



# Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 January 2026 | 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

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Augustine & Maria Kuttu

### Tuesday, January 27

(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      **4<sup>th</sup> 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 e-transfer.

905.380.0522 | [dina.marchionda@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 40<sup>th</sup> 50<sup>th</sup> 60<sup>th</sup> 60<sup>th</sup> + 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](mailto:chancery@saintcd.com))**