

January 21, 2024

Ordinary Time

Third Sunday



Follow Me

In order to launch his mission of repentance and belief, Jesus called his first disciples, Simon, Andrew, James and John to follow him. Their immediate response to the call teaches us what it means to repent and believe in the gospel. It is turning around and re-orienting one's whole attitude toward God. This results in a personal attachment to Jesus, following him in his way – a way that will lead to the Cross and to the Resurrection.

MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, January 25

4:30 p.m. Robert R. Schaefer

Saturday, January 27

4:30 p.m. Norbert Strmiska

Sunday, January 28

8:00 a.m. Paul Vrazel

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages in your Bible at home.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsorial Psalm: 95

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm: Psalm 25

The Response: *Teach me your ways, O Lord.*

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - Monday, January 22, 2024

In Dioceses throughout the United States, January 22 is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. The Church sets today aside as day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. It is also a day of penance for all violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. As Catholics we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms, in a way similar to our Lenten practices.



Prayer for Life

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our

Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Matıcka Praha

We thank the following for their recent donations:

Yangsack Lee, Korea - \$20

In Memory of Robert Ermis - \$100

Pamela & Robert Heine

For World Peace - \$20

Donna Hartman, Columbus, TX

End of The Year Donation

We thank the following for their recent contribution:

Patrick Parma, Azle, TX - \$5,000



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of parishioners at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.



**The Sanctuary Light will be
lit this week in memory of
Karl Steinhauer & Clyde Hartfield.**

REFLECTION

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 25
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Urgency in Acceptance

There is a sense of urgency in today's readings. Unless we embrace the gospel now and live it fully, we may run out of time. The world in its present form is passing away, and God's call demands a total response. Like the disciples, we must leave our nets, the familiarity of our former ways of living, and follow the call we have heard in the depths of our hearts. We may be called from a life we enjoyed, as the Corinthians were, or we may be called like Jonah to a life from which we try to escape. In either case, God's call to discipleship is persistent, even unrelenting. As demanding as it may seem, we should be grateful that God does not give up.

As disciples we are called not only to enter the reign of God but to promote it and to spread it. We are ambassadors of God; we bring the Good News of salvation, and we do this wherever we are and in whatever we do. Having been called by God, we now begin to live our lives in a totally different way, guided by the values of the reign of God rather than those of the world that is passing away.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



January 21 – Marcus Jasek
 – Earline Okruhlik
 January 24 – Douglas Branecky
 – Eugene Chaloupka
 January 26 – Virginia Olsovsky

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – Youth Mass/C.C.D.
Next Sunday – C.C.D.



Youth Mass in Praha Today

The children will process into the church as a body, Altar Serve, Lector, take up the Collection and bring up the Gifts.

Diocese of Victoria Annual Men's Conference, February 17: This Is My Body, This Is My Blood



Join us on February 17, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, Victoria. Cost is \$60 per person which includes lunch, a T-shirt and snacks. Coach Lou Holtz will be the keynote speaker. To register or for more information go to <https://www.dovmen.com/>

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Your contribution educates priests, religious and lay pastoral leaders; assists missionaries; trains catechists and supports the Church's work with the poor.

Please be generous.

ORIENTATION – CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

This period of Ordinary Time is really an interlude between seasons. Christmas is behind us, and in a few weeks we will be entering the season of Lent. Although time and again we might catch a glimpse of the future, a hint of what lies ahead for Jesus and for those who are his disciples, during this interim period our readings invite us to reflect on various aspects of discipleship. Having considered the call to discipleship last week, today we reflect on the first and most important responsibility of this call, namely, evangelization, the goal of which is the proclamation of the reign of God. The character of God's reign is not revealed this Sunday, but the urgency of our acceptance of it certainly is.

CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL – JANUARY 25

On this day the Church celebrates the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. Through Paul's tireless preaching and writing, Christ became known throughout the Roman world. Read the accounts of St. Paul's conversion in the Acts of the Apostles 22:3-16 and 9:1-22. He welcomed many helpers, such as Timothy and Titus, whose feast we celebrate on January 26.

This week reflect on your own ongoing conversion and those who have mentored you along the way.



Mass Bookings Available

February 1, 3, 4 10, 11

Sanctuary Light Bookings (\$20)

February 4, 11 & 25

Bulletin Sponsorship Available (\$35)

January 28 February 4, 11, 18 & 25

Altar Flower Sponsorship Available

January 28 February 4 & 11

To book a Mass, Sanctuary Light, Bulletin or Altar Flowers call the Parish Office or put your intention and offering into the collection basket or mail. *Called in requests will be honored only upon receipt of donation.*

Lavaca Catholic Men's Gathering, January 22, 6:30 p.m., Queen of Peace Family Life Center, Sweet Home. Bishop Cahill will be the featured speaker.

ST. JOSEPH'S PANCAKE SUNDAY TODAY

NEW OFFICE E-MAIL ADDRESS

Our new E-mail address is: st_joe@gvec.net.
Do please begin using the new address.