

January 18, 2026  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time



### Mass Intentions

Saturday Jan. 17 - 5:00pm

† Polly Beckham

Sunday Jan. 18 - 9:00am

◆ Mass for the People

Monday Jan. 19 - 8:30am

† Helen & Stephen Sefcik

Tuesday Jan. 20 - 8:30am

† Margaret Townsend

Friday Jan. 23 - 8:30am

† Helen & Stephen Sefcik

Saturday Jan. 24 - 5:00pm

† Wayne Brittingham

Sunday Jan. 25 - 9:00am

◆ Mass for the People

### Sanctuary Candle

Mildred & Delbert  
Cogdell

### From the Pastor

This past week at our Parish we celebrated a Funeral Mass for Bernice Bamber. Bernice is the mother of Michelle Lamers, a member of our Parish. Please keep the Bamber and Lamers family in your prayers.

During the first week of February, I will be attending the Retreat for Priests in the Diocese of Wilmington. Please note that Daily Mass will be canceled on Tuesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Fr. Dave

### Passion and Eucharist Bible Study

This Lenten Bible Study will be held on Tuesdays Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> to Mar.11<sup>th</sup> hosted at the Spinella's Home. Join this Lenten Bible study exploring the Passion of Christ through all four Gospels. We will compare Jesus' final words from the Cross and trace how the Eucharist is revealed within the Passion narratives. Each session includes Sacred Scripture, Catechism insights, and reflections from saints of the Church. A study designed to deepen our love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Sign-up by emailing Michael at:

Mikezart12@verizon.net  
(space is limited).

**Bishop William E. Koenig** invites all married couples in the Diocese of Wilmington to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on World Marriage Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 1:00pm at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Those celebrating significant anniversaries (5-year increments) or any anniversary beyond 50, will receive a special certificate from the Bishop. Reservations are required by February 4, 2026. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by going to the Diocesan Website - Ministries - Marriage and Family Life.

**Retrouvaille of Delaware Valley** – This program helps couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. The next program will be held on February 6-8, 2026 at Malvern Retreat Center. To register, visit MarriageHelpDelVal.org or call 215-766-3944.

## Dear Padre

January 18, 2026

*I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.*

You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully.

Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

© 2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zubel, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from The New American Bible, Revised Edition © 2010, 1991, 1988, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.