

Holy Days as announced in the bulletin.



January 9, 2022

Baptism of the Lord



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 8~ Baptism of the Lord/Vigil
5:30 PM Richard Hutchings
Sunday, January 9 ~ Baptism of the Lord
9:30 AM Hank Bodendorf, Pam Sibley
Monday, January 10
9:00 AM Beatrice Harlow
Wednesday, January 12
9:00 AM Catherine Harlow
Friday, January 14
9:00 AM Fr. Nicholas & Fr. Paul Richmond,
 New Novice Directors
Saturday, January 15 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Vigil
5:30 PM Hank Bodendorf
Sunday, January 16 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 AM Pam Sibley

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

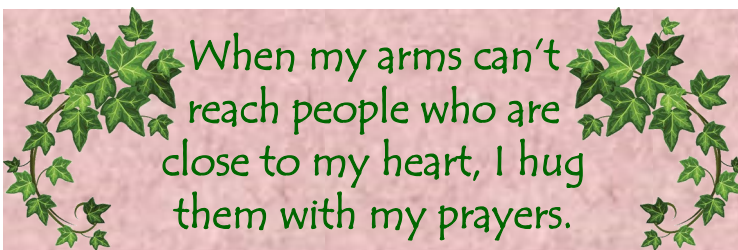
Saturday, January 15 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Vigil
5:30 PM Jennifer Zupetz
Sunday, January 16 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 AM John Drumm

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 15 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Vigil
9:30 AM Kathy Fayol(a), Barb Cinque(c)
Sunday, January 16 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 AM Rosemary Osborn(a), Lisa Dyer(c)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SERVE

Alexandria Baker-Bonitz (*Navy*)
 Dylan Bonitz (*Navy*)
 Sarah Bowen (*Navy*) Juan Gonzalez (*Navy*)
 Kaila McGowan (*Marines*) Anthony Pagano (*Navy*)
 Joseph Ruize (*Navy*) Carissa Tironi (*Army*)
 Elliott Weidel (*Marines*)



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Joanne Bach, Judy Bennett, Sr. Margaret Ellen Burke,
 Barbara Ceriale, Patty Ann Coxe, Brian Cross,
 Nicole Dawson, Christian DeMott, Agnes Ferrone,
 Anna Gallo, Joe Gallo, Michael Gallo, Diane Hriniak,
 Anthony Pagano, Sr., Helen Ryan, Frances Salewski,
 Sue Schmaus, Chris Strobl, Gary Texter, Elissa Zahn

PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

Regina Parthesius, Robert Wise

LOOKING AHEAD

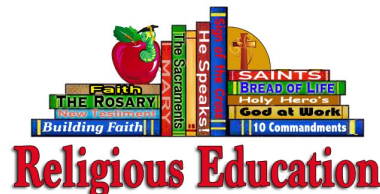
Helping Hands Food Pantry
Every Saturday by Appointment (9 AM start)

Monday, January 10
 Parish Council Meeting ~ 7:00 PM

Monday, January 10
 Columbiettes Meeting at
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Parish Center at 7:00 PM
(Open to all OLA Ladies, also)



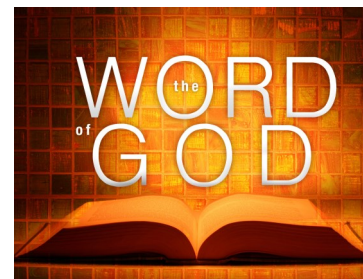
Religious Education Classes ~ 6:30-7:30 PM
Tuesday, January 11
Tuesday, January 18
Tuesday, January 25
Tuesday, February 2
Tuesday, February 9



We rejoice in our sufferings because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who He has given us.

St. Paul the Apostle

Today's Scripture Readings



The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

John the Baptist proclaimed that Jesus would offer us a Baptism that was so much more.

As we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of Jesus, we are invited to reflect upon the significance of our own Baptisms. What does it mean to me that I, through my own Baptism, am a child of God? Do I see this as an honor, or a responsibility or both? Do I really believe that I have died to one form of life so that I might live in Christ? What does it mean for me to be a child of God? Do I renew my Baptismal promises every time I sign myself with the Sign of the Cross with holy water whenever I enter or leave my church or home?

Do I celebrate the anniversary date of my Baptism? Have I ever visited the Baptismal font in which I was baptized? Do I fulfill my responsibilities to the children of whom I am a godparent?

Mass Attendance/Collection

Attending Mass **January 2 & 3:** 65
 Weekend's Collection: \$3,568.21

Join the Columbiettes



The January 10th Columbiette meeting at Our Lady of Mount Carmel will begin at 7:00 PM. All those that attend will be asked to wear masks and hand sanitizer will be made available. Since this meeting will be small group work, the parish center allows for adequate spacing for the subgroups to do their needed work.

The **Columbiettes** is an organization of Catholic women dedicated to our Patronesses, Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Theresa the Little Flower and St. Joan of Arc, are comprised of affiliated Auxiliaries of the Knights of Columbus Councils. Currently there are 26 active members (including two from OLA. **Ladies from Our Lady of the Assumption are invited to join this Council.**

To Be Baptised . . .

Jesus came to John the Baptist while he was baptizing people in the River Jordan. John tried to make him change his mind, but Jesus answered, **"In this way we will do all that God requires."** So John agreed. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Heaven was opened and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, **"This is my own dear son with whom I am pleased."**



John the Baptist preached in the wilderness, telling people to repent their sins; to be baptised as a sign of their repentance. They needed to prepare for a greater person coming after him. There are many similarities between John and the Old Testament prophet Elijah. Both of them:

- ♦ spent time in the wilderness
- ♦ wore simple basic clothing (John wore a camel hair tunic with a leather belt)
- ♦ were outspoken and often offended people (John called the religious leaders vipers)
- ♦ preached a message from God

These similarities give an important clue about the identity of Jesus. In Jewish belief Elijah was expected to return to earth for a second time to announce the coming of the Messiah. So, if John was Elijah returned to earth - **i.e. a second Elijah** - what does this say about Jesus?

The baptism carried out by John was full immersion in the River Jordan. Baptism was not a new idea. There is evidence that a monastic group called the Essenes used baptism at their monastery at Qumran as a type of ritual cleansing. Qumran was in the Jordan wilderness, near the area where John was probably preaching. Some Bible scholars think that John may have had connections with this community.

Matthew records that when Jesus asked John to baptize him, John was reluctant to do so. This could be for the following reasons:

- ♦ baptism is for the forgiveness of sin, yet Jesus is God's son and therefore sinless
- ♦ Jesus is the greater person John has been telling people about, so John does not feel worthy to baptize him

At the moment that Jesus was baptized there were significant events:

- ♦ heaven was opened
- ♦ God's spirit descended on Jesus
- ♦ God's voice was heard

A dove, often used as a symbol of peace, represents God's spirit descending on Jesus. This gives Jesus power to equip him for his ministry.



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