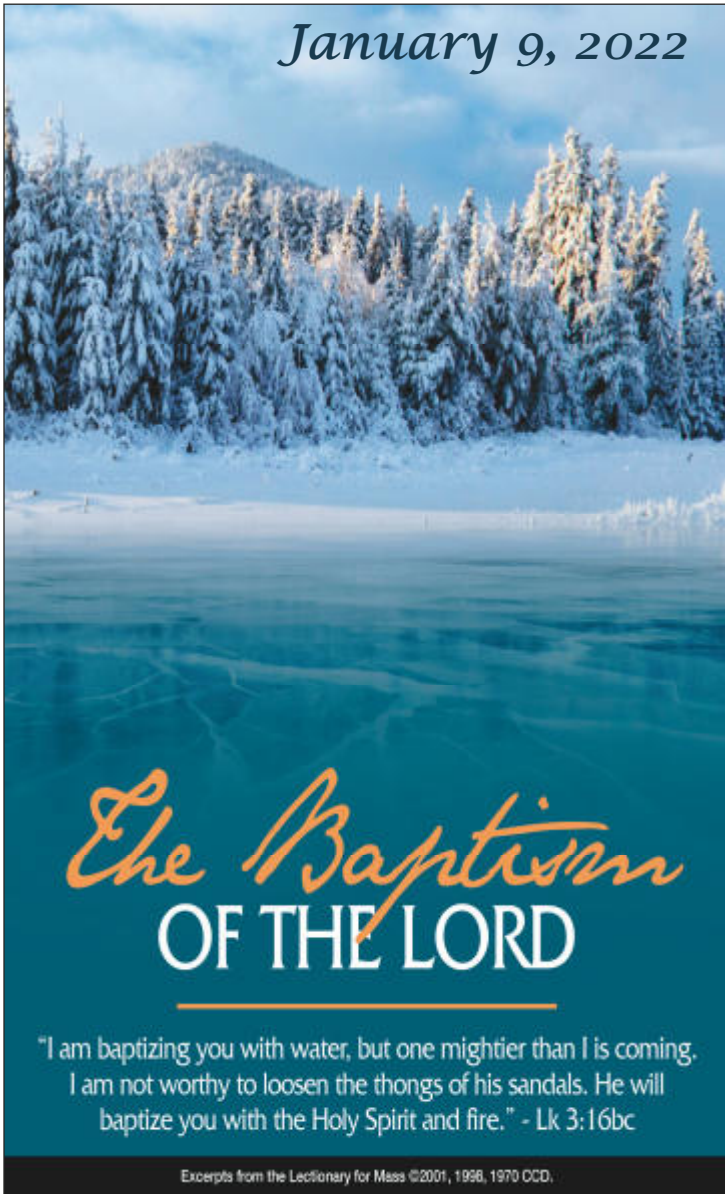


January 9, 2022



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

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 8:00 am (livestreamed) and 10:00 am
Weekday Masses (Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am
Holy Day Masses: To be determined

RECONCILIATION: Suspended until further notice

BAPTISM: By Appointment Only
Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.
Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
Please contact/talk to the Pastor after Mass to make an appointment **twelve months in advance**, before making plans for reception and wedding date.

St. Christopher Church

950 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606



"Behold Saint Christopher...
... Go Thy Way
in Safety"

CONTACT US

Rectory: Phone 508-853-1492; FAX 508-853-4338

Religious Ed./Church Hall/Bingo: 508-853-3302

Email: parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Web Site: www.stchristopherworchester.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Parish office is closed on Friday.

Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor
frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Deacon Van Nguyen

Religious Education Office
Kim Fitzpatrick - Coordinator
508-853-3302
religiously@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
508-853-1492

James Joinville – Music Director

Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager
busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Cindy Barnaby
Administrative Assistant
adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.org

John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman

We thank you for visiting us!

If you wish to become a parishioner of St. Christopher's, please see Fr. Stanley after Mass for a parish registration form.





Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 8th

4:00pm **For our Parish Family**

Sunday, January 9th

8:00am **Theresa Parretti,**
by Mary Stevenson

10:00am **Mass**

Monday, January 10th

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, January 11th

No Mass

Wednesday, January 12th

No Mass

Thursday, January 13th

9:00am **Mass**

Friday, January 14th

9:00am **Mass**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 15th

4:00pm Pauline Bruchmann, Birthday Remembrance,
by Family

Sunday, January 16th

8:00am Mass

10:00am Mass

Tax Contribution Statements for 2021

Tax contribution statements are available to those parishioners who wish to have a total of their 2021 parish contributions. To request a tax contribution statement, please email the parish office or call during office hours.



Also, if you do not currently receive parish offertory envelopes by mail and wish to do so, please email or call the parish office.

HELP WANTED—MANY OPENINGS! ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE

**TIME REQUIRED—NOT MUCH,
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Help enlarge our prayer line. Are you willing to take private time in prayer for others in need? Call Ken Butler at 508-852-0127 for more information.

Please consider joining.

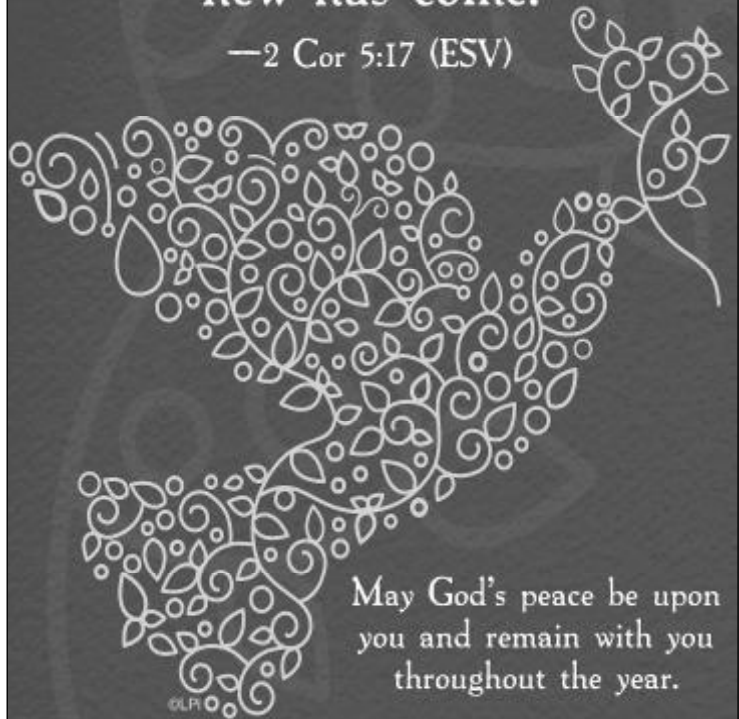
Also, do you know of someone in need of prayers? We just need the person's first name and the nature of the problem.



Remember, someday YOU may be the one in need!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference

Assumption University, Worcester

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important in-person conference.

Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders:

Kevin O'Brien, Tim Francis, Dan Egan,

Dr. Pat Castle, and Fr. Anthony Hamaty.

Adult tickets are \$45 until 3/21/22; \$60 afterwards.

Student tickets are always \$30.

Tickets can be purchased online.

Visit the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org

or call Msgr. Tom Sullivan at 508-450-2556 for info.

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Contact Stephen Gargas directly at 978-793-6477 or by email at SGargas@4lpi.com for more information.

Sunday, January 9th

Grade 2 only will meet from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Grades 1, 4-9 and Grade 10 Confirmation Class will meet from 11:00 a.m.– 12:15 p.m.

Sunday, January 16th

Grade 2 only will meet from 9:00-10:00 a.m.
Grade 2 will also make their First Penance beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Grades 1 & 4-9 will meet from 11am–12:15 pm.
(Confirmation Class will not meet this day.)

Monday, January 17th (MLK Day)



Grade 10 Confirmation Class will meet from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence Parish, 228 Lincoln Street, Worcester for a Confirmation Retreat.

VIANNEY DINNER

to learn more about the Priesthood
Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies
51 Illinois Street, Worcester
Wednesday, January 12th

All men, high-school aged and up, who are interested in learning more about a priestly vocation are invited.



Come to all or part of the evening as your schedule allows:

6:05 p.m.-Mass; 6:30 p.m.-Dinner; 7:00 p.m.-Social

An RSVP is not needed but is helpful in getting an accurate count for food.

RSVP at director@worcestervocations.com.

FESTIVAL UPDATE

We are very happy to report that, after collecting the final monies from the silent auction table, our Christmas Festival raised a total of \$6,192.71 for the parish!! We again want to thank Diane and Joe along with the many parishioners, volunteers and supporters who gave of their time, talent and treasure to make our 2021 Festival such a success!

As a follow-up to this very successful event, we, unfortunately, had a blockage in the sewer line that runs from the rectory to the street. The blockage was found about 130 feet down the sewer pipe and it has now been repaired.



So, needless to say, a good portion of that \$6,192.71 will be going “down the drain.” But, we are very grateful to have had the extra funds available to make this very necessary repair. Thank you all!

Pro-Life Morning of Reflection
Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester
Saturday, January 15th ~ 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

All are invited to A Morning of Life with Msgr. James Moroney. This mini-retreat will include a talk on “How Precious Life Is,” quiet prayer time, and a Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life. Pre-registration is preferred (though not required). Email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org to RSVP.

Pro-Life Mass with Bishop McManus
Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester
Thursday, January 20th at 7:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend this annual Mass for Life held on the eve of the March for Life as we remember the 49th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation.



Sunday, January 9th

Religious Education Class (Grade 2)
Religious Education Classes (Grades 1, 4-9 & Confirmation)
Religious Education Office Hours

Monday, January 10th

NO Wachusett Community Band Practice

Tuesday, January 11th

Religious Education Office Hours
Catholic Scouting Award Class

Thursday, January 13th

NO Scout Troop 9 Meeting

Friday, January 14th

Bingo (Call Leo at 508-853-9492 to volunteer to help)

Sunday, January 16th

Religious Education Class & First Penance (Grade 2 only)
Religious Education Classes (Grade 1 & Grades 4-9)
Religious Education Office Hours

9:00-10:00am
11:00am-12:15pm
11:00am-1:00pm

Church Hall
Church Hall
Religious Ed. Office

5:30-7:30pm
7:00-9:00pm

Religious Ed. Office
Church Hall

7:00pm (Doors open at 4:30pm)

Church Hall

9:00am
11:00am-12:15pm
11:00am-1:00pm

Church Hall
Church Hall
Religious Ed. Office



Weekly Goal:	\$ 3,287
Weekend of December 25 th & 26 th :	\$ 2,326
Deficit:	(\$ 961)
Christmas Offerings:	\$ 2,023
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$20,714

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/21-8/31/22):	\$55,879
Year-to Date Collections:	42,371
Year-to Date Electronic Payments:	9,986
Year-to Date Deficit:	(\$3,522)

A special thank you for your continued support of our parish throughout this past year!

***“John answered them all,
‘I baptize you with water;
but he who is mightier than I is coming...
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...”***
~Luke 3:16

The Catholic Catechism states that “Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.” In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus—the gift of ourselves.



Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.



Thank you for your generous support last week of the collection for The Catholic University of America!

Your donations will help to support Catholic education and to educate tomorrow’s Catholic leaders in our country.

If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Visit collection.catholic.edu and click “Give Now”.



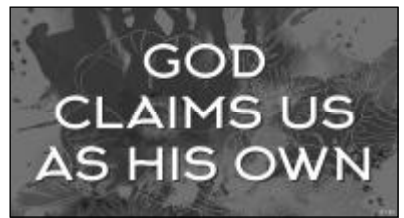
**The winner for week 3 (12/27/21):
#85 — Pat Kennedy**

**The winner for week 4 (1/3/22):
#51 — Fr. Stanley Krutcik**

Also, we have three (3) numbers available in the 50/50 Club! If you would like to join, or would like an extra number to play, please call or email the rectory.

“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 Hour in Worcester to Pray for Priests
Immaculate Conception Church, 353 Grove Street
Friday, January 14th from 7-8 p.m.**

This holy hour consists of time for silent adoration, a short reflection, the rosary, & benediction. This holy hour is held every 2nd Friday of the month.

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)

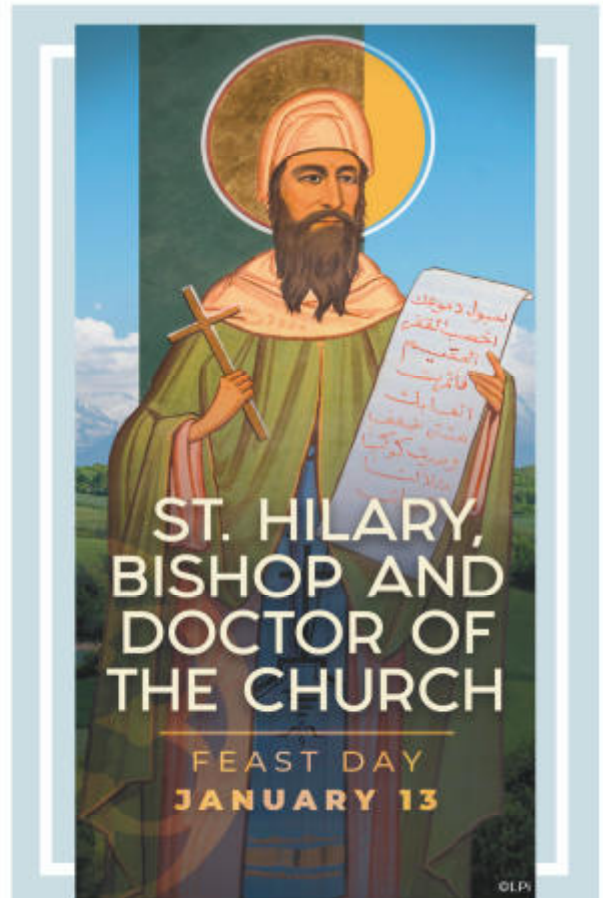
GOSPEL:

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.
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

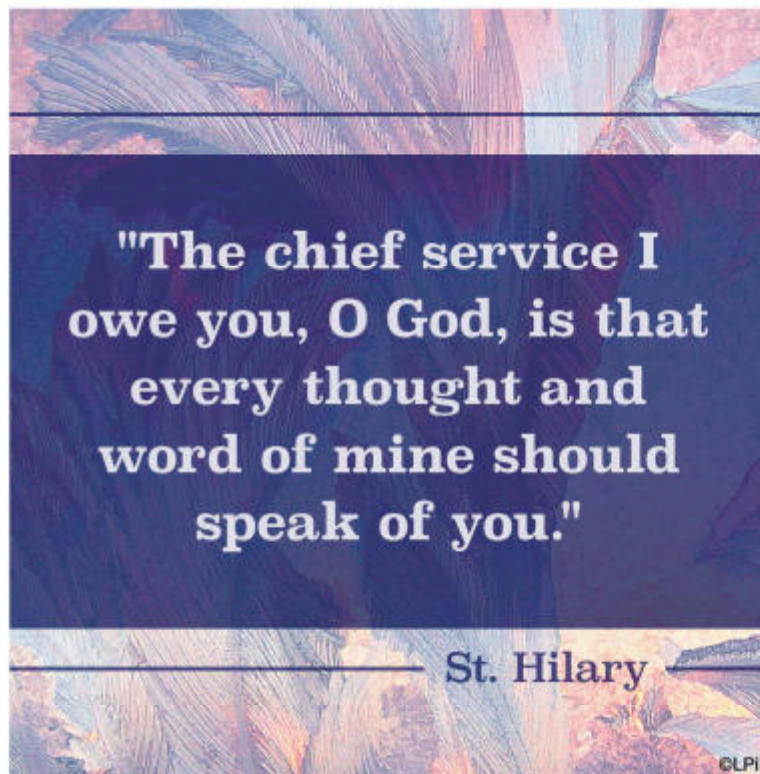
Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.



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