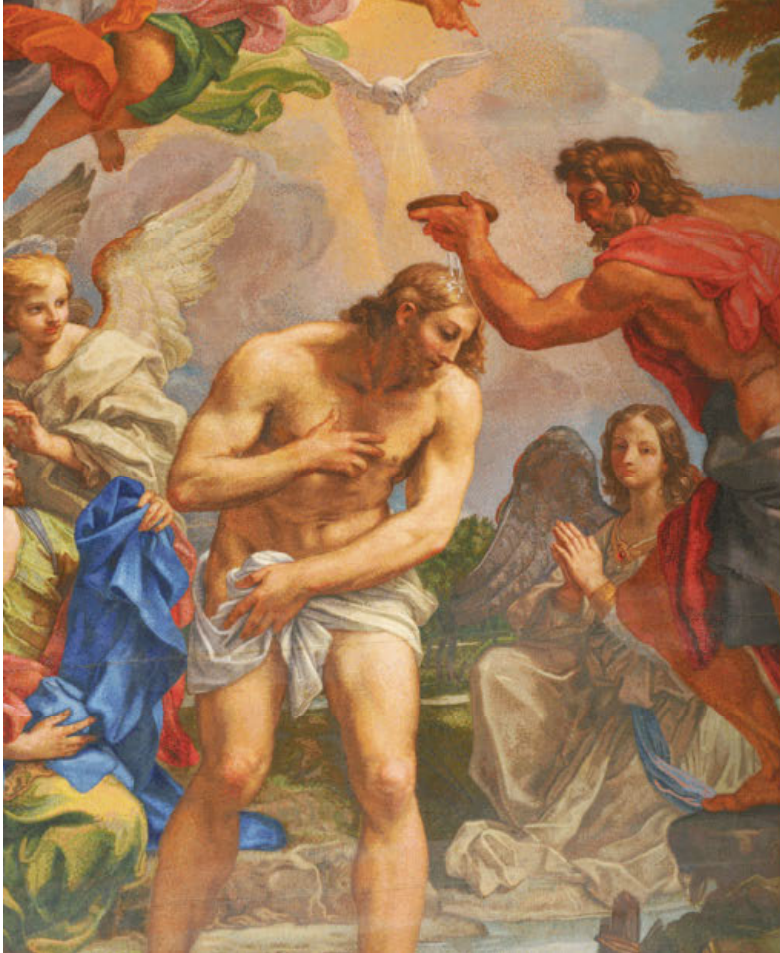


Cathedral of St. Peter

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 9, 2022



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.
- Lk 3:21-22a

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

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Most Reverend David J. Malloy, D.D., J.C.L., S.T.D.
Bishop of Rockford

Very Reverend Kenneth J. Anderson
Rector
kanderson@cathedralofstpeter.org

Reverend Joseph Jaskierny
In Residence
jjaskierny@rockforddiocese.org

Mr. Robert Mitchison
Deacon

Mr. James Easton
Deacon

Mission Statement

Cathedral of St. Peter is a Roman Catholic Church whose mission is that of Jesus Christ: the conversion of sinners and the salvation of souls. This is accomplished by preaching the Gospel, celebrating the Sacraments and evangelizing the world around us.

Cathedral of St. Peter



FROM THE PEN OF FATHER KEN I Baptize you

“I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.” As people are contemplating the identity of John the Baptist, John is quick to point away from himself, towards Jesus the Christ. John is doing a bit of catechesis and evangelization here. As we are privy to the voice of God the Father, “You are my beloved Son,” we can reflect on the powerful relationship which we enter into at the time of Baptism.

At Baptism, and in RCIA, we ask the parents or candidates what they are looking for. While the formal ritual of Baptism suggests an answer, it is good when there is some reflection upon what it means to receive the sacrament of Baptism. Some parents will simply answer that they simply want their child blessed. But Baptism is so much more than that.

The Baptism of Jesus shows the emergence of Jesus into his public life in a way that shows him to be the Son of God, and Prophet to the nations. We enter into this holiest relationship in Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. It is not for our private benefit but a public act by which we make known what we have seen and heard in Jesus Christ.



ONE IN CHRIST
NATIONAL APPEAL

January 15-16, 2022

The National Appeal reflects the varied ways we seek to communicate Christ's message. Pope Francis has called upon us to dedicate ourselves to spreading the Gospel Message to everyone we meet.

One of the ways we could do this is by participating on the weekend of January 15 and 16 in our annual collection for the National Appeal.

Simply offer what you can to help promote the Gospel through these worthy causes:

- Retirement Fund for Religious
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- Catholic Communication Campaign
- Catholic University of America
- Rockford Diocesan Priests' Pension
- Catholic Elementary School Financial Support for the Diocese of Rockford

Please bring the National Appeal envelope to Mass, or donate online at www.rockforddiocese.org/donate

Thank you for your generous gift.



YOU'RE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO JOIN FR. KEN
FOR WINE &
CONVERSATION
JAN 26, 2022 AT
6:30 P.M. IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL.

RSVP at 815-965-2765 by
Jan 19, 2022

IT'S BACK
COFFEE WITH FATHER
JOIN FR. KEN AT 9:00 A.M.
ON JAN 24 & JAN 31
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



He will answer your questions about anything and everything Catholic! He will also discuss upcoming events happening at the Cathedral. Grab a cup of coffee and join us for a good chat.

Your Sacrificial Offering

Financial Blessings, December 26, 2021

Loose Collection	\$1,280.00
Offertory Envelopes	\$6,212.00
Electronic Contributions	\$4,278.00
Total Offertory	\$11,770.00

Other Contributions

Improvement (Building) Fund	\$10.00
Christmas	\$10,381.48

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish

Your Sacrificial Offering

Financial Blessings, January 2, 2022

Loose Collection	\$3,645.50
Offertory Envelopes	\$3,575.00
Electronic Contributions.....	\$4,733.00
Total Offertory.....	\$11,953.50

Other Contributions

Improvement (Building) Fund	\$35.00
Christmas.....	\$300.00

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish



SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 5, 2022
following the 4:15 pm
Mass

Join us as we gather for
appetizers, wine, beer
and desserts

Further details to come



St. Peter Widows /Widowers
Support Group



**The Widows/Widowers
Support Group meeting
for Tues, January 11 in
Fellowship Hall has been cancelled.**

A big thank you to all of you who helped us out at the Jubilee Soup Kitchen on Dec. 4. From baking cookies, to helping with food preparation, to packing bags, to tying up candy treats, to food donations, you all are wonderful and we appreciate you!!

Thank You. 

If you'd like to help next year our dates are:

Feb. 12, June 4, and Oct 8.

We wish you a New Year filled with many blessings!
Mike and Margaret Lenox"



St. Vincent de Paul Society meets on the 2nd Tuesdays of every month starting at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend! Check out our Face Book page: SVdP St. Peter

Rockford

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 11

GOSPEL MEDITATION

“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.

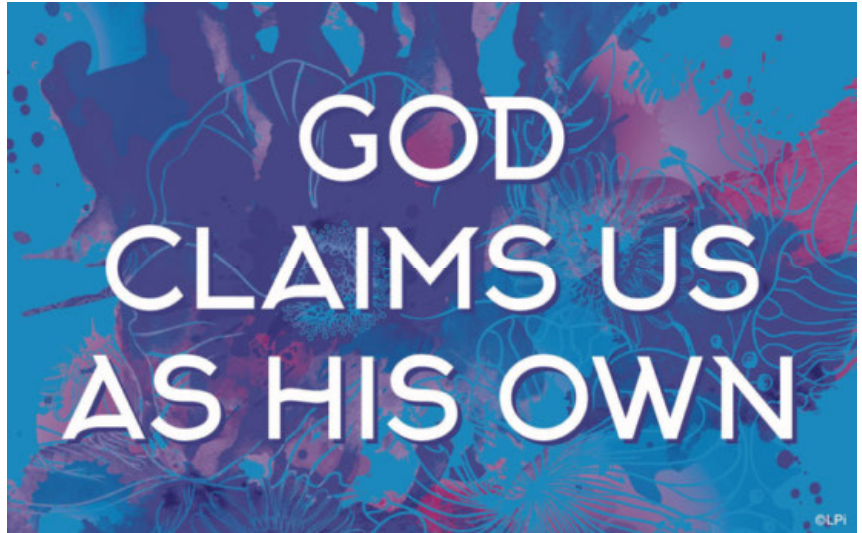
It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly 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.

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LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

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’s 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.

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I Hope I Am Like Him

“Who is this Christ? Is he like you?”

Perhaps you’ve heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

“He is nothing like me,” the saint is said to have answered. “But I hope I am like him.”

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on

wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. “One worthier than I is coming,” he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God’s will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let’s examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God’s plan?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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At my grandson’s Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.



Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: “See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.” In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers, and this is symbolized by the white garment.

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Saturday, Jan 8, Christmas Weekday

8:00 am + Janet DeBruyne

Vigil Mass:

 4:15 pm +Patricia Jamison
 +Mary Lib Skerkoske

Sunday, Jan 9, The Baptism of the Lord

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

 9:00 am +John McNamara
 +James Heim

 11:00 am +Anne Solar
 +Sr. Marilyn Brown

 5:00 pm +Rosario A. Gaziano
 +Charles & Doris Gough

Monday, Jan 10, Weekday

8:00 am Intention for Lucilla G. Kennedy

Tuesday, Jan 11, Weekday

8:00 am +Daryl Harmon

Wednesday, Jan 12, Weekday

8:00 am +Diane Judy

Thursday, Jan 13, St. Hilary

8:00 am +Mary Lib Skerkoske

Friday, Jan 14, Weekday

 8:00 am +Thomas J. Reynolds, Jr.
 +Robert Meyers

Saturday, Jan 15, Weekday

8:00 am +Helen Marie Stone

Vigil Mass:

 4:15 pm +Joan Zanin
 Intention for the Carson Family

Sunday, Jan 16

 7:30 am +Philip L. Satterlee
 +Patricia Jamison

 9:00 am +Michael J. Muzzarelli
 Deceased Members of the
 James Brophy Family

 11:00 am +Leslie Sergeys
 +Patricia Oakland

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sanctuary
Cleaner

 Jan 14 C. Gilmore
 J. Newton

**BUILT ON ROCK
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY!
(AGES 18-35)**

If you are between the ages of 18 to 35, we invite you to join us two Thursdays a month at St. Bridget for our Young Adult Ministry. Our goal is to provide ministry and community for young adults in the Rockford area while building up your faith and relationship with the Church. We simply want to help you live life to the fullest. Through forming a strong community, you will be better able to go forth and live the Gospel message with family, friends, coworkers, and those you encounter daily. If you have any questions, contact Fr. Downing at adowning@rockforddiocese.org or call 815-633-6311.

Upcoming Gatherings:

Thursday, January 13th ~ Join Fr. Downing from 6:30pm-7:45pm in the Parish Center Hall. We will be discussing what our priorities are for this New Year and how to start out the New Year on the right foot.

Thursday, January 27th ~ Our gathering will be a Teaching Mass by Fr. Grismer. We will meet at 6:30pm in the Church.

In February, we will begin a book study using *Living Joy* by Chris Stefanick. If interested in this book study,

Sanctuary Lamp

Our Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week
for

Special Intentions

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Parish Secretary,

Mrs. Rene Flores
rflores@cathedralofstpeter.org

Business Manager/Bookkeeper

Mrs. Mary Cox
mcox@cathedralofstpeter.org

Receptionist

Mrs. Connie Murphy
cmurphy@cathedralofstpeter.org

Director of Music

Mr. Adam G. Singleton
asingleton@cathedralofstpeter.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Nancy Spahr
nspahr@cathedralofstpeter.org

Cathedral of St. Peter

1243 N. Church Street
Rockford, IL 61103
www.cathedralofstpeter.org

NFP Contact

Mrs. Mary O'Grady, RN
815-332-3015
mary.e.o'grady@osfhealthcare.org
osfhealthcare.org/services/fertility/

All Saints Catholic Academy

409 N. First Street
Rockford, IL 61107
www.allsaintsrockford.org
Phone..... 815-962-8515

Principal,

Mr. Michael Kagan

School Secretary,

Mrs. Julie Nelson

Mass Schedule

Saturday..... 4:15 pm
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am
.....11:00 am, 5:00 pm
Daily8:00 a.m.

Holy Days..... 6:30 am, 8:00 am,
.....12:00 pm and 6:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday..... 6:30-8:00 pm

Sacraments

Baptism

Most Sundays of the month after the 11:00 am Mass. Telephone Parish Office for program registration.

Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30-7:15 pm; Sat. 8:30-9:00 am, 3:30 pm-4:00 pm or by appointment.

Matrimony

Please contact the Cathedral Office at 815-965-2765 or office@cathedralofstpeter.org at least 6 months in advance to begin preparation.

Parish Office Hours

Hours (M-Thurs) 8:00 am—1:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am-12:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am-11:00 am
Phone..... 815-965-2765
Fax..... 815-965-0743



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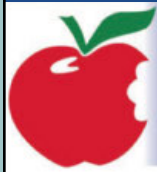
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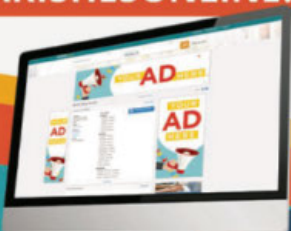
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