

**JANUARY 1, 2022**  
**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

**First Reading** (Numbers 6:22-27)

The Lord promises his blessing to the people of Israel and with the blessing the gift of peace.

**Second Reading** (Galatians 4:4-7)

Our true dignity lies in having been adopted as sons and daughters of God.

**Gospel** (Luke 2:16-21)

The naming of Jesus after eight days, reveals his identity as Saviour.

**Reflection:**

Names are important statements of personal identity. We treasure our names and God knows each one individually. Jesus means "The Lord Saves", indicating his religious significance as longed-for Messiah. Mary has a unique place in God's plan of salvation as the Bearer of God to the world. She is venerated with honour as Mother of Jesus and mother of God. She is the perfect disciple whose example we are called to imitate.

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**



**First Reading** (Isaiah 60:1-6)

The prophet sees the radiant light of God shining forth and foresees people from all over the world paying homage with their precious gifts.

**Second Reading** (Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6)

Paul has grasped the fact that in Christ Jesus we all share the inheritance of God's promises.

**Gospel** (Matthew 2:1-12)

The wise men represent us all, and their symbolic gifts enable Matthew to explain this manifestation of God: Christ is priest, prophet and king.

**Reflection:** In today's world the invitation to you and me is to be ever conscious of the need to reach out to everyone and embrace all people as God's precious children. With so many displaced people travelling across the world to avoid persecution, warfare and violence, Pope Francis has appealed to us to see in them the face of Christ and make them welcome. This feast of the Epiphany of the Lord provides a wonderful opportunity for us to think again about the expansive and all-embracing nature of God's revelation to the world, embodied in Jesus, and above all of what it means for us to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

**Blessings to you today and throughout this year of 2022  
Year of the Lord.**

**Mass Intentions from 1- 7 Jan 2022**

Sat. Jan 1/11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Richard's Parish & 4:30 p.m. (St. Patrick's Sq)

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE**

The World Day of Peace was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968 who asked that "every year, this commemoration be repeated as a hope and as a promise, that the beginning of the calendar which measures and outlines the path of human life in time, that peace with its just and beneficent equilibrium may dominate the development of events to come."

Each year has a specific theme, chosen by the Holy Father.

Sun. Jan 2/11:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird  
Elvira & Angelo Marricco - Annette Broccolini  
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott families  
Joe Giancola & Giuseppe Venanzi - Felicia Venanzi  
Valentine, Francesco & Carlo Cicchino - Nick Cicchino  
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Speedy recovery for Jean Luc Gagnon - Greta Francisco

Wed. Jan 5/ 10:00 a.m. Raymond, Ivy & Fabian Edward - Edward family

Thu. Jan 6/10:00 a.m. Pasqualina Di-Murro - Velia

**Memorial- St. André Bessette**

Fri. Jan 7/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Families - Teresa Baird



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for  
World Peace.**

**Please pick up your SUNDAY ENVELOPE BOXES for 2022.**

If your box is not available, please continue using a blank envelope with your contribution and 2021 number and leave your name, phone number and box number on the sheet provided on the table. Please feel free to leave a message at the parish office. The parish office will call you when one is assigned to you. Should you take the wrong box by mistake, please don't forget to return it.

**Please note annual contributions \$20 and below for 2021  
will not be assigned an envelope box for 2022.**

**If you have moved please fill out one of your envelope with the new  
address for tax purposes.**

**Thank you for supporting your parish.**

*A new year is a time of new hope.  
A new year is a time of new life.  
A new year is a chance to begin again.  
Last year is past and over.  
This year has just been born and lies ahead.  
It is God's gift to us.  
What we do with it is our gift to God.*

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE  
**55th WORLD DAY OF PEACE -1 JANUARY 2022**  
**Dialogue Between Generations, Education and Work:  
Tools for Building Lasting Peace**

**1. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger  
who announces peace" (Is 52:7).**

The words of the prophet Isaiah speak of consolation; they voice the sigh of relief of a people in exile, weary of violence and oppression, exposed to indignity and death. The prophet Baruch had wondered: "Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies, that you are growing old in a foreign country, that you are defiled with the dead, that you are counted among those in Hades?" (3:10-11). For the people of Israel, the coming of the messenger of peace meant the promise of a rebirth from the rubble of history, the beginning of a bright future.

Today the path of peace, which Saint Paul VI called by the new name of integral development, [1] remains sadly distant from the real lives of many men and women and thus from our human family, which is now entirely interconnected. Despite numerous efforts aimed at constructive dialogue between nations, the deafening noise of war and conflict is intensifying. While diseases of pandemic proportions are spreading, the effects of climate change and environmental degradation are worsening, the tragedy of hunger and thirst is increasing, and an economic model based on individualism rather than on solidary sharing continues to prevail. As in the days of the prophets of old, so in our own day the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth [2] constantly make themselves heard, pleading for justice and peace.

In every age, peace is both a gift from on high and the fruit of a shared commitment. Indeed, we can speak of an "architecture" of peace, to which different institutions of society contribute, and an "art" of peace that directly involves each one of us. [3] All can work together to build a more peaceful world, starting from the hearts of individuals and relationships in the family, then within society and with the environment, and all the way up to relationships between peoples and nations.

Here I wish to propose three paths for building a lasting peace. First, dialogue between generations as the basis for the realization of shared projects. Second, education as a factor of freedom, responsibility and development. Finally, labour as a means for the full realization of human dignity. These are three indispensable elements for "making possible the creation of a social covenant", [4] without which every project of peace turns out to be insubstantial. **To be cont`d**

