

**Mass Intentions (Jan 31-Feb 6, 2026)**

**Memorial - St. John Bosco**

Sat. Jan 31/4:30 p.m. David Warren - Leticia Arquilles  
Sue Grainger - Cheryl Grainger

Sun. Feb 1 /10:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird  
Philip Palucci - Palucci family  
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott family  
Antonio, Settimia, Luigi & Sandra Onesi - Nick Cicchino

Wed. Feb 4/ 10:00 a.m. David Awe - Teresa Baird & family  
Bruno & Salvatore Roti & Salvatore Nardi - E Nardi

Thu. Feb 5/10:00 a.m. Antonio Muzzo - Anna Muzzo  
Francesco Nardi, Francesco Andreacchi, & Giovanni - E Nardi

**Memorial - St. Paul Miki & Companions**

Fri. Feb 6/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner families - Teresa Baird

**4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)**

**Blessed are the poor in Spirit.**

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

I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly.

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

GOD chose what is weak in the world.

**Gospel** (Matthew 5:1-12) Blessed are the poor in spirit.

**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" twice 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.

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.**

**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!"**

An essential service that religions must render to a suffering humanity is to guard against the growing temptation to weaponize even thoughts and words. The great spiritual traditions, as well as right reason, teach us to look beyond blood ties or ethnicity, beyond associations that accept only those who are similar and reject those who are different. Today, we see that this cannot be taken for granted. Unfortunately, it has become increasingly common to drag the language of faith into political battles, to bless nationalism, and to justify violence and armed struggle in the name of religion. Believers must actively refute, above all by the witness of their lives, these forms of blasphemy that profane the holy name of God. Therefore, alongside action, it is more necessary than ever to cultivate prayer, spirituality, and ecumenical and interreligious dialogue as paths of peace and as languages of encounter within traditions and cultures. Throughout the world, it is to be hoped that "every community become a 'house of peace,' where one learns how to defuse hostility through dialogue, where justice is practiced and forgiveness is cherished." [11] Now more than ever, we must show that peace is not a utopia by fostering attentive and life-giving pastoral creativity.

At the same time, this should in no way detract from the importance of the political dimension. Those entrusted with the highest public responsibility must "give serious thought to the problem of achieving more humane relations between States throughout the world. This adjustment must be based on mutual trust, sincerity in negotiations and the faithful fulfilment of obligations. Every aspect of the problem must be examined, so that, eventually, a point of agreement may emerge from which sincere, lasting, and beneficial treaties can be initiated." [12] This is the disarming path of diplomacy, mediation and international law, which is sadly too often undermined by the growing violations of hard-won treaties, at a time when what is needed is the strengthening of supranational institutions, not their delegitimization.

In today's world, justice and human dignity are at an alarming risk amid global power imbalances. How can we live in this time of destabilization and conflict, and free ourselves from evil? We need to encourage and support every spiritual, cultural and political initiative that keeps hope alive, countering the spread of "fatalistic terms, as if the dynamics involved were the product of anonymous impersonal forces or structures independent of the human will." [13] For, as has been suggested, "the best way to dominate and gain control over people is to spread despair and discouragement, even under the guise of defending certain values." [14] Against this strategy, we must promote self-awareness in civil societies, forms of responsible association, experiences of nonviolent participation, and practices of restorative justice on both a small and large scale. Leo XIII had already made this clear in his Encyclical Rerum Novarum: "The consciousness of his own weakness urges the human person to call in aid from without. We read in Scripture: 'Two are better than one, for they have the advantage of their society. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up' ( Eccles 4:9-10). And further: 'A brother that is helped by his brother is like a strong city' ( Prov 18:19)."

[15] May this be one of the fruits of the Jubilee of Hope, which has moved millions of people to rediscover themselves as pilgrims and to begin within themselves that disarmament of heart, mind and life. God will surely respond to this by fulfilling his promises: "He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord" (Is 2, 4-5).

**From the Vatican, 8 December 2025**

**LEO PP. XIV**

**COFFEE SUNDAY  
with Pancake Breakfast.**

**Please join us after mass for St Richard's  
Children's Art Exhibit of St Richard's altar.**



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

**Collection for January 18 was \$ 1551.60  
Thank you for supporting your parish.**