

PLEASED

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 12, 2020

A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

MATTHEW 3:17

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

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Saint Alphonsus Liguori Parish
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A ministry of the Capuchin Franciscans,
Province of St. Mary, New York and New
England

Father Maurice Moreau, OFM Cap, Pastor
In residence at Saint Peter's Friary with
Father Thomas R. Houle, OFM Cap.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00 AM
Monday & Tuesday 9:00 AM
Holy Days 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS - upon request

BAPTISMS - Contact Parish Office well in advance.

WEDDINGS - Contact Parish Office at least six months in advance to make arrangements for marriage.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Our Lady of Good Help Rectory Chapel
First Friday 1-3 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Mary Kay Wilczynski,
Administrative Assistant

PARISH COUNCIL

Second Wed of the month

FINANCE COUNCIL

Last Tue of the month

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Grades K-9)
Sarah Carrara (247-6313)
sarahlynnecarrara@gmail.com

BINGO Saturdays,
7:00 PM - Parish Hall

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/saintalphonsusvt

SAINT ALPHONSUS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Jon Keith (483.6489) work
Jon Keith (483.2029) home

Website:

<http://www.stalphonsusvt.org>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

12 SUN The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

✠ 9:00 AM **Frank Fedor** by Ray Barbush

13 Mon Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20

9:00 AM **Parishioners**

14 Tue 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28

✠ 9:00 AM **Bobby Queen** by the Estate

15 Wed 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39

16 Thu 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45

17 Fri Saint Anthony, Abbot

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12

18 Sat 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17

19 SUN Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

✠ 9:00 AM **Sophie and Alex Shutek** by the Estate

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-9 9:50-11:00 AM Parish Hall

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

The Ministry Schedule is posted on the back bulletin board.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - LPI

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is “to be our model of holiness.” All of Jesus’ words and actions model for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we’re meant to be. Jesus’ baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. “This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased.” And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit’s grace and power to continue Christ’s mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let’s do as Jesus did. Let’s live in our baptism!

Dec 29 Offertory \$ **1,342.00**

Online Giving \$ 15.00

Total \$ **1,357.00**

Last Year this Date \$ 1,195.00

Christmas \$ 2,781.00

Last Sunday's Offertory \$ **1,744.00**

Online Giving \$ 15.00

Total \$ **1,759.00**

Last Year this Date \$ 2,272.00

Building \$ 736.00

Solemnity of Mary \$ 532.00

Thank you for making up your envelopes.

Next week there is a special collection for **Catholic Education**. Half of what is collected stays in our parish to help pay for the rising cost of books and supplies. Please place this envelope in the basket when it is passed for the Offertory.

JANUARY

Sun	8:00 AM	Cantor Rehearsal
Mon	8:30 AM	Rosary, followed by Mass
Tue	8:30 AM	Rosary, followed by Mass
16	6:30 PM	Folk Group Rehearsal
17	8:30 AM	Folk Group Rehearsal
24	10:30 AM	Crafters, Rectory
28	6:00 PM	Finance Council, Rectory

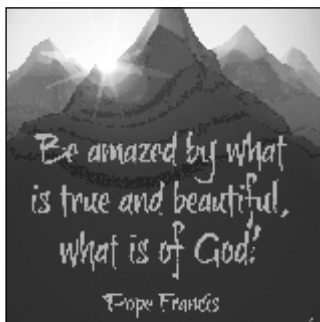
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - LPI
A Thought from Tracy Earl Welliver

Lessons from Baptizing a Frog

I used to lead an RCIA session on baptism, where I would bring in my Kermit the Frog toy from when I was a child and pretend to baptize it. It was a session I especially made sure I led when we had children preparing for Easter sacraments. You would think Kermit would have become super holy having been baptized so many times, year after year. But, if he had been real, he would not have been any holier due to multiple baptisms than he was after the first baptism. He couldn't be re-baptized. (Not to mention, of course, he is a FROG.)

When Jesus came to John for baptism, he transformed the baptism of repentance that John was practicing into a baptism of redemption. And although we are called to repentance over and over in our life, redemption comes to us only once. We cannot get baptized again in the Jordan or Sea of Galilee because of romantic notions, or come into the Catholic Church by a second baptism so we can start all over. Our baptism, whether we can remember it or not, is a one-time deal. But it is the real deal. Whether you feel it or not, you are sealed for Christ, and the stain of original sin has been washed away.

Too many of us take that moment for granted. Yes, you may have been baptized as an infant. But much time has passed since then, and you can work to understand the impact that it had on your life. We sometimes look for a good time to begin living a stewardship way of life. However, that time already passed, and God has been waiting. We are called to reflect on our baptism and respond to the call it has placed on our lives. We can respond and be disciples, or we can be like Kermit the Frog, always searching for a new start that never comes.



ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE AND MEAL Each year the Vermont Ecumenical Council provides an opportunity for all Christian Faith Communities to come together in prayer for Christian Unity in our communities, state and the world. This year our service will be held on Sunday, January 19, at 4PM, at Faith United Methodist Church, 899 Dorset St, South Burlington. More information is available at www.vecncc.org.

**Otter Valley Roman Catholic
Community Events**

Mon Jan 13: **RCIA Program**, Saint Alphonsus Rectory, 7PM.

Wed Jan 15: **Scripture Study and Reflection**, will begin tonight for all who are interested. Session will begin at 7 PM in Saint Alphonsus Rectory.

Sun Jan 19: **Family Catechesis**, required for Grades 6-9, will start at 5:00 PM, beginning with a potluck meal in the Parish Hall. All are invited. This week's topic is *The Challenges of Following Christ*.

Mon Jan 20: **RCIA Program**, Saint Alphonsus Rectory, 7PM.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Work to live in your marriage as God desires by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jan 31-Feb 2, 2020 in Huntington, NY and Mar 13-15, 2020 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call John & Diane Forcier at 802-657-3083 or visit them at <https://wwwmevtw.org/>.

3RD ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE Saturday March 28th, at Saint Anthony's Church, White River Junction. The keynote speaker is retired Air Force Captain, Guy Gruters. Guy is a decorated Vietnam War veteran who spent five and a half years as a POW in Vietnam, and a lifetime Catholic. Other speakers will include Msgr. John McDermott and Paul Kendall. There will also be opportunities for confession, Eucharistic Adoration, lunch, fellowship, and Mass with Bishop Coyne. Registration and more info at: www.vermontcatholic.org/men

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY MASS WITH THE BISHOP Married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (e.g. 5, 10, 15, 20...55, 60) who wish to be recognized at the Diocese Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Burlington on February 2, 2020, at the 10:00am Mass should contact the parish office with the following information (couples names, anniversary year being celebrated, date married, and where married - church w/location) by Wednesday, January 22. Senior couples who are unable to attend can be recognized with a certificate. Requests need be submitted to the parish office with the same information listed above. Thank you.

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