

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18, 2026 — Year A



Sat. Jan 17	8:00AM †Jerry Bazinet by Roland & Mona Breton 4:00PM For the People
Sun. Jan 18	9:00AM †Enrico Mascio by Elvira Mascio
Mon. Jan 19	8:00AM Int. of George & Margaret Hodgkinson by the fam
Tue. Jan 20	6:30PM †Nell Sneek by Frank & Paula Sneek
Wed. Jan 21	8:00AM †Maria Ottaviano by Linda Smarella
Thu. Jan 22	8:00AM †Maria Cerritelli by Nunziatina D'Onofrio & family
Fri. Jan 23	8:00AM †Rose Quinn by Dan Quinn
Sat. Jan 24	8:00AM †Lewie Leon by Paul Leon 4:00PM †Rose Mallia by Gordon & Carmen Burrison
Sun. Jan 25	9:00AM For the People

YOUTH RETREAT

St. Michael's Parish (310 Central Avenue, Fort Erie) will be having a Youth Retreat led by NET Ministries for students between Grades Eight and Twelve on Saturday, January 24 from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM. There is no cost. For more information or to register call 905-871-0692 or go to stmichaelfe.com.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Bishop Bergie will be celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria (3 Lyman Street, Saint Catharines) on World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 8, 2026) starting at 3:00 PM. The Mass will honour all married couples but especially those celebrating significant anniversaries. No registration is required. A reception will follow the Mass.. Everyone is welcome.

SERRA CLUB FUNDRAISER

The Serra Club of St. Catharine's is hosting a Murder Mystery Fundraiser at Club Roma (125 Van Sickle Road, Saint Catharines) entitled "Murder at the Ritz" on Saturday, April 25 starting at 5:30 PM. The event will include a four course meal, signature drinks and dancing. Tickets are \$75 per person if purchased before January 6 (a \$10 savings). A Charleston Dance Lesson will be offered from 4:30 until 5:30 for an additional charge of \$10. Prize for best dressed couple. Tickets are available at events@serrastc.ca.

LENTEN JOURNALS

A Lenten Journal, containing reflections on the Gospel readings used during this liturgical season, is available at the back of the Church on the weekends of February 7-8 and February 14-15. The suggested donation is \$5. The reflections are written by local clergy and laypeople and intended to help the faithful to gain new insights into these passages and deepen their spiritual life.

2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Parishioners are asked to use the 2026 Offertory Envelopes that have been assigned to you. Do not use envelopes from previous years because this will prevent us from providing donors with the proper Income Tax Receipt. Unclaimed envelope boxes can be picked up at the back of the Church. If you do not have Offertory Envelopes and wish to start using them register at the Parish Office and a box will be issued to you. If you do not use Offertory Envelopes frequently you can print your name, address and phone number on a Visitors Envelope or a plain white envelope and an Income Tax Receipt will be issued to you.

CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Confession is offered at St. Denis Parish (230 Lake Street, St. Catharines) every Monday to Friday and St. Andrew the Apostle Parish (4 St. Andrews Ave., Welland) every Tuesday. Confession times are from 8:00 until 9:00 PM.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place this year from Sunday, January 18 until Sunday, January 25 (this coming week). Catholics are encouraged to pray for unity with other Christians and to look for ways we can work together with local faith communities to build God's Kingdom on earth.

CWL ADVENT RETREAT

The CWL Diocesan Lenten Retreat will be held at Mount Carmel Spiritual Center (7020 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls) on Saturday February 21/ Wednesday February 25 starting at 10:00 AM. Cost is. For information or to register call Mary Nan at 905-834-9520. The registration deadline is January 24.

SCHOOL MASS

Mass will be celebrated at St. Therese of Lisieux School in the gym on Thursday, January 22 starting at 11:30 AM. Parishioners are welcome.

SOUP SUNDAY

St. Therese of Lisieux Parish CWL will be holding its annual Soup Sunday in the Parish Hall after the Masses on the weekend of March 7-8. Cost is.

LAKESHORE MASS

Mass is offered at Lakeshore Catholic High School each Wednesday during the School Year starting at 7:30 AM. On Wednesday, January 21 Fr. Basque will be celebrating the Mass so the Parish Mass will be at 8:30 AM.

ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education will be holding its annual Benefit Gala at Club Roma (125 Van Sickle Road, St. Catharines) on Thursday, March 5. Proceeds will help students in need and fund scholarships.

CWL FUNDRAISER

St. Therese of Lisieux CWL will be selling Tomato Sauce as a fundraiser at the doors of the Church before and after the Masses on the weekend of January 31-February 1. Cost is.

CLERGY DEVELOPMENT DAY

A Clergy Development Day will be held at St. Alfred's Parish on Tuesday January 27, starting at 10:00 AM. Among the topics discussed will be the new Diocesan Pastoral Plan and Marriage updates.

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS CHALLENGE

Students in Grades Five to Twelve are invited to take part in the St. Carlo Acutis Challenge. It is a chance to use your talents to create a video, app, song, dance, poem, essay, fashion project or social media campaign, to highlight an aspect of your faith about which you are passionate. The top prize for Secondary students is \$1000 while the top prize for Elementary students is \$500 For information visit bit.ly/Saint-Challenge or contact us at: evangelization@saintcd.com.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED MINISTRY

The Diocesan Divorced and Separated Ministry Group will be meeting at Mount Carmel Spiritual Center (7020 Stanley Ave., Niagara Falls) on Monday, January 26 from 7:00 until 9:00 PM. The topic for this session is: "Dealing With Fear. For information call 905-356 4113 or 905-684-0154.

PARISH LEADERSHIP DAY

A Parish Leadership Day will be held on Saturday, March 7 starting at 10:00 AM. Among the topics discussed will be the new Diocesan Pastoral Plan and Stewardship. More information will follow.

YOUTHMINISTRY

The next meeting of the St. Therese of Lisieux Parish Youth Ministry Group will be held in the Parish Hall on Sunday, January 18 (today) from 10:00 until 11:30 AM. All Parish youth are welcome.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: LAMB OF GOD

"Lamb of God" is a term used by John the Baptist to identify Jesus. Within the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament, lambs were seen as sacrificial victims offered not only at Passover but also on daily and Sabbath occasions. Lambs were also sacrificed during the Ordination Rite for Priests, as a Peace Offerings and in atonement for sin. Elsewhere, lambs were associated with goodness, those in need of care, gentleness, peace and prosperity. In the Christian Scriptures/New Testament, the sacrificial role is taken on by Christ whose mission is to bear humanity's sins. John the Baptist makes this clear by adding the phrase "who takes away the sins of the world" after calling Jesus the "Lamb of God". It also suggests a connection between Christ and the Suffering Servant found in the writings of Isaiah. In the Book of Revelation, the Lamb is the one whose blood purifies sinners and sits at God's throne. Disciples are also called lambs who are fed by Jesus and who will also become sacrificial victims as they carry out their mission. For Christ's followers in modern times, the sacrifices demanded of them may be as great as that of a lamb. Sadly, in many parts of the world, Christians are killed because of their religious beliefs. It has been suggested, more Christians have died for their faith during the Twentieth Century, than in all previous centuries combined. While most Christians in Canada do not face this situation, they are often required to offer other sacrifices. When voicing their opinions about certain social issues like abortion, they are drowned out by a hostile media. Their beliefs and practices are ridiculed by a secular culture. Some governments are trying to remove any public display of religious beliefs. It is hard to be a person of faith these days. Each time at Mass, when Catholics pray the Gloria, Lamb of God and Prayer Before Communion, (which all use the term Lamb of God), they are reminded their sacrifices are a continuation of that offered by Jesus on the cross. From that connection, they can draw strength to persevere by recognizing they are not alone. Christ suffers with them. So does the Church which sees value in what they offer even if society does not.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

January 10/11	Sunday Offering	\$ 1,806.00
	Repairs	\$ 75.00
E-transfer: celineincarmel@gmail.com		