



CHURCH OF ST. BEDE

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026

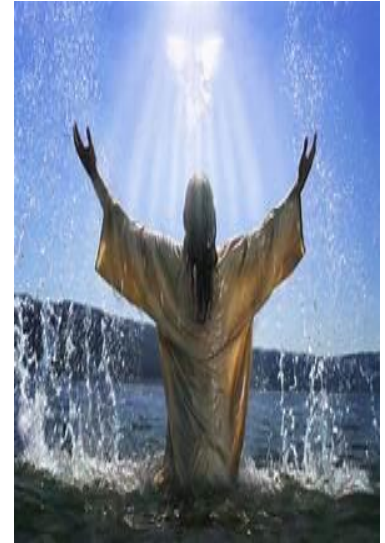
2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Now I have seen and testified that he is
the Son of God." - Jn 1:34

REFLECTION

It's common to hear belief in Jesus and the Church mocked as blind faith and credulity. But in reality, it is deeply human and rational. Think about it: we rely on the testimony of others constantly. I trust chemists who certify the of toothpaste and cleaning products. I trust engineers when I use a microwave or drive over a bridge. Why? Because they have studied and seen what I have not, and their testimony proves itself in daily life. That kind of trust is not irrational; it is how human knowledge works. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist declares: **"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God"** (John 1:34). That is the language of an eyewitness. It invites us into a very human act; trusting someone who has directly encountered something – or Someone – we have not yet fully seen ourselves. The Church's faith is built on this kind of reliable sight-based testimony. The Apostles did not make abstract claims. They saw, followed, suffered for, and proclaimed Jesus Christ. Over centuries, their witness – carried in Scripture, in the lives of the saints, and in the sacramental life of the Church – has proven dependable. We come to know its truth by assenting to it, by living and studying it, praying with it, trusting it. Faith in Christ is not a childish leap into the dark. It is a step into the light of testimony that proves itself over time. - *Father John Muir*



UPDATES

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – “Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us.” – *St. Alphonsus Liguori* – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday – 2:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. Confession available from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The First Friday of every month we have 24 Hours Adoration -9:00 a.m. – Saturday - 7:45 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY - Fr. Mac is beginning a Bible Study group. We will explore the Old Testament and the New Testament. We hope to be able to study the stories of creation and the fall, the Patriarchs, the Exodus, the kingdom of Israel, the prophets, and the experience of the Exile. From the New Testament we will read the different Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, study Paul's thought, and even try to make sense of the Book of Revelation. The emphasis on the study will be coming to know and love God more and more through scripture; the more we know and love word of God, the more we will be converted. St. Jerome said, “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” Come to deepen your faith. **They will take place Tuesday nights expect the first Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 p.m.** First meeting will be January 20th.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - In December, **your** SVDP assisted 46 families with food from our Pantry. We also partnered with a Housing/Service Provider to help a Neighbor in need maintain stable housing while experiencing health issues. Recently, your SVDP was honored to receive funds from the Rice Bowl Grant. This grant is awarded to organizations based on their service to Neighbors, recognizing the continued dedication and impact of our ministry. The ongoing generosity of St. Bede Parishioners, our partnerships with other agencies, and support from special Grant Programs enable us to confidently serve God's Poor. Through our person-to-person ministry, we strive to meet the needs of our community with compassion and commitment. - Blessings, prayers and love, **Your** SVDP

VISION – Some people see more in a walk around the block than others see in a trip around the world. - *Anonymous*

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

INSPIRATION OF THE WEEK

Do we recognize Christ when we see him? Do we have the courage to point him out, to show others who he is? John cried out so the whole world could hear. "He is the Son of God." Always and everywhere, let us do the same.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Nancy O'Connell, and those commended to our prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY especially, Ricky Montoya, Delilah Oliveros-Prado, and those commended to our prayers.

PLATE – January 10/11 – Sunday - \$10,281.00 – Thank you and God bless you.



MORE NEWSUPDATE

SCHOOLS NEWS - Hornet Spotlight – Our school mission stresses a community rooted in Catholic faith. We incorporate virtues into the school day and focus on a virtue of the month as a school. The virtue of this month is Foresight. The 3rd graders shared ways to practice this virtue by writing a reminder note, planning for the weather, and writing down a plan of action. These are great examples of starting off the new year in a positive way. **Save the Date - Open House** - Join us for a special mass on Sunday, January 25 at 10:30 am to celebrate Catholic Schools Week followed by an Open House of the school. We will kick it off with a special performance by our cheerleaders, classroom visits, meet the teachers, as well as free donuts! Hope to see you there. **Applications Open** - We are now accepting applications for K1/K2-7th grade for 2026-2027 school year. Visit our webpage for the link to applications: https://www.stbedecatholicsschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1775610&type=d&pREC_ID=1954214

VOCATIONS – The process of coming to know your vocation is called **discernment**. It is a committed prayerful interaction with Jesus himself who invites you to, **"Come, follow me."** It begins by getting to know Jesus personally; in the Bible, in prayer and in the sacraments of the Church. Jesus cannot lead us our vocation unless we begin by "taking up our cross and following him." Consider Jesus' action after he was baptized by John in the Jordan River. The Spirit led Jesus to the desert where he fasted and prayed for 40 days. This was the place where Jesus discerned his Father's will. In a sense, we must spend our time in the desert too before God can reveal our particular vocation. This 'desert' is where we turn to God in prayer, where we 'fast' from distractions and temptations that draw us away from God, where we encounter God in quiet moments of peace. God will use people in your life to help you discern your vocation. You may hear a comment like, "You would make a good priest" or "Have you ever thought about being a sister?" Pay attention to what others observe about you. It could be the Holy Spirit speaking through them. Over and over Jesus said to his followers, "Do not be afraid." He tells you that now. Don't be afraid to turn to him. He wants only the best for you. If you are interested in the Priesthood please contact Fr. Matthew Murray, Director of Vocations at 510-267-8345 or got to: mmurray@oakdiocese.org or <https://oakdiocese.org/vocations/>

GOD KNOWS BEST – God's creative wisdom was at its best when making humans. There are four holes in the head for information to go in, and only one for it to go out. - Anonymous
