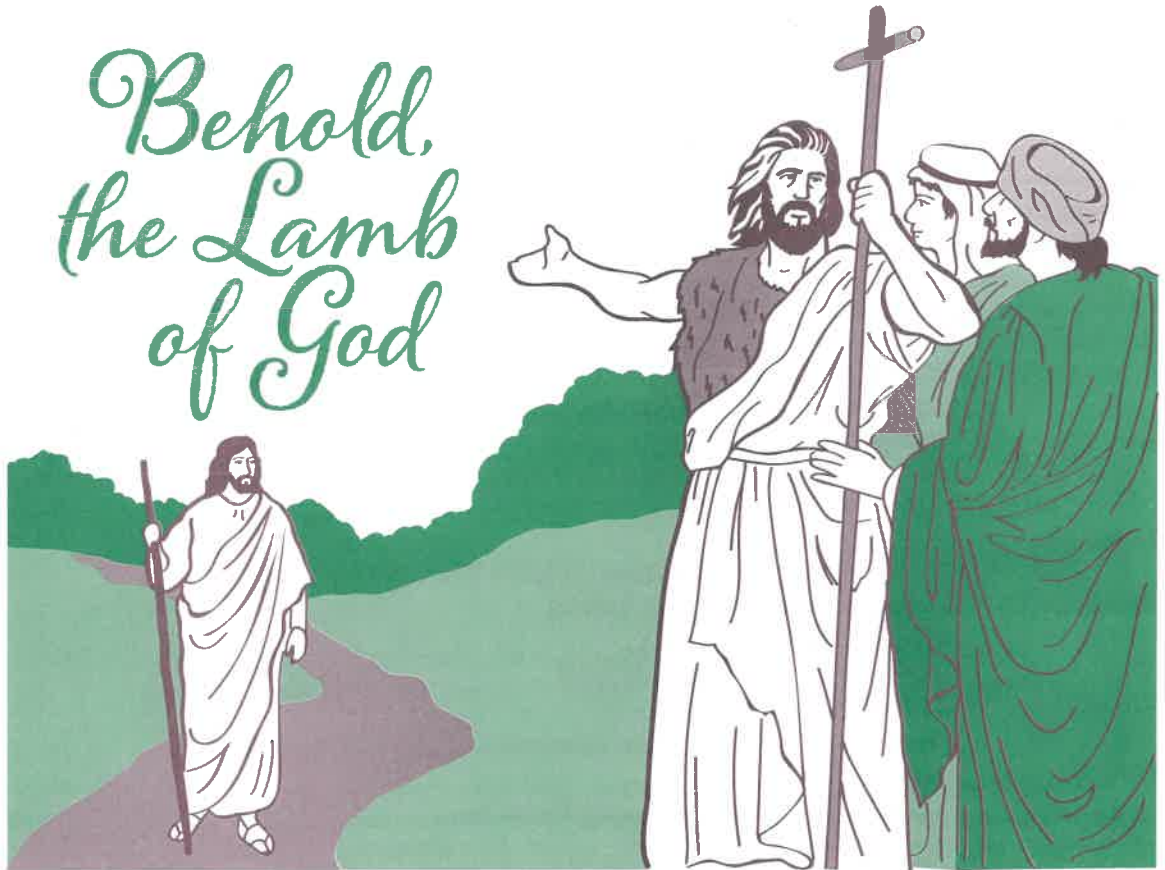


Behold, the Lamb of God



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January 14, 2018 • Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The two disciples who were with John in today's Gospel did not yet know Jesus. John knew they sought the Messiah, and he understood his mission to point the way to the Lord. In the first reading, Eli realized that the Lord was calling Samuel and told him how to respond when called. Saint Paul witnessed to the Good News of

Jesus to the people in Corinth, and continued to show them how to live as Christian people. John, Eli, and Paul grasped that, as people of faith, we are called to show others the way to the Lord. Who helps you be attentive to God's presence and to respond in faith? To whom are you called to witness, to show the way to the Lord?

SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS
60442



SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 14, 2018

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR
Rev. Mr. Milt Leppert, Permanent Deacon
Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440
FAX 478-4186
Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 5:00 pm	January 13, 2018 †Judy Eileen Nolan req. by Marilyn & Craig Cieply
Sunday, 9:00 am	January 14, 2019 †Sandy Bahr req. by Dan & Cathy Gesell family / also Parish Family of St. Patrick
Monday, 9:00 am	January 15, 2018 †Rose Smith req. by Ronnie & Ed Ziebart
Tuesday, 6:00 pm	January 16, 2018—NO MASS ADORATION until 9pm
Wednesday, Thursday, 9:00 am	January 17, 2018 - NO MASS January 18, 2018 †Rose Smith req. by Lee Giumond
Friday, 9:00 am	January 19, 2018 NO MASS - Adoration until 11:00 am
Saturday, 5:00 pm	January 20, 2018 †Alice Galvez req. by M/M Ron Vinson
Sunday, 9:00 am	January 21, 2018 †Jerry Robbins req. by Doris & Debbie Robbins /also Parish Family of St. Patrick

Altar Servers:

Saturday, January 20,- 5:00 pm
Nick & Ella Phelps
Sunday, January 21, - 9:00 am
Ian Kreske, Andy Horath

Extraordinary Minister:

Saturday, January 20, - 5:00 pm
Carmen Kinsella, Sue Nugent
Sunday, January 21, - 9:00 am
Steve Hoehn

Lector

Saturday, January 20- 5:00 pm
Jerry Kinsella
Sunday, January 21 - 9:00 am
Josh Kreske

Usher:

Saturday, January 20- 5:00 pm
Mark Tillitson, volunteer
Sunday, January 21- 9:00 am
Eddie Horath, Dennis Skolasinski

Music: Cathy Engler

Collection Counters : Horath & Price

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,463.93

Sunday, January 7 \$1,995.00
Christmas \$1,800.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish

**Please Participate!
Your Gift Makes a Difference!**

Parish Goal:	\$ 9,635.00
Amount Pledged:	\$12,615.00
Amount Paid:	\$12,030.00
2017 Rebate	\$ 1,677.00



Thank you for your generous response.

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and Caribbean, rural terrain and a lack of ministers are obstacles to practicing their faith. Your support to the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, as well as other programs to help share our faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

To learn more, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Through their witness of Jesus as the Messiah, John the Baptist and Saint Andrew are instrumental to the world coming to know about Jesus and his mission on earth. By telling a friend or relative about Jesus, which is what these men did, we are continuing this work of evangelization today.



Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can choose to do a One Time Gift or a special remembrance, or you can set up regularly scheduled contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient! Go to our parish website at stpatrickwilton-center.org. to sign up.

*From the fullness of his grace
we have all received one*

Blessing

after another

John 1:16

Share YOUR Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon our diocese will be taking up the national collection for the Church in Latin America. Although the people are faith-filled, the needs in this region of the world are great and can often seem insurmountable. The distance in rural areas and deteriorated roads make it difficult for some communities to have Mass regularly. Language barriers and lack of resources make catechetical materials difficult to produce. We are called to share our faith with all, and this collection is a prophetic and bold way to do so.

In Cuba, in the Archdiocese of San Cristobal de la Habana, the Church is not present in many of the smaller or rural communities. For many years, there were no ministers and there was no mission house—not to mention a church building—to which the people could turn. The message of the Gospel could not spread, because there were very few messengers to share it and few places where people could go to hear it. But with your support, pastoral agents have received training to bring the Gospel to these areas and neighborhoods. Your support has helped bring people to the Church, through religious education and retreats, and the Church to the people, through evangelization efforts and the repair of church buildings. This has given them the hope and the joy of the Gospel.

Please be generous in this collection, and take this opportunity to share your faith with many families in Latin America and the Caribbean. Your support will truly make a difference. Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



For more information on the Church in Latin America and the many projects funded by the collection, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

This special collection will be taken up next weekend, at all of the Masses.

The 2018 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is now underway!

The Diocese of Joliet is mailing information about the 2018 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) this month to all CMAA donors at St. Patrick Parish. The CMAA supports thirty ministries that benefit every parish in the Diocese, including ours, as well as our friends and neighbors most in need.

Our parish's goal for the 2018 CMAA is \$10,600. If we raise more than this goal, 70% of the amount paid over goal will be returned to us for use. This is a great benefit for our parish! Please review the information you receive and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's CMAA.

If you do not receive a mailing from the Diocese about the CMAA, please contact the parish office.

THE LAMB OF GOD

"Behold the Lamb of God!" We hear this phrase every Sunday at Mass, but there's a good chance that many Roman Catholics do not know who in the Bible originally spoke it. The phrase appears only in the Gospel of John, on the lips of John the Baptist, who utters it twice. In today's Gospel reading, John proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God, and two of John's own disciples then follow Christ. A little bit later Andrew, who heard John and then followed Jesus, brings his brother Simon to be re-named Cephas, or Peter. A careful look at these Bible verses shows us the mission of everyone baptized into the Body of Christ: we must always proclaim our faith in Christ, so that others will follow him. We may not know how the will of God might work through those we bring to Christ; that is not the point. The point is that our ongoing mission as a church is to bring others to Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Ordinary Time" began for us this week. On the old calendar, the feast of the Presentation, still more than two weeks away, was the last day of the Christmas season. Sadly, Bethlehem is hardly a place of peace on earth these days. The ancient Christian community has been largely uprooted by political strife. The Church of the Nativity stands (barely) in remarkable disrepair and disorder in Manger Square. The roof is crumbling, the major doorways are blocked, the wiring is faulty, and the worship life is disrupted by quarrels among Eastern Christians.

The church was founded by the Emperor Constantine in 325, destroyed in a Samaritan revolt in 539, and rebuilt by the Emperor Justinian. When the area came under Muslim control in 638, the holiness of the church was respected, and in return Christians allowed Muslims to pray in the south aisle, a right still upheld. Earlier in that century, invading Persians were ordered to destroy all churches, but when they saw the magi carved over the doorway of the Church of the Nativity, they spared it out of respect for their ancestors who bore gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the same city. The Crusaders restored and redecoreated the church by the twelfth century, and it is their plan that survives. Down a few stone steps is a stone grotto with a silver star marking the place of Christ's birth: when the star was stolen in 1847 it triggered an international crisis that exploded into the Crimean War.

Since 1852, the church has been shared by the Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Armenian Churches. The Greeks are in charge of the grotto, but don't enjoy the best of friendships with the Armenians. Catholics have the care of the Chapel of the Manger, and avoid the squabbles by a separate entrance to the Franciscan monastery church of St. Catherine. Pray for peace in Bethlehem!

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

THE Peotone Senior Assistance Center is available the third Thursday of the month, this Thursday, January 18, 2018, from 10am-3pm in the Red Room at St. Paul the Apostle.

This is part of our Respect Life Ministry, whose mission is to protect the vulnerable and provide seniors, low income and disabled persons with assistance from county, state and federal programs, including Medicare, Social Security, license plate discounts, and services offered through Catholic Charities. The center is staffed by volunteers who serve the community without cost.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN
YOUR PRAYERS**

Marge Flint; Grace Niemiec;
Cathy Engler, Loretta Long,
Barb Flatt, Nancee Long,

Shay Phelan,

WITH THE NEW YEAR WE ARE UPDAT-
ED OUR PRAYER LIST. PLEASE CON-
TACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST.

**Anyone wishing to be on the prayer list
should contact the office.**

**Intention of the Holy Father
MONTH OF JANUARY**

- That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK
January 14, 2018**



Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23;
Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;
Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22,
27-28; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps
144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-
3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6,
11; Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27;
Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1
Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Wednesday: St. Anthony

Thursday: Week of Prayer for Christian
Unity begins

Friday: Julian Calendar Theophany
(Epiphany)

Saturday: St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

CHAINS OF GRACE

The chains of grace are so powerful, and yet
so sweet, that though they attract our heart,
they do not shackle our freedoms.

--St. Francis de Sales



BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD

John's introduction was a simple declaration: "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples immediately responded. Jesus sensed their willing hearts and invited them to follow him. Do you sometimes wish that recognizing the Lord would be so straightforward in your own life? Would it not be wonderful if a friend could point to Christ with certainty? While we do not always have such a clear sense of God's presence with and within us, we

do have a regular opportunity to encounter Christ, in the celebration of the Mass. Like the disciples, we too hear, "Behold the Lamb of God." After the consecration, just before we receive Holy Communion, the priest raises the host and says, "Behold, the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." It is like having a friend point the way to the Lord for us. Here is Christ, ready for us to receive his Body and his Blood, to enter into deep communion with him, and to live our lives as his disciples. Nourished in word and sacrament, we are called to point the way to the Lord as witnesses to Christ's love.

HERE I AM. SPEAK, FOR YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING

The Lord does not only call people like Samuel and the two disciples. God calls each of us. We must be attentive to God's presence in prayer, sacred scripture, the sacraments, interactions with others, the beauty of creation. We are to grow in willingness to respond, to live as God's people in the daily circumstances of our lives. Eli's guidance to Samuel is for us as well: with an open heart and mind, we do well to say to God, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Like the two disciples in today's Gospel, we must be ready to set aside whatever might stand in the way of our relationship with Christ and our Christian living. It was more than Simon's name that changed. The disciples discovered in Jesus a new way of life, and they shared the good news of this life with all.

Today's Readings: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

1/14/2018