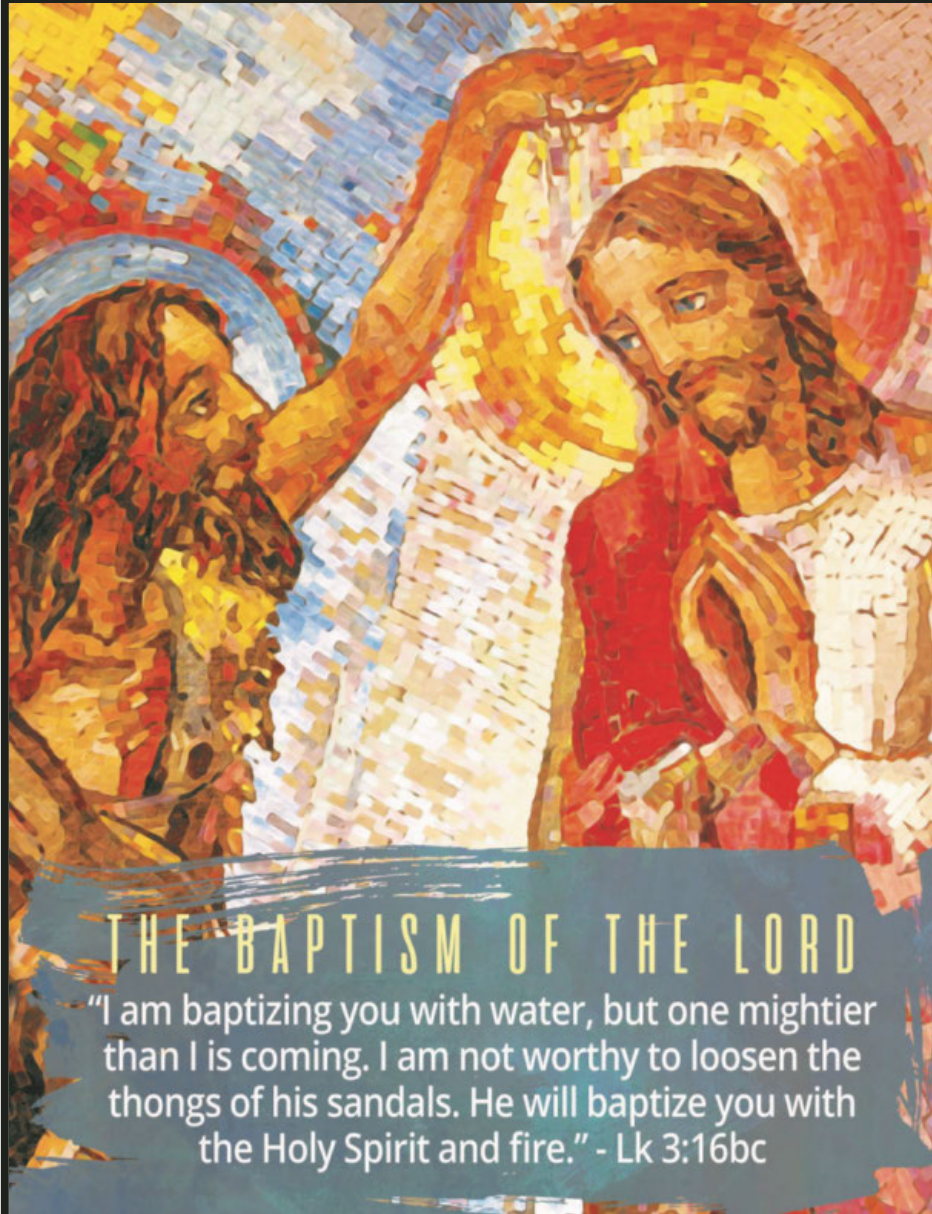




DIVINE MERCY
PARISH



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

January 9, 2022

DIVINE MERCY PARISH

Father Adam Wilczak

fradam@divinemercuryks.org

PARISH WEBSITE

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EMAIL:

office@divinemercuryks.org

Father Adam (913)-938-4966

**For Sacramental Emergencies only

Church Office & Mailing address:

555 W. Main St.
Gardner, KS 66030

OFFICE PHONE & HOURS

(913) 856-7781

Monday thru Thursday
8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Sacred Heart Church Assumption Church

555 West Main St.
Gardner

110 E Nelson St.
Edgerton

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 10:00am — 11:00am
Thursday 7:00am — 7:45am
Saturday 3:00pm — 4:00pm
Sunday 7:30am—7:50am
Sunday 10:00am—10:20am

REGULAR MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY	WEEKEND
Tuesday 6:00 pm	Saturday 4:30 pm
Wednesday 8:00 am	Sunday 6:30 am
Thursday 8:00 am	8:00 am
Friday 8:00 am	10:30 am

This weekend we celebrate the wonderful event that gets Jesus' public ministry moving. Our Lord enters the waters of baptism not because He is a sinner and needs to repent, which is what John's baptism was about, but to show us the way. As is the case for anyone with a struggle or addiction in our lives, the sinner must first acknowledge a change needs to take place, and that we can't do it alone. The whole Christian life is rooted in our needing God and His help for conversion.

When we take God up on His offer for us, and put ourselves under His authority, specifically through the Sacraments, the Father claims us as His own, just as He does to Jesus. This event also should be the beginning of a life dedicated to the service of God. In Luke's Gospel the story of our Lord's ministry begins in the Baptism, followed by a brief stop for prayer in the wilderness, which gives way to a life dedicated to showing us the Father's love.

In the sacrament of Baptism, all sin on the soul, Original and actual (if the person is above the age of reason) is washed away and we are claimed as daughters and sons of the Father for all of eternity. We are also anointed with the Chrism oil, which is the same oil used in the ordination of a priest and bishop. All the baptized are called to share in the ministry of our Lord as Priests, Prophets and Kings. As we prepare to enter into Ordinary Time again, I think it would be a great practice for each family and person to prayerfully reflect on how we can live this part of our vocation out in the upcoming year.

Father Adam



SAT JANUARY 8

4:30pm † Lonny Casaert

SUN JANUARY 9

6:30am † Fr. Peter O'Sullivan
 8:00am † Jay Robertson
 10:30am People of the Parish

TUES JANUARY 11

6pm † Garrett Dreiling

WED JANUARY 12

8:00am † Nancy Messina

THURS JANUARY 13

8:00am Norman Heinan

FRI JANUARY 14

8:00am † Rosalba Leon de Rojas

SAT JANUARY 15

4:30pm Jaime Martinez

SUN JANUARY 16

6:30am † Mr.&Mrs. Louis Hoover
 8:00am People of the Parish
 10:30am Lewie Levin

Please contact the parish office for Mass intentions. The suggested offering is \$10 per Mass.

PARISH SUPPORT

Collections for Dec 26th

Regular Offertory	
Budgeted	\$17,540
Collection	\$28,911
Difference	\$11,370

Towards Christ

Budgeted	\$2,610
Collection	\$2,129
Difference	-\$482

Budget Year to Date

Income

Budget July 1– Dec 26	\$497,237
Actual July 1– Dec 26	\$541,370
Difference	\$44,133

Expenses

Budget July 1 - Dec 26	\$532,854
Actual July 1 - Dec 26	\$441,968
Difference	\$90,886

50 / 50

There was not a winner for Dec 26th, # 685 was drawn. The balance was \$ 8,937.79

YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENT

Financial statements with a contribution of more than \$250 will be emailed to the address we have on file. If you have changed your email address, please call the office. If you have any questions or do not receive your statement, email sa-rah@divinemercyks.org. All statements will be emailed no later than January 15.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

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)

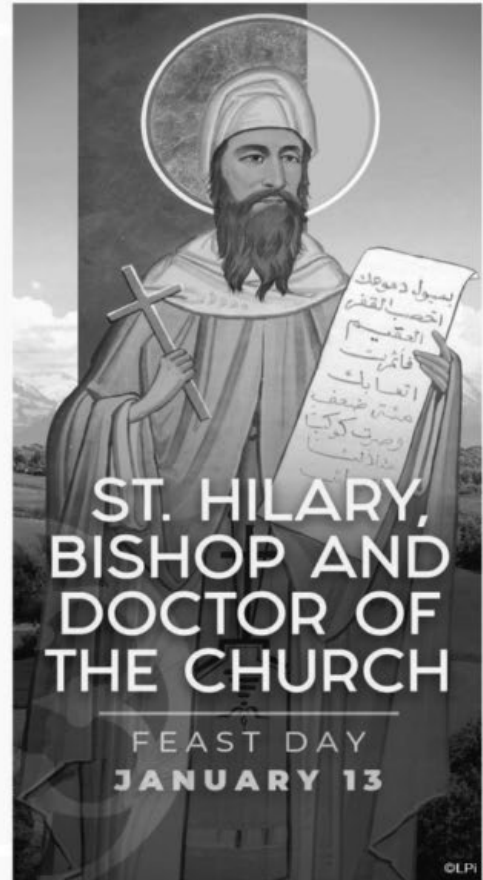
GOSPEL:

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 Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

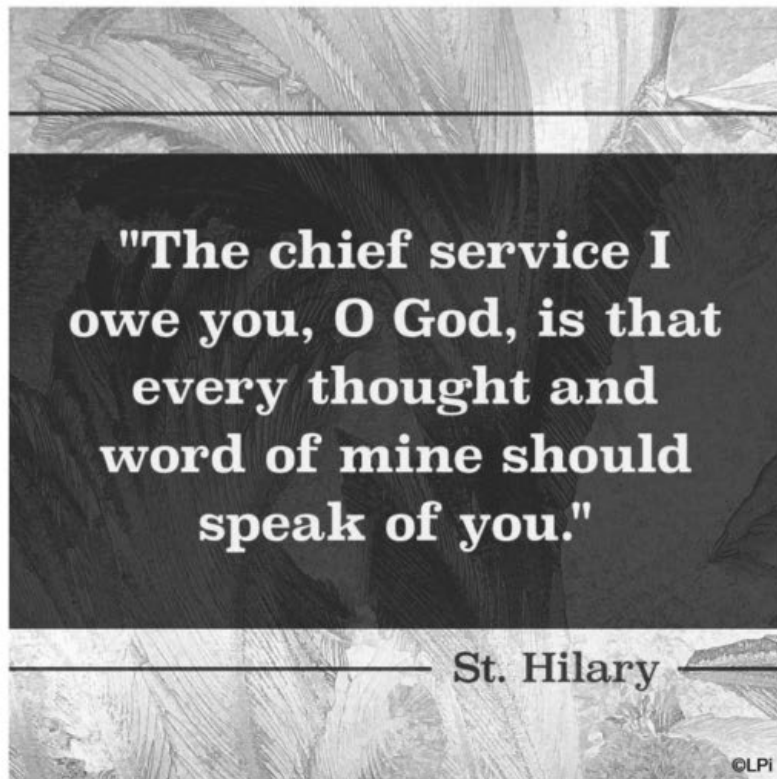
- Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
- Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the Week

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 Phrygia 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.



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

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?

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 poncho-like 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.



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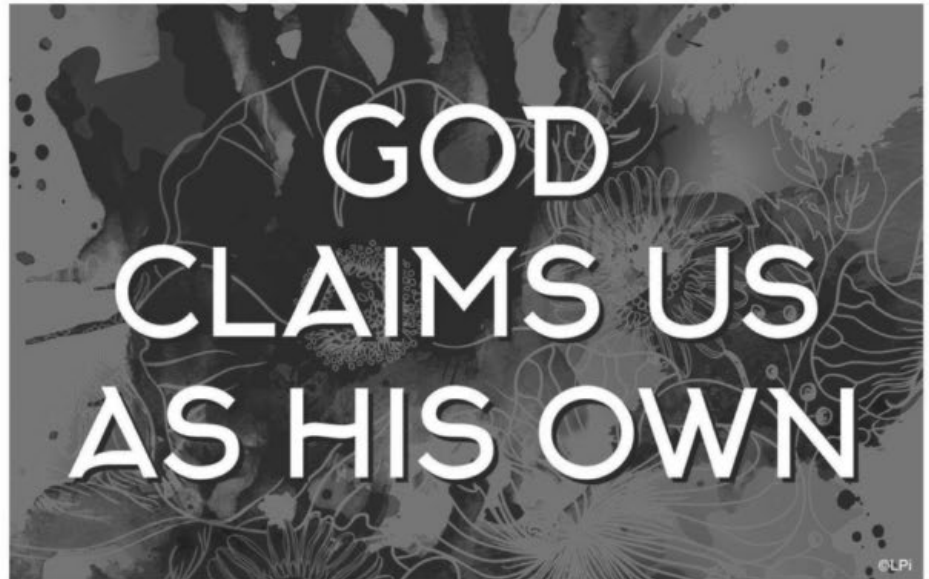
GOSPEL MEDITATION

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.

*"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*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

HELP NEEDED to DELIVER COMMUNION



Our Parish is in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to help visit the hospital once a month on a Friday of your convenience. Our goal is to have two Ministers visit each week and, with several Ministers available, our hope is that each Minister would need to visit only once a month. Contact paxmusician@yahoo.com.

Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



When you were baptized, a priest sprinkled holy water over your head. He said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." God said, "This is my child in whom I am well pleased." Tell God you are glad you are his child. Tell him you will obey his laws. Tell him that you love him with your whole heart, soul, body, and mind.

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, I want to be a good child of God.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will talk to God when I first wake up each morning.

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus stood in line with everyone else and was baptized. There is something incredibly humbling about how this must have played out. Then, God did something truly awesome and inspiring. Through a very gentle and simple action he let the world know about the special relationship He shares with Jesus. That's exactly what is so incredible about our baptisms as well! Through those holy waters God announces to the world the special place we also occupy in His heart. We no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. We do not need to fumble around, tripping over ourselves and wondering why we are even here. The answer has been given. All we have to do is live out the vocation we have received, to live the Gospel in fidelity to our Creator. There is nothing to fear and worry has no place. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor and God is very pleased.



January 16th 7:00 - 10:00am



Join the fun and fellowship and enjoy a hearty breakfast!

Menu includes: pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage patties, biscuits, gravy, coffee, milk, and Orange juice
\$6/adult, \$3/child



MARRIAGE RETREAT

**Saturday, February 5th
9:00am - 4:00pm**

Mark your Calendars for the upcoming marriage retreat right here at Divine Mercy.

Adult Game Night & Pot Luck Dinner Tuesday, January 11th

Doors open 5:30 & Eat at 6:15 PM

Mexican Train Dominoes begin at 7:00 PM, Awards at 8:30 PM

Come enjoy great food, fun, & fellowship, \$1 to play (split between the winner and loser, and a donation to cover the cost)



CFC - Divine Mercy Parish, 555 W. Main St., Gardner KS

Adults only, Please RSVP or direct questions to Jerri Decker at jeddecker@msn.com or 913-856-7850

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



Tuesday

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday

10:00 am - 9:00 pm

7:00 - 8:00 pm Family
Holy Hour

Spend time with our Lord

STAFF

PASTOR: Father Adam Wilczak- fradam@divinemerckyks.org

DEACON: Deacon Vince Hallouer- dcnvince@divincemerckyks.org

DEACON: Deacon Jason Imlay- dcnjason@divinemerckyks.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Nely Ramos- office@divinemerckyks.org

BUSINESS MANAGER: Sarah Wamser- sarah@divinemerckyks.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR: David Bremer- david@divinemerckyks.org

FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR: Maria Lopeman- maria@divinemerckyks.org

ADULT FORMATION: Laura Warthen- laura@divinemerckyks.org

YOUTH MINISTER: Garrett Benney-garrett@divinemerckyks.org

COMMUNICATIONS: (For all Bulletin & Parish Newsletter submissions)
communications@divinemerckyks.org

COUNTERS NEEDED

We meet on Monday morning each week to count the collections from the previous weekend. Please contact the office if you would be willing help.

PARISH EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

4-7pm Adoration

5:15pm Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion

5:30pm Adult Game Night-Dominoes

5:30pm Catholic Conversations

6:00pm Evening prayer

6:30pm Into the Deep

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

No Mass

9am-1pm St. Anne's Sewing Circle

10am-9pm Adoration

10 - 11 am Confession

5pm Legion of Mary meeting

6:30pm Bible Study

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

7-7:45am Confession

No Mass

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

No Mass

8:45am Confession

6pm First Friday Holy Hour

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

3:00-4:00pm Confession

4:30pm Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

6:30am Mass

7:30am Confession

8:00am Mass

9:10-10:20am Class K-8th grade

10:00am Confession

10:30am Mass—Live Stream

11:30am Youth Group



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