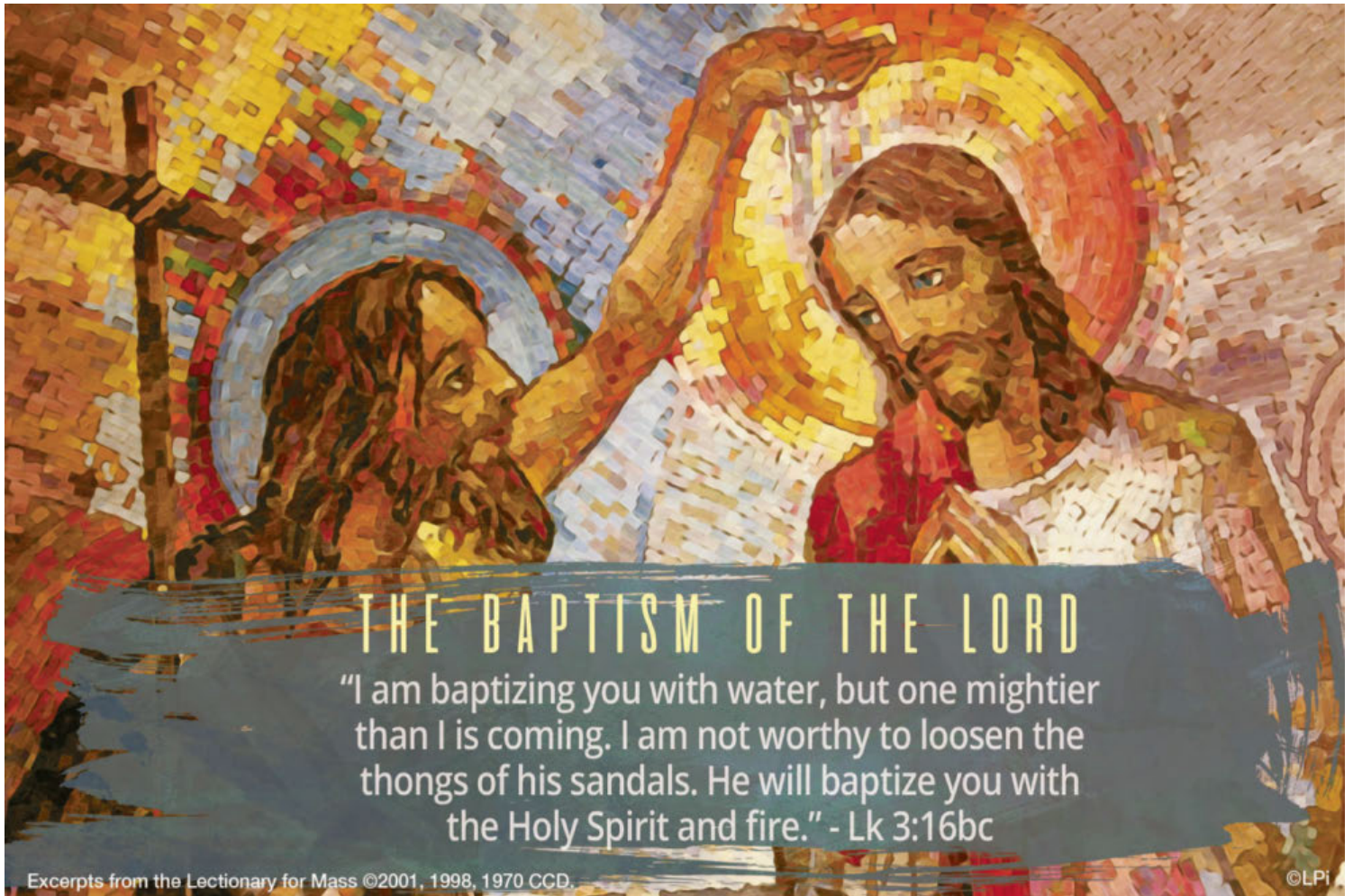


January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

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#### **EUCCHARIST**

**SAT 4:30 pm**

**SUN 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 5:00 pm**

**MON 9:00 am**

**TUES 7:00 am**

**THU 9:00 am**

**FRI 7:00 am**

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

**MON WED THU 8:30 am-1:30 pm**

#### **RECONCILIATION**

Come experience God's love & mercy.

**SAT 3:30 pm**

**SUN 9:30-9:50 am**

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Preschool-7th grade

**SUN 8:50-9:50 am (Sept-April)**

Youth Group 8th-12th grade

**Meets monthly**

#### **CONNECT**

##### **PARISH EMAIL**

[holycross096@yahoo.com](mailto:holycross096@yahoo.com)

##### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EMAIL**

[holycrossre@yahoo.com](mailto:holycrossre@yahoo.com)

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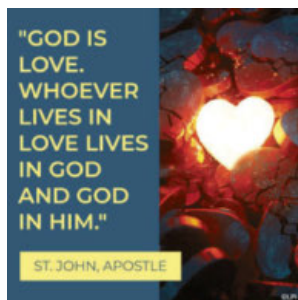
## Formed by God's Word

"I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." (Psalm 119:15-16)

The Bible is primarily a book not of information but of formation, not merely a book to be analyzed, scrutinized and discussed but a sacred book to nurture us, to unify our hearts and minds and to serve as a constant source of contemplation. It is important to guard against the temptation to read the Bible programmatically as a book full of good stories and telling illustrations that can help us with instant advice, sermons, lectures, papers and articles. As long as we deal with the Word of God as an instrument with which we can do many useful things, we don't really read the Bible. The Bible does not speak to us as long as we want only to use it. But when we are willing to hear the Word as a word for us, sacred scripture can disclose itself, and its message can penetrate into the center of our hearts. This is far from easy, because it requires openness and the constant willingness to be converted, and to be led to places where we would rather not go (John 21:18).

Jesus, help me be more faithful to my daily scripture reading. Today I will...

*Returning to God*, Henri J.M. Nouwen



### Confirmation Preparation Classes

11:00-12:00 in the Parish Hall  
January 16 & 23

### Parish FUNDRAISER

Scrip cards make great gifts! Orders received Monday will be here the following Monday for pick up. It also helps our parish as a portion of the card money comes back to Holy Cross. Please contact Connie Larson in the office for more information. Thank you for supporting our parish Scrip Program.

### Mass Times & Mass Intentions 01/10/22 to 01/16/22

- 01-10-22 Monday**  
9:00 a.m. †Ed & †Rita Holland
- 01-11-22 Tuesday**  
7:00 a.m. †Carol Elliott
- 01-13-22 Thursday** St. Hilary  
8:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m. †Shirley Boyer  
9:30 a.m. Adoration until 10:30 a.m.
- 01-14-22 Friday**  
7:00 a.m. †Wilfred Wulfekuhle
- 01-15-22 Saturday**  
4:30 p.m. All members of the Holland & Borsdorf families
- 01-16-22 Sunday** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 a.m. †Lisa Vanderheyden  
10:00 a.m. †Norb Mlott  
5:00 p.m. †Cathy Broshous

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning for the parishioners of Holy Cross**

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### PRAYER REQUESTS

May they be touched by the healing hand of the Lord and be restored soon to the full and active life of their families and our community.

Greg Althof, Robin Broshous, Rita Brown, Chris & Jim Eastwood, Betty Finnegan, Jack Finnegan, Matthew Foltz, Gary Griebel, Janet Groezinger, Paul Heller, Bill Homb, Shawn Homb, Ilene Lamm, Kit Leitzen, Rita Magee, Mark Puls, Yvonne Raether, Jerome Rakowska, Rosemary Schultz, Don Schwartz, Ed Vondra, Eunice Vondra, Carl White, Janice Wright, Jeff Wright

### PARISH SUPPORT ~ December 19 & 26, 2021

Sunday Offering: \$2991 & \$2163  
Christmas Offering: \$11,921

**Your generosity enables us to continue the work Jesus began.**

# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together;  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.  
(40:5)



## PSALM

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)



## SECOND READING

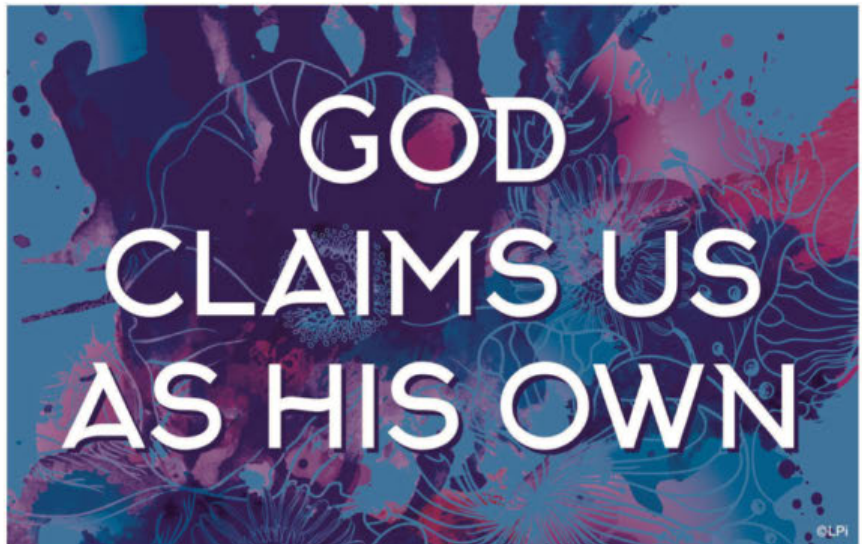
He saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)



## GOSPEL

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 3:22)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm  
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## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

*"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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