

### Mass Intentions (Jan 21-27, 2023)

Sat. Jan 21/4:30 p.m. Gael Shannon -The Rosary Group

Sun. Jan 22/10:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird  
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott Families  
Corazon Ynalvez, Roselyn & JocelynTurico - Lucila Ynalvez

### Feast – The Conversion of St. Paul The Apostle

Wed. Jan 25/10:00 a.m. Francesco Nardi, Francesco Andreacchi & Giovanni - Elisabetta Nardi

### Memorial – St. Timothy and St. Titus

Thu. Jan 26/10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving for blessings received in 2022 - Florine Blessing

Fri. Jan 27/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Families - Teresa Baird

### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

#### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

*“Be united again in your belief and practice .”*

**First Reading** (Isaiah 9.1-4) In Galilee of the nations,  
the people have seen a great light.

**PSALM:** *The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

**Second Reading** (1 Corinthians 1:10-13.17-18)

St Paul Urges the Christians of Corinth not to fall into factions,  
but to be united in preaching the Good News of Christ crucified.

**Gospel** (Matthew 4:12-23) St Matthew tells of how Jesus began his  
ministry with the call to repentance and faith in the closeness  
of God’s kingdom. His first disciples left everything and followed him.

#### Reflection:

**Our readings speak about a light shining upon those in darkness.**

The light brings hope of better days, of the fulfillment of the Reign of GOD.  
The light empowers the people to do whatever GOD is asking them to do.  
We know that in the history of the Church, divisions among Christians have  
not been limited to those living in Paul’s day in and around Corinth.

The Churches feel the scandal of Christian disunity acutely; so much so  
that they are now committed to working together to overcome the obstacles  
that have been the cause of separation. While there is still much  
to be done to unite Christians fully, there is at least the recognition  
that any response to the invitation of Jesus to follow him crates a common  
identity of being ‘for Christ’.

We are called to build our parish communities into places where Jesus is  
clearly at the centre, where the focus is on him and the proclamation of his  
kingdom. In the day-to-day life of any Christian community there will be the  
potential for differences and disagreements. But a truly Christ-centered  
community is one that works to put such divisions aside. And this can only  
happen when individual claims give way to honouring Jesus as the source  
and means of unity and forgiveness.

**May you continue to be enlightened by the Lord Jesus  
and may you respond to the Master- Teacher’s call to share  
what you have received with those around you!**



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of  
Remy & Maverick Deslausiers.

By – Kahawita family.

### Sick and Shut-Ins

If you have a family member or know of a friend who is shut-in and  
wish to receive Holy Communion or a visit from our pastoral home  
care team please call the parish office.  
We are here to serve you.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation every Sunday, 30 minutes before  
mass or any other day/time by appointment. (514) 488-0778.**

### MASS INTENTIONS REMINDER...

Please keep in mind when requesting a mass or Sanctuary Lamp  
for your deceased loved ones. Each mass or lamp is \$15/-.  
Please remember to put in your request 30 days before your  
requested date to avoid disappointment.

**Thank you for understanding.**

**Churches today have continued the mission, but many still face  
difficulties in developing their churches, and St. Richards Parish is  
no different. As generations pass on, people have less interest in the  
traditional ways. The reality is churches must grow to survive and  
spread the Gospel. The benefits of growing a church come with  
reaching more people, sharing God’s message, and making a  
difference in people’s lives.**

**Fr. George wishes with every parishioner’s help to build a vibrant  
parish community for St. Richards Parish. He humbly request we all  
make an effort to invite and bring family and friends to Sunday  
mass. We can only succeed with your help.**

**Thank you for making an effort.**

### STEWARDSHIP (The Eight T’s of Stewardship)

The Eight T’s are: **Time, Talent, Treasure, Testimony, Touch, Tissue, Trash,  
and Technology.** You know the first three; the last four go like this: testimony  
(Christian witnessing), touch (relationships), tissue (care of our bodies), trash  
(care of God’s creation), and technology (our use of the electronic devices and  
tools with which God has blessed us).

**TESTIMONY-** Testimony, it might seem a bit strange to talk about the  
stewardship of testimony. But Jesus instructed His disciples of all ages to make  
disciples, teaching and baptizing and encouraging people to follow God’s  
teachings (Matthew 28:18-20). He also told His first disciples that they were to  
be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth  
(Acts 1:8). As modern day disciples we also desire to be faithful witnesses,  
saying and doing all that we can to give witness to our Lord Jesus Christ who  
desires that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (1  
Timothy 2:4).

St. Peter in his first letter (3:15) instructs us with these words: “But in your  
hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to  
everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do  
this with gentleness and respect.” With that in mind, I would like to share  
with you a thought or two about a concept borrowed from the business  
world. It is called an “Elevator Speech”. What it is, very simply, is a  
presentation you have worked on, planned, thought through, practiced,  
refined and worked on again that will tell a person the message you would  
like to share with them, in our case the Gospel message of Jesus Christ,  
in the amount of time you have with others on an elevator. (If you have  
more time you will, of course, be blessed to expand on your speech.) In  
short, it is a quick (the two minutes or so that you are on an elevator with  
someone) sharing of the Gospel that will excite the hearer, and through  
the power of the Holy Spirit, hopefully lead them to want to know more  
either then or at some other time. It is as simple and safe as telling the  
other person how God has impacted your life and sharing with them that  
He would love to do the same in their life. What a privilege to be able to do  
the work that the angels of God long to do—that is, give our testimony of  
the joy, peace and hope that are ours because of the redeeming work of  
Jesus Christ. And what added joy we will have to take into eternity when  
the words of Daniel 12:3 come true: “Those who are wise will shine like  
the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness,  
like the stars forever and ever.”

**TOUCH** - Touch refers to the relationships we have with God and with  
each other. It is similar to what St. John wrote about in 1 John 1:3-4: “We  
proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you may also have  
fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son,  
Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete.” TOUCH also refers  
to the relationships we have with our families, neighbors, coworkers, and  
others in our communities and society. As God’s stewards, we are to  
adopt the role of a servant in our dealings with each other (John 13:14-  
15), provide for our family members (1 Timothy 5:8) and carry each other’s  
burdens (Galatians 6:2). In short, “we are to use every opportunity to do  
good to others, especially to those who belong to the family of believers”  
(Galatians 6:10). While here upon earth in visible form Jesus went about  
everywhere doing good to all He encountered—those who loved Him as  
well as those who hated Him. In Matthew 25:40 Jesus said, “I tell you the  
truth, whatever you did [fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, clothed  
the naked, and visited those who were sick or in prison] for one of the  
least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.” How blessed it is to have  
many opportunities to “TOUCH” others in so many positive ways. What joy  
we will have when the King on the last day declares to us: “Well done,  
good and faithful servant,” (Matthew 25:21) because you took the time and  
made the effort to touch one of the least of My brothers. *To be cont’d*

**Respected, Helpful Suggestions are  
Welcome for the Bulletin!**



**Advertisement for your business is  
accepted. Please call the office.**