



January, 2023

Special Dates:

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1)

St. André Bessette (January 7)

The Epiphany of the Lord (January 8)

The Baptism of the Lord (January 9)

Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25)

Sunday of the Word of God (January 22)

St. John Bosco (January 31)

Featured Special Days: **Prayer for Christian Unity**

Ecumenism means working to restore unity among Christians; in a broader sense, it also involves working for better relations with Judaism, Islam and other non-Christian religions.

The Model of unity we seek is found in the Trinity. Jesus prays that all his followers will be one as he and the Father are one, so that all people may come to believe in Christ (John 17.21). The goal of ecumenism is to remove obstacles to unity so that we are able to come together in a common celebration of the Eucharist. (p. 64)

“This universal week of prayer encourages Christians of all denominations to meet, to participate in various liturgical and other community activities, and to pray together that all may be one, as Christ desires.

The importance of unity among Christians and the responsibility of the people of each parish to work for this unity should be emphasized throughout the week. All members of the parish should seek to have a deeper understanding of ecumenism... (p. 123)

*Taken from the Ordo: Liturgical Calendar 2022-2023



Food for Thought!

The Ministry of Jesus and the Ministry of the Assembly “Every baptized Christian has a ministry to carry out in the church. St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians tells us that ‘there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God... Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it’ (1 Corinthians 12). This means that ministry is a part of our whole Christian experience, in our worship as well as in our daily lives. Our ministry at church on Sunday should reflect how we carry on Jesus’ ministry in the world around us.

As Christians we are not part of the church to look out for our own needs, but to be a part of the community that carries on the work of the risen Lord in the world. Any truly authentic Christian ministry must continue what Jesus did in his public ministry here on earth.”

(Preparing for Liturgy Series / ‘Preparing the Assembly to Celebrate’ by Kim Aldi-Wanner)