroud. Naturally, he did not just throw away the cloths soaked in Jesus' blood, but they were kept in Jerusalem like the other passion relics.

The fact that Thierry of Alsace (Count of Flanders from 1128 to 1168) transferred the Relic of the Holy Blood from Jerusalem to Bruges in 1150 is nowadays strongly doubted by most historians. According to them, this is a persistent legend, invented by the 14th century monk Johannes Iperius in his chronicle, the *Chronicon Sithiense S. Bertini*. After all, the monk was repeatedly exposed by later historians as a dreamer who sometimes violated history with his stories.

The oldest reliable sources about the relic date back to the 13th century. A number of those sources show how proud the residents of Bruges and the Bruges city council were of their relic and how much they are attached to it. But during the 12th century, as far as historians could ascertain, not a single resident of Bruges wrote a word about the relic's presence in Bruges. In none of the 12th century sources a connection is made between the relic on the one hand and Thierry of Alsace or the St. Basil's Chapel (the later Holy Blood Basilica) on the other hand, simply because there was no Holy Blood to be found in Bruges at the time.

Today, most historians tend to link the Relic of the Holy Blood to the fall and looting of Constantinople in 1204. It was shown that during that looting many valuable relics from Constantinople (Istanbul) were taken by crusaders to Western Europe. In addition, research also shows that the tube of the Holy Blood Relic was made around 1200 from rock crystal ... from Constantinople.

How the blood of Jesus Christ ended up in Constantinople, we can only guess for the moment. Saint Helena of Constantinople (248-329), the mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, is said to have taken many passion relics (including the relics of the Holy Cross) from Jerusalem to Constantinople. Could the Blood of Jesus Christ have been among those relics too? Website:

[Holyblood : Relikwie van het heilig bloed](#)







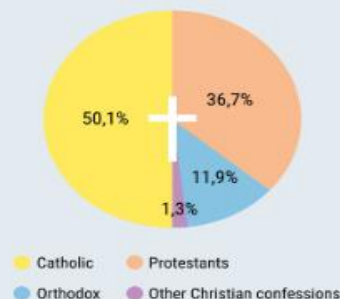
# FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

"Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian communities, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions within the Catholic Church."

- Pope Francis -

Challenge for humanity and the Church's mission – January 2024

## CHRISTIANS IN THE WORLD:



“ ”

"To move forward on the journey of faith, we also need ecumenical dialogue with our brothers and sisters of other confessions and Christian communities."

POPE FRANCIS

What is Pope Francis proposing so that we live the gift of diversity in the Church?



To rejoice in and not be afraid of the diversity of charisms.



To foster ecumenical dialogue with our brothers and sisters of other Churches and Christian communities.



To view diversity as a gift from God to the Christian community so as to grow as one body, the Body of Christ.



To discover the wealth of the various ritual traditions within the Catholic Church.

"Within the Christian community, we need one another, and each gift received is fully realized when it is shared with one's brothers and sisters, for the good of all. This is the Church! And when the Church, in the variety of her charisms, is expressed in communion, she cannot be mistaken."

POPE FRANCIS

## About 18 million Catholics belong to Eastern Churches

Within the Catholic Church, in addition to the Latin Church, there are Eastern Churches in full communion with the Pope, who preserve their own ancient traditions and rites in more than 200 ecclesiastical circumscriptions throughout the world. Today, some of them are persecuted, particularly in the Middle East.



**Rite Alexandrian**  
Has its origins in the ancient Church of Alexandria in Egypt

- Catholic Coptic Church
- Ethiopian Catholic Church
- Eritrean Catholic Church

**Rite Armenian**  
Has its origins in the ancient Church in Armenia

- Armenian Catholic Church

**Rite Byzantine**  
Has its origins in the Church of Constantinople

- Greek Melkite Church
- Byzantine Greek Catholic Church
- Byzantine Catholic Church in Italy
- Byzantine Catholic Church in Kazakhstan and Central Asia
- Belarusian Greek Catholic Church
- Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church
- Greek Catholic Church of Croatia and Serbia
- Macedonian Greek Catholic Church
- Romanian Greek Catholic Church
- Russian Greek Catholic Church
- Ruthenian Greek Catholic Church
- Slovak Greek Catholic Church
- Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church
- Hungarian Greek Catholic Church

**Rite Antiochene/Antiochian**  
Has its origins in the ancient Church of Antioch

- Maronite Church
- Syrian Catholic Church
- Syro-Malankar Catholic Church

**Rite East Syriac**  
Has its origins in Edessa, Mesopotamia

- Chaldean Church
- Syro-Malabar Church

The full text of the pope's prayer intention is below:

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church. Pope Francis – JANUARY 2024 There is no need to fear the diversity of charisms in the Church. Rather, living this diversity should make us rejoice!

Diversity and unity were already very much present in the first Christian communities. The tension had to be resolved on a higher level.

But there's more. To move forward on the journey of faith, we also need ecumenical dialogue with our brothers and sisters of other confessions and Christian communities.

This is not something confusing or disturbing, but is a gift God gives to the Christian community so it might grow as one body, the Body of Christ.

Let's think, for example, of the Eastern Churches. They have their own traditions, their own characteristic liturgical rites...yet they maintain the unity of the faith. They strengthen it, not divide it. If we are guided by the Holy Spirit, abundance, variety, diversity, never cause conflict. The Holy Spirit reminds us first and foremost that we are children loved by God – everyone equal in God's love, and everyone different.

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian communities, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions within the Catholic Church.

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/religion/popes-january-prayer-intention-is-for-gift-of-diversity-in-the-church/18950>

## JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS DAILY!*	1 JOHN PAUL NGUYEN	2 DCN. LUIS ARMAS	3 ETHAN SICKING	4 HAI DAO	5 JOHN PAUL ELLWANGER	6 CARLOS JAIME
	7 KEENAN ANNICHARICO	8 MITCHELL SCHUMANN	9 DIMARG FONTENELLE	10 BILL WATERS	11 PEDRO RUBIO	12 JOSE VERA
						13 BASIL HOUSEWRIGHT
14 JOHN PAUL PHILLIPS	15 TIMOTHY SPIJT	16 CARLOS VELERO	17 RYAN BERGER	18 SEBASTIAN DELGADO	19 JOEL GOTERA	20 MICHAEL JAMES ARIENZA
21 JAMES SCHNITZLER	22 DENNEGHY MASON	23 TRIEU NGUYEN	24 THOMAS VU	25 JOSH SVAJDA	26 ALEX BURNS	27 ORLANDO HERRERA
28 MARLON BARAO	29 GRIFFIN ALEXANDER	30 SHAWN VARKEY	31 ALEXANDER CRUZ			HOUSTON VOCATIONS

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, GREAT HIGH PRIEST, LEAD OUR SEMINARIANS IN YOUR UNERRING FOOTSTEPS. SO THAT THEY MAY BECOME PRIESTS WHO ARE MODELS OF PURITY, POSSESSORS OF WISDOM AND HEROES OF SACRIFICE. TEACH THEM GENEROSITY AND DETACHMENT FROM WORLDLY GOODS; BUT ABOVE ALL, TEACH THEM TO KNOW YOU AND TO LOVE YOU, THE ONE AND ONLY ETERNAL PRIEST. AMEN.



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# Be Ready to do God's Will

In today's first reading, God called young Samuel in a special way. Samuel's life had been dedicated to God, and because he was willing to follow God's plan, God made Samuel a holy prophet.

In the Gospel reading, Saint John the Baptist tells his followers that Jesus is the Messiah. Two of them decided to follow Jesus, and one of them, Andrew, went and got his brother Simon. When Simon went to follow Him, Jesus told him that his name would now be "Cephas," or "Peter," which means 'rock.' God had a special plan for Simon Peter. He was to become the leader of the Church- the first pope!

God does not call all of us to very important jobs like the prophet Samuel and Saint Peter. But each of us should follow Jesus and be ready to do His will. If we always try to do what God wants, then we will be ready if He does have a special job for us! How can you do God's will today?



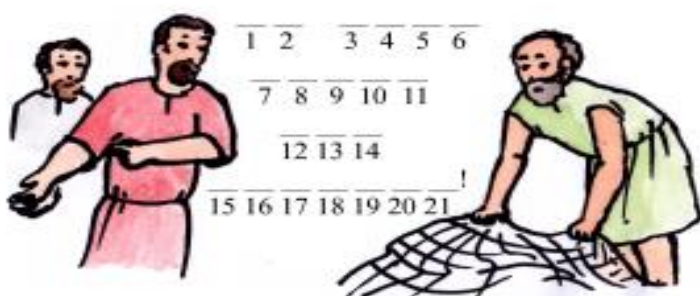
Answer to Cross-Word: We have found the Messiah!  
www.thekidsbulletin.com

# The Kids' Bulletin

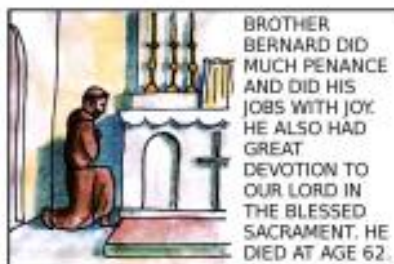
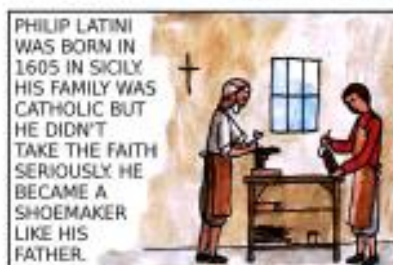
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 14th, 2024



What did Andrew say to his brother Simon in today's Gospel reading?  
Fill the spaces with the letters in the right order to find out!



## Saint Bernard of Corleone January 12



SAINT BERNARD WAS POSSIBLY THE GREATEST SWORDSMAN IN SICILY, BUT WHEN HE FELT THAT GOD WANTED HIM TO BECOME

## Samuel's Call Cross-Word

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.  
Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

SAMUEL was sleeping in the TEMPLE. He heard a voice calling him, so he RAN to ELI and said, "Here I am. You called me."  
"I did not call you," Eli said. "Go BACK to sleep."  
So he went back to sleep. Then the same thing happened again. The voice CALLED Samuel again, for the THIRD time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "HERE I am. You called me."



Then Eli UNDERSTOOD that the Lord was calling the YOUTH. So he said to Samuel, "Go to SLEEP, and if you are called, REPLY, 'SPEAK, Lord, for your SERVANT is listening.'" When Samuel went to sleep, the LORD came and REVEALED his presence, calling out as BEFORE, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel ANSWERED, "Speak, for your servant is LISTENING."

Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.



# PARISH LIFE



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## Canon 1262 - Fundraising Appeals

On November 13, 2002, the members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops legitimately approved complementary legislation for the implementation of canon 1262 of the Code of Canon Law for the dioceses of the United States. The action was granted *recognitio* by the Congregation for Bishops in accord with article 82 of the Apostolic Constitution *Pastor Bonus* and issued by Decree N. 778/2005 of the Congregation for Bishops signed by His Eminence Giovanni Battista Cardinal Re, Prefect, and His Excellency Most Reverend Francesco Monterisi, Secretary, and dated May 2, 2007.

Wherefore, and in accord with the prescripts of canon 1262, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops decrees that the following norms shall govern fundraising appeals to the faithful for Church support:

1. Fundraising appeals are to be truthful and forthright, theologically sound, and should strive to motivate the faithful to a greater love of God and neighbor.
2. Fundraising efforts are to be for defined needs.
3. The relationship of trust between donor and fundraiser requires that
  - a. funds collected be used for their intended purposes;
  - b. funds collected are not absorbed by excessive fundraising costs.
4. Donors are to be informed regarding the use of donated funds and assured that any restrictions on the use of the funds by the donor will be honored.

### Competent Ecclesiastical Authority

5. Institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life require approval of the respective competent major superiors and the diocesan bishop to solicit funds; diocesan entities require approval of the diocesan bishop to solicit funds; other Catholic entities and organizations require the approval of the diocesan bishop to solicit funds.
6. Approval for fundraising by the competent authority is to be given in writing with reference to the purpose for which the funds are being raised, the time frame, and the methods to be used in raising them.
7. Oversight of fundraising programs is to be maintained by competent authority through periodic review and, where necessary, appropriate sanction.
8. Competent major superiors of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life are to submit to the diocesan bishop of the place where the fundraising originates periodic reports on the fundraising programs and the apostolic activities they support.

### Accountability

Fundraisers are to provide regular reports to competent authority on the extent to which promises expressed or implied in the solicitation of funds have been fulfilled.

Fundraising reports are to be prepared in scope and design to meet the particular concerns of those to whom the reports are due:

- c. the governing body and membership of the fundraising organization;
- d. the competent authorities who approved and monitor the fundraising effort;
- e. the donors to the organization;
- f. the beneficiaries of the funds raised.

Annual fundraising reports are to provide both financial information and a review of the apostolic work for which the funds were raised. They are to set forth, at the least, the amount of money collected, the cost of conducting the fundraising effort, and the amount and use of the funds disbursed.

### Procedures

Funds beyond operating expenses are not to be accumulated or invested by a fundraising office, but are to be turned over to the appropriate office for allocation and investment.

Special care is to be taken to see that ethical business relationships are maintained by fundraisers with suppliers of goods and services.

Contracts between a religious fundraiser and commercial suppliers and consultants are to insure that control over materials, designs, money and general operations remain in the hands of the religious fundraiser.

Agreements are not to be made which directly or indirectly base payment either to the commercial firm or to the religious fundraiser on a percentage basis.

### Oversight

Competent authority is to ensure that fundraising organizations:

- g. make available fundraising reports to benefactors on a regular basis or upon reasonable request;
- h. provide their governing bodies with an annual financial statement prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and, where size warrants, by a certified public accountant.

In response to formal complaints, competent authority is to promptly investigate charges, remedy abuses and, when necessary, terminate the fundraising program.

As President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, I hereby decree that the effective date of this decree for all the dioceses of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will be August 15, 2007. Given at the offices of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the city of Washington, the District of Columbia, on the 8th day of June, in the year of our Lord 2007.

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad. Bishop of Spokane. President, USCCB  
Reverend Monsignor David J. Malloy. General Secretary, USCCB