

# Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18, 2026

How precious is the Chalice  
that quenches my thirst!

El profeta Isaías nos señala (PRIMERA LECTURA) al misterioso "Siervo de Dios" que el Señor había elegido para que fuera la "luz de las naciones". Juan el Bautista, después de bautizar a Jesús en el Jordán (EVANGELIO), nos lo señala como el Hijo de Dios. Por su parte, san Pablo insiste desde el principio de su primera carta a los corintios (SEGUNDA LECTURA) en que su vocación al apostolado es de carácter divino y recuerda a los cristianos que también ellos han sido llamados por Cristo.



## Masses For The Week

**sab 17** Vigilia de La Epifanía del Señor  
04:30 pm +Rene & Mercedes Ramírez (Sus Hijos)

+Juan Manuel Casarez, Jr. (Family)  
+Reina Sarabia (Husband & Family)  
+Virginia Ruiz Trevino (Mayorga Family)  
+Vicenta & Lorenzo Reyna (Sofia Flores)

**Sun 18** Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
11:30 am Missa Pro Populo

**Mon 19** NO MASS

**Tue 20** Weekday  
08:00 am +Marcial, Jr. & Cuca Perez (Herminia Torres)

**Wed 21** St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr  
08:00 am +Juan & Ruth Torres (Herminia Torres)

**Thu 22** Weekday  
08:00 am Amber Nicole Garza – Birthday (Fr. Nolasco Hinojosa)

**Fri 23** Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
08:00 am +Juan, Jr. & Estela Torres (Herminia Torres)

**Sat 24** St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church  
08:00 am +Francisca Miranda (Herminia Torres)

### The Sanctuary Candle



This Week will be Burning in Memory of  
+All Souls in Purgatory

# Good News!

January 18, 2026  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 / 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 / John 1:29-34

ANN M. GARRIDO

Of the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20-28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—take a moment to savor these words anew. ●

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## Dear Padre

January 18, 2026

I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.

You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully.

Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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2026 Annual Laredo Pro-Life Rosary Walk  
Caminata Anual del Rosario Pro-Vida  
Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 2:00 pm



Join us on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 2:00 pm as we pray the rosary on a 2 mile walk culminating with a Mass at San Agustín Cathedral, celebrated by Bishop James Tamayo. We will be asking God to protect human life at all stages from conception to natural death.

We will start at the corner of Boston Street and Santa Ursula Avenue, Laredo, Texas. Shuttle service will be available from San Agustín Cathedral to the starting site from 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm.

For more information call The Family Life Office, Diocese of Laredo, at (956) 727-2140.

Acompáñenos el domingo, 25 de enero, 2026 a las 2:00 pm en nuestra caminata de 2 millas, rezando el Rosario, culminando con una Misa en la Catedral San Agustín, celebrada por el Señor Obispo Jaime Tamayo. Rogaremos a Dios que proteja la vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural.

La caminata empezara en la esquina de la Calle Boston y la Avenida Santa Ursula en Laredo, Texas.

Para más información llame a la Oficina del Ministerio a la Familia, de la Diócesis de Laredo, (956) 727-2140.

### LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Oscar Noriega, Justin Pecina, Irma Santos, Gerardo Castro, Guadalupe Ortiz, María E. Maldonado, Alicia Guardiola, Delia Hinojosa, Rebecca Quintero, Herminia Torres, and Ernesto Sánchez, Jr.



I will make you  
a light to the nations

Colecta de la Semana Pasada

Envelopes: \$ 2,012.00

Loose: \$ 207.00

Children's Envelopes: \$ 35.50

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 2,254.50

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 1,287.90



### Wedding Anniversary Mass

If you or someone you know is celebrating 25 or 50 years of Catholic Marriage

\*\*\*\*\*Silver, Gold or Diamond Wedding Anniversaries\*\*\*\*\*

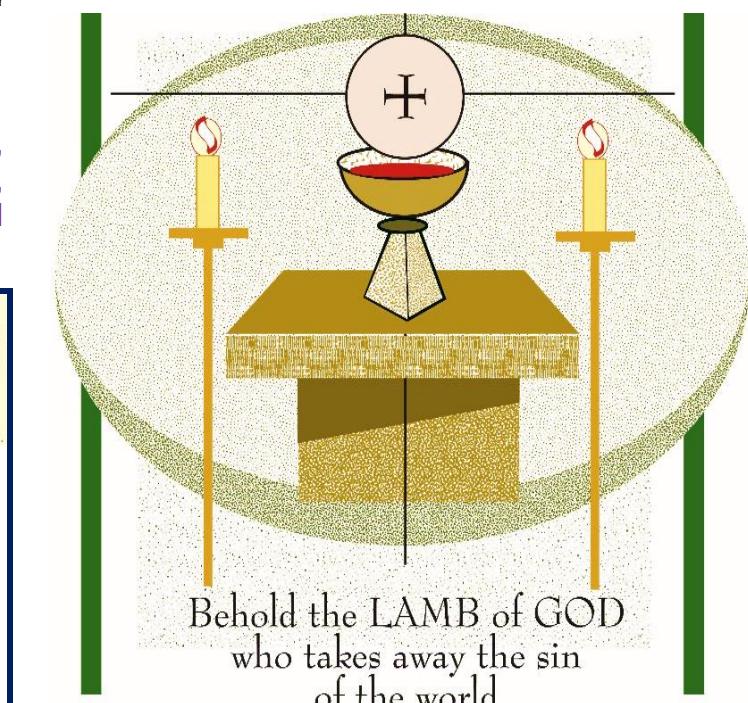
The Diocese of Laredo would like to recognize this important milestone in your married life with a special Mass at San Agustín Cathedral on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Please register for this special event at your Parish Office or contacting the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Laredo at (956) 727-2140.

Deadline for registration is Friday, January 23, 2026.

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

The Diocese of Laredo would like to extend an invitation to the 2026 Annual Diocesan Conference, Pilgrims of Hope. This will take place at TAMIU Student Center (5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041) on Saturday March 7, 2026, from 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Please, save the Date! This conference will give us the wonderful opportunity to continue meditating in the motto of the Jubilee Year 2025. Let us come together to make this a successful and memorable conference!



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