STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX

PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927 CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346

The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at <u>www.cansoparishes.org</u>

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JANUARY 19, 2025

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 25 - Port Felix - 6:00 pm - **For the Faithful** Sunday, January 26 - Star of the Sea- 11:00 am - **For The Faithful**

WELCOME AND THANK YOU - to Fr. Frank Pellerine who will be celebrating Mass with us. We appreciate your presence and hope you enjoy your stay.

ANNOUNCEMENT I would like to inform all parishioners that I will be away for some weeks after Christmas to visit my family. The Parish Office will remain open for all your needs. – Fr. Jonathan

REFLECTION TODAY'S READINGS - The Transformation of Our Own Water

"Do whatever He tells you" is a life-transforming mantra given to us by our Mother Mary. When Jesus comes to Cana, He is not known as a miracle worker, so Mother Mary's words would sound ridiculous to the servants' ears. Filling the jars with water would seem a foolish and unreasonable act; when something seems unreasonable, one resists doing it. However, Faith is to believe the unbelievable. It is to suspend reason and believe without any reason. When they do as He says, the water is transformed into wine. The miracle of Cana symbolizes the fullness of life we have all received through the coming of Jesus and God's superabundant goodness. Jesus changed water into wine, which is, in fact, a substantial change. Likewise, Jesus has the power to transform the lives of human beings who believe in him. It is often our own unbelief that remains a stumbling block in experiencing the change that Jesus wants to bring into our lives. There is no bad habit, addiction, sinful desires, character flaw, etc., which Jesus cannot change. Jesus is capable of transforming any person into a completely new being. But, if we think that Jesus' transforming power is going to work in everyone automatically, we're mistaken. It works in those who trust in His love and, commit their lives to him and obey him. Am I ready to do that?

Star of the Sea (24)	515.00
Fuel (1)	40.00
Initial (1)	5.00
St. Agnes (6)	120.00
St. Joseph (18)	282.00
Loose	5.00

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, March 4 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, January 26 Lector - Buzz Lumsden

Cleaners - January 26 - Feb. 1 - Baker girls

<u>Ticket Sale</u> - Heating Certificate, value \$300.00, draw date February 25, tickets available form committee members.

<u>*Trivia Night*</u> - will be held Saturday, February 8at 7:00 p.m. at Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Pre-register with a committee member. Looking for donations of homemade pizza for this event, participants love homemade pizza!

Different, Not Better or Worse

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ► Isaiah 62:1-5 Jerusalem the Lord's bride
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Different gifts
- John 2:1-11 The wedding at Cana

Paul's lesson to the Corinthians that different people have different gifts to share with the world is precisely the kind of lesson we try to teach young children. We might respond to the bragging of a five-year-old with a comment such as "You're right. You can ride a two-wheel bike already, but Connor can't. Connor likes to draw more than he likes to play outside. Did you know he knows how to write the whole alphabet already? You're still learning that, just like he's still learning to ride a bike." If we can teach our children to make observations—not judgments—about themselves and others, they will learn Paul's point. Certain gifts, skills, talents, and abilities are not *better* than others, they are *different* from others.

Adults need to be reminded of this lesson too. How often do we compare our gifts with those of others? Sometimes these comparisons make us feel that we are somehow better. Other times

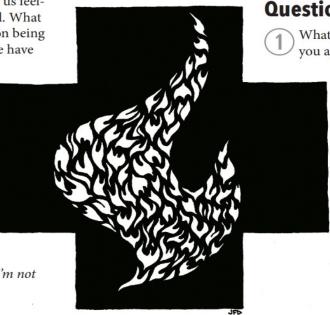
our comparisons leave us feeling harshly self-critical. What if we instead focused on being grateful for the gifts we have been given and

look for ways to use them in God's service? Then maybe we could let go of our envy of others and be happy for them and the world that they have such gifts to offer. Our thinking might change to this: *I'm not*



Sheepish Question: To whom or what do I need to give my best at this moment in time?

very good with groups of young children. Volunteering to help at first-grade field trips is exhausting for me. Thank God Mrs. Harris is better with six-year-olds than I am. Maybe I should concentrate on working with adults, because that's what I'm better at. She's better with kids; I'm better with adults. They are different spiritual gifts, not better or worse than each other.



Questions of the Week

What gifts do you see in others that you appreciate because they are not your gifts, but they are needed in the world?

How do you use the gifts has God given you in service to others?

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