



Mass
Intentions

Saturday, January 17

5 p.m. Karri Dennis (D)

7 p.m.

Sunday, January 18

8 a.m. Robert Walter (D)

10:30 a.m. People of the parish

Monday, January 19

No Mass

Tuesday, January 20

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Wednesday, January 21

6:30 p.m. Communion Service

Thursday, January 22

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Friday, January 23

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Saturday, January 24

5 p.m. Cecil Bates, Chuck McLain &
Tommy Carroll (D)

7 p.m.

Sunday, January 25

8 a.m. Olan Sanders (D)

10:30 a.m. People of the parish

READING FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4;
Mk:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5,
9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-
4; Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25 -8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17;
Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10-14;
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-
9; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor
7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

BREAK OPEN THE WORD

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-2 Jn 1:35-42

Pope Francis has called for 2015 to be a year focusing on the “Consecrated Life,” Catholicism’s ancient and ongoing practice of encouraging and supporting some members of the church to dedicate themselves exclusively to God and spreading the Gospel through the “religious” or “consecrated” life. Some Christians experience a call to make the religious dimension of their life uniquely important and central — so much so, that no other life commitment is possible for them. Theirs is not a common vocation, nor does it have more or less worth than any other. It is one valuable vocation in the church, and one that Pope Francis is inviting us to think more about throughout this year. [Click to visit the US bishop’s site](#)



With Pope Francis’ call in mind let’s turn to the first reading this weekend. Samuel, a much-longed-for child, had been put in the care of the priest Eli, who was to bring him up in the temple. We know little about his childhood except that his mother, Hannah, loved him dearly and had dedicated him to God. In those days, “the word of the Lord was precious” (1 Sm 3:1) or, in plain language, the people were not hearing God speak.

In that context, God called Samuel three times before Eli understood what was going on. Then, fulfilling his role as mentor, Eli instructed Samuel to listen for the call and to respond with total availability, saying, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

Our reading ends by telling us that Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him.

The author says that God’s word was hard to come by in those days, and yet, Samuel was called three times before anyone imagined that it was God calling. Once God had his attention, God called Samuel by name twice — just as God had called Abraham (Gen 22:11), Jacob (Gen 46:2) and Moses (Exod 3:4). Samuel was in pretty good company! And there was no doubt that he was the one God was calling.

This reading was surely chosen to complement today’s Gospel about Jesus’ first followers. Serendipitously, these readings about vocation fall on the first “ordinary” Sunday of 2015, this year designated as the Year of Consecrated Life.

What does Samuel’s story say to us in the light of Pope Francis’ designation? First of all, it reminds us all of our vocation as Christians — the fact that each of us is called to live out our baptismal commitment. Secondly, in these days when fewer and fewer people seem to be hearing a call to religious life or priesthood, or even participation in church life, the story of Eli and Samuel invites us to think about our religious expectations and how we listen. Have we, like the people of those days, become convinced that God is not calling? Are we simply going along with the idea that being “spiritual” is replacing being “religious,” that each person figures out their own relationship with God without communal ties or expression? That popular concept seems to go quite well with “American individualism,” but leaves something lacking in the tradition of the God of Israel and Jesus. Hearing this reading in the context of the Year of Consecrated Life seems to invite us to join Samuel and wake up and risk believing that God is calling us if we are only willing to say, “Speak, Lord, I am listening.”

Keep your ears and heart open this week – more than usual! Fr. Tom

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Please join the Diocese of Beaumont Catholic Schools in celebrating the 41st Anniversary of Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The theme highlights the key components of the Catholic education in our Diocese:

faith development, academic excellence, and dedication to service.

Beginning January 25 thru January 31, Catholic Schools in our area will be opening their doors to prospective families who are thinking about Catholic education for their children. For more information on special events during Catholic Schools Week or to schedule a tour, please contact one of the schools listed below.

Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School, Beaumont
(409)866-2351

St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica School, Beaumont
(409)832-3486

St. Anne Catholic School, Beaumont
(409)832-5939

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School, Port Arthur
(409)962-3011

St. Mary Catholic School, Orange
(409)883-8913

Altar flowers for January 17, 18 donated by
Paul Webb in memory of Mary Webb
And

Eric and Cindy Hudnall in memory of
Peggy Raymer

Blessed Mother flowers donated by
Derald and Betty LeBlanc in honor of
Donna and Craig Darby's Wedding Anniversary

Altar flowers for January 10, 11 donated by
Patricia and Eddie Coppage in thanksgiving
For our families
And

Judie Long in memory of Ronnie Comer

Blessed Mother flowers donated by
Ellen and Emile Dupre in honor of
Gwendolyn Bernice Fahrig Caillet

The annual national Collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA) will be the weekend of January 24-25. The 2015 campaign highlights the faith of Latin America and the many opportunities we have to *share faith* with them. We also recognize the tremendous benefit of having our Latin American brothers and sisters in the Church and the revitalization their fervor brings to the faith. In addition to offering our help and support to the Catholics of Latin America, we have much to learn from them.

St. Francis Ministries

For the next few weeks the various ministries of our faith community will be in the spotlight. If you see a chance to increase your involvement by sharing your time and talent here at St. Francis, give the ministry head a call.

LITURGICAL AND SPIRITUAL

Altar Servers

Suzette Parker – 883-6780

A vital part of our Liturgical team. Current servers (4th grade and up) are trained twice yearly to function at all the liturgical gatherings of the St. Francis of Assisi Community. New servers are welcomed and trained each August.

Liturgical Environment

Rose Tarver – 886-2592

Make decorations and decorate the church for the various church seasons (Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Lloyd & Joyce Blanchette – 313-1734

Laypeople who are chosen, trained, and properly qualified to aid in serving of the Eucharist during Mass.

This includes arriving early to Mass to prepare the gifts and staying after to properly cleanse the vessels.

Service rotates throughout the Saturday and Sunday Masses. Those who feel a calling should come forward and ask for admittance and training.

Greeters / Ushers

Burton Guidry – 882-9655

Greet Parishioners as they enter the Church, making sure everyone feels welcomed and comfortable. They are responsible for guiding parishioners during Communion and collecting the offerings.



Take a day off from cooking next weekend. The Keysis group will be selling cheesy chicken spaghetti dinners after all masses

\$7/plate
cheesy chicken spaghetti
green beans
garlic toast
dessert

Saturday, January 17

5 p.m. mass
Carry out

7 p.m. mass
Carry out

Sunday, January 18

8 a.m. mass
Carry out

10:30 a.m. mass
Dine in or carry out

WATCHING FOR THE MESSIAH

Today's Gospel story of John and his disciples seeing and following Jesus sounds so simple and casual, it's easy to miss the significant acts of faith that are made.

John points to Jesus: "Look," he says, "there is the Lamb of God." John's faith in Jesus is evident, so evident that John's disciples immediately leave his side to follow this Jesus.

The two disciples make their own act of faith. They follow Jesus, spend time with him, and are quick to spread the good news of their discovery: "We have found the Messiah."

It is easy to forget that the expectations of generations, the hopes of many ages of faithful people were being fulfilled in these simple acts of faith. The Lamb of God, the Messiah, foretold by the prophets, had finally come. Nearly everyone among the Jewish people was watching for the Messiah back then; who in our own society watches for signs of the presence of the Messiah today?

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Old customs fade slowly, and in 1560 the Council of Trent tried for significant change in pastoral care of the sick. People resisted, thinking that the last breath was the right time for the sacrament. Although physical improvement was often noted after anointing, it was seen as a kind of bonus, rather than an expected outcome of a prayer for good health, strength, patience, and even healing. More than four hundred years later, many people still do not ask for anointing until it is literally too late for the person to have reasonable hope of healing, or at least be aware enough to participate in the ritual. By then, it may even be too late for viaticum, the true "last rite."

We have a treasure in our tradition that we seem reluctant to use. We visit the sick, we anoint those who are in the first crisis of illness, we give Communion to those who are dying, and we keep vigil and pray for those close to death. When anointing is celebrated early enough, optimally when the sick person is still at Sunday Mass, it can be a source of courage, faith, and hope for a difficult road ahead. When we anoint our sick, we remind them that they belong to Christ and a community of faith. We bring them into the presence of Christ to reconcile, heal, and give strength and hope. We resist forces that isolate and alienate the sick; the symbol of touch is a powerful act of acceptance. Why wait until the crisis of illness is dire before we apply such a rich remedy to body and soul? Rev. James Field,

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JOY

The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.
St. Julian

WORRIES

The greatest of worries can't pay the smallest of debts.
Anonymous

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EN BÚSQUEDA DEL MESÍAS

El relato del Evangelio de hoy en el que Juan y sus discípulos ven y siguen a Jesús, suena tan sencillo e informal, que fácilmente pasan desapercibidos los importantes actos de fe que ocurren.

Juan señala a Jesús: "Miren", les dice, "este es el Cordero de Dios". La fe de Juan en Jesús es evidente, tan evidente que los discípulos de Juan inmediatamente se van de su lado y siguen a Jesús.

Los dos discípulos a su vez hacen un acto de fe. Ellos siguen a Jesús, pasan tiempo con él, y no demoran en compartir la buena nueva de su descubrimiento: "Hemos encontrado al Mesías".

Es fácil olvidar que las expectativas de generaciones, las esperanzas de muchos siglos de fieles se estaban cumpliendo en estos sencillos actos de fe. El Cordero de Dios, el Mesías, anunciado por los profetas, finalmente había llegado. Prácticamente todo el mundo en el pueblo judío estaba a la búsqueda del Mesías en esa época; ¿quién de nuestra sociedad busca señales de la presencia del Mesías hoy día? Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Uno de los muchos títulos dados a Jesús en los evangelios es el de *Agnus Dei* (Cordero de Dios). La imagen de un cordero no era extraña en la Palestina del primer siglo cristiano, pues se encontraban ovejas y pastores por todas partes. El cordero es la oveja de menos de un año. Es reconocido como símbolo de mansedumbre e inocencia en muchas culturas.

Fue Juan Bautista quien le dio ese extraño título a Jesús (Juan 1:36). La imagen del cordero despertaba en los judíos, incluidos Jesús, Juan Bautista y los discípulos, la memoria de los célebres eventos del Éxodo. Cada año las familias judías escogían un corderito y lo preparaban para sacrificarlo en la Pascua. La mitad de la carne del sacrificio se ofrecía a Dios y la otra mitad se la comía la familia, de esta manera establecían una comunión con Dios. Designar a Jesús como *Agnus Dei*, era reconocer que él quitaría el pecado y que con su propia carne establecería una comunión entre Dios y la humanidad.

Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

ALEGRÍA

La alegría plena reside en ver a Dios en todas las cosas.

San Julián

PREOCUPACIONES

Las más grandes preocupaciones no pueden pagar las más mínimas deudas.

Anónimo



Saturday, January 17

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.

5 p.m. mass

7 p.m. Spanish mass

Sunday, January 18

BLOOD DRIVE 8a-1p/San Damiano Center

8 a.m. mass 10:30 a.m. mass

Confirmation class 5:30 p.m.

Sonlight choir 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 19

Offices closed M.L. King, Jr. Day

Adult choir 6 p.m.

Women's ACTS 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 20

Men's faith sharing 5:45 a.m.

Women's faith share 6:15 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

RCIA 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 21

RE grades K-8 5:15-6:15

Keysis grades 9-12 6:30-8:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m. Communion Service

Thursday, January 22

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Friday, January 23

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Girl Scouts 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 24

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.

5 p.m. mass

7 p.m. Spanish mass

Adoration sign up at entrances

Keysis chicken spaghetti sale after masses

Sunday, January 25

8 a.m. mass 10:30 a.m. mass

Keysis chicken spaghetti sale after masses

Confirmation class 5:30 p.m.

Sonlight choir 6:30 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT

January 11, 2015

Amount needed each week (Regular collection)	\$11,873.00
Weekend regular collection (including building fund)	10,008.15
Under Goal	1,864.85
Year to date totals (January 11, 2015)	
Amount needed (\$11,873. x 28 fiscal weeks)	\$ 332,444.00
Total Sunday collections to date	328,052.63
Year to date shortage	4,391.37

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Church in Latin America: January 25

Online giving is an excellent way to fulfill your obligation to support St. Francis parish. Go to www.stfrancisorangetx.org and click the Online Giving link.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

As of January 12 our website has a whole new look.

Check us out:

www.stfrancisorangetx.org