

January 17, 2016

Ordinary Time

Second Sunday



A New Season

Although the Christmas season is behind us, today is the third of the series of *Theophanies*, manifestation of Jesus as God.

The spousal imagery of God's love for his people in Isaiah find echo in John's account of Jesus' first sign at Cana. Even though his hour has not yet come, Mary's faith in her Son becomes the occasion of his first sign of God's Kingdom. Jesus turns water into wine. Jesus' ministry begins with an act of joy and delight, a sign of God's desire for our relationship with him.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, January 23
4:30 p.m. Robert R. Schaefer
Sunday, January 24
8:00 a.m. Paul Vrazel

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
Responsorial Psalm: 19
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

No Mass, Bible Study
Wednesday, January 20

C.C.D. Resumes
Wednesday, January 20

2015 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2015 Assessment	\$7,532.00
Contributions So Far	\$6,671.28
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 860.72

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Pat Masek

Anna & Michael Fishbeck

Josie & Alphonse Kubenka

We are almost there!

Restoring Maticka Praha



To make a donation to the project contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674 or send an email to st_joe@sbcglobal.net.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Best Is Yet To Come

In following Jesus Christ, there is always something better to come. Jesus' first miraculous sign at the wedding feast of Cana communicates to us the profound hope that underlies the Christian life. The better wine saved for the end of the festivities, like the joy of eternal salvation, is what we anticipate with hope in the here and now. Christ who is risen from the dead reveals to us that the best is yet to come, and this joyful outlook colors our experience of life. In Christ, we can always trust in ultimate triumph over our lacks, and our struggles. Let us let Christ surprise us with the bounty of God's grace.



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY JANUARY 18, 2016



The federal holiday reminds us of Dr. King's achievements and of our continuing moral obligation to build a just society with equal rights for all.

HOLY ROSARY MEN'S A.C.T.S. RETREAT February 18 -21, 2016

You are invited to join us to spend a weekend with God attending an A.C.T.S. Retreat. This is an opportunity for spiritual renewal and making new friends. Its aim is to enhance our relationship with Our Lord and with other Christian men who accompany us on this journey of faith. This retreat is hosted by Catholic men, with spiritual guidance from Roman Catholic Faith.

*Registration forms are available at the entrance to church.
For more information contact Andrew Velasquez.*

REFLECTION



Newness

One of the major themes gleaned from the readings for today is that of the call of newness. God summons us to something new, gives us a new name, provides us with new experiences, launches us into new ministries, and calls us to sing a new song of praise. All of this newness comes from God. As with creation, God creates out of chaos – God creates a new people out of one that was forsaken; creates a new land out of desolation; creates a new Spirit-filled community. The first reading and the gospel show us that marriage is the creation of a new union.

Even Jesus experiences a call to newness. Through Mary, God called him out into ministry that would bring the fruits of the eschatological age of fulfillment to the whole world. This transformation of the world will be the ultimate new creation of God. The new wine Jesus provides symbolizes the intoxicating nature of the newness he brings.

How would the world change if each one of us took hold of even one of the marvelous gifts that we have been given by the Spirit and transformed our lives, like water transformed into good wine and then shared with others?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



January 17 – Elizabeth Janak
January 21 – Marcus Jasek
– Mary Ann Lev



Altar Society Meeting Next Sunday, January 24 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Updates about cookbooks and other topics will be discussed. 2016 dues of \$5 may be paid. Make plans to join us. New members are always welcome.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND



CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Your contribution educates priests, religious and lay pastoral leaders; assists missionaries and pastoral workers; trains catechists and youth ministers; supports the Church's work with the poor. *Please be generous.*

January 22 – Day of Prayer For The Legal Protection of Unborn Children

There have been over 56 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. However, we have great trust in God's providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord's help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard.



The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children": "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms. – USCCB

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – JANUARY 18-25

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on January 18, and concludes on January 25, the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. This year's theme is *Called to Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord* (1 Peter 2:9). Join Christians everywhere in praying "that they may all be one."

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come to you, the Font of Life, to ask that you fill your Church with Living Water to quench our thirst on the quest for Christian Unity. Let our hearts be filled with the gift of your Son's love for us. May we find in your Church the living and abiding presence of your love and work together to bring about the desire of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ when he prayed, "that all may be one." May the Spirit never lay dormant within us, but sustain us on the path of life. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.