



ST. LAWRENCE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SANDOVAL, ILLINOIS

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 18, 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Looking Ahead	2
Mass Intentions	2
Stewardship	2
Liturgical Roles	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	8
Prayer Requests	8
Remembering	8
Sponsors	8

ADMINISTRATION

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Hours: Monday-Thursday

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

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spautler@stmarycentralia.org

Theresa Ingles, Secretary

TRUSTEES
Jan Gillett – Linda Lutz

ORGANIZATIONS

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David Schulte

Pastoral Council Chairman

Robert Kannall

Cemetery Committee

Chairman

Cora Oehmke

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight

David Schulte

Ladies Sodality President

Mary Williams



Founded 1871

A Family of Faith

A Community of Hope

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE: St. Lawrence: Sunday-8:30 am – Thursday-8:30 am - Holy Day Vigil-6:00 pm

St. Mary-Centralia: Saturday-4:00 pm – Sunday-10:30 am – St. Mary-Carlyle: Saturday-4:30 pm-Sunday-10:00 am

St. Teresa-Marydale: Saturday-7:30 pm – Sunday-8:00 am

Reconciliation: Before Sunday Mass 8:00 am - 8:20 am.

Baptism: Contact the office for Baptism preparation.

Marriage: Contact Pastor at least six months in advance.

Anointing of the sick: Available as needed and at Mass twice a year.

Communion for the homebound: Contact Pastor or call the office.

Religious vocation: For inquiries, contact Pastor

WEB SITE: stlawrencesandoval.org



MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Father Steve Pautler

John the Baptist; the first cheerleader of the Gospel.

John the Baptist really started something. He formed the first cheering section in the Gospel of John. No pompoms. No marching band. No smoke machines. Still, the effect stayed powerful. John stands by the river, sees Jesus walking toward him, and blurts out the line which changes everything. Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He does not whisper it. He does not ease into it. He points, he announces, and he steps aside.

Every big moment brings a hype crew. Stadiums hire people whose only job involves getting fans on their feet. Concerts warm the crowd before the main act. DJs shout into microphones and demand noise. Energy matters. Anticipation matters. John understood this long before microphones existed. He looked strange. He dressed strange. People noticed. Some showed up out of curiosity. Others came for repentance. All ended up hearing an announcement they never expected.

John knew his role. He never tried to steal the spotlight. He never acted as the star of the show. He stood there to direct attention elsewhere. When Jesus arrived, John pointed and stepped back. No jealousy. No hesitation. No need for applause. A true cheerleader wants the crowd focused on the one who matters. John lived this with clarity and joy.

The words he speaks carry weight. Lamb of God sounds gentle, yet serious. This lamb deals with sin, not small mistakes or bad habits, but the deep mess people carry around. John does not offer self improvement tips. He announces a person. He tells the crowd salvation stands right in front of them, breathing the same air, walking the same ground. Then John adds something personal. He admits recognition came through the Spirit. He watched the Spirit descend and remain. Remain matters. The Spirit does not visit and leave. The Spirit stays. John bears witness so others trust the truth. His voice gives way so another voice rises. This Gospel invites a question. Who receives our pointing finger. Many voices shout for attention. Screens glow. Opinions fly. Everyone promotes something. John shows another way. He points toward Jesus and resists the urge to point toward himself. He cheers without demanding credit. Faith still needs cheerleaders. Families need them. Parishes need them. Kids need them. People grow tired. Joy fades. Doubt creeps in. Someone who points and says look there helps more than endless advice. A life which quietly directs attention toward Christ speaks volumes. John fades from center stage, and he smiles doing so. He understood success. The mission involved preparing hearts, then stepping aside. The joy came from watching others meet Jesus. So take the role with confidence. Point toward Christ with your words and actions. Cheer loudly with your life. Then step aside and let the lamb of God do the work.

This week's question:

I made a New Year's resolution to pray more. I set the time aside. The Bible is open. The bookmark is ready. Then my mind starts planning supper, reminding me to call my sister, and replaying yesterday's conversation. How do I stay focused?

Answer:

First, relax. Distraction is not a sign you are bad at prayer. It is a sign you are human. Prayer time often turns into mental housekeeping. That is normal. Do not wrestle every thought to the ground. Notice it, smile, and gently return to prayer. Start small. Five faithful minutes beats twenty restless ones. If your mind wanders, bring it back again. And again. That return is part of the prayer. Over time, focus grows. God is not timing you. He is glad you showed up.



Respect Life Corner

January 18, 2026

Each year on January 22, all dioceses in the United States are called to observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. January 22 is the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decisions that legalized abortion throughout our nation. Since then, over 60 million lives have been lost. That's more than the size of Italy's population. On June 24, 2022, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision overturned Roe v. Wade. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to preborn children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed. This coming

Thursday, we set aside a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. It is also a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. We are each called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting, and/or giving alms.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/lp-20-action-guide-roe-anniversary.pdf>



RECENTLY DEPARTED SOULS

2025

Mary Kay Gunther
Michael Wooden
Victoria (Vic) Steele
Sharon (Jane) Rizzo
Shirley Brady
Adeline Pinston
Sr. Marlene Buese
Linda (Beckmann) DeKalb

St. Lawrence Church

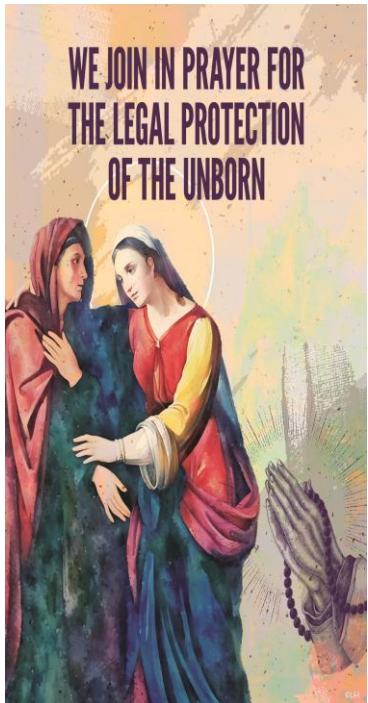
**The Sanctuary Candle for the month of January
in loving memory of...**

Altadonna Family

In Loving Memory

January 2026	Altadonna Family
February 2026	Mike Shaffer
March 2026	John, Freda, Eddy, Raymond, Danny Burns & Burns Family
April 2026	John, Freda, Eddy, Raymond, Danny Burns & Burns Family
May 2026	Marcella Schulte
June 2026	Ron Clark
July 2026	Marcus, Marilyn & Robert Oehmke
August 2026	Knabe & Dunphy Family
September 2026	John, Freda, Eddy, Raymond, Danny, & Burns Family
October 2026	Bobby Hill, Aaron, Dorothy, John & Delphine Niepoetter
November 2026	John, Freda, Eddy, Raymond, Danny Burns & Burns Family
December 2026	Shaun Ford
January 2027	Altadonna Family
February 2027	Mike Shaffer
March 2027	Marcus Oehmke
April 2027	Joe & Florence Altadonna

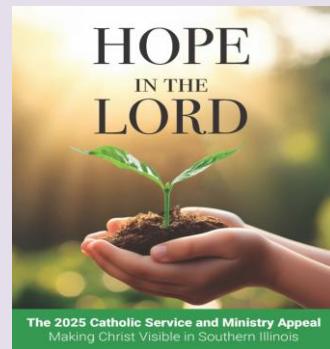
If, you would like to put a picture in front of the Sanctuary Candle put it up there on the 1st of the month until the last day of the month. You don't have to put a picture up if you don't want to. It is up to you.



VOCATION CORNER JANUARY 18, 2026

"When I was 6 years old, I told my mom I could never be a nun-I'd get too hot in a habit, I said, and faint. Thank God he never stops drawing our hearts to himself! The Lord led me to religious life through experiences of serving the poor with my family. My dad, an optometrist, organized annual eye care missions in underserved countries; we accompanied him several times. In middle school, I read a book about Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Her deep spirituality and witness of love and truth struck a chord in me. She became for me a model of a life wholly given to God through service to the poor. When the Lord made my call to religious life clear to me, it was to this life of love and service."

Sister Lilia Rose-Missionaries of Charity, Kolkata (Calcutta), India. Columbian Jul/Aug 2025



The 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal Hope in the Lord

May God's blessings pour upon you and grant you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous and joyful new year. Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and our Belleville Diocese in the past year. You are remembered always in our prayers.

Ministries and Programs
Funded by
The Catholic Service and
Ministry Appeal

Quote for the week: Keep going - difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations

Ordinary Time Week 2

The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time offers us beautiful readings. From the Prophet Isaiah: "I will make you a light to the nations..." In John's Gospel John the Baptist and his followers see Jesus as he walks toward them. John says, "'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'

Wednesday is the Memorial of Saint Agnes, virgin and martyr. Saturday is the Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church.

As we begin Mark's Gospel Jesus is asked why his disciples don't fast. He challenges the religious leaders to have a completely open mind and heart to his teaching because "new wine is poured into fresh wineskins." Jesus is the Lord of the sabbath, bringing a new freedom. It is only chapter three in the gospel, but because Jesus heals a withered hand on the sabbath, the Pharisees already seek to kill him. Jesus withdraws and people from the surrounding regions come to him, and even the demons know who he is. Jesus names twelve Apostles to be with him, to preach and to drive out demons.

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time brings us to a cycle of Matthew's gospels during every Sunday of Ordinary Time this year. This week we see the call of the first disciples as Jesus stops Andrew and his brother, Peter on the beach. "'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men'. At once they left their nets and followed him."

Daily Prayer This Week

Ordinary Time is the longest Season of the Church year. This year we have only a few weeks of Ordinary Time until Lent begins. These weeks between the Christmas season and Lent are an important time to continue to work on our habits of focusing our desires early in the day and talking with the Lord throughout the day, in the background of our busy lives. This is how we become "Contemplatives in action" and find intimacy with God without leaving the context of our real lives.

How do we do that with the hectic pace of our lives? We hear people say "I don't have time to pray." It isn't about finding more time but more focus in our day with God. With this type of focusing and active consciousness, we find ourselves surprised at the time we really do have. There are dozens of times in all of our days during which our minds are occupied with something: a song, re-playing the last event, practicing a conversation with someone, having an imaginary argument with someone, thinking through the "to do" list of the day. We can learn to fill these times with whatever we choose. If we choose to let it be about our relationship with our Lord, it transforms our lives.

It all begins with our mornings. This week, when we first get up and perhaps for a few moments in the shower or getting dressed, let's tell the Lord that what we desire today is to be more conscious of how what we do this day is responding to his call to me to be his disciple. Then, during the day, in those moments while driving or shopping or walking down the hall to a meeting, we can talk about how we are living our call in this or that activity we are engaged in. That conversation may get more detailed and specific in this or that set of events.

Each evening, for even a few moments, we can review our day's momentary conversations, recognizing the moments of real connection and grace and giving thanks for them, and resolving to take even greater advantage of these opportunities the next day.

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries web site:
<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Prayer/A1-OT-30.html>

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

2nd Sunday in O T January 18, 2025 Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10, (8a, 9a) 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:29-34	3rd Sunday in O T January 25, 2025 Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 (1a) 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Matthew 4:12-23	Gathering: #824 Christ, Be Our Light Pres. of Gifts: #548 Precious Lord, Take My Hand Communion: #777 Here At This Table Recessional: #682 Though the Mountains May Fall Readings: 931
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Happy 90th Birthday, Mary Gore



*A special thank you to St. Lawrence Parishioners,
Fr. Steve, My Family & Friends
for the acknowledgement of My 90th Birthday.*

Mary L. (Shedelbower) Gore

SMS CALENDAR WINNERS

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

ERIKA MARCUM - CENTRALIA
MARY K. ROBBINS - CARLYLE

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026

MOLLY SMITH - CENTRALIA
TERRI SCHULTE - CARLYLE

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026

ANN DUNN - BELLEVILLE
SONYA GETTINGER - CENTRALIA

SUNDAY MASSES:

Sandoval:
St. Lawrence - 8:30 a.m.

Centralia:
St. Mary (Vigil) - 4:00 p.m.
St. Mary - 10:30 a.m.

Carlyle:
St. Mary (Vigil) - 4:30 p.m.
St. Mary - 10:00 am

Marydale:
St. Teresa (Vigil) - 7:30 pm
St. Teresa - 8:00 am

Salem:
St. Theresa (Vigil) - 5:00 pm

Kinmundy:
St. Elizabeth – 7:30 am

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday, January 19, 2026

1 Samuel 15:16-23
Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23
Mark 1:18-22

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 89:20-22, 27-28
Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51
Psalm 144:1b, 2, 9-10
Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, January 22, 2026

1 Samuel 18:6-9 – 19:1-7
Psalm 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-13
Mark 3:7-12

Friday, January 23, 2026

1 Samuel 24:3-21
Psalm 57:2-4, 6, 11
Mark 3:13-19

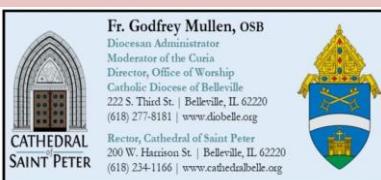
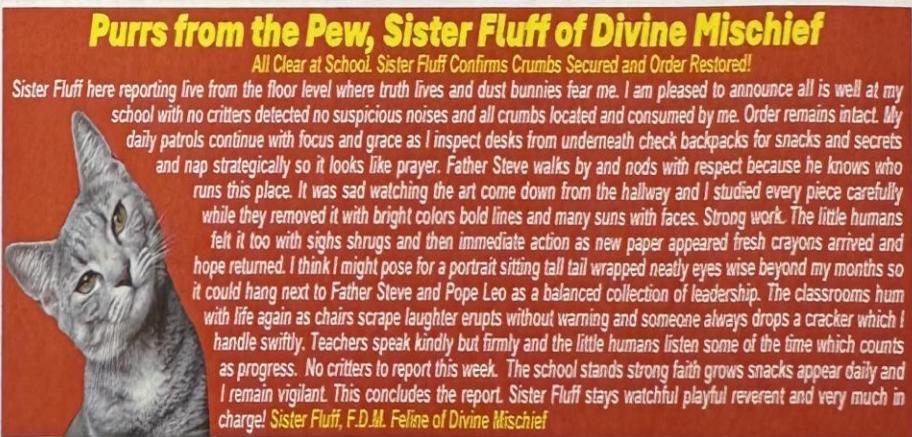
Saturday, January 24, 2026

2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27
Psalm 80:2-3, 5-7
Mark 3:20-21



Third Quarter Starts Strong at St. Mary School!

Our SMS students are back for the third quarter, and they wasted no time getting moving. At our All School Mass on January 9, we proudly recognized students who stood out in academics, lived their faith, helped others, and showed real improvement. Those moments matter. They tell our kids we see the effort, not only the grades. We also celebrated our eighth graders Callen, Griffin, and Bennett during Eighth Grade Basketball Recognition Night at a recent game. Big smiles, loud applause, and well earned pride filled the gym. As we step into the third quarter, there is a lot ahead of us and even more to be proud of. These students keep showing up, growing, and doing great things, and we could not be happier cheering them on.



***** Visit us online *****

BIRTHDAY

01-24 Cora Oehmke
 01-26 Joe Hill
 01-31 Clay Cain III
 02-01 Lucas Alonso
 02-09 Jeanne Faith
 02-10 Cindy (Porter) Lusch
 02-12 Hannah Hill
 02-16 Mary (Altadonna) Vogt
 02-17 Stacey (Nalewajka) Ford
 02-18 Fr. Carl Schrage
 02-22 Ashley (Hammer) Alonso
 02-23 Mary Ann Weatherspoon
 03-05 David Darin
 03-10 Tom Lusch
 03-23 Clayton Cain
 03-23 Chris Williams
 03-29 Lacy Toedte
 04-05 Jan (Walker) Gillette
 04-06 James Nattier
 04-13 Mickayla (Schulte) Skibinski
 04-15 Kayce Schilling
 04-16 Johnny Bosler
 04-16 Lana Nalewajka

ANNIVERSARY

02-08 Clayton & Kay Cain
 02-21 Richard & Beverly Braun
 02-21 Bob & Roberta Kannall
 03-22 Charles & Jolynn Garrett
 04-10 Tom & Cindy Lusch

SHALOM IS NEEDING HELP

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 07, 2025
 SETTING UP FROM 9:30 AM - ?.
 DISTRIBUTE ON SATURDAY,
 JANUARY 10, 2025 FROM 7:00 AM -
 9:30 AM FOR MORE INFORMATION
 CONTACT BRENDA SCHAUBERT

Those in nursing homes or assisted living are: Gerald & Phyllis Fanger. Please pray for them, their families and their caregivers.

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED

JANUARY
 01-02 Mary Burns
 01-22 Curtis Fark
 01-92 Elmer Gambetta
 01-20 Kaden Lyons
 01-21 JoAnn Martoccio
 01-21 Bonnie (Dickens) Richeson
 01-05 Lucille Spinner
 04-78 Melvin Poli
 04-23 Norma (Wimberly) Saale
 07-24 Zackary DeBernardi
 07-83 Joe Resch
 07-20 Barb Steele
 09-17 Mary Lyons
 09-97 Rita Lusch
 09-95 Dennis McGibany
 09-93 Helen Oehmke
 09-92 Phillip Russell
 09-95 Victor Warren
 10-25 Mary Kay Gunther
 10-10 Frances Hawley
 11-22 Danny Burns
 12-04 Anthony Korzenewski
 12-08 Jack Seats
 13-25 Michael Wooden
 15-02 Robert (Bobby) Hill
 15-10 Gary Korenewski
 15-16 John Stack
 16-15 James Gambetta
 16-17 Beanie Lusch
 16-21 Tina Suarez
 16-17 Cecelia Wiedle
 21-92 Ethel Merkle
 23-98 Brian Isaak
 23-94 Lena Wurm
 25-06 Charles Saale
 25-16 Norman Williams
 26-15 Evelyn Barton
 26-90 Margorie Warnock
 26-15 Robert Williams
 27-08 DeSolena Foutch
 27-01 Mary Mae Leuty
 27-14 Frances Nalewajka

PRAYER REQUEST – CAN YOU PLEASE GO
 OVER THESE NAMES TO SEE IF ANY NEEDS
 TO BE REMOVED PLEASE LET OFFICE KNOW

2 Special Cancer People, Chris Berry, Brianna Blakley, Clayton & Kay Cain, Craig Church, Heather Clark, Mindy Clark, Daisy Conrad, Kevin Conrad, Jared Fogerson, Don Frazier, Sue Gambill, Jim, Harlan & Debra (Small) Gerrish, Drew Gore, Mary Gore, Ron & Barb Grasher, Debbie Grasher, Alexus Hall, Bill & Mary Hall, Mary Ann Hall, Tom Hall, Michelle Irvin, Linda Jacobson, Wilma Jourdan, Judy Jenkins, Bob Kannall, Cassy Karcher, Richard Knipping, Curt & Marlene Lackey, Tom Lusch, Karleigh McClaren, Tracy Minton, John Mullen, Jerry Nitz, Earl Nolte, Jeff Orrell, Donna Paine, Rachel & Sandie Peters, Jerry Ratermann, Pat (Gerrish) Roestel, Larry Saale, Kenny & Mary Saatkamp, Rachael Sager, Otto Schaffer, Kim Schulte, Fr. Carl Schrage, Jack Shanafelt, Mickayla Skibinski, John Alan Small, Milya Smith, Patti & Jerome Stack, Brittany Starbreck, Evelyn Szatkowski, Janette Torrance, Jane Waddell, Waylon Vick, Ledger Whisenand, Ella Wiemerslager, Sara Wright.



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