

the flame

ST. BLASE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ignite your faith | fan the flame

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 9TH, 2022

Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

Luke 3: 21-22



what we're about

THE LOVE OF
JESUS CHRIST
LEARN
LIVE
SING
SHARE **IT.**

find out more

 stblase.org
 [@stblaseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stblaseparish)
 [@saintblaseparish](https://www.instagram.com/saintblaseparish)
 [saintblasechurch](https://www.youtube.com/saintblasechurch)

WHAT'S GOING ON AT BLASE

January 9 | Create a Cover Submissions Due

January 10 | First Little Rock Meeting

January 15 | Memorial Garden Orders Due

January 24 | Coffee, Tea, & Theology

OFFICE HOURS

Week of Jan. 9th
Mon - Thurs: 9am-4pm
Friday: 9am-12pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm
Closed for lunch: 12-1
Sunday: 8:30am-12:30pm

MASS TIMES

Week of January 9th

Weekday Mass: 9:30am
Monday, Tuesday, & Friday

Saturday: 4:00pm
*Saturday's mass is livestreamed

Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am

Confessions: Saturday at 3:00pm

586.268.2244 | stblase.org | office@stblase.org
12151 E. 15 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48312

MASS Intentions



PRAYER Requests



SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 | Christmas Weekday
4:00 PM Eleanor Iwankowski
 Raymond Iwankowski, Sr.
 Ray Iwankowski, Jr.
 Sr. Mary Finn, HVM, 1 yr. anniversary
 Sr. Joan Butkiewicz
 Dominique Joseph
 Joseph Butrus
 Donia Yagoob
 Amir Yagoob
 Jammilah Jivjes
 Yagoob Hakeem
 Antonio Stepancich, Birthday
 Remembrance
 Henry Masakowski

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
9:00 AM Marie and Mel Rossman
 Stan Karasiewicz
 Carol Palazzolo
 Marilyn and Eddy Bieniewicz

11:00 AM Mr. and Mrs. Ahmed and Niloufer
 Khaled

MONDAY, JANUARY 10 | Weekday
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 | Weekday
9:30 AM Leo Schornak, 1 yr. anniversary

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 | Weekday
NO MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13 | Saint Hilary
NO MASS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 | Weekday
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15 | Weekday
4:00 PM Joseph Leo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 | SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM Grace Ruscito
 Ray Staskowski, Birthday Remembrance
 (1/13/2022)
 Marilyn and Eddy Bieniewicz
11:00 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

HOSPICE
 Genoveffa Todaro

HOSPITAL
 Claire Smith

EXTENDED CARE
 June Dupuis
 Kathleen Stephens
 Barbara Ritter
 Mary Cameron

Dorothy "Babe" Paolino
 Edward Farquhar
 Pauline Farquhar

AT HOME
 Luella Amato
 Josephine Armstrong
 Josie Bauman
 Stephen Beresh
 Robert Bergen
 Kermith Billette
 Linda Billette
 Yvonne Bova
 Renee Browning
 Colette Carroll
 Jerry Colzani
 Sam Criscenti
 Anna Curtis
 Norbert J. Dara
 Linda Diegel
 Marilyn Filipp
 Ethan Gehrke
 Fran Gross
 Phyllis Guzick
 Rosalie House
 Barbara Jarema
 Robert Jarema
 Ronald Johnson
 Michael Kovak
 Nancy Kramer

Josephine Kuhlman
 Lorenzo Lia
 Mary Ann Mann
 Phyllis Marek
 Lena Rose Marlow
 Anna Masakowski
 Agnes McGartland
 Jennie Miller
 Robert E. Newcomb
 Patricia Nowicki
 Julia Perna
 Sharon Petkoski
 Robert Priskey
 Alberto Ramos
 Helen Rocca
 Sue Ruvolo
 Sarah Serra
 Shelly Smith
 Kathleen Tiano
 Brody Trombley
 Sharon Turnas
 Eleanor Williams
 Joann Zelenak
 Libby Zelenak
 Pat Ziola

NEWLY Baptized



*Giovanni Thomas Crabill
 Son of Kristy & Kevin Crabill
 Baptized on January 2, 2022
 By Father Randy Phillips*



*Weston Gene White
 Son of Laura & Travis White
 Baptized on January 2, 2022
 By Father Randy Phillips*

RUMINATIONS



MERRY CHRISTMAS. Our fast, abbreviated Christmas Season concludes with today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Tomorrow (Monday) we return to Ordinary Time until Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 2nd.)

When you have an event and need to pull out more tables and chairs, you know it is a success. Our Christmas Extravaganza was. Many thanks to Steve Petrunak and Ben Ancona for their humor through which we laughed and groaned; Kelly Sakorafos, Kristen Zyskowski and all of our Liturgy Planning Committee who helped to make this holiday gathering warm and bright. "Disco Santa" was definitely a hit, as were the "snowball fights," word searches, miniature golf and other fun activities. Even the Grinch paid a visit, but didn't carve any roast beast, but did enjoy some hot chocolate! Our music ministry led everyone in singing Christmas carols which brought the diverse and many events of the evening into one. It was affirming and a sign of Christmas joy to see such a wonderful mix of children, teens, seniors and everyone in-between enjoying one another. Truly a graced night. Thanks to all who made it happen and to all who came and participated.

LAST CALL: ORDERS FOR MEMORIAL BRICKS MUST BE IN BY THE END OF THIS WEEK (JANUARY 15TH). This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones. The bricks will be part of our labyrinth and prayer garden. When completed, this will give us another outdoor setting for prayer and reflection. I do not know about you, but when I come across names in this kind of setting, I find it a summons to pray. These are not just names, but lives and loved ones who touched the lives of others. Even if I don't know them, I know they were or are part of our one human family held forever in God's eternal love.

The Incarnation is challenging. In the history of our Church, there are two great heresies (errors). Arianism denied the divinity of Christ, while Docetism denied Christ's humanity. Spiritually, most of us slide up or down this scale, leaning towards a Christ who is either more human or more divine. Merely affirming the Incarnation as a static dogma does not do it justice. Yes, we believe that Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully divine. Yet what this means and its ramifications for our faith and our life continues to unfold. It is not enough to get the concept in our heads (which is quite

challenging) but to be attentive to the ways this reality continues to speak to us in our day-to-day lives. Though the Season of Christmas concludes today, together with the repentant Ebenezer Scrooge, we continue to keep Christmas in our heart and try to keep it all the year. The Incarnation continues to touch and affect our lives.

2021 TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST

Please note: In an effort to save on the cost of printing, we do not print contribution statements unless you request one. To request a statement, please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office or give us a call at 586.268.2244. Please print clearly. Statements will be available for pick up in the Parish Office.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ENVELOPE NUMBER _____

I would like my contribution statement emailed.

PARISH DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

If you would like to be on the list to receive our monthly e-newsletter, please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office or call the Parish Office at 586.268.2244.

**This will not replace our weekly paper bulletin or weekly digital online bulletin.*

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

Memorial Garden

brick size 4" x 8": \$160-

14 characters/spaces per line - 3 lines maximum

brick size 8" x 8": \$225-

14 characters/spaces per line - 6 lines maximum

brick size 12" x 12": \$350-

22 characters/spaces per line - 10 lines maximum

Remember loved ones and mark their place in time. St. Blase is breaking ground on a new outdoor Memorial Garden, right next to the Labyrinth Prayer Garden. Order a personalized brick paver to be placed in the garden to commemorate them.

Please use this form to reserve your commemorative brick paver. One order form is needed per each individual brick paver. Select from 3 sizes and enter desired message in the appropriate boxes. The inscription on each brick paver is limited to the number of characters and spaces shown. Layout, font, and font size will be consistent on each to ensure overall balance.

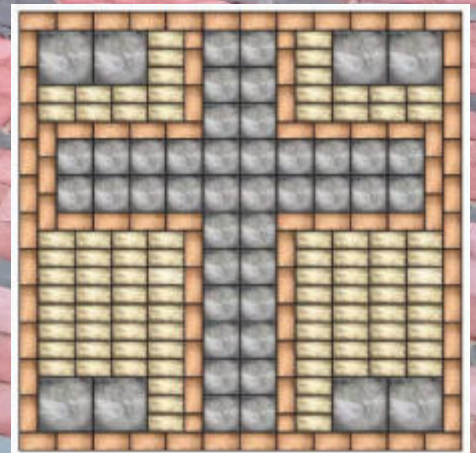
Ordered by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Brick Size: _____

Order by: January 15, 2022
Questions: Contact Parish Office (586) 268-2244



*Limited number of 8x8 and 12x12 paver bricks



Warming Center

January 9th -15th

This year, we will not be housing our guests in our building again because of Covid-19 restrictions.

The Macomb County Warming Center has partnered with MCREST and will be housing our homeless brothers and sisters in local hotels during the winter months. We will be handling things the same way as we did for our MCREST guests this past summer.

We will be providing breakfast and lunch for 120 people per day and delivering these food items to the MCREST office for them to distribute.

All donations will be used to buy the necessary items to feed our guests during our host week.

To donate, please visit our website at: stblase.org and click on the donation link.

Donations will also be accepted in the Parish Office. Make check payable to St. Blase Parish.



Thank you for your generosity!!



UPCOMING events



WINTER MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE

January 2nd - April 2nd

Donations Cards are available on the Information Counter in the Gathering Space for your convenience.

How it Works: "Simply" take a \$10 Donation card and bring it to any checkout at the Meijer store on Van Dyke and 16 Mile Road. The money that is donated will come directly back to St. Blase in the form of gift cards to help restock our pantry with the needed food items necessary to continue our mission of serving those in our community that need it most. The cards are also available inside the store at the check-out lanes.

Bonus Days Saturday, March 5, 2022 and Saturday, March 26, 2022 Meijer will generously match whatever amount we bring in during this Double Match Days!

WARMING CENTER

Starts January 9th | pg. 5



Starts January 10th

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

Our next Little Rock topic is "The Sermon on the Mount." In this five week session, we will hear the Sermon again as Christ intended, as our call to follow him and as a constant call to renewal.

Please register for the class in the Parish Office. Book price: \$15 each. Little Rock meets Mondays at 10 AM and this session begins January 10th through February 7th, 2022. We hope you'll join!

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Due January 15th

More details on pg. 4...



Saturday, January 22nd

MONTHLY GAME NIGHT

Game Night is back! Invite your friends! Bring your own games or use ours. Admission is \$5 per person and includes pizza, salad, dessert, and beverages. We'll start around 5:30 PM after the 4:00 PM Mass. **Please RSVP** by calling Don Rogowski at (586) 604-3952 or emailing Don at drogowski@yahoo.com. Thank you!

COFFEE, TEA & THEOLOGY

What do you want to know about the Catholic faith?

Have you ever wondered why or how something is done? Now is your time to ask! Bring your questions to our next Adult Faith Formation session.

We will have a panel discussion about Catholic teachings and other topics that the group wants to learn about.



JANUARY 24, 2022



7:00 PM- 9:00 PM



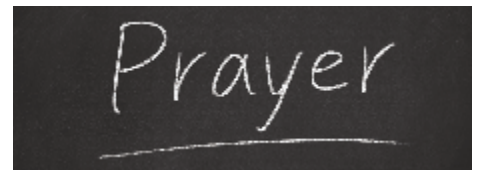
SOCIAL CENTER



Thursday, January 20th

FRIENDLY BLASERS

This group meets the first and third Thursday of the month in the Social Center. We get together to have lunch, chat, and sometimes play bingo. Our next meeting starts at 11:30 AM on January 20th. We love seeing new faces, so if your Thursdays are free, we'd love to see you there!



Tuesday, February 1st

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Our Men's Prayer Group led by Deacon Ed meets Tuesday, February 1st at 6:30 PM in the Thomas Merton Room. We will discuss Examen, the popular method of prayer from St. Ignatius of Loyola.

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY

BRIDGE CLUB GAME

Tuesday, February 1st

BRIDGE CLUB MEETING

Our next game is on Tuesday, February 1st from 11 AM - 2 PM. Those not vaccinated will arrange an offsite game on the website Bridge Base Online. If you need a partner or have questions, please call Neville and Doreen D'Souza (248) 689-4148

PLASTIC WITH A PURPOSE

February 7th, 2022

1:30 PM



CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA!

Today's Gospel marks the end of our Christmas season and we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. With the end of the Christmas season, we see a turning point in our church year. Ordinary time starts Monday, but remember, ordinary time is represented by the color green which signifies growth. One may think that nothing really happens because its "ordinary," but quite the opposite is true! We grow in our faith by reflecting on all that we learn at church, and that growth strengthens our relationship with God! Growth is a very good thing! Today's Gospel signals the start of a new season; a new moment in salvation history. Today's Gospel tells us of when Jesus began His "public" ministry. God reveals to us that Jesus is His Son and the time of change is happening!

We start the Gospel with the people asking themselves if John the Baptist may be the Christ. John answered them, "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." Don't confuse what John is doing with the sacrament of Baptism as what he is doing is more ritualistic. Ritual washing was part of the religious practices of that time, which we hear in our readings of the unclean to become clean. Jesus didn't "need" to be baptized; He is after all, God. However, Jesus is fully human and fully divine. What better way to show us the way to the Father? John was baptizing people to repent, while this baptism was obviously different, it was a reminder to the people of God's promise. John always pointed the people to Jesus and Jesus being baptized fulfilled his words to the people. Prepare the way of the Lord!

This event is mentioned in all four Gospels, which signifies its importance, and all four offer different perspectives. Luke's Gospel tells us that after Jesus was baptized, He was in prayer. It was then that "heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Jesus was in prayer, showing us again the importance of prayer. Also significant is that all the Trinity is present in this event: God the Father in the voice, God the Holy Spirit in the dove, and God the Son who is Jesus. What a way to declare the start of Jesus' public ministry! God is good!

Gospel Reflection

FAITH FORMATION

corner



Family Fun

Celebrate Baptism of the Lord

- Replace the family's advent candles with your baptism candles. Put sea shells around the wreath to symbolize water.
- Have a meal that uses pasta shells. Decorate the dinner table with sea shells and candles.
- Baptism is the first Luminous mystery of the rosary, celebrate by praying the Luminous mysteries of the rosary as a family, or at least one decade.



What is your favorite image of God in this week's readings? What is it about that image that brings you comfort?

Time to Chat

What is your relationship to the Holy Spirit? Do you pray to the Holy Spirit?

Hidden Pictures: Jesus' Baptism

Find these objects hidden in the picture below: book, clown's hat, fork, leaf, needle and thread, ring, plate, snail, star



PARISH OFFICE

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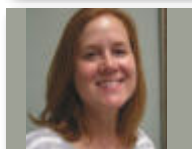


Alicia Bryson
Director of Youth Music Ministry
alicia.bryson@stblase.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Diann Chase.....X206
Director of Religious Education;
Coordinator for Grades 1-6, Middle School
Grades 7-8, & Confirmation
diane.chase@stblase.org



Kelly Sakorafos.....X227
P3 - K5 Early Childhood Coordinator
kelly.sakorafos@stblase.org



Anthony Howell.....X227
1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation



Christina Willson.....X227
1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation
cwillson54@gmail.com

BULLETIN SUBMISSION

Mass Intentions and Prayer Requests

If you are interested in adding a mass intention or prayer request to the bulletin, please contact the parish office directly. The deadline for these requests is Sunday at 12:30pm, or at least 7 days before the Sunday of Publication.

Bulletin Announcements and Ads

Requests for new announcements, or edits to recurring announcements must be submitted **at least 7 days before the Sunday of publication**. To submit a request for a bulletin announcement, please contact Sarah.

Announcements may be edited or redesigned. Recurring announcements will be included for up to two weeks unless otherwise specified.



Sarah Richard.....X219
Media & Communications
sarah.richard@stblase.org

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME							
	Presider	Coordinator	Lector	Altar Servers	Greeters	Musicians	Sacristan
Sat. Jan 15 4pm	Father Randy	Barb Francis	Kathy Tate Lily Ambrosio Ylen	Volunteer	Dick Palmer Genie Palmer	Remnant Music Ministry	Barb Francis
Sun. Jan 16 9am	Father Randy	Kathy Knodell	Ed Jozefczyk Barb Ziarko	Volunteer	Steve, Jennifer, Kevin, Tyler and Hudson Smart	Alicia Bryson Ann Lawler Maryanne Cukr Anne Marie Bedard	Nancy Yurconis
Sun. Jan 16 11am	Father Ken	Mary Pernicano	Bill Saoud Pat Boland Saoud	Volunteer	Mary Gesing	Joaquin Labasbas Maxenne Labasbas Steve Petrunak Alicia Bryson	Cindy Willman

CRISIS SUPPORT NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA).....	877-337-0611
Compassion Pregnancy Center.....	586-783-9620
Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan.....	248-338-4250
Domestic Violence – Turning Point.....	586-463-6990
Drug Addiction Support, Clinton Twp.....	1-800-558-0175
Problem Gambling Hotline.....	1-800-270-7117
Poison Control Hotline.....	800-222-1222
Suicide Prevention Hotline (24 hours).....	586-307-9100 or 800-273-TALK(8255)
Employment Services.....	800-285-WORKS (9675)
Free Legal Advice by Phone.....	1-800-ATTORNEY
Grief Counseling.....	www.griefshare.org
Hospice Services.....	888-247-5701
Immigration Services.....	800-375-5283
Meals on Wheels (Macomb County).....	586-469-5228
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Macomb.....	586-254-1500 (Offers numerous support services including: Food Assistance Hotline, Gamblers Anonymous, Urgent Care for Mental Health Conditions, Counseling for Survivors of Sexual Assault, Anxiety/ Depression Support Groups, & Refugee Assistance)
Project Rachel (Post Abortion Counseling).....	888-722-4355
Interfaith Caregivers (assist with grocery shopping and other daily tasks).....	586-757-5551
Senior Services in Macomb County (Lawn mowing, snow removal, transportation, etc.).....	586-469-6999
Good Shepherd Coalition (for eviction assistance, disconnected utilities, and other resources, Open Mon-Thurs).....	586-307-8888
THAW (The Heat & Warmth Fund) (for utility bill assistance).....	1-800-866-8429
Pope Francis Center (for food and other support services).....	313-963-5134

AROUND TOWN



January 14-16, 2022

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille is holding another Marriage Saving Weekend January 14-16, 2022 in the Metro Detroit Area. This Catholic ministry has been helping to save marriages effectively for 44 years. Visit HelpOurMarriage.org for more information.

January 21-22, 2022

ADRIAN DOMINICAN SISTERS

Adrian Dominican Sisters are hosting a “Zoom and See” weekend, Friday and Saturday, January 21-22, 2022. The virtual event offers opportunities to meet other women discerning God’s call; take time for prayer, reflection, silence, sharing, and fun; and to learn about the life of a Sister and the Dominican life. The weekend is free. You are our guests. Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/ADSDiscern>. For information, email Sister Katherine Frazier, OP, Vocation Co-director, at kfrazier@adriandominicans.org or call or text 260-229-3045.

STEWARDSHIP



Month of November

Budgeted Offertory:	\$55,428.00
Actual Offertory:	\$43,724.20
2021-2022 YTD Budget	\$281,391.00
2021-2022 YTD Actual	\$247,380.00

Annual Budget

2021-22 Offertory:	\$655,590.00
Christmas Offertory:	\$150,000.00
Total 2021-22 Budget	\$805,590.00

Catholic Services Appeal

Our Goal:	\$107,763.00
Total Pledged:	\$100,578.00
Total Number of Pledges:	429

Please consider donating to this year's CSA 2021. If we do not meet our target, we must pay the shortfall. Thank you.

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