

**SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2026,**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME: YEAR A**

**(IS 8:23-9:3, 1COR 1:10-13, 17, MT. 4:12-23)**

**THEME: IN THE WAKE OF THE TRUE LIGHT**

**Then Came Jesus:** When Jesus chooses to dwell in Capernaum, he comes to rebuild the ruins of the city occasioned by Assyrian devastation. It was a bid to complement its former glories. Hitherto, the region of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced economic prosperity but was rid of a corresponding sense of joy and fulfillment. They suffered spiritual poverty in the face of material prosperity. It is typical of a human society in spiritual destitution amidst abundance of material wealth. Such a society lacks true spiritual joy. In the words of St. Francis de Sales, such people eat without relish, sleep without repose, laugh without joy.

Jesus, the light of the world, appears on the landscape of a world shrouded in darkness and gloom. Hence, "the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone".

This territory is a physical landscape but alludes to the territories of human life under the control and dominion of the enemy (Satan). The whole region of Capernaum, Zebulun and Naphtali fall within Galilee, which was the place Jesus performed his first miracle: changing water into wine. This miracle is aimed at reversing the tragedies of God's people. By changing water into wine, Jesus evokes a sense of gladness and delight which wine stands for. In the scripture, wine is the primary symbol of the joy that accompanies God's presence. Psalm 104:15, speaks of "wine to gladden men's hearts". In the said miracle, therefore, Jesus makes present the joy of salvation. This fulfils the prophecy of Isaiah (9:2), "You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils." In the gospel of salvation, they discovered the joy which material wealth could not afford.

*\*Read the full reflection on our website*

[www.stpeterchurchaz.com](http://www.stpeterchurchaz.com)

**Surprising Facts about the Vatican**

***On each column, an image depicts one of the Evangelists***

Each of the columns of St. Peter's Basilica is associated with an Evangelist, with an image of an ox, a lion, an eagle, and a man representing respectively St. Mathew, St. Mark,

St. Luke, and St. John. These creatures became associated with their respective Evangelists because the beginning of each Gospel seems to correspond to a living creature's appearance. For Example, St. Mark begins his Gospel with St. John the Baptist crying in the wilderness like a lion.(cf. Mark 1:2-3) and so St. Mrk is depicted by a lion. The images convey that the Evangelists were guided by God in the writing of their Gospels, that the Gospels are the Word of God and a pillar of our faith. By Fr. Jeffery Kirby, S.T.L.

**SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**9:00 am Mass** Eva Orona Birthday by Monica Orona

**11:00 am Mass** Healing of Carol Cochran by Lora Harrison

**DAILY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

**Monday 9am** +Frank Orona by Eva Orona

**Tuesday 9:00am** +Jeannie Mars Allen by Pat Rubalcaba

**Wednesday 9:00am** +Raphael O'Bryon Bob & Kay Dyson

**Thursday 9:00am** +Gabriel O'Bryon by Bob & Kay Dyson

**Friday 9:00am** Intentions of Nathan Krick by  
Dave & Judy Krick

**Friday 9:30am** Holy Hour

**PRAYER TREE - LET US PRAY FOR:** Friends of +Jeanne Allen, Judy Bragg, Maria and Family of +Clara Archuleta, , Joe Warne, Larry Tyrrell, Tom Malone, Eva Orona, David & Geri Silva, Margie Govey, Cora Lee, Liz Ketring, Jeannette Davis, Maria Lopez, Angela Gonzales, Joe and Margie Tapia, Bernice & Roxanne Chavez, Lilly Hill, Sophie Pena, Juan Quevedo, Lydia Gonzalez, Sophie Montoya.

**POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY**

For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

**INTENCIONES DE ORACIÓN DEL PAPA**

***Enero – Por las familias que sufren la ausencia de un padre o una madre: Que encuentren apoyo y acompañamiento en la Iglesia, y fortaleza en la fe en tiempos difíciles.***

**BISHOP WALL'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY**

*Those who are struggling with illness or injury*