

Our Lady of Hope Parish

January 9, 2022 The Baptism of the Lord



Aurora Main Office
16 West 5th Avenue N.
Aurora, MN 55705



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



Biwabik
600 South Main Street
Biwabik, MN 55708
218-229-3210

PASTORAL STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Kristoffer McKusky 229-3210

Fr.kristoffer.mckusky@duluthcatholic.org

Deacon: Mark Skala 229-3210

dcn.mark.skala@duluthcatholic.org

Business Manager: Deb Servaty 229-3210

debbie.servaty@duluthcatholic.org

Secretary: Roxanne Horton 229-3210

roxanne.horton@duluthcatholic.org

Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Rel. Ed. Director Kenne Cherro 750-9467

Safe Environment,

RCIA Coordinator

olhpedu@gmail.com

Confession—One-half hour prior to Mass

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

Facebook: Our Lady of Hope Parish

Prayer Chain:

Cordy Sanvik (229-2758)

Linda Lucachick (229-2344)

Debbie Servaty (225-2503)

Marie Limesand (404-3650)

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday
Hoyt Lakes 4:30

Sunday
Biwabik 8:30

Sunday
Aurora 10:30



FORMED.org

Visit FORMED. Org—We are offering a Parish-Wide Study meant to help Catholics build holy habits and become proactive in their own faith formation as individuals and families. We encourage parishioners to begin learning their faith on a regular basis on FORMED.

Here are your sign-up instructions:

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "Sign-Up as A Parishioner:"
4. Find Our Lady of Hope Parish by name, address or zip code.
5. Enter your email—and you are in!

Mass Intentions January 10–January 16

Monday, January 10	5:30 p.m.	Aurora
†Mary Ann Peterson By Barb Hammer		
Tuesday January 11	9:00 a.m.	Hoyt Lakes
David Kolodzinski By Carol & Tom Kolodzinski		
Wednesday, January 12	9:00 a.m.	Biwabik
†Diana Dickson † By Carol & Harold Ebnet		
Saturday, January 15	4:30 p.m.	Hoyt Lakes
† For all the Souls in Purgatory Who Have No One To Pray For Them By Mark & Colleen Skala		
Sunday, January 16	8:30	Biwabik
For The People		
Sunday, January 16	10:30	Aurora
† Tom Gillach By Linda & Don Lucachick		

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our UCA Assessment. We met our goal this year.

Adoration will be taking place in January with the following Schedule.

6-7 p.m. Sunday, 9 January Aurora
6-7 p.m. Sunday, 16 January Biwabik
6-7 p.m. Sunday, 23 January Hoyt Lakes

The Christ Child Society will need all baby bottles turned in to us by January 17. We thank everyone for your participation

Thank You! The National CCW theme for 2022 is “Wide Open Hearts Abiding in Faith, Hope and Love:”. Thank you Our Lady of Hope parishioners for your Wide Open Hearts with your generous local Christmas giving donations. Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$3440! \$1940 will be given to the Sunshine Fund, and each of our three communities will receive \$500 to go towards the utilities of families needing help with their bills. God Bless You All!

We appreciate everyone who participated in our many holiday events this year. Everyone enjoyed being together and sharing special moments.

Ministry Schedule January 15—January 16

Saturday, January 15	5:30 p.m.	Hoyt Lakes
EMHC:	Need Volunteer	
Lector:	Lee Martinek	
Ushers	Steve House Jane House	
Saturday, January 16	8:30 a.m.	Biwabik
EMHC	Mary Strukel	
Lector	Carol Stanaway	
Ushers	Bruce Behrens Need 1 Volunteer	
Sunday, January 16	10:30 a.m.	Aurora
EMCH	Jean Stark	
Lector	Rose Antilla	
Ushers	Patrick Layman Roger Pennel	

Assumption Group New Year's Party



Today, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord which officially closes the Christmas season in the Catholic world. It's one of those feast days on the Church calendar that might have us scratching our heads a little. It may not make sense to us that Jesus, who was without sin, would accept a baptism from John acknowledging one's repentance from sin. As is often the case, though, there's more going on than what first appears.

Some of the early Church fathers, writing in the first couple of centuries following Jesus' life, point out that in His baptism, Jesus wasn't washed clean from anything or transformed by the water, but rather He transformed water for the baptism that he'd hand on to us. His entrance into the cleansing water (and transformation thereof) symbolized his entrance into a sinful world in order to transform it!

In today's Gospel, we hear most of St. Luke's account of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan by John. It seems to me that the passages that are omitted in the liturgical cycle offer some illumination to the depths of what's happening at Jesus' baptism:

His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people. Now Herod the tetrarch, who had been censured by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil deeds Herod had committed, added still another to these by [also] putting John in prison. (Lk 3:17-21)

Scripture scholars remind us that by taking part in John's baptism, Jesus was showing approval of John's message which was, briefly summarized: "turn away from sin, and stop sinning." John was calling people out of the darkness of sin, and into the joy of a more holy and virtuous life. Repentance, at its heart, means turning away from something; essentially it's a reform of one's life. John's message was so popular that it got him thrown in prison by Herod after he called the Tetrarch to turn away from his relationship with his (Herod's) brother's wife.

John's message is one that, today, probably would probably not be welcomed with open arms. We live in a world where it's more common to leave someone in sin, even though there are eternal consequences. John spoke of the need for repentance, and in these passages, the consequence of failing to repent/turn away from sin: unquenchable fire, eternal separation from God in the fires of Hell. John spoke of judgement...and this is part of the good news that he preached.

In our own day and age, I think John's message is actually a healthy reminder for us. As Catholic-Christians, we live in reality. Sin is real, and virtue is real. Heaven is real, and hell is real. While it might hurt a little to hear about these realities, it's good for us. If we know the depths of sin, we more fully appreciate the heights of God's love and mercy. And, that appreciation motivates us to live our lives on earth in a way that we may join God for all eternity in Heaven!

Dr. Katie Evans, DPM
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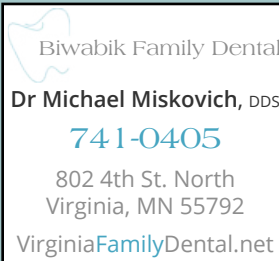
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