

## Mass Intentions (Jan 28-Feb 3, 2023)

### Memorial – St. Thomas Aquinas

Sat. Jan 28/4:30 p.m. Sandra Hunt -The Rosary Group

Sun. Jan 29/10:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird  
Gino Alfonso - Nick Cicchino  
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott Families  
Deceased members of Chung Pin Yong family - Jeanine & Jacqueline

Wed. Feb 1/10:00 a.m. Francesco Nardi, Francesco Andreacchi & Giovanni - Elisabetta Nardi

### Feast - The Presentation of the Lord

Thu. Feb 2/10:00 a.m. Gino Alfonso - Patrick Shanahan & family

Fri. Feb 3/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Families - Teresa Baird

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

**Blessed are the poor in Spirit.**

### First Reading (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13)

Like many prophets, Zephaniah stresses the need for people to seek out the Lord, to heed his word and to become a humble people.

### Second Reading (1 Cor 1:26-31)

God chose those who are deemed weak in the eyes of the world to be God's own.

### Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12)

Jesus outlines those to whom the kingdom of God belongs, including those who are poor in spirit, the merciful, those who mourn and those who hunger and thirst for what is right.

### Reflection:

**Today's readings speak to us about humility.** We hear today how we are called to be "grounded" in GOD. Zephaniah uses a form of the word "humble" at least three times in today's First Reading. The Responsorial Psalm reminds us that GOD seems to be more attentive to those who are lowly and approach the LORD humbly. St. Paul reminds the people of Corinth that most of the believers were not of the upper class but rather the lowly class, yet GOD still chooses them, sometimes in preference to the rich and famous. In the Gospel of the Beatitudes, Jesus speaks about those whom GOD blesses because of their humble attitude.

### Jesus' Good News was expressed in his actions as well as his words.

Just like our Lord and Savior, we are called to be humble – admitting who we are in GOD's eyes and in the circumstances in which we live. It means not boasting or complaining, but seeing how we can make a difference right here and now in the conditions in which we live. We can make use of our GOD-given abilities to reach out and proclaim the Good News of GOD's choosing to love each and every person. In this way, we will be building up the Reign of GOD by edifying GOD's holy people.

**May you continue to reflect on GOD's action in your life and may that motivate you to humbly reach out to others, to share with them the Good News of GOD's love.**

## WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE – FEBRUARY 2

The purpose of the day is "to help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels" as well as "to be a suitable occasion for consecrated persons to renew their commitment and rekindle the fervour which should inspire their offering of themselves to the Lord".  
(Saint John Paul II, 1997)



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for Special Intentions for Yohan Henriques.**

**By – Daphne Pinto.**

### 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.**

**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.**

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



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

## 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).

**TISSUE** - TISSUE refers to the care and use of our bodies.

St. Paul reminds us of some important truths in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body." With the Psalmist we declare that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139). Each one of us is special to God, endowed and gifted just the way He wanted to endow and gift us, so that we can be His instruments for good in this world. The stewardship of TISSUE involves many things, such as proper nourishment, exercise, grooming, and other related items. It also refers to such issues as organ donations and transplants, various kinds of medical care, and the whole spectrum of life issues from conception, through birth, until after death. Viewing ourselves and others as special creations by God encourages us to have the utmost respect for life at every point on the spectrum. On the Last Day when the King says, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25), He will be referring also to our stewardship of our physical welfare as well as that of others.

**TRASH** - TRASH refers to our care of God's creation.

God created all things in heaven and on earth. Therefore, all created things and beings belong to Him. He also made the first man and woman in His image and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28) According to Genesis 2:15 God put Adam into the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. He was the first manager of something that belonged to God, and he was to manage it according to God's wishes. Unfortunately, he and Eve disobeyed God and desired to do things their own way. Through this act of disobedience sin entered into the world and the earth and everything on it was cursed because of that sin. And yet, this is a marvelous earth with all its beauty and bounty, and we are still God's caretakers and managers. It is hard to fathom that more than seven billion people now live on planet earth. According to God's design there are ample resources on earth to satisfy the needs of all living creatures. **The truth is that God provides but man divides.** Our stewardship of the air, earth, water, crops, livestock and other resources on earth is of critical importance. Polluted air and water, world hunger and trashy environments give evidence to the need for improved stewardship of God's creation.

*To be cont'd*

### 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.**