



## Behold the Lamb of God!

ANN M. GARRIDO

**O**f the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20–28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—take a moment to savor these words anew. ●



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### Reflect

**Which understanding of the "Lamb of God" resonates with me?**

**"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."**

JOHN 1:29



# St. Andrew Catholic Church

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Call or text Barbara Durler

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## Second Sunday of Ordinary Time – January 18, 2026

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday			
Tuesday	8:00 am	Weekday	Berna Mae Stegman
Wednesday	8:00 am	Saint Agnes	Joan Mages
Thursday	10:30 am	Funeral Mass	Mary Smith
Friday	9:00 am	Weekday (at Fort Dodge)	Rawlin Smith
Saturday	8:00 am	Saint Francis de Sales	Maybelle Ingland
Sunday	9:00 am	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Andrew Parishioners

**Confessions:** Sunday 8:00 – 8:45 am or by appointment any time

### Ministers for Next Sunday, January 25, 2026

**Greeters:** George & Debbie Hertel

**Collection:** Matt Durler & Nick King

**Cantor:** Choir

**Servers:** James Hamilton & Jessa Hamilton

**Lectors:** Rochele Weil & Briana Stephenson

**E.M.C.'s:** Elaine Slattery, Lynn buehne, Ruth Morton

**Gifts:** Taige Kliesen

**Rosary:** Delbert Downey

### Giving Report: 1-11-26

Envelopes: \$3,215.00

Loose: \$273.75

Electronic: \$1,513.91

Alms for Renovation Project: \$64,018.69



Thursday, January 22 is the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, *Roe vs. Wade* (1973). All dioceses of the United States shall observe "a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion (see General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373)

Parish meetings are on Tuesday, January 20. 6:00 pm Finance Council and 7:00 pm Pastoral Council.

Parish School of Religion is this Wednesday. 6:30 pm meal, classes begin at 7:00 pm. The meal this week is provided by the Youth Social Commission.

**Vocations Commission** is hosting another **Feast of the Holy Spouses** dinner on Saturday January 24, 2026 at 5:30 pm. Couples that are interested can sign-up on the sheet in the back of Church or you can contact Briana Stephenson at 620-440-2544.

Knights of Columbus Pro-life Breakfast this morning in the parish center following Mass. Please join us. Our Annual Baby Shower also begins today.

The K of C Men's Pitch Tournament is this afternoon. Registration at 1:00 and games begin at 2:00.

It's time for Breakfast Burritos for Life again. Priced the same as last year, \$36/dozen and \$20/half Dozen. Please order in advance by contacting Greg Lix @ 620-408-8221 or Delbert Downey @ 620-682-5438. Burritos will be ready to pick up Saturday, Feb. 6 from 10 to 3 or Sunday, Feb. 7 from 10 to Noon.

#### **SENIOR CITIZENS COVERED DISH SUPPER**

Covered dish supper Thursday, January 22 at 6 pm, Wright Senior Center, 10891 Main Street, Wright. Please bring a meat, salad, vegetable or dessert. Invite a friend to enjoy the evening.

Save the dates - March 26-28. Saint Andrew Parish will be having family photos taken for a new parish directory that is being planned. More details to follow.

#### **Pilgrimage for Life**

The annual Catholic Diocese of Dodge City Pilgrimage for Life will be held on January 31, 2026, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are invited to come and pray for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.

#### **Pilgrimage for Life 2026**

**January 31, 2026**

**10:00 a.m. - Presentation by the Kansas Catholic Conference and Ministry Fair**

**10:45 a.m. - Pilgrimage**

**12:00 p.m. - Mass for Life**

**1:00 p.m. - Lunch and Ministry Fair**

# Dear Padre,

*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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24	January 25
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Weekday	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sm 15:16-23 Mk 2:18-22	1 Sm 16:1-13 Mk 2:23-28	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Mk 3:1-6	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Mk 3:7-12	1 Sm 24:3-21 Mk 3:13-19	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mk 3:20-21	Is 8:23-9:3 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

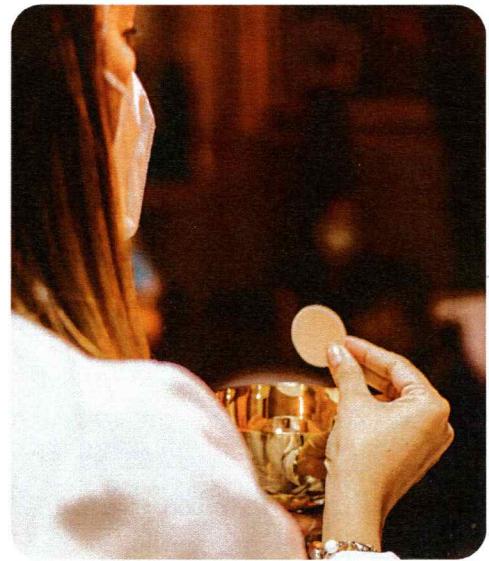


FRANCISCO XAVIER ESPINOZA / CATHOPIC

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*Ours is a time marked by a growing search for spirituality, particularly evident in young people, who are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life. Hence, it is important that the Christian community be farsighted in discerning the challenges of today's world and in nurturing the desire for faith present in the heart of every man and woman.*

MESSAGE TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS, ROME, MAY 28, 2025



THAIS ORRICO / CATHOPIC