

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH



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

Mass Intentions

January 9, 2022 Baptism of the Lord

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>INTENTION</u>
Monday, January 10	8:30 AM	St. Mary	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday, January 11	8:30 AM	St. Martha	Eva Stonikinis, by Rebecca Micca
Wednesday, January 12	8:30 AM	St. Mary	John & Margaret Kalie, by Grand Children
Thursday, January 13	8:30 AM	St. Mary	No Mass
Friday, January 14	8:03 AM	St. Adalbert	Camille W. Pawlush, by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Brozena
Saturday, January 15	4:15 PM	St. Mary	Chester & Dora Baluta, by Children
Sunday, January 16	8:00 AM	St. Adalbert	Henrietta Evina, by Frankie
	9:45 AM	St. Martha	For the People

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: At St. Martha every Tuesday after the 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass until 9:00 p.m. Assigned Eucharistic adorers and substitutes are needed for all hours. Please contact Rebecca at 570-256-7329 to sign up for a specific hour or to be a substitute. **HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS** on **January 11th**, 9 - 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to participate in this prayer ministry for the sanctity of priests and for an increase of holy vocations.

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP: Meetings are held the First Monday of each month unless noted. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, February 7th**, at 1:00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church. Please submit names of those suffering from serious illness who are homebound, in hospitals or in nursing homes to Gloria Handzelek 570-542-5694, Ann McElligott 570-864-2331 or Mary Lou Zaleski 570-736-6336. All members of Holy Spirit Parish are encouraged to pray for those whose names are on our Prayer List, to pray for Pope Francis and the healing of Holy Mother Church, and to attend our prayer meetings. The Scribe is Barbara Yacuboski 570-542-7447 and the Prayer Group Leader is Paulette Monchak 570-542-7242.

CANDLES/FLOWER REMEMBRANCE

St. Mary BVM Candle: In Loving Memory of Jacob & Agnes Handzelek, by Daughter Eleanor & Children

HOLY SPIRIT OFFERTORY—

December 19, 2021

\$ 6,832.65

PARISH HAPPENINGS

2022 Calendars: We have not received our 2022 calendars yet this year. As soon as they are delivered they will be placed in each worship site.

The SMMA 2022 "MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD" is available for eligible St. Martha students. Our Scholarship Selection Committee will accept applications (available in the Sacristy) from current year eligible students until February 28, 2022. The Committee will decide the winner(s) before our March meeting. The decision of the Committee is final. The scholarship checks for \$500.00 will be awarded no later than the graduation of the student(s). If you have any questions please see any member of the Selection Committee. Thank you to everyone who supports our SMMA fundraisers. Without your help we couldn't help these deserving young people of our Parish. If you would like to donate money to increase the scholarships, please see President Jim Howanitz.

WEEKEND MASSES: There are still Weekend Masses available for 2022. If you would like to schedule a Mass for a loved one on the weekend, (even if you already scheduled masses for 2022) please call the Parish Office. These masses will be on a first come first serve basis. Thank you!

END OF THE YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS will be available after January 15, 2022. If you would like your statement for 2021, please call the parish office.

VIGIL MASS FOR LIFE: The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate a Vigil Mass for Life on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Maria Goretti Church, Laffin, Pa. Join us on the eve of the 48th annual March for Life to pray for a greater respect of all human life, from conception to natural death, and every moment in between. You are invited to bring a new pack of diapers to be donated to Shepherd's Maternity House and St. Joseph's Center Baby and Children's Pantry. For more information visit Dioceseofscranton.org.

LOTTERY WINNERS:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMT.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMT.</u>
01/01/2022	560	Amanda Yurkoski	50.00	01/02/2022	734	Lynn Kivler	100.00

SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS: There is a great need for socks for the homeless who are living in shelters and especially for those who are living outside in tents. The socks should be men's socks. White crew socks are preferred (size 6-12) as many of the homeless have infected sores or blisters on their feet. Also needed is men's deodorant and men's body wash. The items can be left in the Church entrance and marked homeless. If you have any questions, please call Bernie Baluta at 570-332-8542. Thank you and God bless you for your kindness.

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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