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THE BAPTISM *of the Lord*

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

January 9, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 9

7:30 Phil Blair
 9:00 Members of the parish
 10:45 Peter Aniekwenagbu

Monday, January 10

8:00 Ken and Virginia Kopp

Tuesday, January 11

8:00 George Sr. and Mary Bambroughn

Wednesday, January 12

8:00 Patrick McGuire

Thursday, January 13

8:00 Vince and Marlene Vitucci

Friday, January 14

8:00 Rita Bill

Saturday, January 15

4:00 Karen Kornell

Sunday, January 16

7:30 Deceased members of the Crowley and Brunner families
 9:00 Members of the parish
 10:45 Mana, Peter and Cosmas Aniekwenagbu

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming . . . he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit . . .’” - Luke 3:16

The Catholic Catechism states that *“Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.”* In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus - the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Week’s Activity (January 1 and 2)

Envelopes	\$ 30,005
Offertory change	\$ 834
Total	\$ 30,839

Online offertory \$ 13,095

Would you prayerfully consider treating Saint Dennis Parish as one of your children in your will/estate planning?

Give Your First Fruits Back To God

- 5% to local parish
- 1% Annual Catholic Appeal
- 4% to personal charities

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Saint Dennis welcomes our newest members:

Ashley Budden
 Denise Cebalo
 Amy Hutson
 Sarah Skoug
 Austin Pernsteiner and Brittany Weber
 Meredith Westland

And we welcome our newest members with Baptism in December:

Piper AnneLouise Veith, daughter of Scott and Trisha

RECYCLE THE WARMTH



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will again be conducting their annual blanket drive. This drive allows Saint Vincent de Paul to provide blankets, sheets and other bedding, without charge, to people in need throughout the year. Your help is needed to make this assistance possible. Collection bins will be located in the Saint Dennis gathering area on the weekend of Saturday, January 29 and Sunday, January 30. There will also be contribution envelopes available or you can donate at svdmadison.org. Bedding can be purchased and/or donated at any Saint Vincent de Paul store in Dane County. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our neighbors in need.

FELLOWSHIP AFTER MASSES

- January 9 (Knights of Columbus)
- January 16 (Women of Saint Dennis)
- January 23 (Stewardship and Saint Dennis Home and School)
- January 30 (Women of Saint Dennis)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 30 minutes prior to the Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Masses or by appointment.

SCRIP NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, January 15 and January 16, Scrip cards will be available for purchase in Fellowship Hall. The Scrip you purchase generates rebates from retailers that benefit the parish and the school. Scrip cards are also available at the Parish Office, Monday - Thursday from 8:30 a.m. - noon. Just ring our door bell.

FATHER RANDY WRITES . . .

“Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: ‘In truth, I see that God shows no partiality . . .’”
- Acts 10:34

Peter needs Cornelius as much as Cornelius needs Peter. Each year on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord we are invited to revisit the encounter of Peter and Cornelius in Acts of the Apostles 10.

Peter basically walks into Cornelius’ home and says, “Before yesterday, I considered all of you unclean but now I have changed my mind.” Cornelius is known as a man of prayer, great generosity, cares for the poor, and yet a life transformation is required. It is the preaching of Peter that awakens the gift of the Holy Spirit and Cornelius, and his household is baptized. It is good to reflect upon the significance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and its effects on one’s life.

Reflect upon:

- Do you look at yourself and feel continually unclean or unworthy of God’s love? If so, remind yourself often that it is God who is pursuing you and has first loved you!
- Peter had a shred of racism within himself. This event is years after the resurrection and Peter believed the Gospel in its entirety and yet he himself needed transformation. Recognize the need for conversion in your own life, perhaps by people who are very different from you culturally.
- One of the effects of Cornelius’ baptism was the gift of the Holy Spirit. As the Holy Spirit takes root in you, it changes how you worship. Until God’s love is the praise of your life, you have not really changed. Where are you being invited to let go of control and to worship the One who is in control?

Peace, Father Randy

A SPECIAL THANK YOU



Our College Outreach project sent over forty-five Christmas cards and gift cards to college students and seminarians. We received many thank you notes from those who appreciated being remembered during their end of semester and final exams. Thank you to those who wrote the cards and thank you to all the parishioners who contributed to the cost of the gift cards. You made them smile!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our Saint Dennis Prayer team will pray for you. All you have to do is ask. Whether you need prayers for an illness, a new job, an anniversary, marriage, finding your vocation in life, or any other need - the Saint Dennis Prayer team will pray for you. All prayer requests are strictly confidential. As always, persist in gratitude in your mind and heart. Email your request to StDennisPrayers@gmail.com.



“Would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth!”

1-6-2022



In Memory of . . .

Requested by

Leo and Marie Triggs family

Mik and Margi Foley

Wilbur and Leona Foley family

Mik and Margi Foley

Thomas P. and Mildred Tahany, Sr. Kevin and Debbie Tahany

Raymond and Betty Van Den Plas Kevin and Debbie Tahany



SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

“God does not require us to succeed, he only requires that you try.”

LEADERS OF PRAYER NEEDED

Being a Leader of Prayer (LOP) means performing an essential service during the Mass. The LOP does the readings or the petitions. We need a few more people who are willing to participate in this essential part of the Mass each weekend. Send an e-mail to Terry Ludkey at ludkeys@charter.net to offer yourself as a new Leader of Prayer. Thank you for your consideration.



SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 14

End of semester one



BELIZE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

We were so successful last year with our Belize scholarship fundraiser we will continue the tradition by selling Little Caesar's pizza to sponsor students in Belize so they can attend school. So consider purchasing:

1. Pepperoni Pizza Kit - \$25. A family favorite! Enjoy our signature pizza crust topped with our famous sauce, 100% real mozzarella and Muenster cheeses, and a generous portion of our tasty pepperoni. Makes three 12" pizzas.
2. Crazy Bread Kit with Crazy Sauce - \$20. Enjoy our world-famous Crazy Bread topped with the delicious flavors of butter, garlic and Parmesan cheese. Served with our famous Crazy Sauce. A perfect side to our pizza.
3. Cookie Dough Brownie with mini M&M's - \$23. Calling all chocolate lovers! A fudgy chocolate brownie topped with fluffy cookie dough frosting and mini M&M's chocolate candies. Just unwrap, cut as desired, and enjoy this ready-to-eat confectionery dream! 30 oz, four individually wrapped 7.5 oz packages.
4. Chunky Cookie Dough - \$20. Premium artisan chocolate chunks nestled in a chewy, golden cookie. Makes thirty 1 oz cookies.

Our deadline for orders is Sunday, January 23. Little Caesar's requires a three-week notice due to ordering the supplies.

Drive-thru pick-up under the Saint Dennis carport will be on Saturday, February 12 from 10:00 a.m. - noon. Go to the Saint Dennis website to preorder by credit card or call in your orders to the Parish Office at 608-246-5124. Thanks in advance for your support!

CARE FOR CREATION

"The church has a responsibility towards Creation and considers it her duty . . . to protect earth, water and air as gifts of God, The Creator, meant for everyone." - Pope Benedict XVI



Pandemic Reflections: Slowing Down

During this pandemic, often our plans have been dashed and our hardships amplified. We have been forced to slow down and simplify our existence at times. What is most important rises to the surface: our spiritual and emotional connection to God, family, friends, community and Creation and the health of those we love. Saint Pope John Paul II reminds us that in light of Christ's death and resurrection, suffering is no longer an exclusively negative event. "Rather, it is seen as . . . an opportunity to release love . . . to transform the whole of civilization." *Salvifici Dolores, #30.*

What positive changes and behaviors can we carry forward from this forced slow down? What new insights will we have into what material things we really need in life? How can we work together to overcome the COVID-19 variant crisis to provide learning on how to overcome other crises, like the climate crisis?

Join us in the school faculty room this Sunday, January 9 following the 10:45 a.m. Mass or contact us by email at careforcreation@stdennisparish.org.

FOCUS ON UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

Any human success requires vigilance. Opportunities and powerful moments of encounter can easily be missed when we are not attentive. It is all too easy today to live distracted and preoccupied lives. There is so much vying for our attention that it can be hard to be selective and really focus. Caught up in this whirlwind of busyness and anxiety, we become tired and almost sleepwalk through life. Be attentive to the human journey and God's revelation. From the beginning of time, God has been seeking our attention. He constantly reminds us of the justice he desires to bring and the promise of his abiding unconditional love. Understanding and growing in these truths requires alertness so that we can be strengthened in our faith and prepared for whatever will come.

SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

"I understood that the greatest attribute is love and mercy. It unites the creature with the Creator. This immense love and abyss of mercy are made known in the Incarnation of the Word and in the Redemption [of humanity] and it is here that I saw this as the greatest of all God's attributes." (Diary, 180)

RCIA - COME AND SEE

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Have you thought about joining the Catholic Church? Have you been baptized but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Holy Eucharist? Questions? Call Dewayne Kennedy-Parker at 608-241-8732 or email at dkennedyparker@gmail.com.

Shorter days in the winter can make people feel sluggish or even depressed with negative effects on family life. Try to spend some time outdoors on sunny days and keep your home well-lit and cheerful.



A THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR

National Right to Life

When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, have often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, "That it is a terrible moment of loneliness."

You have no advocates; you are there alone standing before God and a terror will rip through your soul like nothing you can imagine.

But I really think those in the pro-life movement will not be alone.

I think that there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement.

They will say to God, "Spare him because he loved us." and God will look at you and say not, "Did you succeed?" but "Did you try?"
- Henry Hyde

PREGNANCY HELPLINE

Pregnancy Helpline of Madison is a non-profit organization that exists to provide life-affirming, compassionate care: giving accurate information, material support and community referrals to women, men and families before, during and after pregnancy. All programs are free. To find out how you can help by volunteering or donating, go to www.pregnancyhelpline.net or call 608-222-0008.



STANDING IN LINE

Jesus stood in line with everyone else and was baptized. There is something incredibly humbling about how this must have played out. Then, God did something truly awesome and inspiring. Through a very gentle and simple action he let the world know about the special relationship He shares with Jesus. That is exactly what is so incredible about our baptisms as well! Through those holy waters God announces to the world the special place we also occupy in His heart. We no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. We do not need to fumble around, tripping over ourselves and wondering why we are even here. The answer has been given. All we have to do is live out the vocation we have received, to live the Gospel in fidelity to our Creator. There is nothing to fear and worry has no place. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor and God is very pleased.

OUR LADY OF HOPE CLINIC

Our Lady of Hope Clinic is a Direct Primary Care Clinic that donates at least 55 percent of our services to care for uninsured patients consistent with Catholic health care tradition. Contact us at 608-819-8544 or 8547.

AGRACE ADULT DAY CENTER

Do you care for or know an older adult who cannot - or chooses not to - stay alone all day? The new Agrace Adult Day Center in Madison gives seniors the reassurance and comfort of having others with them throughout the day. It is especially helpful for people who have dementia or trouble with their memory. It's a welcome break for family caregivers, too. Learn more at 608-327-7303 or Agrace.org/AdultDayCenter.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ." — Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office

413 Dempsey Road, Madison, WI 53714-3015
Office is closed but phones are answered Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 608-246-5124
Fax: 608-246-5138
Email: office@stdennisparish.org
Website: <http://www.stdennisparish.org>

Parish Priests

Father Randy J. Timmerman, D. Min., Pastor
Office: 608-246-5124 rtimmerman@stdennisparish.org

Father Joji Reddy Allam, Parochial Vicar
Office: 608-246-5124
jallam@stdennisparish.org

Deacon

Deacon David Hendrickson Office: 608-246-5124
dhendrickson@stdennisparish.org

Parish Administrator

Karen Kaehr Office: 608-661-0541
kkaehr@stdennisparish.org

School - Grades 4K thru 8

Matt Beisser, Principal Office: 608-246-5121
principal@st-dennisschool.org
409 Dempsey Road

Director of Faith Formation

Lisa Harms Office: 608-246-5123
lharms@stdennisparish.org

Youth Ministry

Katrina Tranel Office: 608-246-5124
ktranel@stdennisparish.org

Director of Music and Media

Andrew Kem Office: 608-216-9380
akem@stdennisparish.org

Associate Director of Evangelization

Melanie Pfeil Office: 608-246-5124
mpfeil@stdennisparish.org

READINGS

Week of January 9, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 Or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/
Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

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