



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.



Pastors Pen

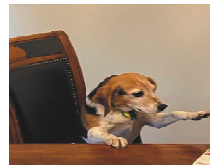
In various ways, today's feast and its Scriptures extend last Sunday's revelation of Christ and his all-embracing compassion. The second reading announces once again that the "grace of God has appeared, saving all" (Ti 2:11). We are further reminded that God pours out his saving presence in Jesus Christ, not because of human merit, but because the very character of God is loving mercy, extended to all without exception.

The first reading and Gospel further illustrate a common theme in Luke: Christ fulfills the prophecy of old. While Luke's hearers, Greek-speaking Gentile converts, might not have been familiar with Old Testament prophets, they did believe in prophecy. Hence the evangelist frequently refers, directly or indirectly, to Old Testament Scriptures, especially prophetic figures or writings.

Isaiah speaks God's Word of comfort to Judean captives in Babylon. Though their present existence seems to be nothing but desolate wasteland, the same God who let their ancestors through the desert in the exodus story will again bring them through the "rough country" (Is 40:4) to new freedom. The prophet proclaims that God will come as a strong yet tender shepherd, gently carrying them home.

A few chapters after today's reading, Isaiah indicates how God's people will be renewed: through a servant of the Lord. Through the prophet, God describes the servant as "my chosen one with whom I am pleased, "empowered by "my spirit" (Is 42:1). By divine power, the servant will bring God's healing to the weak and bruised.

Luke portrays a people "filled with expectation" (Lk 3:15), wondering if John the Baptist could be God's chosen one. The Baptist says he is not, and points to the one who will fulfill the prophecy. As Jesus prays after his baptism, the divine voice proclaims. "You are my beloved Son" (Lk 3:22).



Ask the Pastoral Minister?

Do you have a question about the Catholic faith? If so, email your Pastoral Minister, Lisa Covington, religioussedrocks1@gmail.com a question you have about anything Catholic, and she will answer it. One question will be selected each week and both the question and answer will appear in an upcoming bulletin. If you would like your first name and last initial to appear with the question, or stay anonymous, let Lisa know.

This week's Q & A...

Q: Why were gold, frankincense and myrrh given by the Wise Men as gifts to Jesus? (Anonymous)

A: This is a great question, as we just celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany. In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 2, verse 11, we learn that gold, frankincense, and myrrh were presented as gifts. The gold is representative of a gift a king would receive. In ancient cultures, gold was seen as highly valued by biblical kings. The frankincense and myrrh were also seen as valuable gifts. Frankincense had a valued fragrance and was used for incense in temple rituals. Myrrh also had a good scent, perfume like, and was used in embalming, in anointing oil as an anesthetic, and for deodorizing clothing. Frankincense was mentioned in the Bible 15 times, while myrrh is mentioned 17 times.



Share Your Old Eyeglasses

When you donate your old eyeglasses, they are donated to the Cleveland Sight Center. Please donate any old eyeglasses you may have. The donation boxes are at all entrances of the Church.

Parish Masses

Saturday, January 8

Vigil: Baptism of the Lord

4pm ✦ Lenore Knerem by Husband

Sunday, January 9

Baptism of the Lord

9am ✦ Jane Koprowski by Kellogg Family

11am ✦ George Flak by Family

Monday, January 10

Weekday

8am ✦ Mary C. Shur-Slepecky by Joe & Lauren Shur

Wednesday, January 12

Weekday

8am For All Parishioners of St. Bartholomew

Friday, January 14

Weekday

8am For All Parishioners of St. Bartholomew

Saturday, January 15

Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4pm ✦ Monica Adams, Larry Adams Jr. &

Larry Adams Sr. by Family

Sunday, January 16

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

10am For All Parishioners of St. Bartholomew

Parish Offertory—December 25, 2021

Christmas	\$31,761.00
Parish Purse	\$ 45.00
Adopt-A-Student	\$ 50.00
Music Ministry	\$ 10.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 75.00

Parish Offertory—December 26, 2021

Sunday Offertory	\$12,210.00
Christmas	\$ 1,224.00
Sustain Our School	\$ 70.00

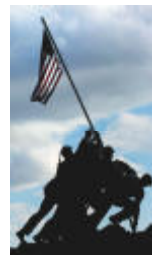
Prayer Requests...

Please remember these in need of your daily prayers...



✦Richard Barbato	✦Ken Mraz
✦Nora Bewley	✦Joyce Obral
✦Dr. Linda Black	✦Barb Ozimek
✦Bob Fallon	✦Marlene Patrick
✦Anna Cukelj	✦James R. Patrick
✦Patti Dietrick	✦Paul J. Piatak
✦Sue Denoto	✦Robert Petro
✦Irene Duke	✦Donald Punchak
✦ Ken Fadenholz	✦Lori Ranieri
✦ Dolores Fiffick	✦Richard Redovan
✦Jim Fulgham	✦Eric Reeder
✦Margaret Gebura	✦ Sr. Rosemarie
✦Charles Goble	✦Robert Schroeder
✦Gina Havasi	✦Renee Sempr
✦Jo Heidrick	✦Dolores Shemensky
✦Nancy Imbrigiotta	✦Lauren Shur
✦Megan Keefe	✦Teri Siroki
✦Annamarie Kopp	✦ Terri Swingler
✦Shirley Leinweber	✦ Lisa Szymanski
✦Clara Lucarino	✦Betty Tomanek
✦Carol Mandinec	✦Connie Tronccone
✦Barb McClain	✦Rick Trope
✦Alex McClain	✦Betty Vitt
✦Gus Miranda	✦Anna Wagner
✦Monica Meyers	✦Lisa Weiler

*If you would like to have someone added to our parish prayer request list, please call **Kathy Otto** @216.676.0144 to have your loved one added.*



PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

*Fr. Joe Brankatelli * Joseph Adams
 * Christian DiVincenzo * Ryan Kazimer
 * Cory Kuhn * George Papadorotheou
 * Eric Rensel * Paul Russo
 * Sgt. Adam Bettel

Parish Offertory—January 2, 2022

Sunday Offertory	\$11,582.00
Sustain Our School	\$ 920.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 945.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 100.00

Fr. Len's Retirement Reception Update

This is updated information regarding the weekend of January 15 & 16. In keeping with current COVID safety guidelines, the number of people in attendance at the reception for Fr. Len needs to be capped at 150. Because of this there will also be a reception after the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, January 15.

Schedule for the weekend of January 15 & 16

Saturday, January 15—Mass @ 4:00 pm with reception following in Saunders Hall

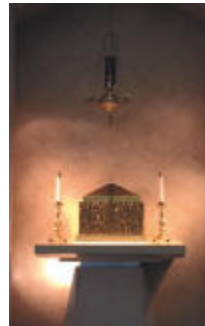
Sunday, January 16— Mass @ 10:00 am with reception following in Saunders Hall.

All guests will need to wear masks, except while eating and drinking. To **RSVP** for either **Saturday** or **Sunday** reception please call the parish office at 440-842-5400. When you call, let us know which reception you will be attending. There will be a box at both receptions for cards for Fr. Len.

AM 1260 The Rock Continues the Mass of the Month in 2022 for the Intentions of Our Listeners and Benefactors

AM 1260 The Rock is continuing our monthly Mass intentions for YOU - our listeners and benefactors. Each month we have an opportunity to pray for and with one another at parishes around the diocese. Our February Mass is at St. Ignatius of Antioch Saturday, February 5th at 5:00 PM (Eucharistic Adoration and Confession 3:30-4:30PM). Our Masses of the Month for the rest of 2022 can be found at am1260therock.com or call us at 216-227-1260.

It's 2022 and a year that is new. Making a resolution that's way too steep? Enrich your mind, body, spirit with one you can keep! Start your New Year off by listening to AM1260 The Rock Catholic radio! AM1260 The Rock makes it easy to learn more about our faith with daily Mass, devotionals, news from a Catholic perspective, apologetics and much more. Listen via radio, the internet, or our mobile app. Visit www.am1260therock.com for a complete program schedule, to download mobile app, or for more information. Glory be to God and your loved ones in the New Year and beyond.



The Presence Candle for the month of January is burning in memory of Mary Charlotte Shur-Slepecky

It has been offered by Joe & Lauren Shur

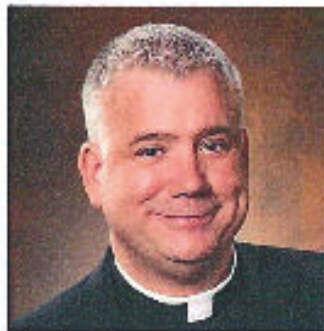
Synod 2021-2023: For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission

St. Bartholomew Parish will be participating in listening sessions as part of the diocesan synodal process. Synodality means journeying together and gathering in assembly as the People of God to proclaim the Gospel. Pope Francis has invited EVERYONE to participate in a dialogue with one another and with the worldwide Catholic Church. Join us! We hope you will participate in the conversations that will take place in January. Each individual matters and each of our experiences is valid and in need of ears to listen. Nobody is excluded - all are welcome. We are all on this journey of faith together! This is an opportunity to listen to one another in a spirit of prayer and dream about the Church we are called to be. The information gathered from the listening sessions will not only help us discern how we can move forward together as a parish community, but also as a diocese and Universal Church. Dates of parish listening sessions to be announced in an upcoming bulletin. To learn more, please visit the website: dioceseofcleveland.org/synod.



YCMC.US

SATURDAY 2022 JANUARY 29th



Father Larry Richards



Bishop Malesic



Father Jacob Beator



Father Ryan Mann



Father Mike McCandless



Luke Brown
LPCC



Tommy Dome



Erin Hogan



Jim Hogan



Paul Koopman



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YCMC is an initiative to encourage and strengthen men in their Catholic life and how to live it in today's culture. With cooperation of religious, this event is wholly produced by a group of committed lay Catholics who recognize the vast challenges of Christian manhood.

Space is limited!
register:
ycmc.us

- 8:00 am Check-in and continental breakfast
- 9:00 am Welcome and keynote address
- 5:00 pm Event concluding Mass

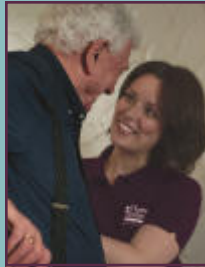


DADS & MENTORS are encouraged to join us for talks and resources tailored to those that are raising young men.

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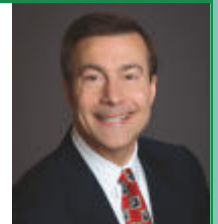
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