

Mass Intentions (Jan 24-30, 2026)

Memorial - St. Francis De Sales

Sat. Jan 24/4:30 p.m. Dorothy Montgomery - Erin Shannon

Sun. Jan 25 /10:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott family
Antonio, Settimia, Luigi & Sandra Onesi - Nick Cicchino

Memorial - St. Thomas Aquinas

Wed. Jan 28/ 10:00 a.m. David Awe - Teresa Baird & family
Francesco Nardi, Franco Andreacchi, & Giovanni - E Nardi

Thu. Jan 29 /10:00 a.m. Carolina Ciallella - Anna Muzzo

Fri. Jan 30 /10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner families - Teresa Baird

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Sunday of the Word of God & 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.

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

I appeal to you that all of you be in agreement
and that there be no divisions among you.

Gospel (Matthew 4:12-23)

Jesus made his home in Capernaum so that what had been spoken
through the Prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled.

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.**

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV FOR THE LIX WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1st JANUARY 2026

Peace be with you all:

Towards an “unarmed and disarming” peace

“Peace be with you!”

Reiterating the appeal of the Council Fathers, and considering dialogue to be the most effective approach at every level, we must acknowledge that further technological advances and the military implementation of artificial intelligence have worsened the tragedy of armed conflict. There is even a growing tendency among political and military leaders to shirk responsibility, as decisions about life and death are increasingly “delegated” to machines. This marks an unprecedented and destructive betrayal of the legal and philosophical principles of humanism that underlie and safeguard every civilization. It is necessary to denounce the enormous concentrations of private economic and financial interests that are driving States in this direction; yet that alone would not be enough, unless we also awakened conscience and critical thought. The Encyclical [Fratelli Tutti](#) presents Saint Francis of Assisi as a model of such awakening: “In the world of that time, bristling with watchtowers and defensive walls, cities were a theater of brutal wars between powerful families, even as poverty was spreading through the countryside. Yet there Francis was able to welcome true peace into his heart and free himself of the desire to wield power over others. He became one of the poor and sought to live in harmony with all.” [8] This is a narrative that we are called to continue today, and that means joining forces to contribute to a disarming peace, a peace born of openness and evangelical humility.

A disarming peace

Goodness is disarming. Perhaps this is why God became a child. The mystery of the Incarnation, which reaches its deepest descent even to the realm of the dead, begins in the womb of a young mother and is revealed in the manger in Bethlehem. “Peace on earth,” sing the angels, announcing the presence of a defenseless God, in whom humanity can discover itself as loved only by caring for him (cf. Lk 2:13-14). Nothing has the power to change us as much as a child. Perhaps it is precisely the thought of our children and of others who are equally fragile, that cuts to the heart (cf. Acts 2:37). In this regard, [my venerable predecessor](#) wrote that “human fragility has the power to make us more lucid about what endures and what passes, what brings life and what kills. Perhaps for this reason, we so often tend to deny our limitations and avoid fragile and wounded people: they have the power to question the direction we have chosen, both as individuals and as a community.” [9] [John XXIII](#) was the first pope to advocate “integral disarmament,” which can only be achieved through renewal of the heart and mind. In [Pacem in Terris](#), he wrote: “Everyone must realize that, unless this process of disarmament be thoroughgoing and complete, and reach people's very souls, it is impossible to stop the arms race, or to reduce armaments, or — and this is the main thing — ultimately to abolish them entirely. Everyone must sincerely co-operate in the effort to banish fear and the anxious expectation of war from our minds. But this requires that the fundamental principles upon which peace is based in today's world be replaced by an altogether different one, namely, the realization that true and lasting peace among nations cannot consist in the possession of an equal supply of armaments but only in mutual trust. And we are confident that this can be achieved, for it is a thing which not only is dictated by common sense, but is in itself most desirable and most fruitful of good.” [10] **To be continued.....**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1, after mass. St Richard's Children's Art Exhibit and Pancake Breakfast.



Children are requested to submit a drawing of their church on the blank page given to them.

only 2 guidelines : the drawing be of **St Richard's altar** and that it fills the entire page provided.

Drawings to be completed and returned on January 25th.

Sunday, February 1st the pictures will be displayed in the church hall with a pancake breakfast.



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week
For Ernesto & Ma-Fe Pabillo
Celebrating their 54th Wedding Anniversary.**

By: Pabillo family.

Please pick up your SUNDAY ENVELOPE BOXES for 2026 available at the back of the church arranged in alphabetical order for your convenience.

Please note contributions \$20 and below for 2025 will not be assigned an envelope box for 2026. However, you will receive a tax receipt for any contribution you make during the year by providing you name and full address.

If your box is not available, please continue using a blank envelope with your contribution and 2025 number and leave your name, phone number and box number on the sheet provided on the table. 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.