

## Second – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life”. (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous members to develop their faith and service to others.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### *Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>*

**4:30pm** Intentions of Gary Plant by Peter and Cathy Gambell

#### *Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**9:00am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

**10:45am** Intentions of Pat and Gerry Redsell

#### *Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Anthony*

**7:00pm** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30am** Birthday intentions of Justus Croskery by the Croskery family

#### *Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>*

**9:00am** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>*

**9:00am** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – St. Agnes*

**4:30pm** Intentions of Stephanie Montojo and family by Michael Smith and family

#### *Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**9:00am** Repose of the soul of Robert Fillion by Croskery family

**10:45am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

#### *Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> – St. Francis De Sales*

**7:00pm** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> – The Conversion of St. Paul The Apostle*

**9:30am** Repose of the souls of Bea and Tom Mascaro by the James family

#### *Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> – St. Timothy and St. Titus*

**9:00am** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>*

**9:00am** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – St. Thomas Aquinas*

**4:30pm** Intentions of Chloe Cormier and family by Michael Smith and family

#### *Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**9:00am** Intentions of Jordan Louise and family by Michael Smith and family

**10:45am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

#### *Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> – St. John Bosco*

**7:00pm** MASS CANCELLED

#### *Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>*

**9:30am**

#### *Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – The presentation of the Lord*

**9:00am** Repose of the soul of Dawn Empey by Tammy Cherry

#### *Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>*

**9:00am** Repose of the souls of George Hendley, family members and friends

#### *Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>*

**4:30pm** Repose of the soul of Larry Linger by the Gambell family

#### *Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>*

**9:00am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

**10:45am** Repose of the soul of Ronald Maidment by the Adult Choir

### *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)*

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” [John 1:29](#)

Saint John the Baptist speaks these words about Jesus at the moment that he sees Jesus coming to him in the distance. John knew, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that Jesus was the “Lamb of God.” He knew, by this interior revelation, that Jesus would become the Sacrificial Lamb Who would lay down His life for the salvation of the world. Perhaps John did not know the details of how this would happen, but he didn’t need to. He was content knowing this sacred mission of the Messiah, and he was content knowing that Jesus was that Messiah.

Today, as we ponder John’s words, we are able to see them more clearly. Jesus is the One Who gave His life on the Cross for the remission of sins. He is the One Whom we now receive sacramentally in Holy Communion as the “Lamb of God.” It is His flesh and His blood, poured out for us, that we now consume with the deepest reverence and love.

As we begin this season of Ordinary Time, we are invited to come to know this Lamb of God more fully through His many teachings, miracles and actions done during His public ministry. In the Liturgy of the Word at every Mass, we are called to unpack these words of John, coming to understand the mystery of the life of Christ more fully. And through our participation in the reception of Holy Communion, we come to know Him Who is the Lamb of God in the most personal and intimate of ways, when we enter into holy union (Holy Communion) with Him.

Reflect, today, upon these very familiar words of Saint John the Baptist. As you do, begin by prayerfully pondering the knowledge that John might have had about Christ the first time he saw Him. prayerfully ponder the interior knowledge that John might have had at that time, try also to reflect upon all that we now know about these holy words. Reflect especially upon the suffering and death of the Lamb of God and the way in which He has transmitted His Saving Sacrifice to us in Holy Communion. What a gift! What a mystery! What a joy! Behold the Lamb of God within your heart, mind and soul, and prayerfully seek to know Him more fully this day. *Glorious Lamb of God, You have come and taken away the sins of the world through the sacrifice of Your sacred life on the Cross. Please help me to understand Who You are and all that You have done for me, especially every time I come to behold You and receive You in Holy Communion. Jesus, I trust in You.*

January 15 – 29, 2023

**Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?  
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration  
form found in the foyer or in the office.**

**You may bring the completed form to the office or drop in the collection basket.**

### ***Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)***

From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17

In Matthew’s Gospel, from which we read today, we hear the first words spoken by our Lord as He begins His public ministry: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Up until this point, Matthew’s Gospel presented us with Jesus’ genealogy, His birth, the story of the Magi, the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt, the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, Jesus’ baptism, the preaching of Saint John the Baptist and Jesus’ forty days in the desert. Now, after these introductory stories of Jesus’ life, we enter into His public ministry.

Recall that John had just been imprisoned, thus concluding his public ministry. Therefore, the time for the preaching and ministry of the Son of God had arrived. And though Jesus continues the theme of repentance started by John, Jesus takes John’s words further. Jesus adds something that John could not: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Since we are still at the beginning of the season of Ordinary Time, it’s important to understand this transition from the Old Testament prophets, of which John was the last, to the New Testament preaching of our Lord. The difference is that all that had been prophesied and pointed to in the Old Testament had now arrived. Saint Jerome, in commenting upon this passage, says that as the Old Testament Law ceased, the Gospel commenced. And, of course, the fulfillment of this new era of the Gospel was only a few short years away when our Lord would offer up His life for the salvation of many.

As Jesus begins His preaching, His words are challenging but also very hopeful. By saying that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” Jesus stirs interest and holy curiosity among His first listeners. His call to repentance was softened by His new proclamation about the Kingdom.

One helpful insight we can take from these first words of Jesus’ public ministry is that this is the best way to share the Gospel with those who do not yet follow Christ. Oftentimes, when we see someone living in serious sin, we want to judge and condemn. But usually what they need the most is hope—hope that there is something much greater that comes from repentance. Certainly we need to speak against sin. But one of the most effective ways to do so is by initially offering the listener hope of something much better than the sin with which they struggle—specifically, the hope of the Kingdom of God. Reflect, today, upon the newness of the ministry of Jesus, the newness of the first proclamation of the Gospel. As you do, try to imagine the holy curiosity that many would have had as they first listened to Jesus preach. Soon He would follow up His preaching with many signs and wonders that would confirm His message.

*Lord, as You began Your public ministry of proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven, You instilled hope and a holy curiosity in the minds and hearts of Your first hearers. Please continue this good work and use me as You will to be an instrument of this hope in those I encounter every day. Jesus, I trust in You.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**All WEEKDAY Masses until January 31, 2023 are cancelled EXCEPT for the following:**

Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am  
(9:00am – confession)

Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am  
(9:00am – confession)

We will have visiting priests during weekend Masses. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

**Have you moved or changed your phone number in the past two years?** If so please contact the office with your updated information so we can input the information for the upcoming tax receipts. Thank you.

**Mother Teresa:** No Greater Love, the newest documentary film from the Knights of Columbus, will return to Canadian cinemas in Ottawa January 22-23, 2023. The documentary was released to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Mother Teresa’s passing. The trailer – and more information – is available here: <https://www.moherteresamovie.com/>.

### **BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**



**Rhett Brian Campbell  
Declan Antonius Claessen  
Georgia Catherine Whelan  
Rory Charles Whelan**

### **GONE TO THE FATHER**

**Kenneth Gaydamack  
Jacoba Theodora Bols  
Ronald Godwin**



### **Intentions of the Holy Father for January 2023**

#### **For Educators**

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.