

January 23, 2022



3<sup>rd</sup>

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor."*

- Lk 4:18a

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Tues.–Fri. 7:30 a.m. Mass • Sat. 3–4 p.m. Confessions & 4:30 p.m. Mass • Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Mass & 11:45 a.m.–4 p.m. Adoration

## MASS INTENTIONS & CALENDAR

**January 23, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, St. Vincent & St. Marianne Cope**

8:30 a.m. Patricia & Richard Dillon†

10:30 a.m. Paula Linnen

**January 24, St. Francis de Sales**

**January 25, The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle**

7:30 a.m. Elizabeth J. & William L. Sullivant†

**January 26, Sts. Timothy and Titus**

7:30 a.m. Special intention

**January 27, St. Angela Merici**

7:30 a.m. Teachers & educators

**January 28, St. Thomas Aquinas**

7:30 a.m. Victims of the Tonga volcano eruption & tsunami

**January 29**

4:30 p.m. Brian Decko†



PLEASE KEEP OUR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND  
STAFF IN YOUR PRAYERS!

## WHEN YOU SUPPORT THIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL, WE ALL WIN!!

This year, Holy Spirit is participating in the Catholic United financial raffle. Each ticket is \$5. Holy Spirit keeps every dollar raised with every raffle ticket sold. If we sell all our tickets, we can earn a minimum of \$6,500 for our school, and more if we sell more than our initial allotment of tickets!

The grand prize for the raffle drawing (held on Mar. 10) is a 2022 Ford Escape or \$20,000! Other prizes include: a \$5,000 Dream Vacation, Smart TVs, Amazon gift cards, and so much more! Tickets are sold through Holy Spirit students. See the flyer for more details.



Skedaddle over to Night of Spirit on Apr. 30! After two years of celebrating virtually, get your feathers and fedoras ready for an in-person event!

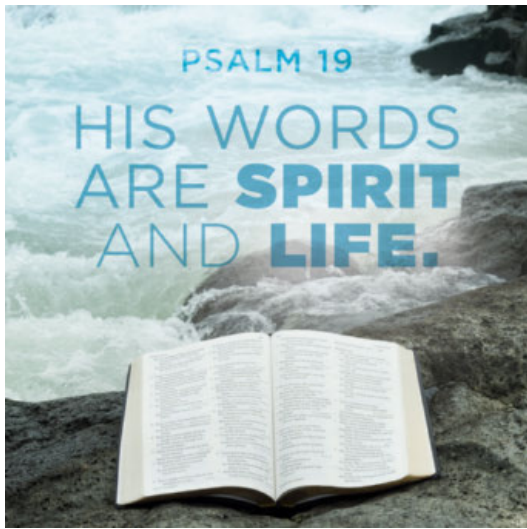
**REGISTER:** Get discounted admission and access to auctions at [bit.ly/nos-2022](https://bit.ly/nos-2022).

**DONATE:** Auctions are way more fun when you have cool stuff to bid on! Donate experiences, gift certificates, concert and game tickets, handmade items, and more (we're looking at you, unused Christmas gifts!) at [bit.ly/nos-donate](https://bit.ly/nos-donate).

**HOST:** Visit the group party donation link to submit an idea to bring together the community. Kids events, adult events, family events, or even running your own speakeasy — all are welcome! Visit [bit.ly/nos-hosting](https://bit.ly/nos-hosting).

Questions? Email us at [auctions@holy-spirit.org](mailto:auctions@holy-spirit.org). To learn more, visit [nightofspirit.org](https://nightofspirit.org) or scan the QR code using your phone's camera.





### First Reading

Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read (Neh 8:8)

### Psalm

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life  
(Ps 19)

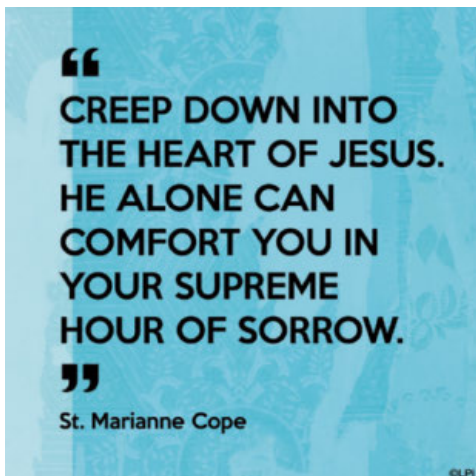
### Second Reading

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit (1 Cor 12:12)

### Gospel

He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."  
(Lk 1:21)

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## LIVE THE LITURGY

People can easily lose a sense of the sacred and transcendent. When we lose a sense of God's special presence, we need to be brought back. Ezra brought people back to the word of God and they realized what they were missing. Jesus proclaims God's word in the synagogue with true conviction and tells those gathered that he is the fulfillment of all that Isaiah taught. Even though people get lost, distracted, discouraged, and often journey down the wrong path, God's timeless law remains. When we allow ourselves to truly hear God's word and act on it, that living word slowly, over time, changes us. It has the power to soften and mold us, creating within us a joyful spirit. We realize the truth in what God speaks and become open to God's love. Gradually and gently God leads us back where we belong. We discover again the sacred character of life and the wonder of God's power. It is no wonder that Luke addresses his remarks to Theophilus. It is a name that means "beloved of God," a name that can be used by anyone who desires friendship with God.



## REFLECTING ON SCRIPTURE

### First Reading

Ezra and Nehemiah were the religious and political leaders of Judah in the mid-5th century BC. They grounded their leadership in Scripture ("the book of the law.") What role does sacred Scripture have in guiding your life?

### Second Reading

Paul used the human body as an analogy for the "many parts" of the Christian community in Corinth that should unite as the "one body" of Christ. In what ways do you find this a challenging vision for community?

### Gospel

Today's reading contains both the opening prologue to the Gospel of Luke and the initial reaction to Jesus' return to his hometown of Nazareth. Luke is the only Evangelist to provide us with a prologue outlining his motivation to write his Gospel. What details do you find most interesting from Luke's prologue?

# AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Ordination of the Most Reverend Joseph A. Williams

Jan. 25, 1 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Paul

The ordination will take place on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, with a reception to follow. If you plan to attend in-person, remember that Archbishop Hebda has strongly encouraged mask-wearing at Mass. The ordination will also be livestreamed on the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis' Facebook page and aired on Metro Cable Channel 6.

**Newly Married Retreat — Living the Dream**

Feb. 5, 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Church of Saint Peter, Mendota

Couples married for 0-7 years are invited to attend the 2022 Archdiocesan Newly Married Retreat. Led by Brad and Libby Dupont of Evermore and the Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS, the retreat will cover topics including developing couple values, decision making, and planning for success. Cost is \$65/couple.

Register by Jan. 31 by calling (651) 291-4488.

**Widow & Widower Agape Dinner**

Feb. 12, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Church of Saint Peter, Forest Lake

Share in this AGAPE Dinner (communal meal) in token of Christian fellowship. All widows and widowers are welcome! Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with Mass and the presentation by Fr. Jim Livingston at 10 a.m. Dinner will follow. If interested, contact Deacon Lane to arrange for transportation. Questions? Call Cindy Casey at (651) 249-8807 or the parish office at (651)

982-2229. To register, mail payment to:

Attn: Lisa

Church of Saint

Peter 1250 S Shore Dr.

Forest Lake, MN 55025

**2022 WINE: Catholic Women's Conference**

Feb. 26, 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Holy Family Catholic Church, Saint Louis Park

The conference begins with Mass, followed with music by Caroline Metzinger and inspirational talks by Kelly Wahlquist (WINE founder); Liz Kelly (author and retreat leader); Leah Jacobson (the Wholistic Feminist); and Alicia Donovan (Biblical beekeeper). The day includes prayer with prayer teams, confession, adoration, lunch, shopping, chocolate, and a fun raffle! Register at [wineconference.org](http://wineconference.org) by Feb. 1 for \$55 for the Saturday conference or \$100 for the Saturday conference plus a Friday gathering (open to 200 ladies)!

## *Plant Your Works in the Word*

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters.

But are we mindful — truly?

The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."

We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

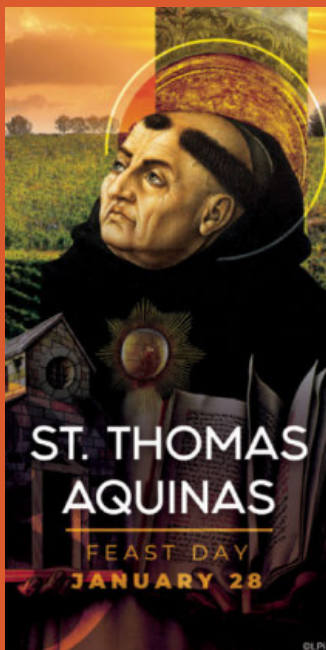
## ST. THOMAS AQUINAS JANUARY 28

One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, “The Summa Theologiae.” Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19.

He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. The Summa Theologiae, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today.



### - Gospel Meditation -

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God’s transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the “gods” of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God’s constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God’s Word, God’s life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one’s soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn’t forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God’s Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God’s fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away.



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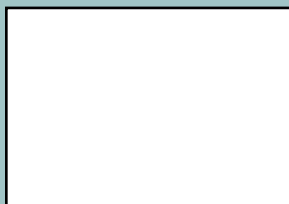
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