

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 25, 2026



DIVISION

It is a situation that plays itself out in more and less significant ways: Christians divided.

A CYO basketball game between two neighboring parishes. Parents of the young players scream insults and threats at one another and assert their “superiority.”

A Protestant and a Catholic church sit on adjoining properties. Each is vigilant about having parking violators removed from its own “private” parking lot.

An old pastor retires but continues to reside at the parish. A new pastor arrives and quickly finds his faith “community” choosing sides against him.

Saint Paul addresses similar disagreements in the early church at Corinth. He encourages the church there to make up their differences and to be united again in their belief and practice.

Today’s first reading from Isaiah speaks of a people weighed down by the yoke of sin and darkness. Certainly the bickering and differences among us can be classified as such. The Gospel tells of the beginning ministry of Jesus. The Light has come, encouraging us to “repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

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REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD

Imagine a large group of travelers, lost in the midst of a dense forest on a starless black night. They cannot see the path; they cannot even see each other. Little by little they wander in different directions, trying desperately to find their way forward through the immense trees, all the while spreading further and further apart. Suddenly a bright white lantern shines from the edge of the forest. Their fear flees with the darkness. As they head toward the light they rejoin one another and rejoice to discover the one way out of the forest.

The imagery of light in the darkness threads its way through the Sundays of Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent. It reminds us that the Light of the World, whose dawning we celebrated during the Advent/Christmas season, is the same light of Christ whose flame will purify and enlighten us during Lent and enkindle the fire of the Holy Spirit in us during the fifty days of Easter.

This week our first reading likens the salvation of the “District of the Gentiles” to light dispelling darkness, anguish, and gloom. Matthew’s Gospel characterizes Jesus as a light arising in “Galilee of the Gentiles,” beckoning the fishermen to join together in following him along the way. Paul exhorts us to remain united on the one way that follows the light of our one and only Lord, Jesus Christ.

—Virginia Stillwell

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The prayers surrounding baptism often speak of being “clothed in Christ,” and clothes are an important consideration. In ancient times, adults were probably baptized without any clothes at all, and old texts survive asking people to leave fancy garb and jewelry behind as they enter the font. Baptism was typically in a private place, the community waited elsewhere, and the casting off of clothing was hardly a public moment, nor was it embarrassing in ancient cultures where privacy was largely unknown.

Nonetheless, what was left behind on one side of the font was replaced on the other as a white robe was wrapped around the newly baptized. It was a robe of honor, a dazzling sign of a new beginning for a society that valued clothing as a sign of personal identity. For the newly baptized, a whole week in white garments was the rule, through the second Sunday of Easter, called “Sunday *in Albis*,” because of all the folks wearing their baptismal robes.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Celebrate the Baby by Helping Babies!

The parish will be collecting baby items during the month of January to donate to the Women’s Pregnancy Crisis Center.

► **BABY DONATIONS to include:**

- Diapers – Sizes 4-6, Wipes,
- New or gently used Baby Clothes, preferably 12 months and up, Baby Lotions, and Shampoo.

You can bring your donations to any of the Masses.

¡Celebra al Bebé ayudando a los bebés!

La parroquia estará recolectando artículos para bebés durante el mes de enero para donarlos al Centro de Crisis de Embarazo de Mujeres.

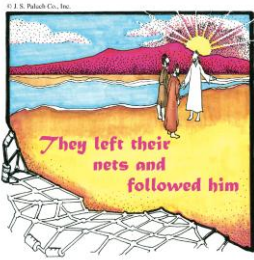
► **DONACIONES PARA BEBÉS para incluir:**

- Pañales - Tallas 4-6, Toallitas húmedas,
- Ropa de bebé nueva o poco usada, preferiblemente de 12 meses en adelante,
- Lociones para bebés y Champú para bebés.

Puedes llevar tus donaciones a cualquiera de las Misas.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS -- Deacon Bill’s birthday is Friday, January 30th. Thank you for your faithful & dedicated ministry. May God bless you with many more wonderful years. “**Happy Birthday**”

Saturday, January 24th -



5:00PM-IHM-
+Gavin Martinez;
+Belinda Gomez, Tomas &
Guadalupe Morales

Sunday, January 25th -
8:00AM – IHM Por la Gente
de Nolan County
11:00AM – IHM In
Thanksgiving for Lonnie

Mendez’s birthday; for our Seminarian, Martin Luna;
In Thanksgiving for the birthdays of JT Wilson,
Hilario, Antonio & Pablo Gonzalez;
+Ezequiel, Albina, Delia y Teresa Gonzalez;
Rafael y Concha Acevedo

Tuesday, January 27th 9:00AM - HF

For the Souls in Purgatory, especially the most
forgotten and those close to leaving

Wednesday, January 28th 6:00PM– IHM

For the Souls in Purgatory, especially the most
forgotten and those close to leaving

Thursday, January 29th 9:00AM-HF

For the Souls in Purgatory, especially the most
forgotten and those close to leaving

Friday, January 30th 9:00AM HF

For the Souls in Purgatory, especially the most
forgotten and those close to leaving

Saturday, January 31st -

5:00PM-IHM – For the People of Nolan County

Sunday, February 1st -

8:00AM – IHM +Cirilo, Victoria y Lucia Chavira;
En acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Yesnia
Gonzales y Michael Arce;
+Rene “JoJo” Martinez; +Jaime Montealvo
11:00AM – IHM +Martina Herrera; +Vicky Soto’
+Beatriz L. Mendez

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-
8a, 10; Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10;
Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30;
Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14;
Mk 4:21-25
Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-
11; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17;
Mk 4:35-41
Sunday: Zep 2:3, 3:12-13; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10;
1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

January 31 – Jamaica February 7 – Youth Group

TODAY: Catholic Schools Collection - Catholic

Schools are a ministry of the whole Church community.
Today, a special collection for the Catholic Schools in
the Diocese of San Angelo will be held at Masses
throughout the diocese. You may contribute to this
special collection or you can donate online at
<https://sanangelodiocese.org/give>. Thank you for your
support of this ministry.

*Las Escuelas Católicas son un ministerio de toda la
comunidad de la Iglesia. Hoy, se llevará a cabo una
colecta especial para las Escuelas Católicas en la
Diócesis de San Angelo en las Misas en toda la diócesis.
Puede contribuir a esta colección especial o puede
donar en línea en www.sanangelodiocese.org/give.
Gracias por su apoyo a este ministerio.*

RELIGION CLASSES ---

- Sunday Classes 9:30 - 10:40A.M.
- Wednesday Classes 7:00 - 8:30P.M
- OCIA –Thursdays, 6pm at HF Hall, 507 Crane St.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, January 25 - 6:00pm (*English*)
Monday, January 26 - 7:00pm (*Spanish*)
Both at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don’t have to
be a cursillista to attend. For information on the
Cursillo movement, please visit
<http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html>

WEDNESDAY - Confessions begin at 5:15pm
followed by Mass at 6:00pm and Adoration until
8:30pm at IHM.

PARISH MOVIE GROUP – meets Sunday, January
25th, 4pm, Holy Family Hall.

2025 CHURCH OFFERINGS REPORT – for Income
Tax purposes available; call the parish office-235-3318.

January 17/18, 2026 COLLECTION DATA

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....	\$ 3,446.05
LOOSE PLATE.....	1,202.50
BUILDING FUND.....	735.00
TOTAL COLLECTION.....	\$ 5,383.55

Thank you for your generosity!

**Are you struggling after an abortion?
Are you seeking healing and hope?**

The Project Rachel Ministry of the Diocese of
San Angelo is here for you. Our team has been praying
for you, and you are not alone. Jesus offers healing and
mercy to all who desire peace and self-forgiveness.

Please reach out to our confidential helpline or
email to learn more about healing retreats, counseling,
and compassionate support.

Project Rachel Ministry – Diocese of San Angelo

☎ Call or text: (432) 236-9883

✉ projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org



World Youth Day
Seoul Korea 2027
JULY 31ST- AUGUST 9TH
Diocese of San Angelo



CALLING ALL YOUNG CATHOLICS! 21 AND UP!

**BE PART OF AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY OF FAITH, FRIENDSHIP, AND JOY
AS WE JOIN MILLIONS OF PILGRIMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027!**

**EXPERIENCE PRAYER, WORSHIP, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY
ALL CENTERED ON CHRIST.**

**DON'T MISS THIS LIFE-CHANGING EVENT WITH THE HOLY FATHER
AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM EVERY NATION.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
Contact Angela Garcia @ (325)651-7500**

Learn More Information Here:

[World Youth Day](#)

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS
AUGUST 7TH, 2026**

