



The Month of January
is dedicated to the Holy Name of
Jesus

Thou shalt call His Name Jesus,
for He shall save His people from
their sins.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased

Ron Gibson, Alina Dioli Villavicencio, Nicola MacGregor,
William Clements, Anne Boylan

Anniversaries

Oldy Alvarez, James Coleman, Daphne Bird, Val Ruff, Eve
Salter, Cesar Bringas Pizarro, Jose Luis Herrera, Beatrice
Riley, Leo Riley, Helen Colette, Fe Biason

Prayers for the Sick

Ben Hall, Sr Mary Bohan, Ricardo Perez, Nicola
MacGregor, Fr Pat Keenan, Lolita Herrera

Special Intentions

Da Costa-Allen Family, Sadek Family

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sun 18 Jan: 8:00am Eve Salter
10:00am Pro Populo
5.00pm Special Intention

Tues 20 Jan: Holy Souls

Wed 21 Jan: Holy Souls

Thurs 22 Jan: Holy Souls

Fri 23 Jan: Holy Souls

Sat 24 Jan: Holy Souls

Sun 25 Jan: 8:00am Val Ruff
10:00am Holy Souls
5.00pm Special Intention

Accommodation

From time to time the office receives requests to
find rooms to share or offers of rooms available.
We have several requests from young Catholic men
and women looking for flatmates at the moment. Please contact the
office if you have a room or are looking for a room and we will
try to put people in touch with each other.



Parish Primary School

Galilee Catholic Primary School
60B Blair Street, North Bondi
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Reflection on the 2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time by Father Gabriel of St Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

O God who sanctifies us in Christ Jesus, give us your grace
and peace (1 Cor 1:2-3)

In the spirit of Epiphany, today's readings continue to show
forth Christ's divinity and his mission. In place of the Fa-
ther's testimony declaring: "This is my beloved Son with
whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3:17), we are given that of St.
John the Baptist, who proclaims: "Behold the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1:29). Jesus,
whom the father had presented as his beloved Son, is now
shown to us as the innocent lamb who will be sacrificed in
expiation for sin.

Thus we are not dealing with a political messiah, come to
bring earthly power and glory to Israel, but with "the serv-
ant of Yahweh" announced by Isaiah, who takes upon him-
self the iniquity of mankind and atones for it by his death.
Through his sacrifice he becomes the light and salvation,
not of Israel only, but of all men; in him the glory of God is
made manifest: "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will
be glorified . . . I will give you as a light to the nations, that
my salvation may reach to the end of the earth" (Is 49:3-6).

When Isaiah's prophecy is read by Christian eyes, it be-
comes very clear. He whom God designated by the mouth
of his prophet as "his servant" is the very one whom now,
in the fullness of time, he points out to the world as "his
Son" in whom is all his pleasure. Christ's divinity shines
forth: the Only-Begotten of the Father, he is God like the
Father; when he took human nature his divinity was not di-
minished. Yet he hid it, almost as if annihilating it, when he
took the form of a servant and abased himself to the state of
a lamb offered in holocaust.

But precisely by means of this sacrifice, which opens into
the resurrection, he recovers his full glory as Son of God,
and gains the power of sharing it with all men, redeeming
them from sin and presenting them to the Father as sons.
Confronted with the greatness of Christ, John observes his
own littleness and confesses: "This is he of whom I said,
'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he
was before me' " (Jn 1:30).

Enlightened from above, he recognizes the absolute prima-
cy of Christ and of his mission; he is "God's chosen one"
who has come to baptize, not with water, but "with the Holy
Spirit" (ib. 33-34). In comparison, with Christ every apostle
is nothing, or rather has value, and is able to act, only inso-
far as he depends humbly and entirely on him.



St Francis de Sales (Feast Day 24 January)

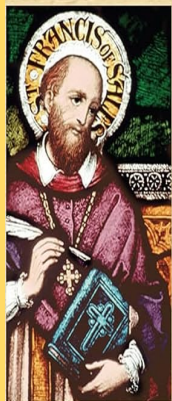
When Francis was named a Doctor of the Church, it was under the title Doctor of Divine Love. Francis' personal devotion to the Lord and life of ministry flowed from his own love for God and awareness of God's love. When Francis' devoted friend, Bishop Jean-Pierre Camus, questioned him about how to grow in love of God and neighbor, Francis replied simply, ***"You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working. Just so you learn to love God and many by loving. If you really want to love God, go on and love Him more and more."***

This simple approach to God is a hallmark of Francis' spirituality. Without pretending that such growth in holiness would be quick or easy, he offered straightforward guidance that people in any vocation or stage of life could follow. While we may not be able to love God perfectly and completely today, we can certainly strive for that and lay our foundation today. Francis shows us that God's love toward us and our love toward God are reciprocal, growing in relation to one another.

A quote from St. Francis de Sales is, *"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself."* Francis offers the guidance of a gentle, compassionate father. He knew firsthand the temptation towards despair at our lowliness before God, but he also knew personally that God offers us the grace we need in our pilgrimage towards Him. God knows each of us intimately—our strengths and our struggles—and looks into our hearts. Rather than being overwhelmed by our shortcomings, spiritual and otherwise, Francis encourages us to extend God's own gentleness and patience to ourselves.

As Francis says elsewhere, God *"delights to show forth his power in our weakness, his mercy in our misery."*

Introduction to the Devout Life



St. Francis de Sales

A Good Read!

St. Francis de Sales explains how to turn that desire for sanctity into resolutions that yield grace-filled results.

Whether you are just beginning your spiritual journey or are more advanced in the spiritual life, you'll be able to apply this timeless wisdom immediately.

St Francis De Sales
Pray for us.

Feast and Memorial Days



- 20 January St Fabian, pope, martyr & St Sebastian, martyr
- 21 January St Agnes, virgin, martyr
- 22 January St Vincent, deacon, martyr
- 24 January St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor
- 25 January The Conversion of St Paul, apostle

"Have patience with all things - but first with yourself. Never confuse your mistakes with your value as a human being. You are perfectly valuable, creative, worthwhile person simply because you exist. And no amount of triumphs or tribulations can ever change that."

- St Francis de Sales



Sapientia

Single adults, 18-35 years of age, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for this weekend retreat of prayer, formation, and fellowship.

13-15 February 2026
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre
Douglas Park

For more information or to register:
www.trybooking.com/DHJBL
or email the Sisters at sydney@op-tn.org.



Father Robbie's absence

Father Robbie, will be in Mexico performing the wedding of our parishioners Jamie and Ana in January and then be on leave for the next few weeks.

We warmly welcome back Father Ninian Doohan from Edinburgh who is once again coming to look after the parish and enjoy a bit of Sydney weather. Please make him feel at home.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 65:4

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,

the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.

**(R.) Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.**

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **(R.)**
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **(R.)**
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **(R.)**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

John 1:14. 12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:29-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 22:5

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

