

Our Lady of Hope Parish

January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord



Aurora Main Office
16 West 5th Avenue N.
Aurora, MN 55705
218-229-3210



Hoyt Lakes
319 Kennedy Memorial Drive
Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750
218-229-3210



Biwabik
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Biwabik, MN 55708

PASTORAL STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Rel. Ed. Director Marie Hughes 229-3210

Safe Environment,

RCIA Coordinator

olhpedu@gmail.com

Confession—Saturday 12:00 pm Aurora

Parish Website: <http://www.olhp.org>

Facebook: Our Lady of Hope Parish

Prayer Chain:

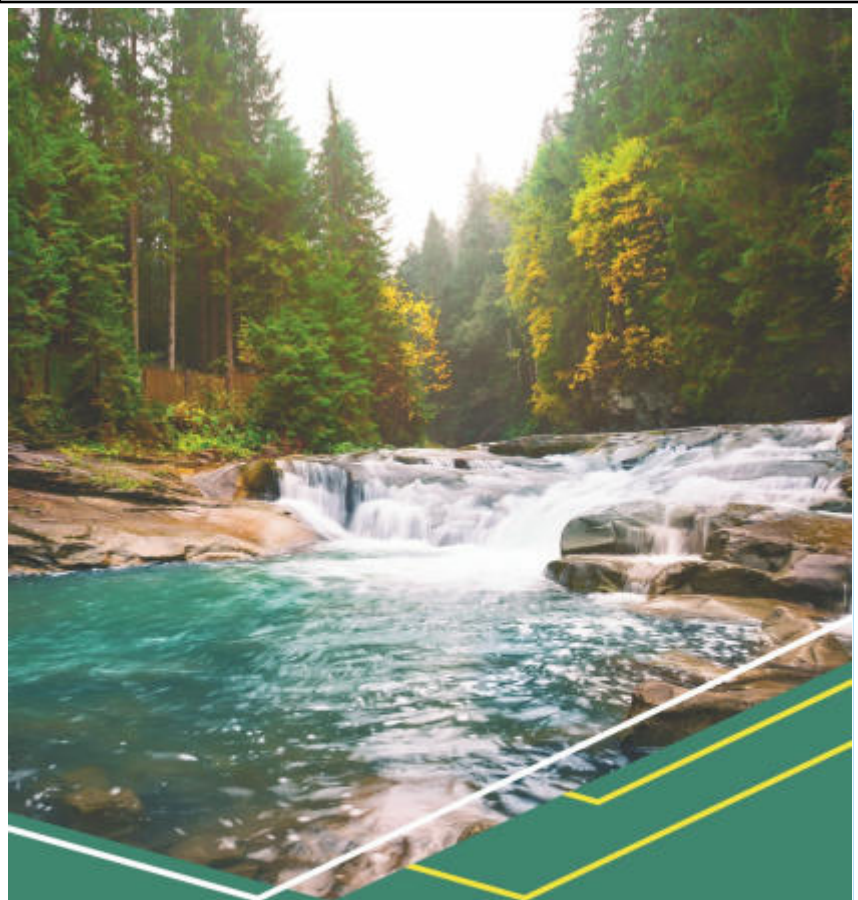
Cordy Sanvik (229-2758)

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**THIS BULLETIN MAILING IS BEING BROUGHT TO
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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

Events & Happenings

Mass Intentions

Week of January 4—January 10

Monday , January 11	5:30 p.m.	Aurora
†Joseph Yurczyk By Arlene Grebenc		
Tuesday, Jan 12	9:00 a.m.	Hoyt Lakes
†Ginny Dorn By Debbie & Steve Dorn		
Wednesday, Jan 13	9:00 a.m.	Biwabik
†Domenika Hanka By Carol Jarvi		
Confession Saturday	12:00 p.m.	Aurora
Saturday, Jan 16	4:30 p.m.	Hoyt Lakes
†Delores & Robert Thuringer By Karen & Al McNulty		
Sunday, Jan 17	8:30 a.m.	Biwabik
†Patients, Residents & Staff of Essentia By OLHP		
Sunday, Jan 17	10.:30 a.m.	Aurora
†For the People		

Thank You to all who contributed to the **CCW Christmas Project**. We were able to make Christmas better for four of our parish families. God Bless your giving spirit.

Thank you to the anonymous donor for the generous contribution to the Sunshine Fund. This is the time of year when we use it the most. Your donation to this effort is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped decorate Our Lady of Hope Parish for Christmas. Your time and dedication is greatly appreciated.

How do we get our children back to the Church? A friend with all her older children and grandchildren gives them rosaries. When she visits them, she always reminds them to say the rosary. In the parish office, we have resources for you. Beautiful and sturdy hand made rosaries given to us by the cloistered Sisters of the Perpetual Rosary. Also, pamphlets on how to say the rosary and the mysteries of the rosary. If you would like rosaries and pamphlets, please contact the parish office. They are free. Advise the quantity and favorite colors of rosary beads. (We will try to fit your order as there are a variety of colors).

Spiritual Growth Committee

Eucharistic Adoration will take place each Thursday. Aurora schedule is 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Biwabik schedule is 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Hoyt Lakes schedule is 8 a.m. to 11 a.m..



Thank you to Arlene Thieling and Linda Lucachick for coordinating our Nativity Scene Display. We thank all of the parishioners who brought in their scenes to share them with us. It was a beautiful display and enjoyed by everyone.

Letter From Father Peter

Epiphany 2020 (03 Jan 21, BAH)

Meanderings on the Epiphany

(Gaspar and Melchior had presented their gifts of frankincense and gold to the Christ child. They were preparing to leave when Balthazar came running in, yelling, “Wait! There’s Myrrh!”)

I had a recent epiphany: a light came on. It was not really a revelation. It was more of a surprise. I was looking at the creches we had displayed around the nave. As I looked down at one, I saw a copy of Fr. Ray Brown’s “An Adult Christ at Christmas.” The late Fr. Brown was a giant in Catholic scripture interpretation. He wrote huge volumes about many biblical topics. He was the chief editor of The Jerome Biblical Commentary that I showed you last week. “An Adult Christ at Christmas” is a collection of presentations that Fr. Brown gave, over the years, on the infancy narratives in Matthew and Luke. It is one of the best sources I have ever found on the topics. Although it is deeply academic, it is also eminently readable, and I recommend it to you.

A recent article by Fr. Terrance Klein proclaimed that Christmas, in our culture, does not meet the demands of its own Gospel proclamation. We have made Christmas too soft and comfortable. Only a few of our carols, for example, even hint at the poverty and hardship into which Jesus was born. One great exception, he points out, is the fourth verse of “We Three Kings”

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

The message of Christmas, including the Epiphany, is about an adult Christ: one who is accepted by outsiders and rejected, even killed, by his own people. It confronts us to accept the challenges and difficulties of our own lives, to carry our own crosses, just as Jesus did from the very beginning of his life.

The message of Christmas is that even in the cold nights, the poverty, the long journeys, the confrontations of life, God is with us, just as he shared our life so long ago. Fr. Klein writes that love’s victory is over sin and death, and it is twice-over purchased: by the blood of the Lamb and by our free decision of faith, *reinforced in countless daily demands*.

I recently watched a modern interpretation of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.” In it, Scrooge is constantly confronted to come out of himself and acknowledge that the story is not about him and his needs. It is about someone else and their needs. In our Roman Catholic world, Christmas is not about me and my needs and my salvation. It is about all of us and our communal salvation. Christmas is not about God and me. It is about God and *we*.

In these times, the challenges are certainly before us. We can withdraw into ourselves and our wants and desires and our rights. Or we can accept the challenges that Jesus puts before us as he meets us in the needs of others.

I hope that somewhere in everything I have presented here, a light has come on for each of us.

Dr. Katie Evans, DPM
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