



JANUARY 9, 2022

# THE BAPTISM *of the Lord*

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

## STEWARDSHIP: RETURNING GOD'S GIFTS



### Regular Collection

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| December 19, 2021 .....      | \$13,381.20  |
| December 26, 2021 .....      | \$18,808.70  |
| January 2, 2022.....         | \$9,627.02   |
| '21-'22 Income to Date ..... | \$242,236.85 |

### New Church Construction

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Cost.....                  | \$3,578,947.39 |
| Paid to date.....          | \$3,114,206.45 |
| Loan Balance.....          | *\$464,162.96  |
| Principal Balance .....    | \$432,866.72   |
| Monthly Loan Payment ..... | \$7,641.93     |

\*Includes interest on loan

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

### 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 ©LPI

### IN GRATITUDE

Deacon Bill and Kathy Graveman wish to thank all the people who so generously prayed for us during our recent bouts with COVID and the death of Kathy's mother. Thanks so much and know how much your prayers and thoughtfulness means to us.

### ACOLYTE TRAINING

An acolyte is a person who serves in a ministry "that assists the deacon and priest during liturgical celebrations." It is a ministry that historically has been known as 'altar servers' in many parishes. An acolyte serves an important role in the community and in the weekly Eucharistic celebrations. The ministry is open to anyone 4th grade on up. We like to have High School/College Age or adults acolyte for the biggest liturgies of the year, or when the Archbishop is present. We will have a training for all current acolytes on Sunday, January 23rd following the Sunday liturgy. And any NEW acolytes can also be trained that day beginning at 11:00 am. If you are enrolled in the Religious Education program, you will be excused for the session that you need to attend.

### THE CHOSEN

The Chosen series, all of Seasons 1-2, will be shown in Fr. Riley Hall every Sat. night Jan. 8 - Feb. 26 after the 4 pm liturgy. FREE PIZZA! Please bring a side dish. Sign up in the Narthex Jan. 1-2, or phone or text Betty Thoennes (785-542-2984 or 785-615-1247) by noon of each preceding Thursday. Please join us if you can.



### INCLIMATE WEATHER

As we move into the season of snow and ice please do all you can to keep yourselves safe and warm. On weekdays if the schools have been cancelled because of snow or ice, please know that the morning liturgy is also cancelled and the office will open from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. This will allow for the snow to be removed from the walkways and the parking lot so that all may stay safe. For weekend snow/ice events, please know that we will do all we can to make sure that the walkways and parking lots are safe before church services. We ask that you be careful and watch out for each other. If the roads are not safe in your neighborhood, please stay in.

## **Pope Francis' homily for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, delivered on Christmas Eve at St. Peter's Basilica.**

In the darkness, a light shines. An angel appears, the glory of the Lord shines around the shepherds and finally the message awaited for centuries is heard: "To you is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:11). The angel goes on to say something surprising. He tells the shepherds how to find the God who has come down to earth: "This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger" (v. 12). That is the sign: a child, a baby lying in the dire poverty of a manger. No more bright lights or choirs of angels. Only a child. Nothing else, even as Isaiah had foretold: "unto us a child is born" (Is 9:6).

The Gospel emphasizes this contrast. It relates the birth of Jesus beginning with Caesar Augustus, who orders the census of the whole world: it presents the first Emperor in all his grandeur. Yet immediately thereafter it brings us to Bethlehem, where there is no grandeur at all: just a poor child wrapped in swaddling clothes, with shepherds standing by. That is where God is, in littleness. This is the message: God does not rise up in grandeur, but lowers himself into littleness. Littleness is the path that he chose to draw near to us, to touch our hearts, to save us and to bring us back to what really matters.

Brothers and sisters, standing before the crib, we contemplate what is central, beyond all the lights and decorations, which are beautiful. We contemplate the child. In his littleness, God is completely present. Let us acknowledge this: "Baby Jesus, you are God, the God who becomes a child." Let us be amazed by this scandalous truth. The One who embraces the universe needs to be held in another's arms. The One who created the sun needs to be warmed. Tenderness incarnate needs to be cuddled. Infinite love has a miniscule heart that beats softly. The eternal Word is an "infant", a speechless child. The Bread of life needs to be nourished. The Creator of the world has no home. Today, all is turned upside down: God comes into the world in littleness. His grandeur appears in littleness.

Let us ask ourselves: can we accept God's way of doing things? This is the challenge of Christmas: God reveals himself, but men and women fail to understand. He makes himself little in the eyes of the world, while we continue to seek grandeur in the eyes of the world, perhaps even in his name. God lowers himself and we try to become great. The Most High goes in search of shepherds, the unseen in our midst, and we look for visibility, to be seen. Jesus is born in order to serve, and we spend a lifetime pursuing success. God does not seek power and might; he asks for tender love and interior littleness.

This is what we should ask Jesus for at Christmas: the grace of littleness. "Lord, teach us to love littleness. Help us to understand that littleness is the way to authentic greatness." What does it mean, concretely, to accept littleness? In the first place, it means to believe that God desires to come into the little things of our life; he wants to inhabit our daily lives, the things we do each day at home, in our families, at school and in the workplace. Amid our ordinary lived experience, he wants to do extraordinary things. His is a message of immense hope. Jesus asks us to rediscover and value the little things in life. If he is present there, what else do we need? Let us stop pining for a grandeur that is not ours to have. Let us put aside our complaints and our gloomy faces, and the greed that never satisfies! The littleness, the wonder at that small child – this is the message.

Yet there is more. Jesus does not want to come merely in the little things of our lives, but also in our own littleness: in our experience of feeling weak, frail,



## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH



inadequate, perhaps even “messed up.” Dear sister or brother, if, as in Bethlehem, the darkness of night overwhelms you, if you feel surrounded by cold indifference, if the hurt you carry inside cries out, “You are of little account; you are worthless; you will never be loved the way you want”, tonight, if you hear this, God answers back. Tonight he tells you: “I love you just as you are. Your littleness does not frighten me, your failings do not trouble me. I became little for your sake. To be your God, I became your brother. Dear brother, dear sister, don’t be afraid of me. Find in me your measure of greatness. I am close to you, and one thing only do I ask: trust me and open your heart to me.”

To accept littleness means something else too. It means embracing Jesus in the little ones of today. Loving him, that is, in the least of our brothers and sisters. Serving him in the poor, those most like Jesus who was born in poverty. It is in them that he wants to be honored. On this night of love, may we have only one fear: that of offending God’s love, hurting him by despising the poor with our indifference. Jesus loves them dearly, and one day they will welcome us to heaven. A poet once wrote: “Who has not found the Heaven – below – Will fail of it above” (E. Dickinson). Let us not lose sight of heaven; let us care for Jesus now, caressing him in the needy, because in them he makes himself known.

We gaze once again at the crib, and we see that at his birth Jesus is surrounded precisely by those little ones, by the poor. It is the shepherds. They were the most simple people, and closest to the Lord. They found him because they lived in the fields, “keeping watch over their flocks by night” (Lk 2:8). They were there to work, because they were poor. They had no timetables in life; everything depended on the flock. They could not live where and how they wanted, but on the basis of the needs of the sheep they tended. That is where Jesus is born: close to them, close to the forgotten ones of the peripheries. He comes where human dignity is put to the test. He comes to ennoble the excluded and he first reveals himself to them: not to educated and important people, but to poor working people. God tonight comes to fill with dignity the austerity of labour. He reminds us of the importance of granting dignity to men and women through labour, but also of granting dignity to human labour itself, since man is its master and not its slave. On the day of Life, let us repeat: no more deaths in the workplace! And let us commit ourselves to ensuring this.

As we take one last look at the crib, in the distance, we glimpse the Magi, journeying to worship the Lord. As we look more closely, we see that all around Jesus everything comes together: not only do we see the poor, the shepherds, but also the learned and the rich, the Magi. Everything is unified when Jesus is at the center: not our ideas about Jesus, but Jesus himself, the living One.

So then, dear brothers and sisters, let us return to Bethlehem, let us return to the origins: to the essentials of faith, to our first love, to adoration and charity. Let us look at the Magi who make their pilgrim way, and as a synodal Church, a journeying Church, let us go to Bethlehem, where God is in man and man in God. There the Lord takes first place and is worshipped; there the poor have the place nearest him; there the shepherds and Magi are joined in a fraternity beyond all labels and classifications. May God enable us to be a worshipping, poor and fraternal Church. That is what is essential. Let us go back to Bethlehem.

It is good for us to go there, obedient to the Gospel of Christmas, which shows us the Holy Family, the shepherds, the Magi: all people on a journey. Brothers and sisters, let us set out, for life itself is a pilgrimage. Let us rouse ourselves, for tonight a light has been lit, a kindly light, reminding us that, in our littleness, we are beloved sons and daughters, children of the light (cf. 1 Thess 5:5). Brothers and sisters, let us rejoice together, for no one will ever extinguish this light, the light of Jesus, who tonight shines brightly in our world.

# HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9TH

Sunday Liturgy at 9:30 am  
 Take Down Christmas Decorations in Church at 10:30 am  
 Sunday Coffee at 10:30 am  
 Religious Education Classes at 10:30 am

### MONDAY, JANUARY 10TH

Women's Bible Study at 7:00 pm

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH

Daily Liturgy at 9:00 am

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12TH

Daily Liturgy at 9:00 am  
 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am  
 Pastoral Council at 5:30 pm

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13TH

Daily Liturgy at 9:00 am  
 Choir Practice at 6:30 pm

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14TH

Daily Liturgy at 9:00 am

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15TH

Reconciliation at 3:00 pm  
 Liturgy at 4:00 pm  
 The Chosen after 4:00 pm liturgy in Fr. Riley Hall

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16TH

Sunday Liturgy at 9:30 am  
 Sunday Coffee at 10:30 am  
 Religious Education Classes at 10:30 am

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

**Tuesday, 1/11** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 9:00 am † Don & Mardella Dearing

**Wednesday, 1/12** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 9:00 am † Cletus & Mary E. Grosdidier Families

**Thursday, 1/13** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 9:00 am † Mary Delene Born

**Friday, 1/14** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 9:00 am † Burricher Family

**Saturday, 1/15** **2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 4:00 pm † Donnie Harris

**Sunday, 1/16** **2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 9:30 am People of the Parish

## JANUARY 15/16, 2022

| Time                         | 4:00 pm                           | 9:30 am                         |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Music Ministry</b>        | Maureen Brogren<br>Tristan Greeno | Choir<br>Debbie Kirschner       |
| <b>Sacristan</b>             | Terri Long                        | Robyne Pippert                  |
| <b>Greeter</b>               | Kim Neis                          | Jeanne Siebert                  |
| <b>Acolytes</b>              | Martin Guerra<br>Valentin Guerra  | Jonathan Eggers<br>Peter Eggers |
| <b>Lectors</b>               | Mary Jane Harris<br>Joe Reitz     | Anna Foley<br>Roger Lenertz     |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | Mindy Dechant<br>Maggie Sieber    | Bob Heinen<br>Mark Schieferecke |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>          | Kendal Johnson                    | Annette Bock                    |
| <b>Ushers</b>                | Bruce Nunn                        | Peter Bock<br>Frank Siebert     |

## PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Please pray for...Susan Pelzel, Veet Cleveland, Bernice Born, Tina Jinkens, Al Miller, Tom Pyle, Tony Schwager, Carolyn Miller, Allan Beck, Karen Heinen, Catherine Eggers, Tim King, Bill Miller, Henrietta Juneman, Joyce Weis, Carol Moore, Tim Mulvany, Ray Cates, Meta McInroy, Jan Benz and Linda Bruce.

If there is someone that is need of our prayer, please email [angiem@holyfamilyeudora.com](mailto:angiem@holyfamilyeudora.com) and we will add them to the list of those in need of God's healing.



## TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

Add to the uptick in new COVID cases that it is now cold and flu season in Kansas. Please do the responsible thing and stay away from all church activities while you are active with either the cold or the flu. We need to do all we can to keep each other safe and watch out the for the most vulnerable among us. If you are assigned a ministry but are ill, please put in for a substitute. If your child has a fever or has been ill, please keep them home from RE and email the DRE. Masks will be available in the narthex throughout the winter season for your use.



## Church Undecorating

It is time to take the Christmas decorations and the nativity in the church down to put away for next year. We could use your help! This Sunday, following the morning liturgy we will carefully pack up our decorations for next year. We are looking for some of the men of the parish for the heavy lifting and anyone can help with the packing away. Please stay around after the 9:30 liturgy if you can help. Thanks to the crew who helped decorate the church.

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## GOSPEL MEDIATION: 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.

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# HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

## KANSAS MARCH & RALLY FOR LIFE 2022

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for IGNITE for LIFE January 25th, 2022 in Topeka! IGNITE for LIFE is the Catholic Youth Kick-Off Rally for the Kansas March for Life. It is an inspirational morning of praise & worship music, motivational speakers, and the celebration of the liturgy with the Bishops of Kansas. Following IGNITE, all are invited to join in the Kansas March for Life to the capitol for the Kansans for Life rally. This year as we defend life, we will also show our support for the Value Them Both Amendment! IGNITE is sponsored by the Archdiocese of KCK and is geared toward youth, but all are welcome to attend. For more information and to register, visit [archkck.org/IGNITE](http://archkck.org/IGNITE). "if anyone would like to carpool to either the Ignite event or the march and rally at the Capitol, please contact Tina Jinkens at 785-615-8373.

## LIVING WITH CHRIST

There will be a limited number of *Living With Christ* books available through January 2022. After this month you may purchase your personal subscription to this service by going to <https://bayardfaithresources.com/collections/living-with-christ>. If this was a help to your spirituality during COVID you can continue to have them sent directly to your home.

**IGNITE** AND **LIFE** YOUTH RALLY AND MASS FOR

*Come Holy Spirit, set our hearts aflame to defend life!*

**TOPEKA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**  
**JANUARY 25, 2022**

- 8:30AM DOORS OPEN
- 9:00AM SPEAKER PROGRAM
- 10:30AM MASS WITH THE BISHOPS OF KANSAS
- 12:00 PM MARCH TO CAPITOL FOR KANSANS FOR LIFE RALLY
- 1:00 PM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION. MATER DEI PARISH, 10TH & CLAY

KEYNOTE: KRISTAN HAWKINS  
President of Students for Life of America

MASS WITH THE BISHOPS OF KANSAS

MUSIC BY ALL THINGS I AM

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER VISIT:  
[ARCHKCK.ORG/IGNITE](http://ARCHKCK.ORG/IGNITE)

PRO LIFE OFFICE  
Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas

*This free event is intended for youth, but all are welcome!*

## PARISH PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Pastor** ..... Fr. Mick Mulvany  
frmick@holyfamiyeudora.com

**Deacon**..... Deacon Bill Graveman  
bgraveman@archkck.org

**Parish Manager** ..... Angie Miller  
angiem@holyfamiyeudora.com

**Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry**.. Pat Crable  
patc@holyfamiyeudora.com

**Director of Music & Liturgy/Bulletin Editor**....Maureen Brogren  
maureenb@holyfamiyeudora.com

**Cemetery** ..... Mary Grosdidier  
dmc@sunflower.com

## PARISH OFFICE

**Hours** ..... Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

**Parish Office Phone**..... 785-542-2788

**Parish Website** ..... [www.holyfamiyeudora.com](http://www.holyfamiyeudora.com)

## SACRAMENTS

- **Baptisms:** Celebrated the 2nd weekend of each month except for the season of Lent. Register on the parish website or by calling the parish office.
- **First Reconciliation & First Communion:** Celebrated each year for our 2nd graders. Contact the DRE to register.
- **Confirmation:** Is a 2 year program for our 7th & 8th graders. Please contact the DRE to register.
- **RCIA:** Contact the DRE to register for the RCIA program to join the Church and receive the sacraments..
- **Weddings** need to be scheduled at least 10 months in advance to complete the necessary paperwork and engaged classes. Call parish office to set up meeting.
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered each Saturday from 3:45 to 4:30 pm, or call the office to set up an appointment.
- **Anointing of the Sick:** You may receive at the morning liturgy the 1st Friday of each month, or by calling the parish office to schedule.

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Weekdays**  
Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 am, and the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 am in the Old Church.

**Weekends**  
Saturday at 4:00 pm and Sunday at 9:30 am



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