

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18, 2026

How precious is the Chalice
that quenches my thirst!



Masses For The Week

Sun 18 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

09:00 am +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)
+Jorge & Carlota Adams (Belia Flores)
+Kina Reyes (Armando & Nena Colchado)

Thr 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection Of Unborn Children

12:05 pm +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Because God formed John the Baptist "as his servant from the womb," John's whole being is ordered to God. Thus, when John "saw Jesus coming toward him," he instantly cried out, "Behold, the Lamb of God." John immediately recognizes that Christ is the one the world has been waiting for. This leads John to "testify that he is the Son of God." The same grace has been given to us. By baptism, we "have been called to be holy with all those who call upon the name of the Lord." By professing the one "who takes away the sin of the world," we become a light to the nations, through whom God's salvation reaches to the ends of the earth. As we glorify the Lamb of God, God shows his glory through us.

The Sanctuary Candle



This Week will be Burning for
+All Souls in Purgatory (Sandra Leyendecker)

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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THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

The National Collection for the Church in Latin America is scheduled for next Sunday, January 25. A contribution to the Collection is a tangible way to express your solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Donations to the Collection fund pastoral projects that bring people more fully into the life of the Catholic Church. Please contribute generously to this collection.

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Cristina Zarate, Mina Aldaco, Ramona Alaniz, Edna Flores, Ana Maria Finley, Mary G. Finley, Margarita Incencio, Lucia Rodriguez, Maria Teresa Cassiano, Dotty Guffey, Rodrigo Medina, Armando Colchado, Elida Aldaco and Michelle Angela Nelson.



2026 PRO-LIFE ROSARY WALK

Join us on Sunday, January 25th, 2026 at 2:00 pm as we pray the rosary on a 2 mile walk, asking God to protect human life at all stages from conception to natural death, and praying for parents who are experiencing a difficult pregnancy. We will start at the corner of Boston Street and Santa Ursula Avenue, in Laredo, Texas and conclude at San Agustine Cathedral, where a special Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Tamayo. Shuttle service will be available from San Agustin 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.

25th, 50th & 50+

Wedding Anniversary Mass

If you or someone you know is
celebrating 25, 50 or more than 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 Agustin Cathedral
on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Please register for this special event by calling
your Parish Office or 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!



I will make you
a light to the nations

Last Sunday's Collection

Envelopes: \$ 4,249.00

Loose: \$ 26.00

Children's Envelopes: \$ 5.00

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 4,280.00

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 720.28

Dear Padre

January 18, 2026

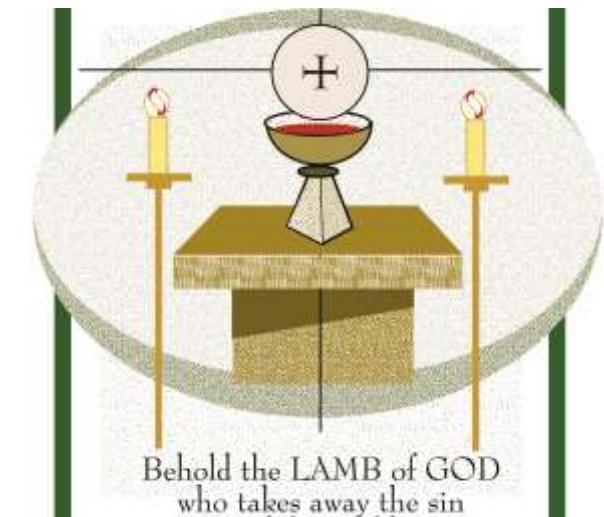
I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.

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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Behold the LAMB of GOD
who takes away the sin
of the world

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