

Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church



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Padre: Victor C. Yakubu,
Administrador Parroquial

Padre: Julius Kayiwa, Vicario Parroquial

Confesión el Sábado:
Por cita en (Español y Inglés)

Rosario el Sábado: Y Letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María—3:20pm

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) / Inglés 4:00 p.m.

Rosario el Domingo: Y Letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María— 9:40am

Misa el Domingo: Español /10:00 a.m.

Liturgia en los Días de la Semana

Cada Día a las Doce: Angelus/Regina Caeli

Lunes: Adoración 7:00am y Misa a las 7:30am

Martes, Miércoles Jueves, Viernes:
Adoración 7:30am y Misa 8:00am

Viernes: a las 6:00pm Rosario Reina de la Paz con
Adoración

Sábado: Adoración: 7:30am y a las 8:00am
Misa en Honor de Virgen María



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Now I have seen and testified that he is the
Son of God.” - Jn 1:34

“Pues bien, yo lo vi y doy testimonio de que éste
es el Hijo de Dios”. - Jn 1, 34

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January 15th, 2023

Rev. Victor C. Yakubu, Parochial Administrator
Rev. Julius Kayiwa, Parochial Vicar

Confession on Saturday:

By appointment English/Spanish

Saturday Rosary: With Litanies of the Blessed Virgin
Mary - 3:20pm

Saturday Mass (Vigil): English -4:00 p.m.

Sunday Rosary: With Litanies of the Blessed Virgin
Mary—9:40am

Sunday Mass: Spanish 10:00am

Liturgy of the Weekdays

Every day at Noon: Angelus/Regina Caeli

Monday: 7:00am Adoration & Mass 7:30am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
Adoration 7:30am & Mass 8:00am

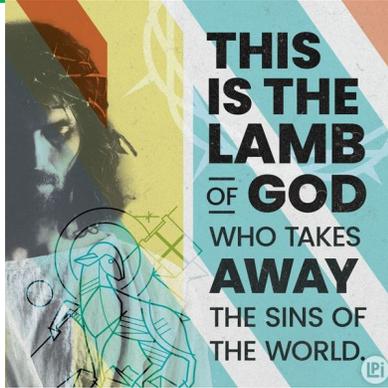
Friday: At 6:00pm Rosary of Queen of Peace with
Adoration

Saturday: Adoration: 7:30 a.m. & 8:00 a.m. Mass
In Honor of the Virgin Mary

Behold the True Lamb

Allison Gingras

During this time of the National Eucharistic Revival, the faithful should take every opportunity to reflect on the Real and True Presence of Jesus. As John the Baptist urges, don't miss the Messiah in your midst, "Behold the Lamb of God." For us living in this particular age, the best way to behold the Lamb is to gaze upon Him in the Blessed Sacrament — Eucharist. To encounter His presence — Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity — in the Mass or Eucharistic Adoration.



A lamb is central and absolutely crucial to the Passover (Exodus 12: 1–13). Hearing John the Baptist refer to Jesus as a lamb would have evoked powerful connections for the Jewish people, particularly the lamb's role in their salvation. While it would take years for the fulfillment to take place upon the Cross, at that moment, with those powerful words, John testified to Jesus' true identity — the spotless victim whose blood would redeem the world. As John baptizes the Lord and recognizes this is the one for whom he had been preparing the way, these prophetic words affirm the redemptive sacrifice Christ would make. The Lamb, whose Precious Blood would do far more than the blood put on the doorposts and the lintel at the first Passover in Egypt. This Lamb would open heaven and offer salvation from the plague of eternal death.

John testifies to Jesus as the Messiah, as the Anointed One, the Christ, as he "saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:10b-11). How does Jesus refer this truth to you in your daily life? How do you witness and testify, as to prepare the way, for others to come to know and believe?

Jesus is the Lamb born to take away the sins of the world. Not only our original sin through our Baptism but also to extend His mercy upon us, again and again, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "The sin of the world" also refers to the consequences of our personal sins, and this "expression can also refer to the negative influence exerted on people by communal situations and social structures that are the fruit of men's sins" (CCC 408). Many wrongly believe their sin affects only themselves, but as the Mystical Body of Christ, our actions, words, and, yes, our sins ripple throughout the entire Church.

Pope John Paul II explained it this way: "By virtue of a human solidarity which is as mysterious and intangible as it is real and concrete, each individual's sin in some way affects others. There is no sin, not even the most intimate and secret one, the most strictly individual one, that exclusively concerns the person committing it. With greater or lesser harm, every sin has repercussions on the ecclesial body and the whole human family. In this sense every sin can be considered a social sin." (Reconciliation and Penance, 2)

In this new year, make resolutions to behold the Lamb with more time in Adoration, or arrive early to Mass so you can pray and prepare your heart to receive the Eucharist. Also, as you add new events and appointments to your calendar, include regular participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation — Confession. This unselfish act for the good of the entire Church is the best way to ensure the Spirit of the Lord remains with you.

— Allison Gingras

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 2023

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 NS 10c/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Is 8:23—9:3/Ps 27:1,4, 13-14 (1a)/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 2023

Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Martin Luther King Day

Tuesday: St. Anthony, Abbot

Wednesday: January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Friday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr

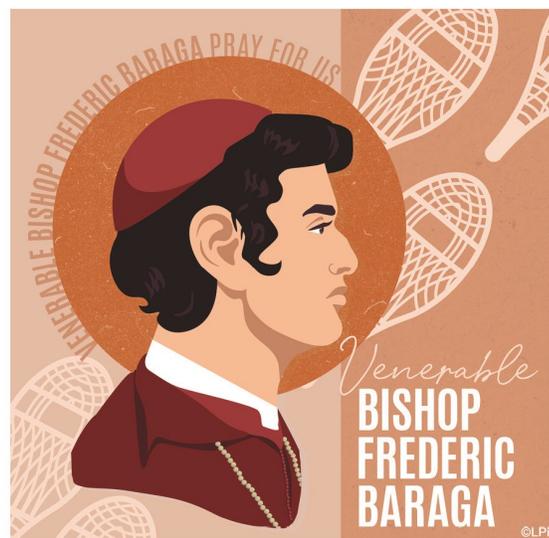
Saturday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

John the Baptist had been told that he would see the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. He listened, he believed, and he kept his eyes open. He was ready when God revealed the truth. Let's ask ourselves: are our eyes open? Are we ready?



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Known as the Snowshoe Priest, Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga, was a lifelong missionary to the Native American people of the upper Midwest. He loved the people he served, knew their languages, and even published the first Ojibwe-English dictionary!

PRAYER

Prayer for the Cause of V. Frederic Irenaeus Baraga

O God, thank you for the life and holiness of your servant, Frederic Baraga.

I pray you will honor him by the title of Saint. He dedicated himself completely to missionary activity to make you known, loved, and served by the people who you love. As a man of peace and love, Baraga brought peace and love wherever he traveled.

Lord, grant Venerable Bishop Baraga the grace of beatification.

We ask this in Christ name.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://bishopbaraga.org/cause/>)

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Showing Up

I broke my foot once, when my second child was only 12 weeks old, and I was about to move houses. For six weeks I was confined to a chair, a shrieking newborn in my arms, a toddler running circles around me, and my right foot rendered useless by a plaster cast. I couldn't do anything without assistance. I couldn't eat or get a drink or change my clothes or feed my children.

My family was in dire straits. A lot of people offered help, but there was a core group of friends and family members who really saved us.

These are the people who turned up in my driveway with empty vans and cooked meals. These are the people who blocked off their

Saturdays to haul furniture, mow our lawn, and run after unruly kids. These are the people who said: "Here I am. Give me a job."

If you've ever really, really needed another person's help, you know that "showing up" means more than saying: "Let me know what you need." It means saying: "I'm already here. Tell me what to do."

So often, I pay lip service to the idea of submission. "What do you want, God?" I ask, and I secretly hope that what He wants isn't one of those things that I'm not willing to give.

What if I really strove to "show up" for God? What if I was ready to give what He asks of me, whatever it is?

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.
— Psalm 40

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

What is unique or different about the way Catholics read and are exposed to the Bible?

Catholics are exposed to Scripture primarily through the Sunday readings from a book known as the Lectionary. The Lectionary is a book of selected passages from the Bible set in the context of a liturgical season, such as Advent, Lent, or ordinary time. There are four readings assigned to any Sunday: the first reading (usually from the Old Testament), the responsorial psalm, the second reading (usually from a New Testament letter), and the Gospel reading.

These readings together give them a new context. The selected readings relate to one another in a unique manner that is not present in the Bible text itself. In close proximity to each other, these readings now have the opportunity to converse with each other in a way that would have not been possible before.

A homilist pays attention to all four readings, preparing a reflection that speaks of this conversation among the readings, enabling us to zero in on what this unique combination of God's word has to say to us this particular Sunday.

Next time you attend Sunday liturgy, try reading the Scripture ahead of time and see how this new relationship among the readings addresses and challenges you to be a better Christian here and now.



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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a kid, I remember the priest at Mass announcing, “The Lamb of God!” Frankly, it struck me as nonsense. I thought: Why in the world does God have a lamb? And where is this lamb?

John the Baptist sees Jesus coming toward him and announces, “**Behold the lamb of God.**” His Jewish listeners knew what he meant. God’s lamb is the thing that is sacrificed at the Jewish Passover and consumed by the participants. For almost a thousand years, lambs were ritually slaughtered and eaten in Jerusalem at Passover. The lamb meant sacrifice, freedom from sin, and communion with God. The Baptist is saying in effect, “This man will

be ritually sacrificed and consumed so that God’s people may be free from sin and united to God.”

It’s crucial to relate to Jesus as a friend, brother, teacher, and Lord of our lives. But we should also learn to interact with Him as our lamb of God. That means we intentionally place on him our sins, sadnesses, and hopes, and offer him to God. Then we consume him to make us free. This is what we do at every Mass. That’s why he is the Lamb of God.

— *Father John Muir*

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.’” - Jn 1:29-30

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