

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH
Vanderhoof, BC

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

January 18, 2026

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



HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH MISSION
Saik'uz First Nation, BC

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EUCCHARIST

Saturday St. Joseph.....5:00 p.m.

Sunday St. Joseph.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday Holy Trinity.....12:00 noon

Tues & Thurs.....6:30 p.m.

Wed & Fri.....9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

By appointment.

BAPTISM

Contact Father Pier for more information.

MATRIMONY

Please contact Father Pier for an appointment at least six months

Today's gospel invites us to reflect on the baptism of Jesus and on our own baptism. John the Baptist helps us to understand the mission of Jesus by clearly proclaiming that Jesus "is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." A truth that we also proclaim at every Mass. Yet what does this mean for us today in a world that often denies the reality of sin, even when its harmful impact is all around us?

We cannot honestly face our individual and collective human failures unless we are convinced that we too are meant to take to heart the words that Jesus heard at his own baptism. Yes, we too are "the beloved" in whom God takes delight. This is the deepest meaning of our own baptism. We can never be separated for any reason what ever from the love of God for us. This love is an unconditional gift and unearned grace beyond all measure. Once we claim this truth for ourselves with honesty and confidence, we can, with gratitude, face our need for forgiveness, trusting we will always receive it. This week let us pray for Christian unity, a unity which is rooted in the common baptism we share with all Christians. May we live out faithfully, day by day, our baptismal mission to reveal God's love to our broken, messy world.

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PRAYER REQUESTS: For Brenda Antoine, Mackie Basil, Julio Bonilla jr., Cooper Cursley, Evelyn Embree, Ronald Gilmore, Brent Gray, Ellen Haynes, Patrick Irving, Halli & Hunter Krawczyk, George LaBrash, Jennifer Lock, Wanda Miller, Della Morin, Eunice Nash, Virginia Power, Dorothy Ranck, Ian Scott, Madeline Scott, Vanessa Stewart, Gerry Theissen, Mike VanDusen, Arthur Wiens, and for all who are ill or in need of God's healing grace.


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Reach to the ends of the earth. Today’s readings anticipate the future. John in the gospel moves our attention from his baptism to the new baptism that Jesus will bring, ‘the Lamb of God.’ Isaiah is more clear: the servant of the Lord will be ‘a light to the nations, that my salvation will reach to the ends of the earth.’ Here we anticipate the universal, even cosmic, scope of redemption in Christ – the work of Christ will embrace all of creation, and nothing will be excluded from its grace. And while not much of the vision is yet apparent, we sense that the story is only at its beginning, and we invited to experience the excitement, responding ‘Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.’ Homework: Pray: Come Holy Spirit and fill my heart, and enkindle within **me the fire of your love.**

Sanctity of Life Sunday (3rd Sunday January): the American Supreme Court decision on January 22, 1973 (but recently overturned, June 2022) legislated that women be given unfettered access to abortion and the Canadian Supreme Court decision on January 28, 1988 striking down the criminal code law regarding abortion, and the more current Canadian legislation around Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), illustrate the need for a fruitful discussion on human life. In January we are encouraged to reflect on the sanctity of life from the moment of natural conception to the moment of natural death. Keep your ears opened and become more informed.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Jan 18-25: St. Joseph’s is hosting an event Tuesday, January 20 at 7pm with Evening Prayer and Taizé Prayer. Come to share with our Christian brothers and sisters. The full schedule of the week is available in the foyer.

ALPHA Advertisement: start inviting people for our mid-February course.

LHC Life Healing Choices: next offering of the course is October 2026; pray always for those with addictions.

Transformed lives, transforming community: mission statement for evangelization;

Intimate encounter with God through an open heart: mission statement for prayer;

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **Jan 20 KofC meeting 8pm**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **Jan 25 Parish Brunch after 9:30 mass**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **Week Of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 20, 7pm**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **Jan 31 Men’s Breakfast, 7am**

QUIET PARISH HEROS : those who volunteer in cleaning our facility

2025 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL – CALLED TOGETHER

Parish Goal: \$13,952

Actual to Date: \$15,480

We are very happy to report that we are just short of 90% of our diocesan goal, having reached \$268,045 of our \$300,000 goal. Thank you to everyone who have donated to the appeal and to those who pray for its success.

We had a number of parishes meet and exceed their targets: St. Peter's in Mackenzie rocketed up 93% to reach 180% of its diocesan goal and surpassing its parish project goal. St. Mary's in New Hazelton met its goals, leaping more than 63% to reach 140% and has also met its parish project goal. Sacred Heart Cathedral has met its portion of the diocesan goal, with an increase of almost 37%, reaching 123% and also meeting its parish project goal. Immaculate Conception also crossed the threshold, jumping more than 30% since our last report and is sitting at 112% and is withing 6% of hitting its parish project goal as well. Congratulations to all of you!

Other parishes also had large increases: St. Patrick's, in McBride, added another 107% to their total, reaching 287%. St. Joseph's in Vanderhoof added another 66% to reach 173% and meeting their parish project goal. Annunciation hit 236% of its goal, adding 20%, St. Andrew's in Fraser Lake and St. Anthony's in Houston both added more than 19% to their goals. Sacred Heart Parish in Terrace added a solid 17% to their goal and are on the cusp of hitting their diocesan goal and earning rebates. Christ the King Parish in Kitimat was just behind them at almost 16% and reaching 91% of their goal. St. Mary's in Prince George added another 10% and Christ Our Saviour in Prince George added 4%. Resurrection Parish in Fort St. John and Notre Dame Parish in Dawson Creek also moved the needle adding to their totals.

Well done, all of you. We are grateful to see your continued support of our smaller parishes, missions and ministries. Please remember to keep in prayer all of the many needs we have throughout our diocese.