

Mass Intentions from January 16 – 21, 2022

Sun. Jan 16/11:00 - 11:30 a.m. mass

Live Streaming of the mass thereafter, distribution of Holy Communion at the main entrance of the church until noon.

Nick Baird	- Teresa Baird
Joe Giancola	- Felicia Venanzi
Michael Broccolini	- Annette Broccolini
Eileen Shanahan	- Shanahan & Scott families
Dr. Nagib Cassar & Julia Haddad	- Samia Cassar

Wed. Jan 19/ Safe delivery for Constance Ladouceur Deslauriers - Kahawita family

Thu. Jan 20/ Nick Baird - Teresa Baird

Memorial- St. Agnes

Fri. Jan 21/ Living & Deceased Members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Families - Teresa Baird

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

“He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.”

First Reading (Isaiah 62:1-5) The Lord rejoices in Israel as his bride.

Second Reading (1Cor 12:4-11) The one Spirit gives different gifts to different people.

Gospel (John 2:1-11) The first of the signs given by Jesus, when he changed water into wine at Cana.

Reflection: Today is a day of joining together. Today we see a link between the Christmas/Epiphany season and that of Ordinary Time. We also hear about Jesus' blessing the union of a man and woman by performing His first public "sign" (Miracle) in Cana of Galilee. Today is also a day in which we see the purpose of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is for the common bonding and Good of the whole of the body of believers, which should produce new life. The wine ran out at Cana. It has a habit of running out in our own lives as well. What happens when the wine of love disappears from marriage, family and friendship? The marriage that began with song and dance and so much promise can end in silent tears and the sense of betrayal. The joyous wine of youth, health and optimism can run out and give way to the bitter taste of emptiness and cynicism. The comforting wine of prosperity can go missing and leave us insecure, fearful of the future and dreading old age. The changes that happen in life can cause people to remain staring at the blank wall of their own personal problems, bewildered, withdrawn and not knowing where to turn. Our faith can help us to see our problems against the background of our blessings. When the wine of happiness runs out in our lives we can turn to Jesus with the persevering trust of Mary.

May you continue to manifest to the world the love which God has for all people and may you use the gifts which God has given you for the Good of others.



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week
Giving Thanks to The Lord.**

By – Nathan Family.

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*

3. Teaching and education as drivers of peace

In recent years, there has been a significant reduction worldwide in funding for education and training; these have been seen more as expenditures than investments. Yet they are the primary means of promoting integral human development; they make individuals more free and responsible, and they are essential for the defence and promotion of peace. In a word, teaching and education are the foundations of a cohesive civil society capable of generating hope, prosperity and progress.

Military expenditures, on the other hand, have increased beyond the levels at the end of the Cold War and they seem certain to grow exorbitantly. [12]

It is high time, then, that governments develop economic policies aimed at inverting the proportion of public funds spent on education and on weaponry. The pursuit of a genuine process of international disarmament can only prove beneficial for the development of peoples and nations, freeing up financial resources better used for health care, schools, infrastructure, care of the land and so forth.

It is my hope that investment in education will also be accompanied by greater efforts to promote the culture of care, [13] which, in the face of social divisions and unresponsive institutions, could become a common language working to break down barriers and build bridges. "A country flourishes when constructive dialogue occurs between its many rich cultural components: popular culture, university culture, youth culture, artistic culture, technological culture, economic culture, family culture and media culture". [14] It is essential, then, to forge a new cultural paradigm through "a global pact on education for and with future generations, one that commits families, communities, schools, universities, institutions, religions, governments and the entire human family to the training of mature men and women". [15] A compact that can promote education in integral ecology, according to a cultural model of peace, development and sustainability centred on fraternity and the covenant between human beings and the environment. [16]

By investing in the education and training of younger generations, we can help them – through a focused programme of formation – to take their rightful place in the labour market. [17]

4. Creating and ensuring labour builds peace

Labour is an indispensable factor in building and keeping peace. It is an expression of ourselves and our gifts, but also of our commitment, self-investment and cooperation with others, since we always work with or for someone. Seen in this clearly social perspective, the workplace enables us to learn to make our contribution towards a more habitable and beautiful world.

The Covid-19 pandemic has negatively affected the labour market, which was already facing multiple challenges. Millions of economic and productive activities have failed; short-term workers are increasingly vulnerable; many of those who provide essential services have an even lower public and political profile; and in many cases, distance teaching has led to a deficit in learning and delays in completing programmes of study. Furthermore, young people entering the job market and recently unemployed adults presently face bleak prospects.

In a particular way, the impact of the crisis on the informal economy, which often involves migrant workers, has been devastating. Many of the latter are not even recognized by national legislation; it is as though they did not exist. They and their families live in highly precarious conditions, prey to various forms of slavery and with no system of welfare to protect them. Currently only one third of the world's population of working age enjoys a system of social protection, or benefit from it only in limited ways. Violence and organized crime are on the increase in many countries, impinging on people's freedom and dignity, poisoning the economy and hampering the development of the common good. The only answer to this is an expansion of dignified employment opportunities.

Labour, in fact, is the foundation on which to build justice and solidarity in every community. For this reason, our aim should not be "that technological progress increasingly replace human work, for this would be detrimental to humanity. Work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfilment". [18] We need to combine our ideas and efforts in order to create the solutions and conditions that can provide everyone of working age with the opportunity, through their work, to contribute to the lives of their families and of society as a whole.

It is more urgent than ever to promote, throughout our world, decent and dignified working conditions, oriented to the common good and to the safeguarding of creation. The freedom of entrepreneurial initiatives needs to be ensured and supported; at the same time, efforts must be made to encourage a renewed sense of social responsibility, so that profit will not be the sole guiding criterion.

In light of this, there is a need to promote, welcome and support initiatives that, on all levels, urge companies to respect the fundamental human rights of workers, raising awareness not only on the part of institutions, but also among consumers, civil society and entrepreneurial entities. As the latter become more and more conscious of their role in society, the more they will become places where human dignity is respected. In this way, they will contribute to building peace. Here, politics is called to play an active role by promoting a fair balance between economic freedom and social justice. All who work in this field, starting with Catholic workers and entrepreneurs, can find sure guidelines in the Church's social doctrine.

Dear brothers and sisters, as we seek to combine our efforts in order to emerge from the pandemic, I renew my thanks to all those who continue to work with generosity and responsibility in the areas of education, safety and protection of rights, in supplying medical care, in facilitating meetings between family members and the sick, and in providing economic support to the needy and those who have lost their jobs. I continue to remember the victims and their families in my prayers.

To government leaders and to all those charged with political and social responsibilities, to priests and pastoral workers, and to all men and women of good will, I make this appeal: let us walk together with courage and creativity on the path of intergenerational dialogue, education, and work. May more and more men and women strive daily, with quiet humility and courage, to be artisans of peace. And may they be ever inspired and accompanied by the blessings of the God of peace!

From the Vatican, 8 December 2021
FRANCISCUS