

# Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 18, 2026

### From the Desk of the Pastor:

William Willimon, professor at Duke Divinity School, remembers when a friend of his visited the Soviet Union in the 1970s. Upon his return he announced that the Church behind the Iron Curtain was mostly "irrelevant because the only people there are little old ladies." Dr. Willimon writes, "Looking back now at the collapse of Communism, the difficulties of rebuilding the Soviet Union after a long period of spiritual bankruptcy, I hope my friend would now say, 'Thank God for the little old ladies. Their existence provided a continuing, visible, political rebuke to the Soviets.'" (William H. Willimon). It would be wonderful if our prayer and witness were as effective as the prayers and witness of those little old ladies. It would be wonderful if our witness, like Andrew's, was effective enough to challenge another Simon Peter. That is our task, and what a joyous, challenging task it is. Having found Christ, or more correctly having been found by Christ, we find others, that they, too, may "come and see."

In both the first and second readings, God calls individuals to His service entrusting them with a mission. The first reading is from the "Songs of the Suffering Servant" in Isaiah, where the prophet was chosen by God from his mother's womb and consecrated to be the "light to the nations". Here, aspects of Jesus' own life as sacrificial lamb and mission as salvation of the world are foreshadowed. In the second reading, Paul reminds the Corinthian Christians that they are "sanctified and called to be holy" like all who call on the name of Jesus. They are called by God and consecrated in Christ Jesus for a life of holiness and service. As believers, we too have been called by God to become members of Christ's Body by our Baptism, and we are consecrated in Christ Jesus for a life of holiness and service. The Gospel passage presents three themes, namely, the witness John the Baptist bears to Jesus, the revelation (epiphany) and identification of Jesus as the "Lamb of God," and the call to discipleship. John's first declaration probably brought five pictures of the "lamb" to the minds of his Jewish listeners. 1) The Lamb of Yearly Atonement (Lv 16:20-22) used on Yom Kippur. 2) The Lamb of Daily Atonement (Ex 29:38-42; Nm 28:1-8). 3) The Paschal Lamb (Ex. 12:11ss). 4) The Lamb of the Prophets (Jer 11:19), (Is 53:7). 5) The Lamb of the Conquerors

**What's our takeaway?: 1) Live and die like the Lamb of God.** (A) Live like a lamb by: i) leading pure, innocent, humble, selfless lives obeying the Christ's commandment of love; ii) appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd in His Church; iii) eating the Body and drinking the Blood of the Good Shepherd and deriving spiritual strength from the Holy Spirit through the Holy Bible, Sacraments and our prayers. (B) Die like a sacrificial lamb by: i) by the sacrificial sharing our blessings of health, wealth and talents with others in the family, parish and community; ii) bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain and suffering; iii) offering our sufferings for the salvation of souls and as reparation for our sins and those of others. **2) Be a witness to the Lamb of God by our exemplary life..** Today's Gospel reminds us that being a disciple of Jesus means that we grow by Faith to become witnesses for him. And bearing witness to Christ is an active, not passive, lifetime enterprise. One cannot be a disciple of Jesus at a distance, any more than one can be a distant lover. **3) "Come and see".** The essence of our witnessing is to state what we have seen and believed and then to invite others to "come and see" our experience of Jesus. As with Andrew and John, Faith begins with our responding to Jesus' invitation to "come and see." We tell others about good restaurants, barbers, optometrists, etc. Why isn't there the same fervor over inviting and encouraging people to come and participate in our Church activities? If we are not willing to invite others into this experience, what does that say about our experiences with Christ and with our Church?

Fr. Luke



## Mass Schedule

### Sunday Liturgies

Saturday

Rosary at 4:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Rosary at 9:25 a.m.

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Rosary in Spanish at 12:00 noon

12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

### Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday and Friday - Mass at 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet  
at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each Month 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. &  
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

By appointment other times

### Holy Day Masses

6:30 p.m. English

7:30 p.m. Spanish

### Masses at Wellspring

Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

### Thursday Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the church or by telephone conference call. Mass immediately follows. If you wish to join by telephone, call the church office for details.

### Children's Rosary

The Rosary will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays when Faith Formation classes are in session.

### Location of Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

Two AEDs are on church property: one in the parish hall next to the women's restroom and the other one in the church foyer near the church entrance and bathrooms. Remember their locations, just in case you may need to retrieve one.

*Join us in prayer for the needs of our families and community.....*

**Pray for:** Nadia Allmon, Jeff Briscoe, Barbara Dean, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Maria Gutierrez, Natalie Hayes, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Shirley Stenklyft, Matthew Williams, Blanca Villatoro, Manuel Yañez.

### Mass Intentions

Sat	Jan 17	5:00 p.m.	Leland Barnes+
Sun	Jan 18	10:00 a.m.	Members of our Parish
Sun	Jan 18	12:30 p.m.	Darlene Nolan S.I.
Tue	Jan 20	12:30 p.m.	Lucile Cook+
Thu	Jan 22	5:00 p.m.	Darlene Nolan S.I.
Fri	Jan 23	12:30 p.m.	Clotilde Meyer+
Sat	Jan 24	5:00 p.m.	Cesar Brillantes+

### Parish Giving

**January 11, 2026**

1st Collection	\$3,950.00
2nd Collection	\$ 507.00
Children's Collection	\$ 46.00

2nd Collection	Jan 18	Faith Formation
3rd Collection	Jan 18	Lawn Care/Maintenance
2nd Collection	Jan 25	Church in Latin America

### Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 66  
10:00 a.m. 150 and 12:30 p.m. 112

### Pastoral Team

**Pastor:** Fr. Luke Kalarickal, M.S.F.S.

**Deacons:** Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock

**Acolytes:** Rick Downey; Felipe Segura;  
Alberto Robledo

**Bookkeeper:** Noelia Gonzalez

**Office Assistant:** Linda Rossler

### Committee Chairs

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Theresa Cheatham

**Finance Council Chair:** Lou Napolitano

**Maintenance Committee Chair:** Rick Downey

The administration and pastoral care of Prince of Peace Parish is entrusted to the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (M.S.F.S.), also known as Fransalian Missionaries, an international religious order with headquarters in Rome and the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit [www.fransalianusa.com](http://www.fransalianusa.com) or [www.wellspringcommunity.net](http://www.wellspringcommunity.net).



## Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Office closes for lunch between noon and 1:00 p.m.



If fear seizes you, cry loudly, 'Lord, save me!' He will stretch forth his hand to you; clasp it firmly and go on joyfully!

St. Francis de Sales

## News and Notes

### Parishioner Input Form

Parishioner enrollment and the most recent parish gatherings show the need for expanding our parish gathering spaces. The size of our parish hall and classrooms are no longer adequate. As discussed at the most recent Pastoral and Finance Council meetings, parishioner input is needed. Today after Mass, a parishioner input form that asks for your opinion regarding expanding the space will be distributed to you. Please make sure you get it from the ushers, complete and return it next weekend in the designated basket in the church foyer or mail it if you will not be coming to the parish next weekend.

### Parish Gathering for the Feast of St. Francis De Sales

Next Saturday, January 24, is the Feast of St. Francis de Sales, the patron saint of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, to whose care our parish is entrusted. In honor of his feast day, the parish will gather after the 5 p.m. Mass at 6:30 p.m. for a meal, have some fellowship together, and to recognize the service of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. A sign-up sheet will be in the church foyer for those planning to attend. Please include the total number attending with you. This is the only opportunity you receive to sign up before the event. Hence, please do it today itself. If you are planning to attend it, it is a must that you sign up today.

### Knights of Columbus Pork Loin Sales

The Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets for Smoked Pork Loins after each Mass during the last (3) weekends of January, beginning January 17-18. Each Pork Loin will weigh approx. 3 lbs and cost \$20. Pork Loins will be available for pickup on Saturday, February 7. All proceeds will be used for supporting events and activities at Prince of Peace and charitable causes.

### Altar Society Donation Envelopes

Our Lady of Grace Altar Society would like to thank everyone for their support of our envelop collection request to provide for our altar needs. You may place the envelope donations in the Mass collection baskets along with the regular collections. Again, we are truly honored by your support and the privilege to be of service to Prince of Peace.

### Stroke Scan Coming to Prince of Peace

Stroke Scan will be coming to Prince of Peace on Saturday, February 21, to provide health screenings. A Stroke Scan representative will be at the Masses the weekend of February 7 & 8 to make a brief announcement about what screenings are offered and to pre-register those interested in their services.

### From the Diocese of Tyler

The first event of the new year for the diocese is the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on February 14, 2026 at 2:30p.m. at the Cathedral in Tyler. Bishop Kelly will be celebrating this Mass. All couples in the Diocese of Tyler who are celebrating anniversaries ending in 0 or 5, or 50th + anniversaries in the year 2026 are invited to attend the Mass which will be followed by a reception in the Cathedral Center. Registration forms are in the church foyer or you may register online at the [dioceseoftyler.org/events](http://dioceseoftyler.org/events). The deadline to register is February 6, 2026.

**Texas Education Freedom Account (EFA) program** is an opportunity for families to obtain a Catholic education for their children. Beginning this year, the state will provide financial support to qualified families to choose the best school for their child(ren). Read today's insert on EFAs for more information.

### Safe Environment

Parental supervision of children keeps them safe, including when they are in church or on church grounds. If need be during Mass, escort your children to the restroom, wait for them, and return to your seat with them.

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the TX Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or [txabusehotline.org](http://txabusehotline.org). The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church. Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church Personnel should be reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or [vac@dioceseoftyler.org](mailto:vac@dioceseoftyler.org).



The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each weekend Mass. Please be mindful of the need for silent reflection, both in the nave and in the church foyer, out of respect for the Rosary and in preparation for the Holy Mass. Everyone is advised to come and join the Rosary and receive its priceless benefits and graces.

**Saints Cyril and Methodius** were ninth century Catholic missionaries who used common language to bring Christ and His Church to the Slavic people. Siblings Cyril and Methodius were priests living a monastic life in ninth century Greece when they were sent to Moravia, now the Czech Republic, because they were familiar with the language and culture of the Slavic people. They translated texts of the gospels, psalms, liturgical books, and Paul's letters into the vernacular and celebrated the Mass in Slavonic. Because of this, many Slavs became Catholic Christians, including those wanting to become priests. The German bishop, who was bishop to the Slavs, opposed their methods and refused to ordain Slavs into the priesthood. In 867, Cyril and Methodius appealed to Pope Adrian II in Rome. The pope, very pleased with their efforts, would appoint them as bishops. However, Cyril died, leaving Methodius alone to continue their work. After his ordination, Bishop Methodius was assigned to Serbia instead of Moravia. German clergy were still hostile towards him and made false accusations against him, so much so, that Emperor Louis the German imprisoned him for three years. When Methodius was released, he returned to his diocese. He was forced to appeal to the pope one more time due to persistent protests from the Germans. Methodius continued his missionary work with the Slavic people until he died in 884.

### Kids, Youth/Adult Bible Corner - Questions for January 18, 2026 Exodus 26-30

**Kids:** a. On the "Breastpiece" of decision, how many rows of precious stones were to be mounted as instructed by the Lord?  
b. With what kind of wood the Altar for burning incense had to be made?

**Adults:** a. What kind of rams were to be procured in consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests?  
b. How many days Moses had to spend in ordaining Aaron and his sons, sacrificing a bullock each day as a sin offering?

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