

Dear Padre,

Why can't a Protestant receive the Eucharist at a Catholic Mass?

United by baptism, fellow Christians are our brothers and sisters in the Lord. As such, they are always welcome at Catholic Mass, but they do not ordinarily participate in holy Communion. "Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to holy Communion" (Code of Canon Law, 844 §4).



CARLO DANIEL / CATHOLIC

When Catholics receive Holy Communion, they firmly believe the bread and wine are transformed into the Real Presence of Christ. In the Eucharist, we become part of the body of Christ and share in holiness and unity with one another. Our "Amen" to "The Body of Christ" and "The Blood of Christ" means, "Truly, so be it!" It indicates that we affirm our belief in this mystery, which is fundamental to our Catholic identity. If non-Catholics receive the Eucharist but do not embrace this identity and same belief, it may disrespect Catholics who do, as well as disrespect their own identity in the denomination to which they belong.

However, at Mass, fellow Christians can join their prayers with Catholics in praising God. Together, we also pray that the divisions which separate us will finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29	January 30	January 31	February 1
Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops	Weekday	St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Weekday	Weekday	St. John Bosco, Priest	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19	2 Sm 7:18-19, and Doctor of the Church	2 Sm 11:1-4a, 24-29	5-10a, 13-17	2 Sm 12:1-7a, Zep 2:3; 3:12-13	10-17
Mk 3:22-30	Mk 3:31-35	2 Sm 7:4-17	Mk 4:21-25	Mk 4:26-34	1 Cor 1:26-31	Mk 4:35-41
		Mk 4:1-20			Mt 5:1-12a	

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, all too much violence exists in the world and our societies. Amid wars, terrorism, human trafficking, and widespread aggression, our children and young people need to be able to experience the culture of life, dialogue, and mutual respect. Above all, they need the witness of...those who have suffered injustice and violence [and] resist the temptation to seek revenge.

ADDRESS TO THE "ARENA OF PEACE," ROME, MAY 30, 2025

St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Michael Pampara Pastor email: pamparasdb@gmail.com

Father Michael Cell 308-660-5730

P O Box 309, Stapleton, NE 69163, email: abjcatholics@gmail.com

Parish Office 308-636-2421; Secretary, Kristie Walz Cell 308-636-8399

Website: www.abjcatholic.org - Facebook Page: St Agnes, St Boniface & St John the Evangelist

Judged or Invited?

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2) is the message preached by Jesus after the arrest of John the Baptist. It is important to place this message in context. Jesus is not repeating the preaching of the Baptist. His message is unique and compelling.

Look closely at what Jesus is saying. Do not automatically fill in the blanks with the memories of every sermon you have heard. Try to hear Jesus' words again, for the first time. Is the emphasis on "repent," or is the emphasis on the announcement, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand"? Does it make any difference?

Repeat these words and change the emphasis each time. Play with the words. Let the words play with you. Notice how you respond. Notice what makes a difference. Notice how you react, and, most of all, notice whether you feel invited or you feel judged.

The Baptist made no bones about it. You are being judged: "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees" (Matthew 3:10). Jesus, on the other hand, seems not to judge but to invite: "for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17).

Reflect
What does "repent" mean to me?
A threat or an invitation?

In the invitation, we are challenged to see in a different way. Use different skills. Refrain from automatic judgments. Seek to understand but, most of all, to accept and to love. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) January 25, 2026

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of Jan 19, 2026

Mon.	Jan.	26	No Mass
Tues.	Jan.	27	7:00 AM SJ No Mass
Wed.	Jan.	28	5:30 PM SA No Mass
Thurs.	Jan.	29	5:30 PM SB No Mass
Fri.	Jan.	30	8:30 AM SJ No Mass
Sun.	Feb.	01	8:00 AM SJ John & Norma Schacher†
Sun.	Feb.	01	9:30 AM SA Jeani Davenport †
Sun.	Feb.	01	11:00 AM SB Fr. Michael Pampara

Save The Date!
St Agnes will be hosting Totus Tuus this Summer!
June 21-26th.
Registration will open March 16th.
Students that have completed K to 12th grade are invited.



Josslyn Phelps Jan 27th
Mathilda Bolling Jan 28th

Thomas Aquinas
(1225-1274)
Doctor of the Church

"To one who has faith,
no explanation is
necessary.
To one without faith, no
explanation is possible."

Ministry Schedule

Date: Feb 1	St John's	St Agnes	St Boniface
Time	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Rex & Kristie W.	Aleta & Conrad P.	Steve & Rhonda P.
Lector	Toby K.	Katie W.	Seth P.
Server	Wyatt D. & Leo W.		Ruby K. & Newt O.
EMHC	Rex & Kristie W.	Aleta & Conrad P.	Steve & Kristen B.
	Music: Kelsey A.		Communion to shut ins Steve B.

St. John's

Our Gifts to God & Church
January 18, 2026
Total Collection: **\$2409.50**

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal \$4150 of \$5179
with 11 of 15 Donors
CCD Wed, Jan 28st
PreK to 5th 3:40 PM
6th -12th Supper 6:30 Hanna
Class Begins 7:00 PM

St. Agnes

Our Gifts to God & Church
January 18, 2026
Total Collection: **\$703.00**

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the
GOAL is MET!!!
Thrift Store
Open Feb 13 9AM to 4PM
CCD Wed Jan 28st
Elementary 3:40 PM
High School 7:30 PM Meal Kulp

St. Boniface

Our Gifts to God & Church
January 18, 2026
Total Collection:
\$2297.00

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal \$6600 of \$7452
with 15 of 17 Donors
CCD Wed. Jan 28st
PreK to 2nd 4-5 PM
Supper 6:10
Class 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Registration Opens Feb 1st – Feb 8th

Higher Ground Extreme Faith July 5-9 Grades 6-8

Steubenville (June 19-2) Grades 9-12

Higher Ground May 24-29 or May 3 -June 5
Grades 10-12

Each parish has stipends to help cover the cost.

Quotes for Today
Saint John Bosco (1815-1888) Jan 31st

"Visits to the Blessed Sacrament are
powerful and indispensable means of
overcoming attacks of the devil. Make
frequent visits to Jesus in the Blessed
Sacrament and the devil will be
powerless against you."