

BULLETIN 01-19-2025
2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pastor's Message

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today's gospel is talking about a wedding in Cana. We all like weddings, mostly we like the joyful and happy atmosphere of weddings. We like the food, music, dancing and laughing of weddings. However, the wedding ceremony itself is another issue. Since most family members are involved in the wedding, sometimes, arguments may take place between two generations as we can say, between parents and children when they discuss the wedding ceremony. Should the father walk with the bride or the bride walk by herself? Should they preserve all classic wedding traditions or just follow American traditional weddings? Should the music be traditional or modern?

For all of us here, a wedding can be seen as an encounter of the two generations, of the old and new generations. The wedding at Cana in today's gospel is the same. From our faith we can see an encounter of the Old and New Testaments. The old is represented by the wedding families, the old rituals and the water, the new is represented by Jesus, his disciples and the new wine. And Mary, our blessed mother is the one who calls forth an initiation for the transformation of the old as she advises the servants: "Do whatever he tells you."

The old rituals and waters were transformed into new wine by Jesus as a sign of a new creation, a new law of love and sacrifice for others. The new wine should not stay in the old stone jars, they should be poured out for others. In the same way, the new law of love should be carried out and revealed to

all.

Through Baptism we have become the New Testament people and we are the new wine of the Lord. Just like the new wine should not be kept in the old jars, our new wine of faith, love and compassion should be poured out for others to taste the goodness of the Lord. Only when we are willing to share ourselves with others, we are able to bring God's love and peace to the people we meet in our life. People do not see Jesus, they see us. All that we do and behave in our daily life will help people recognize the presence of the Lord in their life.

Let us joyfully share the joy and blessings of our life with others.

— **Fr. Joe**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. There is a second collection this weekend for a combined mission to support the churches in Latin America, in Eastern Europe, in Africa and for the US Mission. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.**
- 2. (For Saturday only) Please come to the feast this Saturday after the 5:00pm Mass to celebrate the New Year with renewed commitments and strong fellowship. Dinner will be served.**
- 3. If you need a financial statement regarding your contributions of 2024 to our church for tax purposes, please call the church office. We are glad to do it for you.**
- 4. The Knights of Columbus are selling tickets for the North Carolina State Raffle! Tickets are \$5.00 each. The top prize will**

be \$5,000.00. The drawing will be May 17th, 2025. Please see a Knight for tickets.

5. Offering envelopes of 2025 are available for you at the entrance of the church. Please check for your name. If you don't see your name, please notify the church office.

MASS INTENTIONS

01/18 Saturday 5:00 pm + Bettie, Doug & John Massey
01/19 Sunday 7:00 am + Bob & Jeanne Rathburn
9:30 am + Gary Lang
12:00 pm + Elvira Flores Sanchez & + Maria de la Luz Rodriguez

01/20 Monday NO MASS
01/21 Tuesday 7:00 am + Phanxico Xavier Tai Nguyen
01/22 Wednesday 7:00 am + Jared Stacy
01/23 Thursday 7:00 am + Maria Then Vu
01/24 Friday 7:00 am + Lonnie Angel

NEXT WEEKEND

01/25 Saturday 5:00 pm + Jesus Mena Lopez
01/26 Sunday 7:00 am + Bob & Jeanne Rathburn
9:30 am + Gary Lang
12:00 pm + Margarito Alfonso
(+) Deceased (SI) Special Intention

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

TO STRENGTHEN THE BOND OF OUR PARISH FAMILY & TO INCREASE OUR FELLOWSHIP.

+++++

Join us for Dinner

SATURDAY *JANUARY 18TH

after 5:00pm Mass

Join a pro-life pilgrimage to Washington, DC for the nation's biggest pro-life witness, Jan. 23 to 25! The pilgrimage includes the Vigil Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Life Fest with the Sisters of Life, the National March for Life, and more! Lodging and transportation. Student discounts available. Sponsored by the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Charlotte. respectlife@rcdoc.org.

Project Rachel – For hope & healing after abortion, to learn how to talk with someone whose had an abortion, for help in your area:

Project.rachel@raldioc.org, <http://rachelinc.org>

Let Us Pray For Our Parishioners...

- Johnny Apodaca
- Tracy Barber
- Joseph Carter
- Angel M. Cuellas
- Marie Forbert
- Theresa French-R.
- Amanda Garcia
- Mario Garcia
- Willa Graham
- Myles Harris
- Maria Hdz.
- Aber Johnson
- Jorge Lagueruel
- Deacon Larry Lisk
- Daysi Martinez
- Rosario Martinez
- Michael Messengler
- Linda McKinney
- Felicia Murphy
- Nancy Nkwokolo
- Gladys Ozor
- Rosemary Peterson
- Hector SanchezMaria G.Sanchez A.
- Gricelda Sanchez
- Paula Rodriguez
- Andrew Royster
- Mariane Smith
- Venuste Tuyikunde

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Regular Offertory: \$ 4, 213.00
Votive Candle: \$ 14.00
Restricted Donation: \$ 700.00

Total: \$ 4,927.00

THANK YOU!

January 19th 2-4pm

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY PARADE

*Starting at W. High & S. Main
Ending at Quebein Ave & N. Main*

+++++

January 22nd

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children**

Find out how you can help the most vulnerable among us. Sign up for Respect Life Prayer and Action, to receive: prayers, action alerts to contact Congress & other ways to strengthen a culture of life. www.respectlife.org/prayer-and-action.

Quem Servis?: Who Do You Serve?

Feb. 8 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

The speakers are Bishop Fabre-Jeune, John Frankman, Eknock, Rick Barrett, Anthony Abbate and Rob Blyton. For Information/Registration for the 15th Annual Catholic Men's Conference: catholicmenofthecarolinas.org

PYSANKY RETREAT

Reflections on the history and origins of this sacred art form.

February 21-22 in Hickory
info@CatholicConferenceCenter.org

The Future of Human Dignity

Health-care professionals are invited to the eighth annual **Converging Roads** health-care ethics conference on March 29 from 8 am to 5:45 pm at the Cathedral of St. Patrick. Registration is \$75 to \$159 based on CME/CNE inclusion. For more information, including registration link, please visit <https://forlifeandfamily.org/events/cr25-cnc/>

PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!

- Mac n Cheese - Saltine Crackers
- Peanut Butter (regular size)
- Pork & Beans canned - Canned Fruit
- Canned Corn or Green Beans - Pasta 1lb
- Cereal - Boxes or bags (regular size, not large)
- Pasta Sauce (regular size, not large)
- Instant Oatmeal (boxes with individual pouches)

No glass containers,

No fresh food or outdated food, please.

As always, we are grateful for monetary donations.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!