

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 20, 2019

The Bride Groom is Here!

Readings: Isaiah 62:1–5; Psalms 96:1–3, 7–10; 1 Corinthians 12:4–11; John 2:1–12

Think of these first weeks after Christmas as a season of “epiphanies.” The liturgy is showing us who Jesus is and what He has revealed about our relationship with God.

Last week and the week before, the imagery was royal and filial—Jesus is the newborn king of the Jews who makes us co-heirs of Israel’s promise, beloved children of God. Last week in the liturgy we went to a baptism.

This week we’re at a wedding.

We’re being shown another dimension of our relationship with God. If we’re sons and daughters of God, it’s because we’ve married into the family.

Have you ever wondered why the Bible begins and ends with a wedding—Adam and Eve’s in the garden and the marriage supper of the Lamb (compare Genesis 2:23–24 and Revelation 19:9; 21:9; 22:17)? Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the covenant relationship God desires with His chosen people. He is the groom, humanity His beloved and sought-after bride. We see this reflected beautifully in today’s First Reading.

When Israel breaks the covenant, she is compared to an unfaithful spouse (see Jeremiah 2:20–36; 3:1–13). But God promises to take her back, to “espouse” her to Him forever in an everlasting covenant (see Hosea 2:18–22).

That’s why in today’s Gospel Jesus performs His first public “sign” at a wedding feast.

Jesus is the divine bridegroom (see John 3:29), calling us to His royal wedding feast (see Matthew 22:1–14). By His New Covenant, He will become “one flesh” with all humanity in the Church (see Ephesians 5:21–33). By our baptism, each of us has been betrothed to Christ as a bride to a husband (see 2 Corinthians 11:2).

The new wine that Jesus pours out at today’s feast is the gift of the Holy Spirit given to His bride and body, as today’s Epistle says. This is the “salvation” announced to the “families of nations” in today’s Psalm.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor

Rest in Peace



Deacon Valentine E. Oguledo, 71. Died on January 12, 2019. He was assigned to Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish, Seat Pleasant, Md., until his retirement in November 2011.

Mrs. Lucy Alick Coelho, 84. Died on January 12, 2019 in Indiana. She is the mother of Rev. Brian Coelho, Administrator at Saint Mary, Start of the Sea Parish, Indian Head, Md.

Eternal rest grant unto them, oh Lord

Knights of Columbus – Tanzi Council. Mass for Tanzi families will be on Sunday, January 20 at 10:00 AM. After mass, breakfast will be served at the Lounge.

Nativity visitors: On Friday, January 18 we welcomed The Archbishop of Kansas City for a special youth/college student mass for pilgrims at 8 am, social followed in the lounge. We thank them for the \$500.00 donation. Thank you Archbishop Naumann!

Deacon Ebuka Mbanude is back at the Seminary after their trip to Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem, where he prayed for all of us and for the intentions that were put in the basket. He sends his thanks!

Respect for Life

God of life and love, you created us in your image and sent your Son to bring us life. Instill in us a respect for all life, from conception to natural death. Empower us to work for justice for the poor. Nourish us that we may bring food to the hungry. Inspire us to cherish the fragile life on the unborn. Strengthen us to bring comfort to the chronically ill. Teach us to treat the aging with dignity and respect. Bring us one day into the glory of everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mass Intentions for the Week

January 19 - 26, 2019

Sat. 1/19	8:00 am	Homebound parishioners
	4:30pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 1/20	8:00am	+Cleveland Braswell
	10:00am	Tanzi council families
	1:00 pm	+Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Mon. 1/21	10:00	Peace & Justice
Tue 1/22	12:00	Prolife movement
Wed. 1/23	12:00	+Christopher Okafor
Thu. 1/24	12:00	+Christopher Okafor
Fri. 1/25	12:00	+Christopher Okafor
Sat. 1/26	8:00 am	+Bishop Norbert Dorsey, CP
	4:30pm	+Frank Keenney

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Eileen Carroll-Doshier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege *Kevin Fagan, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Linda Foster, *Charlie Gick, *Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, *Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, * Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Clarence Morris, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Sheryl Newman, *Amelie Ongbehalal, *Father Everett Pearson, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta

Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB is at St. Joseph's hospital in Tampa. Among other duties while at Nativity, Fr. Paul used to run our youth center for four years. Please keep him in your prayers.



Tax statements request: Forms are located at both entrances of the church. Complete the form and put it in the collection basket or mail it to the Rectory. Tax statements will be mailed.

Mass attendance – for January 12-13, 2019. Due to weather conditions no attendance or offerings were counted. Parish expenses and bills continue regardless of storms, including snow removal charges. Please offer your tithes and offerings this week to cover past week if you are able. God bless you! There are two collections this weekend.



Monday, January 21st.

The rectory offices will be closed.
There will be one Mass on this day at 10:00 am

Dr. King has a word for us! "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

Hiring services without Pastor's approval. It has come to the attention of the ADW that in some churches, parishioners have hired services without Pastors' approval. This is not acceptable; the Parish will not cover the expenses of non-approved vendors and free lancers.

QUO VADIS? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

If you are a Junior or Senior, come and shadow a day in the life of a seminarian at Saint John Paul II Seminary to experience seminary life first-hand! Friday, February 15, 2019. More information and to register visit: www.dcpriest.org or email vocations@adw.org



Attention College Students: Summer Internships

Catholic Charities has a variety of (unpaid) summer internship opportunities available for undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students for 10 weeks this summer from late May to early August. Projects include programs providing direct services to clients as well as in administration, finance, and communications. Sites available throughout the Archdiocese. Apply by March 15! **Get information and apply:** <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer/intern/>