

LIVING FAITH

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 21, 2026



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY—Matthew 10:25-33

A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.'"

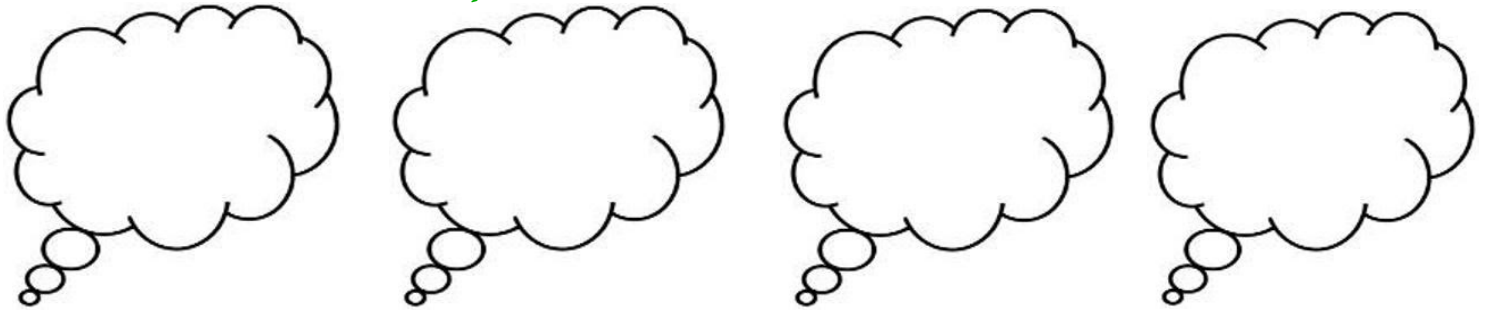
REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

The Scripture scholar, William Barclay, said that the last four lines of this Gospel have to be among the most consoling words ever written. They assure us that God sees, each one of us, knows each one of us, and that each one of us has dignity and value in God's eyes. The words of today's Gospel hit home. We are challenged to truly see others, as God sees them, as people loved, endowed with dignity and human rights, as equal. Then, we must work to make that vision real in our world.

FOR CONVERSATION WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

- What does it mean to *really* see people as God sees them?
- How does God see people?
- What can you do, today, to accord someone else the dignity that is theirs as a child of God?
- What is one thing that you can do to become more educated about racism and how we can become a more just society?

Read again this week's Gospel. Jesus tell us not to be afraid to tell others what we have learned from Him. Write or draw some ideas of what you have learned about Jesus.



He Cares for You

So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10:31 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 10:24-39



Y Z A H W N C R O S S G E S U
 I S F E W U B P S X P K J H E
 W O R A F M C F H E R E V W B
 Q Q A D V B F A L L R H N Z T
 H L I F E E W K I H M V W N A
 Y N D K R R B T T Z K Z A H Y
 T E A C H E R R U T R V T N S
 G R O U N D O N C L L N H W T
 L F L E D W Q Z U L E T O D F
 M O A B O V E O Q D R R J U O
 N A D C N V S V U O R H D S L
 M S S Z H R O T W A T F B N L
 J O V T Y X S Z P W G U O W O
 S L N X E I M S E G L V D Z W
 G D I S D R X J X V E X Y L Z

TEACHER	FOLLOW	CROSS	HEAD	PENNY
SPARROWS	NUMBERED	LIFE	STUDENT	SOUL
FALL	SERVANT	BODY	AFRAID	GROUND
WORTH	SOLD	ABOVE	MASTER	WORTH

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A Prayer for Christian Fathers on Father's Day June 21 2026

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Author Unknown

Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical Letter: Magnifica Humanitas

Pope Leo XIV's Encyclical Letter, *Magnifica Humanitas*, has been released. It focuses on safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence. The letter is dated 15 May, to commemorate the 135th anniversary of Pope Leo XIII's Encyclical Letter, *Rerum Novarum*.

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development offers the following synopsis of the Encyclical Letter: “*Magnifica Humanitas* offers insights into the protection of the human person in the age of artificial intelligence, recognizing a profound epochal shift. It places the dignity of the human person at the centre as the criteria for guiding technical progress. The Church's social teaching accompanies these transformations, pointing to the common good, solidarity and subsidiarity as the fundamental benchmarks for understanding and interpreting the transformation currently underway. It proposes, as an alternative to the culture of power and war, a civilization of love founded on justice, dialogue and shared responsibility.”

To accompany the Encyclical Letter, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has prepared a collection of resources on the topic of artificial intelligence. Over the coming weeks we will delve into this Encyclical, chapter by chapter. Here is a Link to the Encyclical: [Magnifica Humanitas](#)

FIRST ENCYCLICAL OF
POPE LEO XIV



ENCYCLICAL LETTER OF THE HOLY FATHER LEO XIV
MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS
On safeguarding the human person
in the time of Artificial Intelligence

4 of 5

Chapter 4

SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE TRANSFORMATION

TRUTH

An essential common good for civic life

Digital technologies and AI **are changing communication**

RISKS

- Disinformation
- Manipulation
- Increased control - totalitarianism

RESPONSIBILITY

- Critical education
- Transparency
- Responsible use of technologies



“The search for truth is an essential element of democracy, which is itself a means of contributing to the common good.” MH 134



WORK

Contributes to the dignity of the person and to social participation

RISKS

- Job insecurity
- Inequalities
- Workers monitored or replaced by machines

RESPONSIBILITY

- Protection of work
- Continual formation
- More human innovation



“AI frequently forces workers to adapt to the speed and demands of machines, rather than machines being designed to support those who work.” MH 150

FREEDOM

AI and digital technologies are also increasingly shaping behavior

RISKS

- Digital addictions
- Control through data
- New forms of slavery

RESPONSIBILITY

- Fair rules
- Shared responsibility
- Education



“Freedom in the digital age is not merely a matter of interiority but also a public concern.”

MH 171

IF TECHNOLOGY
DOMINATES

the human person
becomes a means

IF IT IS GUIDED BY
WISDOM

it becomes human
development

The dignity of the person must be the criterion of all progress!

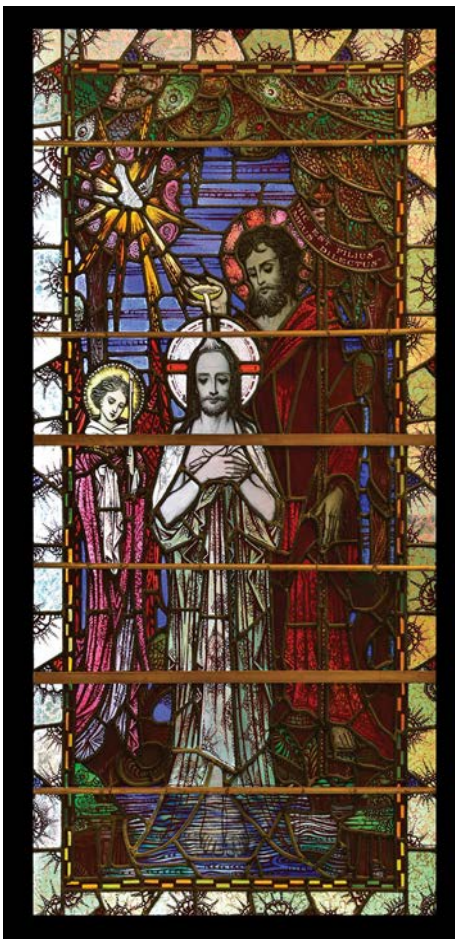


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SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST JUNE 24

St. John the Baptist is the patron of the Archdiocese of St. John's, of our Basilica-Cathedral, of the city of St. John's and of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

John the Baptist is mentioned in all four Gospels. The greatness of John the Baptist, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is perhaps best seen in the great emphasis that the Evangelist Luke gives to the announcement of his birth, and then the actual birth itself. Luke ties together the announcement of the birth of John the Baptist (and the story of the actual birth and the events that surrounded it) and the announcement of the birth of Jesus. The story takes up most of the first Chapter of the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 1, verses 5 to 80. John the Baptist pointed the way to Jesus. In his ministry, he attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan River, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan. He never sought to draw attention to himself, but constantly deferred to Jesus, even sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.



St. John the Baptist is also a patron saint of French Canada. In addition to St. John's, NL, the Canadian cities of Saint John, New Brunswick (1604), and Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec (1665) were all named in his honor. His feast day of June 24, celebrated officially in Quebec as the *Fête Nationale du Québec*, and in Newfoundland and Labrador as Discovery Day.

To the left, you will see a photo of a stained glass window from the Basilica of St. John the Baptist, showing the baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River. The window, by Gerard Earley of Dublin, is part of a set of windows installed in 1955, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral.

St. John the Baptist - Pray for Us

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