

St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels, and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053

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February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of Isaiah (Is 6:1-2a, 3-8). This reading describes Isaiah's call to prophetic office. According to Jewish tradition, Isaiah was of royal stock. It is certain that he belongs to the tribe of Judah and that his home was in Jerusalem. From the time of his calling, Isaiah's whole life was devoted to the "Lord Yahweh". The Lord had called him and henceforth Isaiah was His servant. Jeremiah's call to office was in the form of a dialog between Yahweh and Jeremiah; Isaiah's is a majestic vision. Isaiah is eager to serve God, "Here I am," I said, "send me!"

The **Second Reading** is taken from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor 15:1-11). St. Paul treats the subject of the resurrection of the body. A characteristic Greek and Platonic concept was that the body was a hindrance to the soul's activity. St. Paul answers this question by declaring that the bodily resurrection of Christ is a fact duly attested to by chosen witnesses.

The **Gospel** is a reading from St. Luke (Lk 5:1-11). How the wisdom of God differs from the wisdom of men! If a businessman of today (or even of the year 28 A.D.) were choosing a chairman and assistants for the world-wide enterprise he was about to set up, is it likely that he would choose them from among the unknown, unlettered fishermen of Galilee? Yet Christ, who was about to set up not only a world-wide institute but an everlasting one, chose these simple fishermen and made them his assistants and his successors in the work that he had taken in hand.

And it wasn't that he was restricted in his choice. There were many highly educated priests and scribes in Jerusalem whom he could have won over, men who could preach and instruct so much more eloquently than Peter or Andrew. There were Roman officers in Palestine who were highly educated, and who would be much more eagerly listened to in the Gentile world. There were Greek philosophers whose very name would add prestige to the Gospel message had they been Apostles. Yet it was to none of these that Christ entrusted the arduous task of spreading the good news of the Gospel, it was to none of these that he gave the keys of his kingdom.

Christ was not influenced in his judgement by external, accidental qualifications. He judged the heart and the will. He knew the true worth of men. Furthermore, the society that he was about to set up was not a worldly business concern but a free transport system to heaven. The truths he was committing to its keeping were not based on earthly wisdom which would require eloquence and prestige to bolster

them up. They were the eternal, divine truths which needed no human propaganda, no help from mere men.

Thus, in the selection of his Apostles, Christ has given us an extra proof, if one were needed, of his own divine wisdom and of the divine origin of the Christian religion which we profess. Our religion is not man-made, God is its author.

While thanking God today for our Christian religion, with its clearly-drawn map of salvation, let us show our appreciation by doing our own little part, as humble apostles, weak but willing helpers of Christ. This we can do without eloquence, or personal prestige. We do so by living as true Christians in our homes, in our places of work, and in our recreations, by carrying our cross daily and patiently, ever ready to give a hand when the neighbor's cross seems too heavy for him. This will be Christian eloquence, this will be a true apostleship of Christ, because actions speak louder than words.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan,

Schedule of Mass Intentions

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

SJB **4:00 PM**
+ *Barry Ford*

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

SP **9:00 AM**
+ *Michael Marshall*

Friday, January 14, 2025

HGA **11:00 AM**
+ *Gerard Taylor*

Saturday, February 15, 2025

SJB **4:00 PM**
+*Marjorie Digout*
SP **5:30 PM**
+*Claire LeBlanc*

Sunday, February 16, 2025

SH **9:00 AM**
+*Leona Matilda Martell*
HGA **11:00 AM**
+ *Gerard Taylor*

Receipts

St. John the Baptist

February 1, 2025

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,055.50
Property Maintenance	500.00
Donation	25.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,580.50</u>

St. Peter's

February 2, 2025

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 652.00
Candles	28.00
Altar Society Dues	246.00
Missals	5.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 931.00</u>

Holy Guardian Angels

February 2, 2025

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 929.00
Candles	43.25
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 972.25</u>

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