



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 January 2024 | Sunday



Fishers of men...

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday, January 26

Sts. Timothy & Titus

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Augustine & Maria Kutty

Tuesday, January 27

St. Angela Merici

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Marlon Roldan

Wednesday, January 28

St. Thomas Aquinas

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Grazia Gentilcore

Thursday, January 29

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Guy Chartrand

Friday, January 30

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Ben Lomheim

Saturday, January 31

St. John Bosco

4:30 p.m. †Cosimo DiLollo, Carmela Mignelli,
Special Intention Cerila Manzano & Cerila Coronade

Sunday, February 1

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11:00 a.m. †Frank Paola

5:00 p.m. †Anna Mazzuca



MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection January 18 - \$4,915



WANTED: OLD PALMS

Please remember to bring any palms you may have from previous years when you come to church. Baskets will be available in the church foyer for collection. Thank you for your participation.

Prayer Intention for the Month of January:

For prayer with the word of God

Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



VALENTINE'S DINNER/DANCE AND CONCERT

On Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 6:00pm
St. Thomas More Church Hall. Tickets are:30.00 per
person Contact: Romeo and Minda Panday
289 668 3379

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Volunteers are needed for Delta Bingo nights on
Wednesday evenings, once or twice a month, for
approximately 2 hours.

If you enjoy bingo and like meeting new people, this is a fun
and easy way to earn money for our church. Our participation
provides a simple and effective source of revenue for St.
Thomas More Church. Please email the office.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Please note that there will be no **CWL** meeting in
January, but look forward to resuming our meetings
in February.

Also, a reminder that the 2026 memberships (\$40) are now
due. They can be placed in the offertory basket, dropped
off to the office or contact Dina for etransfer.
905.380.0522 | dina.marchionda@gmail.com



WORLD DAY OF MARRIAGE

Sunday, February 8, 2026 3:00pm

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Gerard Bergie
Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria Corner of Church and
Lyman Streets, St. Catharines, ON Celebrating All Married
Couples especially those with significant 2026 Anniversaries
Reception to Follow No registration needed. All are welcome.

NIAGARA FALLS SOUP KITCHEN, is inviting our
community to help us Freeze the Hunger. This February
Hunger doesn't pause for winter and for many of our
neighbours, the colder months make food insecurity even
harder. That's why we're launching Freeze the Hunger Fridays,
a February-long food donation campaign focused on collecting
shelf-stable food items to support the Soup Kitchen.
Every Friday in February, we encourage individuals, families,
workplaces, and community groups to pick up one or two extra
non-perishable food items and donate them to help keep meals
flowing for those who need them most.

A small act one can, one box, one bag can make a real
difference. Together, we can turn cold February Fridays into
moments of warmth, care, and compassion.

Drop off at the Soup Kitchen 4865 St Lawrence Ave NFO....
Between 3pm-6pm

Our volunteers will gladly come out to your vehicle to receive
your donations. Most needed items at this time are bags of dried
beans, canned tomatoes/sauce, rice (preferably not parboiled)
and canned vegetables.

Let's come together to freeze hunger, one Friday at a time.

Niagara Falls Soup Kitchen

289-968-8442

www.nfcommunityoutreach.org



NIAGARA COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR LIFE IS A PRO-LIFE CLUB starting at Niagara College (Niagara-on-the-Lake
campus). This club is dedicated to upholding the value of all
human life. We will meet several times a month to discuss pro-
life topics, take part in fun activities, and educate others on this
cause! If you are interested in joining or have questions, please
register email studentsforlife1@gmail.com.

Registration form for Congratulatory Certificate For couples celebrating a special wedding anniversary

Last name _____

First name _____
(husband) (wife)

Street _____ Apt _____ City _____ Postal Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Date of marriage _____ Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Please Circle Celebrating 1st 25th 40th 50th 60th 60th + anniversary

Current parish _____ City _____

**Completed forms may be returned to the parish office or The Catholic Centre 3400 Merrittville Highway,
Thorold or by fax (905-684-2185) or email (chancery@saintcd.com)**