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SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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 3:21-22a

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

- Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
- Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday:** Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

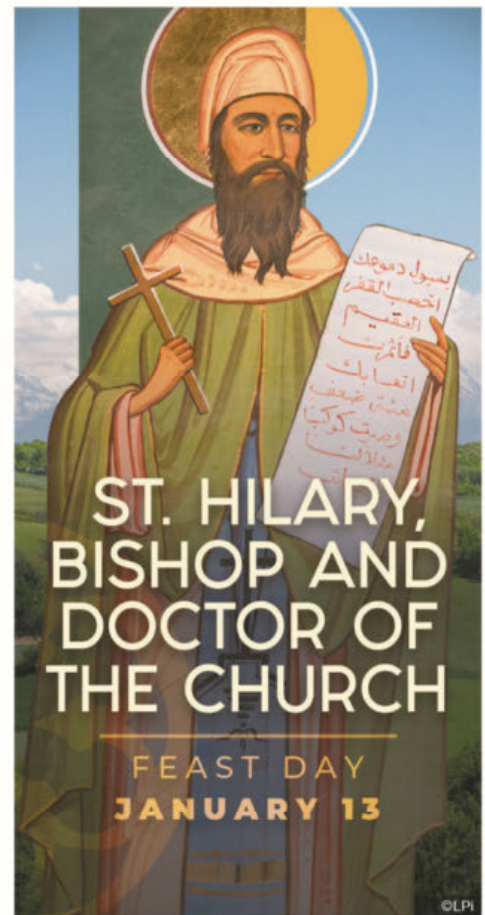
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

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

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.



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.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

"The chief service I owe you, O God, is that every thought and word of mine should speak of you."

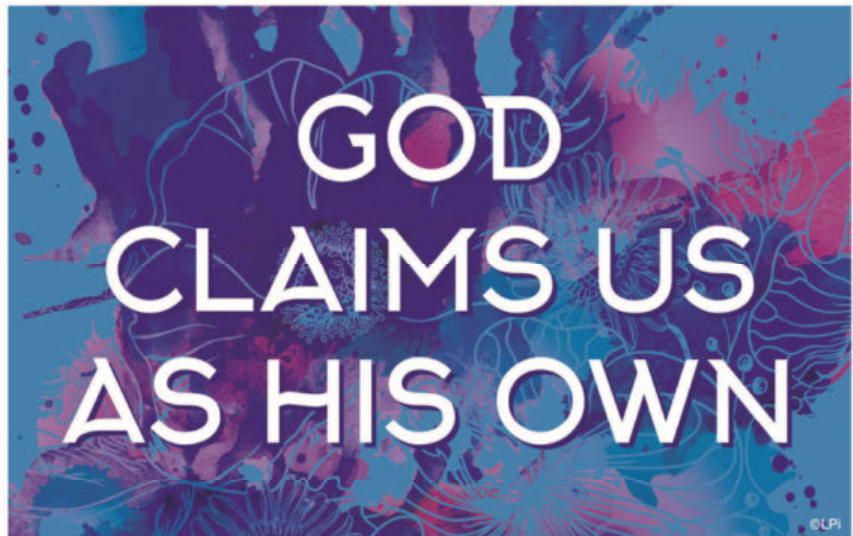
— St. Hilary

Qualified Charitable Distributions

A great planning tool if you are age 70 1/2 or older is to give money from an IRA directly to charity. This is called a "qualified charitable distribution (QCD). This is an option if you wish to lower the taxable balance of an IRA, or if you are age 72 or older and you don't need the money from your required minimum distribution (RMDs).

Donating through a QCD is a good way to avoid paying taxes on the money you withdraw while helping a qualified charity. The money must go directly from the IRA to a charity to ensure the distribution doesn't count toward your taxable income for the year.

Please contact Pat Dold, our SJV Accountant via e-mail at pat@sjvssp.org or call the office on Tuesday/Thursdays between 11:30—2:30pm and speak with him directly to make any changes to your contributions for the new year.



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.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

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



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

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?

Answer:

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.

IT'S BACK...

STARTS FEBRUARY 18TH!

FRIDAY FISH FRY

EAT-IN OR TAKE-
OUT ONLY

MORE DETAILS TO
FOLLOW





- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Myrt Milner</i> | <i>Robert Delia</i> |
| <i>Jim Schema</i> | <i>Kay Buhl</i> |
| <i>Bob Bringgold</i> | <i>Debbie Knoll</i> |
| <i>Becky Thomas</i> | <i>Marcy Jansen</i> |
| <i>Barb Thompson</i> | <i>Alice Hamilton</i> |
| <i>Mark Todd</i> | <i>Paul Reholz</i> |
| <i>Gloria Powers</i> | <i>Sandy Thompson</i> |
| <i>Simon Scott</i> | <i>Jim Bruhn</i> |
| <i>Jack Barrett</i> | <i>Judy Fuglie</i> |
| <i>Linda Pelletier</i> | <i>Grayce Hartman</i> |
| <i>Dave Vonarx</i> | <i>Geri Loder</i> |
| <i>Katie Loder</i> | <i>Theresa Skillrud</i> |
| <i>Fran Delia</i> | <i>Jeri Boomgaarden</i> |
| <i>Kevin Conroy</i> | <i>Shari Bergman</i> |
| <i>John Cosgrove</i> | <i>Joann Krantz</i> |
| <i>Krista Marks</i> | <i>Frank Strut</i> |
| <i>Cathy Derr</i> | <i>Marla Hawley</i> |
| <i>Fred Friedrichs</i> | <i>Bill Holzmer</i> |
| <i>Kathy Olsen-Roebke</i> | <i>Randy Gillette</i> |
| <i>Joel Oberpriller</i> | <i>Alex Bussiere</i> |
| <i>John Rose</i> | <i>Gloria Perkovich</i> |
| <i>Dustin Bergh</i> | <i>Terry Delia</i> |
| <i>Sandy Lotzer</i> | <i>Jeanne Cosgrove</i> |
| <i>Lyndon Baker</i> | <i>Vi Stewart</i> |
| <i>Marge Willer</i> | <i>Tom Lehmann</i> |
| <i>Lily Kehler</i> | <i>Mildred Hoff</i> |
| <i>Carlos Garcia</i> | <i>Bill Reynolds</i> |
| <i>Steve Stremski</i> | <i>Steven Temes</i> |

Mass Schedule & Intentions

MONDAY	JAN 10	8:00 AM	NO MASS
TUESDAY	JAN 11	8:00 AM	FRANCIS FAMILY
WEDNESDAY	JAN 12	8:00 AM	MARION TOLLEFSON+
THURSDAY	JAN 13	8:00 AM	KIP KRIER+
FRIDAY	JAN 14	8:00 AM	ALEX LARSON+
SATURDAY	JAN 15	5:00 PM	FRANCIS FAMILY
SUNDAY	JAN 16	8:30 AM	TILLY FLING+
		10:30 AM	TIM FRIENDSCHUH+

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND & PRAGUE FEATURING THE PASSION PLAY OF OBERAMMERGAU 11 DAYS: MAY 25-JUNE 4, 2022

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