Baptism of the Lord

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)

By: Patricia Mitchell | wau.org

Why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit himself to John’s baptism of repentance? At his baptism, Jesus accepted his mission as God’s suffering servant on behalf of all sinful men and women.

By submitting humbly to John’s baptism, Jesus gave us a foreshadowing of the “baptism” of his bloody death on the cross, where out of love he gave his life for the remission of our sins (Mark 10:38, 45).

Because Jesus humbled himself so completely, his Father proclaimed how delighted he was in him (Mark 1:11). The Holy Spirit, too, was present, anointing Jesus for the work he was about to begin. At his baptism, Jesus became the source of the Spirit for all who would believe in him. The heavens were opened, the Spirit fell, and a new creation was inaugurated.

If we want to experience the power and grace of this new creation in our lives, we must follow Jesus’ example. St. Gregory of Nazianzus, a fourth-century church Father, gives us this advice: “Let us be buried with Christ by baptism, in order to rise with him. Let us go down with him in order to be raised with him. Let us rise with him in order to be glorified with him.” If we want to experience the transformation Gregory wrote about, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to forge the same humility in our hearts that Jesus showed at his baptism.

Jesus is ever ready to renew us in his Spirit and to anoint us for our mission. He wants to make us “light” and “salt” to those around us (Matthew 5:13, 14). He wants his love and truth to shine through us so that others will be touched by his goodness. Ask the Lord to fill you with his Holy Spirit so that you may radiate the joy of the gospel to those around you. As you do, heaven will open for you as well.

Points for Meditation:
- We who have been baptized into Christ have received the same Spirit as Jesus. We too can hear the Father say of us, “This is my beloved.” Imagine yourself in the Jordan River being baptized with Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to manifest his power in you in a fresh way.
- Jesus humbled himself by submitting to John’s baptism of repentance. How does humility in our own lives help us to better love and serve the Lord? Is there a specific area in your life where you need to grow in humility?
- Baptized into his life and death, we can take on the character, and even the very heart, of Jesus. Ask the Lord to give you the faith to believe this truth. Then ask him to open your heart and transform you into his image.

Prayer:
Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit. May I find joy in seeking to please you, just as you found joy in seeking to please your Father.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Profession of Faith

When someone speaks to your heart, the instinct is to affirm your relationship by saying something in return, which is what we do as Catholic Christians. After we listen to the homilist, we pause a moment to take in Jesus’ message for us. We then stand as a community and profess our faith in Jesus together.

The words we say have a name: the Profession of Faith. It is usually the Nicene Creed written by bishops at Nicaea in 325, where they discussed how to respond to heresies of the day, particularly Arianism, which distorted Christian teachings about Jesus. Their debates resulted in a statement affirming their faith in Jesus. We continue to make the same statement every Sunday in response to what God says to us.

Therefore, listen to the Sunday message for something to help you profess your faith.

Father Dave Mercer | Aleteia.org
FYI: Downtown Sacramento’s most blighted - and embarrassing - block is about to go upscale

As block after block of downtown Sacramento has sprung to life, one blighted and abandoned area has remained an embarrassment to city leaders and a dead zone in the heart of the downtown’s robust economy.

Now, J Street, between 10th and 11th streets, appears on the cusp of new life.

A Canadian development company is proposing a seven-story mixed-use structure with 153 apartments on upper floors, and new retail space on the ground floor. And city leaders say they are delighted.

Called Anthem Cathedral Square, proposed by Anthem Properties, the project will wrap around onto 11th Street, diagonally opposite from the front of Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

It will replace the four largely empty and outdated buildings that cover more than half of the block. Two of the three buildings that will remain are in use. One holds a longtime tenant, Rodney’s Cigar and Liquor store. That sits next to a pho restaurant and Dads sandwich shop.

Downtown Sacramento City Councilman Steve Hansen, who put public pressure on previous property owners to either build or sell the site, has been working with new owner Anthem Properties on designs for housing on the site, just blocks from the state Capitol and City Hall.

He calls the proposal an “extreme makeover” that should serve as a catalyst for redevelopment of other blighted properties on and near that block. Hansen has been highly critical of former property owners and others who let properties sit empty for years while waiting and hoping to build high-rises that never seem to pencil out in Sacramento’s economy.

“This is my top priority for Anthem,” Hansen said on Friday. Anthem also owns developable property at 15th and S streets. “We need forward progress on this site. Not sugar plum dreams of skyscrapers. We need more apartments. So a mid-rise is really appropriate. The model is perfect for J Street and it is something our market does support.”

Speaking recently to The Sacramento Bee, Anthem executives said the project is just the first of many they hope to build here.

“We believe in Sacramento,” said Riaan Debeer, vice president of development for the Vancouver company. “With what is happening in the downtown, we see this as a long-term relationship with Sacramento, a first step in what we believe will be many more projects.” [...]

Anthem wants the apartments to be mid-range of market rate so they will be affordable to more people.

Mayor Darrell Steinberg said Anthem’s interest in Sacramento is an example of the city’s rise as an economic draw.

“The confidence is high about what we are doing in Sacramento. One big success begets a lot more successes. Investors are looking at our city and saying this is the place to do business.”

The other side of J Street remains untouched. Hansen said the city is pushing for a project at three empty buildings and an empty lot there.

BY MARCOS BRETON AND TONY BIZJAK, NOVEMBER 01, 2019

You don’t feel anything when you pray? Don’t worry!

Prayer can often feel arid, or in any case not always live up to our expectations. We feel let down. That’s when we’re tempted to blame God because, if He really loved us, He would answer our prayers. Or we blame ourselves because, if we really loved God, we ought to be able to get through to Him. If the connection is poor on one end of the line or the other, doesn’t it make more sense just to hang up? So too often, after several attempts, we give up on prayer and concede the battle.

I suggest that the correct verb to use to in speaking of prayer is “to be.” To pray is to be — to be with. That’s what prayer is all about. St. Augustine understood this well when, with sadness and bemusement, he asked: “My God, you who are everywhere, how is it that I find you nowhere?”

"Behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age"

The problem is not the absence of Christ or his distance from human history. As St. John Paul II said, "There’s one problem only that exists always and everywhere: the problem of our being present to Christ." What is the point of insisting on the real Presence of Christ (in the Eucharist as well as in the other sacraments, in his Church, in fraternal love, in the service of the poor) if we ourselves are not also present?

When Jesus sent his Apostles out bearing the Good News to all nations and all ages, He emphatically stated: "I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20). But "to be with" takes at least two. This is at the very heart of faith as an experience, a living faith: to be with Him, with He who wished to be with us.

Seek God, not sensations

This has implications. It requires us to properly situate the place and meaning of prayer within a Christian life. Prayer is not a goal but a means. The goal is life with Christ; to be able to say along with St. Paul: “For to me to live is Christ” (Phil 1:21); “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor 10:31). But, to be always with the Lord, we must from time to time “be” for Him alone, to let go of all else for Him, that He may be at the heart of all.

The quality of our prayer is not measured by the number of lovely thoughts or wonderful sensations we derive from it. But by the fact that, in this world we live in, in this moment of our life in which we find ourselves, we dare to open ourselves up to an encounter with God. An encounter of being with Being. The Bible calls it “face to face.” Some spiritual authors say “heart to heart.” The essential? That He find us waiting. Then we’ll have some chance of finding Him too.

Father Alain Bandelier
The Baptism of the Lord

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. (Mt 3:16)

FESTIVAL OF TREES & LIGHTS brought in $22,500 over the December 7/8 weekend. Expenses are typically low, which means the parish raised roughly $20,000 for our social services ministries. Many thanks to all who donated items or volunteered their time to make this a success. And thank you to all who attended!

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
This year, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 99 years old. Ninety-nine years ago, Father Paul Watson, an Anglican priest and co-founder of the Society of the Atonement, introduced a Prayer Octave for Christian Unity that was celebrated for the first time Jan. 18-25, 1908.

THE BIBLE TIMELINE: THE STORY OF SALVATION
BIBLE STUDY BEGINS ON JANUARY 9, 2020
The Bible Timeline is a Catholic Bible study that can help anyone to make sense of the Bible and experience the life-changing power of God’s Word. The study will include a series of twenty-three videos presented by Jeff Cavins. Each video will be preceded by a lively group discussion. We will meet every Thursday from 7pm to 8:30 in the lower level of the Cathedral. After 23 sessions you will receive a certificate of completion. Attendance is free. We will also provide materials. Please join us for a life-changing journey through the Bible! See you there!

16TH WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
Join thousands of fellow Catholics and Pro-lifers from all over California and beyond as we proclaim to the world the sanctity of life. Let’s stand up for the littlest among us at the 16th Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on January 25, 2020. Reserve your seat or buy your bus ticket today. The Respect Life ministry will be outside the church after masses to give you more information or contact Veronica Avina at (916) 205-0713. For complete information about the walk, visit www.walkforlifewc.com

CATHOLIC VIEWPOINT, FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE, hosted by Fr. Michael Kiernan. This View on Comcast 20, Consolidated 19 and AT&T 14, Times: Sun. 7:00 AM, Tues. 9:30 AM, Weds. 8:30 PM, and Thurs. 5:00 PM. All shows are also on YouTube and website CatholicviewpointFHL.com!

THE Lord WILL BLESS HIS PEOPLE WITH peace.

LAUDATA SI - Year Five
On Care for Our Common Home
Pope Francis’ Encyclical Laudato Si is a worldwide wake up call to help humanity understand the destruction that man is rendering to the environment and his fellow man. While addressing the environment directly, the document’s scope is broader in many ways as it looks at not only man’s effect on the environment, but also the many philosophical, theological, and cultural causes that threaten the relationships of man to nature and man to each other in various circumstances.

From Sara Peach “Ask Sara” @ Yale Climate Connections Blog
Dear Sara,
My mom was asking me questions about global warming. She doesn’t get it, but I can see she wants to. I was having a hard time boiling it down. She also asked why Michigan winters have been colder than ever if the Earth is heating up (the ol’ climate vs. weather issue) and I found I wasn’t able to give her a succinct answer. Do you have suggestions to very basic articles about both I can send her? – Educate My Mom, Please

Sara:
Your mom wants to learn and sees you as a resource. That’s huge.

Start by sending her NASA’s introduction to climate change (https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/). You might also look at “EARTH: The Operator’s Manual,” a PBS series hosted by climate scientist Richard Alley. Short segments are available online, so you can pick out one or two that answer her questions.

As for climate and weather, have her watch this video at https://www.youtube.com/embed/e0vjOimOLw, which explains the difference in a little more than a minute. (There’s even a dog in it. All climate change videos should include dogs.)

And gently push back on your mom’s notion that winters in Michigan are “colder than ever.” In fact, Upper Midwest winters are among the fastest-warming in the country. [There is an article in] the New York Times [online]: “Where Are America’s Winters Warming the Most? In Cold Places.”

Ask your mom why she believes (mistakenly) that Michigan winters are growing colder. My guess is that a few recent brutal cold snaps are influencing her perception. On days when Arctic air is blasting outdoor temperatures into frostbite territory, it can be hard to accept that the planet is heating up.

If that’s the case, encourage her to watch this 18-minute TEDx talk that climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe gave at Texas Tech University in 2015 (https://youtu.be/PtrYNns9oRM). At the time of her talk, it had recently snowed in the area – an unusual weather event in west Texas.

“I have to admit,” Hayhoe jokes, “when I was scraping the snow and ice off my car, I was tempted to think, ‘Where’s global warming now? I’d like a little of that, please.’”

Hayhoe points out that during the period when it snowed in Texas, other parts of the world were unusually hot. “The lesson here is that it isn’t just what we see in front of our own eyes that can tell us whether global warming is real,” she says.
**THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass / Intentions /Readings</th>
<th>Observances &amp; Cathedral Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 11</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm / Jaime Benigno + 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 12</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 am / Maria Ines Herrera + &amp; Higinia Murillo Herrera + 9:00 am / People of the Parish S.I.</td>
<td>The Baptism of the Lord</td>
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<td>11:00 am / Deacon Don DeHaven + 1:00 pm (Spanish) / Sofia Sanchez + 3:00 pm (Chinese)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm / Maria-Noel Tu A Loan + 7:00 pm / Rosa + Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 13</strong></td>
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<td>12:10 pm / Deacon Don DeHaven + 5:10 pm / All Families S.I. 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 1:14-20</td>
<td>Ordinary Time begins St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 14</strong></td>
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<td>12:10 pm / All Souls + 5:00 pm / Francis Hartman S.I. 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 15</strong></td>
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<td>12:10 pm / Lucretia Ringling S.I. 5:00 pm / Rebecca Kane + 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 16</strong></td>
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<td>12:10 pm / Deacon Don DeHaven + 5:10 pm / Melody Adkins S.I. 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45</td>
<td>THE BIBLE TIMELINE: THE STORY OF SALVATION AT 7pm</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 17</strong></td>
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<td>12:10 pm / Henry Iwuh &amp; Family S.I. 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12</td>
<td>St. Anthony, Abbott</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 18</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm / Robert &amp; Pam Jones S.I. 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17</td>
<td>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</td>
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**CATHEDRAL PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

The Cathedral and its Parish is solely supported by weekly offertories and individual donations. It does not receive funding from any other sources, including the Sacramento Diocese or any of its parishes. Your support is greatly appreciated and vital to maintaining the Parish and its ministries to the poor and hungry, as well as maintaining this spiritual center and historically significant landmark. The Cathedral’s weekly expenses exceed $20,000. The Finance Council has set a weekly offertory goal of $11,500 to maintain fiscal integrity. Thank you for your generosity!

- December 14/15 $10,002 $-1,498 86%
- December 21/22 $8,276 $-3,224 71%
- December 28/29 $9,415 $-2,085 81%

Reporting is behind due to the holidays and accelerated publishing schedule.

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**Sharing the Gospel** - Jesus came to John one day to be baptized. Jesus was God's Son, and had no sin for John to wash away in the Jordan River. But Jesus wanted to be baptized anyway, to please his Father in heaven. God looked down from heaven, and when Jesus came out of the river, God sent his Spirit to rest on Jesus like a dove. Then God spoke from heaven for John and everyone else to hear. God said, "This is my son."

**Prayer** - Dear God, thank you for showing John that Jesus was your Son.

**Mission for the Week** - Ask your parents to tell you about the day when you were baptized.
"Este es mi Hijo amado, con quien estoy muy complacido" (Mateo 3:17)

Por: Patricia Mitchell | wau.org

¿Por qué Jesús, el Sin pecado, se sometió al bautismo de arrepentimiento de Juan? En su bautismo, Jesús aceptó su misión como el siervo sufriente de Dios en nombre de todos los hombres y mujeres pecadores.

Al someterse humildemente al bautismo de Juan, Jesús nos presagió el "bautismo" de su sangrienta muerte en la cruz, donde por amor dio su vida por la remisión de nuestros pecados (Marcos 10:38, 45).

Debido a que Jesús se humilló tan completamente, su Padre proclamó cuán encantado estaba en él (Marcos 1:11). El Espíritu Santo también estaba presente, ungido a Jesús por la obra que estaba a punto de comenzar. En su bautismo, Jesús se convirtió en la fuente del Espíritu para todos los que creyeron en él. Se abrieron los cielos, cayó el Espíritu y se abrió su corazón y lo transformó a su imagen.

Si queremos experimentar el poder y la gracia de esta nueva creación en nuestras vidas, debemos seguir el ejemplo de Jesús. San Gregorio de Nazianzus, un padre de la iglesia del siglo IV, nos da este consejo: "Seamos sepultados con él en su vida y muerte, podemos asumir el mismo Espíritu que Jesús. Nosotros también podemos escuchar al Padre decir de nosotros: "Este es mi amado" (Mateo 5:13, 14). Él quiere que su amor y su verdad brillen a través de nosotros para que otros sean tocados por su bondad. Pídale al Señor que lo llene de su Espíritu Santo para que pueda irradiar el gozo del evangelio a quienes lo rodean. Al hacerlo, el cielo también se inauguró una nueva creación.

Jesús siempre está listo para renovarnos en su Espíritu y ungirnos para nuestra misión. Él quiere hacernos "luz" y "sal" para los que nos rodean (Mateo 5:14). Él quiere que su amor y verdad brillen a través de nosotros para que otros sean tocados por su bondad. Pídale al Señor que lo llene de su Espíritu Santo para que pueda irradiar el gozo del evangelio a quienes lo rodean. Al hacerlo, el cielo también se abrirá para ti.

Puntos para la meditación:
• Los que hemos sido bautizados en Cristo hemos recibido el mismo Espíritu que Jesús. Nosotros también podemos escuchar al Padre decir de nosotros: "Este es mi amado". Imagínese en el río Jordán siendo bautizado con Jesús. Pídale al Espíritu Santo que manifieste su poder en usted de una manera fresca.
• Jesús se humilló al someterse al bautismo de arrepentimiento de Juan. ¿Cómo nos ayuda la humildad en nuestras propias vidas a amar y servir mejor al Señor? ¿Hay un área específica en tu vida donde necesitas crecer en humildad?
• Bautizado en su vida y muerte, podemos asumir el carácter, e incluso el corazón, de Jesús. Pídale al Señor que le dé la fe para creer esta verdad. Luego pídale queabra su corazón y lo transforme a su imagen.

Omisión:
Señor, lléname de tu Espíritu Santo. ¿Puedo encontrar alegría al tratar de complacerte, así como tú encontre alegría al tratar de complacer a tu Padre?

Credo Niceno

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre Todopoderoso, Creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hija única de Dios, nacida del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios, Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no creado, de la misma naturaleza del Padre, por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres, y por nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en tiempos de Poncio Pilato; padeció y fue sepultado, y resucitó al tercer día, según las Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria para juzgar a, vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin. Creo en el Espíritu Santo. Señor y dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una misma adoración y gloria, y que habló por los profetas.

Creo en la Iglesia, que es una, santa, católica y apostólica. Confieso que hay un solo Bautismo para el perdón de los pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida del mundo futuro.

Amén.

Profesión de fe

Cuando alguien le habla a su corazón, el instinto es afirmar su relación diciendo algo a cambio, que es lo que hacemos como cristianos católicos. Después de escuchar al homilista, hacemos una pausa para escuchar el mensaje de Jesús por nosotros. Luego nos mantenemos como una comunidad y profesamos nuestra fe en Jesús juntos.

Las palabras que decimos tienen un nombre: la profesión de fe. Por lo general, es el Credo de Nicaea escrito por los obispos en Nicaea en 325, donde discutieron cómo responder a las herejías del día, particularmente el arrianismo, lo que distorsionó las enseñanzas cristianas sobre Jesús. Sus debates resultaron en una declaración afirmando su fe en Jesús. Continuamos haciendo la misma declaración todos los domingos en respuesta a lo que Dios nos dice.

Por lo tanto, escuche el mensaje del domingo por algo que lo ayude a profesar su fe.

Padre Dave Mercer | Aleteia.org
Las lecturas de la semana del 12 de enero de 2020

Domingo: El Bautismo del Señor
Is 42, 1-4. 6-7/Sal 29, 1-2. 3-4. 3. 9-10 [11]/
Hch 10, 34-38/Mt 3, 13-17

Lunes: San Hilario, obispo y doctor de la Iglesia
1 Sm 1, 1-8/Sal 116, 12-13. 14-17. 18-19 [17]/
Mc 1, 14-20

Martes: 1 Sm 1, 9-20/1 Sm 2, 1. 4-5. 6-7. 8 [cfr. 1]/
Mc 1, 21-28

Miércoles: 1 Sm 3, 1-10. 19-20/Sal 40, 2 y 5. 7-8. 8-9.
10 [8 y 9]/Mc 1, 29-39

Mc 1, 40-45

Viernes: San Antonio, abad
1 Sm 8, 4-7. 10-22/Sal 89, 16-17. 18-19 [2]/Mc 2,
1:12

Sábado: Semana de Oración por la Unidad de los Cristianos
1 Sm 9, 1-4. 10. 17-19; 10, 1/Sal 21, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7
[2]/Mc 2, 13-17

MEDITACIÓN EVANGÉLICO

La Navidad termina con la Fiesta en honor del Bautismo del Señor; es otra manifestación de Dios por medio de su Hijo. Ahora el profeta Isaías nos muestra al Siervo de Dios en quien se complace: “Miren a mi siervo, a quien sostengo, a mi elegido, en quien tengo mis complacencias. En él he puesto mi espíritu para que haga brillar la justicia sobre las naciones.” No queda más que agradecer el inmenso amor de Dios por nosotros. ¿Cómo no apreciar el ser hijos/hijas de Dios por el bautismo? Desde que nos bautizaron, sea pequeño o grande, Dios espera que al menos estemos seguros de que tenemos un Padre amoroso y compasivo, que se alegra con nosotros. La lectura del Libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles ayuda a comprender que “Dios no hace distinción de personas, sino que acepta al que se alegra con nosotros. La lectura del Libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles ayuda a comprender que “Dios no hace distinción de personas, sino que acepta al que... practica la justicia.”

Está Fiesta es similar a Pentecostés, pero, en otra forma de manifestación del Espíritu Santo. Juan, lo explica claramente cuando dice: “Es cierto que yo bautizo con agua, pero ya viene otro más poderoso que yo, a quien no merezco desatarle las correas de sus sandalias. El bautizará con el Espíritu Santo y con fuego.” Bien, ahora cabe la pregunta para reflexión personal: ¿Qué acciones hago para complacer a Dios? ¿Hay fuego en mi corazón de tal manera que arde en buenas obras? Fijémonos en la humildad de Juan Bautista; el reconocimiento que su ministerio tenía que disminuir para que el ministerio de Jesús brillara y se expandiera. ¿Crees tú que los líderes actuales en las parroquias hacen lo mismo que Juan?

VIVIR LA LITURGIA

El bautismo de Jesús es similar en propósito al nuestro. Así como Jesús se distinguió como el Hijo amado en quien Dios está complacido, así mismo, nosotros también. Compartimos ese mismo favor especial con Dios y tenemos una relación íntima con Él. ¿Esta realidad cambia lo que sentimos por nosotros mismos? Ciertamente lo hace. El bautismo nos cambia para siempre y nos llama a los ministerios de misericordia y humildad. Dios nos ha formado a todos en el vientre de nuestra madre y nos pide que seamos una luz para todas las personas. Llevamos esta luz con humildad, ya que sabemos quién tiene un derecho sobre nosotros y a quién pertenecemos. Entonces estamos llamados a vivir nuestras vidas imitando a Cristo y nos convertimos en recipientes de misericordia encarnados. Nuestro mundo necesita ser tocado por la compasión y solo nosotros podemos completar la tarea.

LA CORRESPONSABILIDAD DIARIA

Lecciones de bautizar una rana

Yo solía dirigir una sesión de RICA sobre el bautismo, donde traía mi juguete de la Rana Rene (Kermit the Frog) de cuando era niño y pretendía bautizarlo. Era una sesión que me aseguraba especialmente de dirigir cuando teníamos niños preparándose para los sacramentos de Pascua. Una pensaría que la Rana Rene (Kermit) se habría vuelto súper santo al haber sido bautizado tantas veces, año tras año. Pero, si hubiera sido real, no habría sido más santo debido a múltiples bautismos de lo que fue después del primer bautismo. No podría haber sido rebautizado. (Sin mencionar, por supuesto, que es una RANA).

Cuando Jesús vino a Juan para bautizarse, transformó el bautismo de arrepentimiento que Juan practicaba en un bautismo de redención. Y aunque estamos llamados al arrepentimiento una y otra vez en nuestra vida, la redención nos llega solo una vez. No podemos volver a bautizarnos en el Jardín o el Mar de Galilea debido a nociones románticas, o entrar a la Iglesia Católica por un segundo bautismo para que podamos comenzar de nuevo. Nuestro bautismo, lo podemos recordar o no, es un trato de una sola vez. Pero cuando Jesús vino a Juan, preparándose para los sacramentos de Pascua. Uno pensaría que la Rana Rene (Kermit) se habría vuelto súper santo al haber sido bautizado tantas veces, año tras año. Pero, si hubiera sido real, no habría sido más santo debido a múltiples bautismos de lo que fue después del primer bautismo. No podría haber sido rebautizado. (Sin mencionar, por supuesto, que es una RANA).

Muchos de nosotros damos por hecho ese momento. Sí, puedes haber sido bautizado como un bebé. Pero ha pasado mucho tiempo desde entonces, y puedes trabajar para comprender el impacto que tuvo en tu vida. A veces buscamos un buen momento para comenzar a vivir una forma de vida de corresponsabilidad. Sin embargo, ese tiempo ya pasó, y Dios ha estado esperando. Estamos llamados a reflexionar sobre nuestro bautismo y responder al llamado que ha puesto en nuestras vidas. Podemos responder y ser discípulos, o podemos ser como la Rana Rene (Kermit the Frog), siempre buscando un nuevo comienzo que nunca llega.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
CATHOLIC OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ~ 916-444-3071, Fax 916-443-2749

January 12, 2020 ~ The Baptism of the Lord, Ordinary Time Begins, Year A, Cycle II, Liturgical Color: Green

MASSES
Monday to Friday 12:10 pm
Monday to Thursday 5:10 pm
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
1:00 pm en Español
3:00 pm Chinese
5:00 pm
7:00 pm en Español

State Holidays 12:10 pm only

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION
Monday to Friday 11:30 am to 12:00 pm
Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
Domingo en Español 12:30 pm a 12:45 pm
6:30 pm a 7:00 pm

DEVOTIONS: Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 12:45 pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesday 12:45 pm to 5:00 pm
Thursday 12:45 pm to 5:00 pm
Friday 12:45 pm to 1:30 pm

BENEDICTION
Wednesday 5:00 pm
Thursday 5:00 pm
Friday 1:30 pm

(NO Devotions, Adoration, or Benediction on feast days and holy days)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK - By appointment only. Call the rectory at 916-444-3071

BAPTISMS - Registration is required. Call Deacon John at the rectory at 916-444-3071
English - 3rd Saturday of the month, 9:00am
Español - 4º Sábado del mes, 9:00am

BAPTISM CLASSES (No registration required)
English - 1st Thursday of the month, 7:00pm
Español - 2do jueves del mes, 7:00pm

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP DOWNSTAIRS
Sundays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm,
Tuesdays 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

cathedralsacramento.org

TOURS
We love to share our Cathedral history! Tours are FREE, led by trained Docents, and held after the 9am and 11am Sunday Masses, and at 12:40pm on Wednesday. Tours begin at the Baptismal Font. Contact 916-444-3071 to arrange free private group tours.

Los tours en español se llevan a cabo el 1er y 3er domingo del mes después de la misa de 1pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS - The cathedral offers a complete faith formation program, including Catholic Faith Formation, Confirmation, The Rite of Christian Initiation Program, R.C.I.A., for adults, teens and children, Religious Education for Spanish Speaking Adults, and a Catechesis Formation Program.

If you've been coming to Mass for a while, but are not Catholic, or were baptized Catholic but never completed your faith formation classes, we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith. Come meet some faithful Catholics who love the Lord and would consider it a privilege to get to know you. We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions meet every Monday Evening at 7 PM in the lower level of the Cathedral. Feel free to come any Monday evening. For more information on all of our faith formation programs, please call 916-444-5364 or email Sister Lisa Marie Doty, Director of Religious Education, lmdoty@cathedralsacramento.org.

QUINCEAÑERA - This is the tradition of celebrating a young girl's coming of age on her 15th birthday with a Mass, and highlights the virtues of family and social responsibility. For more information on celebrating this beautiful tradition at the Cathedral, call Titi Kila, at the Cathedral Office, 916-444-3071, x13, tkila@cathedralsacramento.org.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION - The Diocese of Sacramento requires an engaged couple to complete a marriage preparation program no later than two months before their wedding date. Contact: Deacon Omar & Janet Bardales at matrimonyprep@att.net, or 916-427-9160. You do not have to have your wedding at the Cathedral to take this class.

CONVALIDATION - If you would like to have your civil marriage blessed in the Catholic Church, or if you have been together for a number of years and would like to be married in the Church, this can often be done in a small, private ceremony called a Convalidation, without any cost or fee. To explore this possibility, contact Deacon John at 444-3071 Ext. 11 or jgisla@cathedralsacramento.org.

WEDDINGS - If you would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at the Cathedral, contact Wedding Coordinator, Titi Kila at tkila@cathedralsacramento.org at least six months before your desired wedding date to arrange a meeting.

SERVING THE SACRAMENTO DIOCESE SINCE 1889
PASTORAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Father Michael O’Reilly, Pastor / Rector
Father Kieran McMahon, Priest in Residence
Father Nicholas Ho, Chinese Mass
Deacon John Gisla, Office Manager
Deacon Edgar Hilbert
Deacon Omar Bardales
Sister Lisa Marie Doty, Director of Education
Michael Ongstiy, Sacristan
Rex Rallanka, Director of Music
Tom Waddock, Cathedral Manager
Victoria Ramos, Secretary
Katie McAllister, Bookkeeper
Titi Kila, Wedding Coordinator
Lyssa Black, Webmaster / Bulletin Editor

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Aileen Rasmussen Roland Bordon
Richard Zacaroli Andrea Martin-Borges

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CATHEDRAL PARISH REGISTRATION & UPDATE
Actualización y registro de la parroquia de la Catedral
Become a member of the Cathedral family. Register online at cathedralsacramento.org / Parishioner Registration, or fill out the form below and put in the offertory basket or mail to the rectory office at 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Name (Nombre): ___________________________________________________________
Cell Phone: (Celular): __________________________
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State (Estado): ________ Zip (Código postal): _________________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________

For additional family members, please attach a separate sheet.

Please indicate: Por favor indique:
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New Parishioners/Family Nuevo Parroco / Familia
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Please send Offertory Envelopes Por favor envíe Sobres de Ofertorio

Altarservers
Michael Ognisty, mfognisty@msn.com.

Benedictus Youth Group
Victoria Ramos, benedictusyg@gmail.com

Brown Bag Lunch Ministry
Jerri Rush, jerrirush@comcast.net

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for ages 3+
visit youngsheep.org, or call 916-910-3435

Cathedral A.C.T.S.
ActsCathedralSacto@gmail.com, sacramentacts.org

Saint Vincent de Paul contact the rectory office

Cathedral Young Adults
Titi Kila, cathedralya@gmail.com

Chinese Community
Oliver Wan sccc.contact@gmail.com

Choir (English)
Rex Rallanka, Music Director, rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org

Choir (Spanish)
Jerry Vanoye in the choir annex after the 1pm Mass, or Ricardo Savala in the choir annex after 7pm Mass.

Cinema Divina Movies
Reggie King, thecatholicstore@gmail.com

Communion & Liberation
catechesis meets every Wednesday at 7:15pm

Docents
Jill Pease, peasejill@gmail.com

Email Prayer Chain
Lynne Amerson, cbs1017pc@yahoo.com.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Amy McCormick, ammccormick@att.net

Festival of Trees and Lights
Paula Trujillo, trupaula@gmail.com

Front Door Ministry
ministries@cathedralsacramento.org

Greeters and Ushers
Tom Waddock, 916-444-3071, x 36

Hospitality
Celeste Gisla, jfgisla@surewest.net

Knights of Columbus
Jaime Elizaldi, jaime.elizaldi@gmail.com

Lectors
Fred Heacock, fheacock72@hotmail.com

RCIA Catechists
Sr Lisa Marie Doty, RCIA@cathedralsacramento.org

Religious Education Catechists
Sr Lisa Marie Doty, lmdoty@cathedralsacramento.org

Respect Life Ministry
Liliana Balderrama, michoacan8888@gmail.com

Rosary Club
Lolita Urrutia, lolita.urrutia@gmail.com.

Spanish Parents Group Leaders
Leticia Hilbert, leticia_hilbert@hotmail.com

The Most Reverend Jaime Soto, D.D, M.S.W.
Bishop of Sacramento
2110 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818, Phone 916-733-0100 ~ scd.org
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
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.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
Cathedral of Blessed Sacrament, Sacramento, CA

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