#### 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.

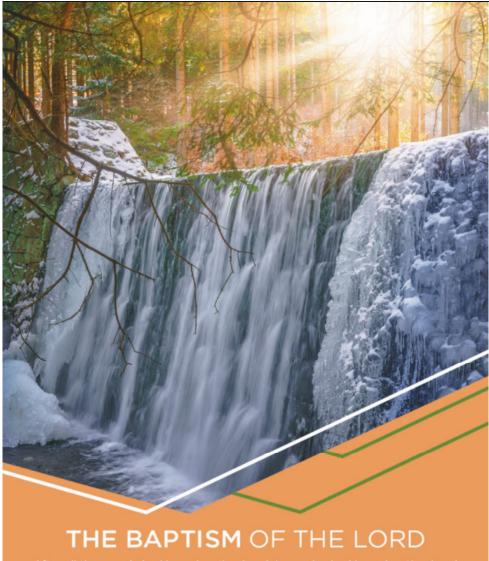
It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly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

# Sacred Heart

JANUARY 9, 2022 The Baptism of the Lord

#### 555 BAILEY ROAD • CRYSTAL CITY, MO 63019



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

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We the parish family of Sacred Heart, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit seek to bring all to a fuller understanding of God's love by teaching, praying, witnessing for Christ and service to one another. Through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures, we shall build up the body of Christ in our local parish, deanery, archdiocese and the world.

#### Staff & Parish Info 2

#### **Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor.** Rev. Mathew Cheruparambil E-Mail.....frmathew@archstl.org Deacon, Jerry Stoverink Deacon E-Mail.....j dstoverink@sbcglobal.net Director of Rel. Ed..... Karen Weber Phone-636-937-4662, 314-623-1139 kwebersacredheartdre@gmail.com Finance Council Chair, Steve Bacon E-Mail.....sjbacon@bcd-llc.com Parish Leadership Chair, Jim Sparling E-Mail.....jimsparling@sbcglobal.net **Parish Offices** Rectory ......(636) 937-4662 Toll free St. Louis/fax .....(636) 931-5507 E-mail.....sh324cc@sbcglobal.net Adoration Chapel ....... (636) 933-0454 Parish Website: sacredheart crystalcity-festus.weconnect.com

### **Parish Secretary**

Office hours..... M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net **Eucharistic Celebrations** 

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am; (Friday 8:00 am-Communion Service) Holy Day: 6:00pm (Vigil Mass, celebrated day before Holy Day); 8:00am and 12:00 Noon (on the Holy Day)

#### Sacraments Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 pm or by appointment.

#### **Baptism**

Held on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month following the 11:00 am Mass.

Baptism is an introduction to the Catholic way of life, attendance at Sunday Mass is an obligation which is not taken lightly. Baptism preparation will be held on the 1st Monday of each month. Call Fr. Mathew for Baptism preparation and Baptisms +(636-937-4662).

#### Marriage

Preparation class must begin at least six months in advance of date of marriage. Make an appointment with the priest.

#### **Communion Calls**

If you are unable to come to Mass for several weeks due to illness, contact the Parish Office for a visit.

#### **Perpetual Adoration Chapel**

Open twenty four hours a day in the Convent Chapel. If interested contact the Parish Office (636) 937-4662.

#### **PSR Classes**

Held at school every Wednesday evening during school year from 6:45-8:00 pm. **Bulletin Deadline** 

Announcements must be turned in to Parish Office by Sunday evening. Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net



Greeting from the Pastor A poor man asked God why he was poor. God replied that he was poor because he did not share his wealth. "But, how can I share what I do not have? I am so poor", said the poor man. "Don't say you are poor", said God, "for I gave you a beautiful smile on your face to smile at people to brighten their days. I gave you lips and a face to smile at people to brighten their days. I gave you lips and a tongue to speak kindly to others, to encourage and to motivate. I gave you two hands to reach out to others, to help and to support. I

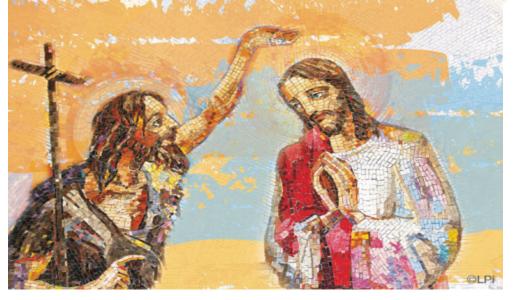
gave you two feet to walk many miles for those who cannot go even a mile. Do you think you are still so poor?"

The man regretted that he wasted so many years by thinking he was poor, while he was truly rich, beyond measure. He hurried back home promising God to share his riches with others. As he went his way, he met an elderly woman in torn and tattered rags sitting by the wayside, and heartily smiled at her. She said many men and women went that way but nobody cared even to look at her. She thanked him for the smile. As he went further, he saw a younger couple weeping for their lost daughter. He sat by them to comfort them: "Everything has a reason. Maybe, God entrusted to you the care of His child for a while. She was His daughter, not *yours. You were only custodians.*" "Oh, that is a profound thought. We never thought that way. You bring us great comfort. Thank you kindly." The man and the woman looked at each other, wiped their tears-filled eves, and blew their nose. Then the man came across a blind man struggling to cross a busy traffic. He made many attempts, but he was terrified by the inconsiderate and speeding traffic. The 'poor man' took him by his hand and led him to the other side. The blind man hugged him in gratitude. As he was near his dripping hut, he saw a young lady without legs moving slowly in her wheelchair through a rugged path. As he looked at his own legs and thought about his wealth of two legs, he saw the wheelchair struggling to move forward in a ditch. He ran forward and pushed the wheelchair for her. "You are an angel. I had a hard time to make that half mile. I have another mile or so to go. God bless you this day" the girl thanked him. "If would like, I am more than happy to assist you to get across the remaining mile, mam. I see this path is not easy for a wheelchair." As he turned back to leave, the girl held his hand and said, "Thank you for walking with me." He again looked at his feet.

We are going through the pandemic. Many people are depressed and sad. If you could kindly smile at others to brighten their days, and speak a kind word to them to encourage them, and if you could do anything this day to relieve someone's sadness, you would be sharing your wealth. Tell them that this time too shall pass. At the other end of the horizon, soon will appear the rainbow of normalcy.

With love,

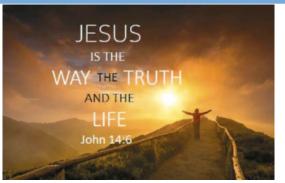
Fr. Mathew



# Stewardship and More

#### Bible Study – Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

A Powerful Study on the Life of Jesus Christ will be our next study. The marvelous treasures of the Catholic Faith—the Eucharist, Mary, the saints, and the Creed—are all centered on a



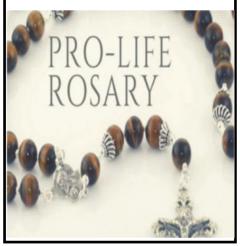
single figure: Jesus Christ. Jesus is more than a historical or theological figure. He is our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord, and our God. While many of us already know a lot about him, how well can we say we really know him? Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life* is a new and fresh look at Jesus—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation. This encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life on him as you come to know and love him in an ever-deeper and more intimate way. The Bible Study will begin the last week of January and there will be 10 weekly sessions. There will be two groups, one on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm (begins January 25) and the other on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm (begins January 26) and held in the Rectory Meeting Room. Look for sign-up sheets in church.

#### Do you know someone who misses Mass because of illness?

If you are sick, in the hospital, homebound or in a nursing facility, Sacred Heart Eucharistic ministers are available to bring you Holy Communion. Call the Parish Office to schedule a time for them to visit.

#### **Rosary Services**

Please come 35 minutes early to weekend Mass to pray the rosary for Pro-Life and our country. If you would like to lead the rosary call the Parish Office.





#### **Baptismal Bib**

#### **Question:**

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?

#### Answer:

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 poncholike 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

#### Your Gift of Treasure

#### Week of January 2, 2022

Envelopes Mailed...... Envelope Gifts......\$ Number of Envelopes...... Online Gifts......\$ Number of Online Donations...... Loose......\$

#### Scrip Program January 2, 2022

Number of orders
Amount of Orders\$
Amount earned this week\$
E-Scrip Revenue\$0
Amount earned YTD\$

January 2nd amount will be posted in next weeks bulletin.

#### Contribution 2021 Statements

Your 2021 contribution statements will be mailed to you in January. We like for you to have them for two reasons: first, to show you how much you have contributed to support the parish, and secondly, to use for tax purposes.

Thank you for your support of the Mission and Ministries of Sacred Heart during this last year. May God continue to bless you.

# Parish & Community Events

## St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church | January 13

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 - c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phyrgia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy. Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

#### January 9, 2022 <u>The Baptism of Our Lord</u>

"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.





#### St. Vincent de Paul Thank You

The Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all those who contributed to the "Angel Giving Tree" at Christmas. We received over 2500 pairs of much needed socks and underwear for the children in need in our area. These were distributed along with the toys collected for the Jefferson County Toys and More program. On the day of distribution children were given 3 toys, stocking stuffers, a family game, food and clothing. Those who received the toys were most grateful.

We are also grateful for those who used the envelopes in your offering packets to make contributions to the St. Vincent de Paul in December in the amount of \$3,582.00. All proceeds help to pay utility bills, rent, car repair and whenever there is a need. Their motto is "There is no charity foreign to the St. Vincent de Paul." May God Bless you in your generosity and service to His people.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MO-MENTS

#### 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?

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# Parish & Community Events



#### Adoration of the Lord Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel is OPEN and <u>volunteers are needed.</u>

"One need not say much to pray well, we know that Jesus is there in the tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him, let us rejoice in His Sacred Presence. That is the best prayer." We have **SEVERAL OPENINGS.** 

We have SÉVÉRAL OPENINGS. Please call **Terri Wolk at 314-620-7527** for more information.

Openings for the following hours are needed to be filled ASAP. This is a great way to give your time and talent to your Parish and The Lord!

Monday:	5:00am
Tuesday:	8:00am
Thursday:	11:00pm
Friday:	12:00am
Saturday:	7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm
Sunday:	4:00am

# Dynamic Catholic, *Alive!* – Prayer

We hear in this week's Gospel about how Jesus visited John the Baptist and was baptized with water. We also hear that after His baptism, Jesus took time to pray. Jesus was commissioned by God for a large and vital mission, and He knew that He only had three short years to accomplish it! His example shows us that no matter how busy we are or how much we have to do it is vital that we take time to pray. In fact, the examples shown by Jesus and many of the saints teach us that the need to take time to pray grows with the busyness of our lives. Please, Jesus, instill in all of us the desire to build a deeper relationship with you through prayer. Amen.

#### Annual Roe v. Wade Memorial Mass & Prayer Vigil Saturday, January 15, 2020 - 10 a.m.

# Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis & Boland Hall

January 22, 2022 marks 49 years since the Supreme Court decisions <u>Roe v. Wade</u> and <u>Doe v. Bolton</u> legalized abortion in our country. Since then, over 61 million unborn children have lost their lives and countless women, men, and families have been harmed by legalized abortion in the U.S.

Please join the archdiocesan <u>Respect Life Aposto-</u> <u>late</u> and <u>Generation Life St. Louis</u>, and the Catholic and pro-life community in praying for an end to abortion, healing and forgiveness for those involved in abortion, and an increased respect for all human life.



#### Pick up Your Ministry Schedule

We have the schedules for <u>Servers</u>, <u>Scrip Workers</u>, <u>Lectors and Eucha-</u> <u>ristic Ministers</u> available for pick up in the east foyer of church near the Ministry Bulletin Board. It is also available on our website.

> Ministry Schedules



#### 2022 Calendars Available

Please be sure to take your parish calendar home with you. They are located at the exits of the church. We would like to thank Vinyard Funeral Home for providing them for us.



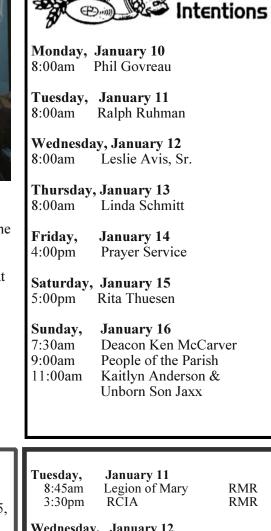
9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message. www.9daysforlife.com



# Ministry Schedules

January 1	5th and January 16th	ST.H
Altar Serv	ers	
5:00pm	Gene DeClue	OF PC
7:30am	Tom Stoverink	DD AV
9:00am	Brooklyn Buckner	PRAY
11:00am	Luke Ŵren	W
Eucharisti	ic Ministers	or or
5:00pm	Stephanie Dandridge	
7:30am	Barbara Ruch	
9:00am	Vickie Eisenbeis	Father, keep us f
11:00am	Sharon Pierce	words.
_		Grant to us const
Lectors		Truth!
5:00pm	Sue Cresswell	Preserve us in a t
<b>7 2 0</b>	Sue Cresswell	faith so that we r
7:30am	Russ Hackmann	
0.00	Carolyn Hackmann	which we profes
9:00am	Marian Branson	baptized in the N
11:00am	Joe Berkbigler Joe Govro	Son and Holy Sp
11.00aiii	Joe Govro	have Thee for ou
Scrip	306 (10/10	may abide in Thy
5:00pm	Cheryl Havlin	and in the fellow
7:30am	Cathy Johns	Spirit.
9:00am	Vickie Eisenbeis	
11:00am	Denise Jones	Through Jesus C Amen.

# Father, keep us from vain strife of<br/>words.Grant to us constant profession of the<br/>Truth!Preserve us in a true and undefiled<br/>faith so that we may hold fast to that<br/>which we professed when we were<br/>baptized in the Name of the Father,<br/>Son and Holy Spirit, that we may<br/>have Thee for our Father, that we<br/>may abide in Thy Son<br/>and in the fellowship of the Holy<br/>Spirit.Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.<br/>Amen.



Mass

3:30pm	RČIA	RMR
Wednesday, 6:45pm 6:45pm	January 12 PSR Class Sacrament of Re For 2nd Grade P With Reception	SR
Thursday, 8:45am 6:30pm	<b>January 13</b> Quilters Quilters	ANN ANN



# Readings for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/
	Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25,
	27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday:	1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday:	Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/
	Jn 2:1-11

#### Observances for the week of January 09, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord
The Baptism of the Lord
The Baptism of the Lord
The Baptism of the Lord
St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
The Baptism of the Lord
The Baptism of the Lord
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Billie Huck, Wife of Duane Huck and Charles "Chuck" Yount, Husband of Denise Yount, all of our Parish. **Pray For Our Sick:** Your prayers are requested for the sick of the Parish. Please remember the many people who are suffering with cancer and various other illnesses in the hospitals, the Nursing Homes, as well as at home and **also remember** all those of the parish who are pregnant that they will have a safe delivery and a healthy baby. **Prayer Requests:** 

Martin Ames Agnes Baker Matt Bequette Mary Breitbarth Lucy Brindley **Roberta Cano** Marian Charleville Clare Coleman Galena Coleman Francis Coleman Wendell Coleman Diana DeClue Karen Dettmer Angie Dill **Melody Dorner** Mylissa Dornself Joe Douglas Leanne Doza Glen Elsworth Marilyn Emily Kristine Fears Tim Fears Sergeant Robert Paul Figge

Jacob Finch David Friesner Mary & Don Hacker Dorothy Hendrix Traci Hendrix Steve Jennings Joanne Johnston Carol Kaltenbronn Donna Keathley Carol Kestermont Joshua Lucas Beth Mahn Holly Martin Nadine McConnell Carol Turgeon- Miller Joshua Miller Doris Moeller Cerita Munshaw Megan Newly Ruth Nichols John & James Norris Jax Okenfuss Jeff Osia Ashley & Jimmy

Perrot Tim Perrv Susan Peterein Miranda Pfaff Carolyn Pool Kathleen Portell Prosser Family Coletta Reecht JoAnn Reeves Donna Riedy Millie Ritcher Kathy Robertson Steve Roth of Iowa Jeanette Smock Joe Sonnenshein Pat Spillers Patricia Swader Juanita Swyers Donna & Francis Tricamo Larry Turley Wayne Turley Sharon Varagona Merrily Varone

Leah Broyles Vogt Al Walker Patty & Greg Ward Scott Weber Rose Weeks Stella Weidenbenner Bobby Wilde Jordan Winkel

PLEASE NOTE: If a name has been on for a long time, it may be taken off to make room for others who are also seriously ill.



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For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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