

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th January 2025

	Gospel (John 2:1-11)	First Reading (Isaiah 62:1-5)	Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)
Context	John's gospel confirms that Jesus is the Son of God and that believers will have eternal life. Today's gospel reminds us that in the midst of his important mission to save us from sin, Jesus took time to attend a wedding.	Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Isaiah describes Jesus' life and death in remarkable detail. All four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) in some way reflect the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophesies.	Paul wrote to the Corinthians to identify problems, offer solutions, and to teach believers how to live in Christ.
Key verses	<i>"This was the first of the signs given by Jesus." "He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him."</i>	<i>"...as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you."</i>	<i>"All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses."</i>
Key themes/ messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weddings are, and always were, special occasions in which the sacrament of matrimony receives God's holy blessing. • Mary may not have expected Jesus to perform a miracle when she asked him to help to resolve a difficult situation. Mary did, however, trust that Jesus would help. • Jesus performed a great miracle in turning water into high-quality wine. In doing so, Jesus "let his glory be seen" so that we can believe in him. • By having faith in God, we can be blessed with answers and solutions to problems that might otherwise seem impossible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah vowed to "not be silent" because the message he delivered as one of God's appointed prophets was often viewed as uncomfortable and unpopular. • Just as Isaiah also vowed "not to grow weary", we should never tire of listening to God's Word and spreading the good news of salvation that Jesus brings to us. • Although God's people rebelled and sinned against him, God remained loyal to them. • Christ is the bridegroom referred to in this passage, while the virgin represents the Church. Isaiah therefore tells us that Jesus would bring salvation to God's people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although we have all been created in God's image, we have all been blessed with specific gifts by the power of the Holy Spirit. • God alone decides what gifts we are given. • Some of these gifts overlap when Christians are combined in the Church, but God has given each believer a unique role. • Each of us are called upon as Christians to discover the role God has given us so that we may glorify him by making good use of the gifts we have been given.
Questions/ application to our lives	Did you ever pray for help with a problem for which finding a solution seemed impossible? If so, did you find that God can respond in unexpected ways? Also, if we have a tendency to exhaust our own options before turning to God for help, what can we learn from today's gospel?	The people of Israel were reluctant to accept the message Isaiah delivered from God, as it meant turning away from sin. However, Isaiah also brought hope to the people by promising salvation. Do you think Isaiah's message is any more popular today than it was in Old Testament times? Explain.	What efforts have you made to discover the gifts God has given to you? Are you making good use of the gifts God has blessed you with? If so, how have you used them to glorify God's Church? In what ways have you thanked God for the gifts he has given you?
Further reading	Catechism 528, 796, 2618	Catechism 1612-1617	Catechism 799-801, 951, 2003