



# THE CATHOLIC VOICE

## ST. SABINA PARISH

Dearborn Heights, MI  
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*Faith & Hospitality*



SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

## 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

*In today's First Reading, we hear Isaiah proclaim that the chosen one, imbued with God's spirit, will bring justice, establish a covenant, and free those who dwell in darkness. Listening to his words, we marvel at how Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecies, but also realize how Jesus and the Holy Spirit can work through us to bring light, blessing, and justice to all.*

*Today's Second Reading combines two readings from Christmas, when we celebrated the birth of God's Son in our world. Today, in the context of this holy feast, when we hear Paul tell Titus that we were saved by the bath of rebirth and renewed by the Holy Spirit, we realize what a gift we have been given. Jesus began his ministry after receiving the Holy Spirit. We received the Holy Spirit in baptism and confirmation. May what God has so richly poured out on us bear fruit in our lives.*

**Saturday, January 8, Baptism of the Lord****Confessions are by Appointment Only**

**4:00 p.m. Mass**—+Ceil Kobylarz—by Jimmy Mondro  
 +Al and Helen Edwards—by Debbie & Alan Edwards

**Sunday, January 9, Baptism of the Lord**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Walter Moretti—by Tom and Nancy Bobee  
 +Patricia Balogh—by Joyce Cook

**11:00 a.m. Mass**—+Mark Sharp—by Myrtle Granger  
 +Ronald Fronczak—by Rich and Joanne Fronczak  
 +George Cremona—by Fran Stefanski

**Monday, January 10, Weekday**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Henrietta Swieczkowski, Marie Schettenhelm—by  
 Favor Family

+Terrie Klocek—by Tom and Angela Klocek

**Tuesday, January 11, Weekday**

**6:30 p.m. Mass**—+Audrey Maihofer—by Tom & Nadine Northrup  
 +Mary Gale—by Frances Pulis

**Wednesday, January 12, Weekday**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Jeanette Niemiec—by Mary K. Lynch  
 +Deacon George Cochrane—by Family

**Thursday, January 13, Weekday**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Patrick Foley—by Chris & Liz Fulks,  
 Lauren Fulks, Jenna Fulks

**Friday, January 14, Weekday**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Gloria Lopez (6th Anni.) - by Family  
 +Dobosz, Najduk & Zajac Families—by Mary Ann Owens

**Saturday, January 15, Weekday**

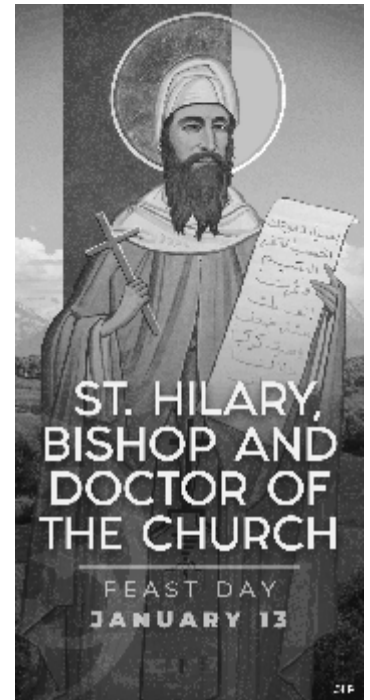
**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Deceased St. Sabina Parishioners  
 (Privately celebrated at Mariannahill Chapel) ©LPi

**Saturday, January 15, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time****Confessions are by Appointment Only**

**4:00 p.m. Mass**—+Patrick Foley—by Rita Foley

**Sunday, January 16, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30 a.m. Mass**—+Paul Kuchta—by Fred Nitz  
 +Virginia Favor—by St. Sabina Queenship of Mary Guild  
**11:00 a.m. Mass**—+Cunningham Family—by Florence Cunningham  
 +Robert Iafrate—by Fabiano Gentile



Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX. ©LPi

*Heavenly God, may  
 you be pleased with  
 us, your baptized chil-  
 dren, and bless us  
 with your generosity,  
 through him whose  
 baptism we recall to-  
 day, Jesus Christ our  
 Lord.*





## From the Bullpen

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord! Jesus emerges from the waters of the Jordan and a voice from heaven declares: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” What did Jesus do that brought forth such a declaration? One answer came a few weeks ago when we celebrated the birth of Christ. God asked Jesus in becoming human, while maintaining His divine nature, and rebuild what was broken by Adam and Eve’s disobedience.

Through Jesus’ obedience, He became the light that would conquer the darkness of sin. His obedience is what pleases God, but it is Jesus’ selflessness that affirms what pleases God.

Jesus lowered Himself by becoming human and in sharing that humanity, He ate and drank; slept and rose; laughed and cried. In sharing all things, Jesus would teach us in seeking forgiveness. He allowed John the Baptist in immersing Him into the waters for our cleansing. Jesus gave us the example in how we allow the baptismal waters not only to cleanse us, but how we become Jesus’ heirs to His Kingdom.

This event demonstrates how Jesus is the Good Shepherd as well. As Shepherd, Jesus is leading the sheep of His flock to the baptismal waters so we cleanse and repent for the sins we committed. Jesus is telling us this is how you return to my Father by saying: I am sorry and immersing ourselves into the baptismal waters, more specifically dipping our fingers into the holy water fonts. It is what I love about this passage because Jesus is showing by taking us by the hand and leading not just to the waters, but to the Kingdom.

While I am not here this weekend, I will be praying for the parish family while vacationing with my nephew. Christopher and I are hoping to see some sporting events and resting from the large number of funerals I celebrated in 2021. Even before departing, I was informed that my high school classmate died after a

long battle from injuries suffered when he was involved in a car accident several years ago. Also, one of my friends from the seminary, was killed January 2nd when travelling to his parish for his morning Mass. Both deaths were unexpected, but reminds me how precious life is and every moment should be cherished.



God Bless You, Fr. Jim



*Right to Life -*  
**LIFESPAN**

### Annual Rose Mass is January 19

All are welcome to join *LIFESPAN* for the **Rose Mass** hosted by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial Rd. at Beck Rd. in Plymouth on Wednesday, January 19 at 6 p.m. The Rose Mass features the moving Rose Ceremony in which 49 representatives process to a crib in front of the altar one-by-one with red roses in commemoration for all the preborn lives lost in each year of legalized abortion from 1973 to 2022 while a brief reflection is read. If you've never been, this Mass is a must for Catholic profilers and witnessing the Rose Ceremony is well worthwhile for Christians of all faith traditions. Call 734-422-6230 or email [wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org) for more information.

## **KNIGHTS' CORNER**

### **Born of the Spirit!**

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord Jesus. John baptized Jesus to fulfill the Scriptures.

Jesus gave us that example in order that we might be baptized into the Faith as well. When we are born in the flesh, we are flesh, our baptism is the day we are born again in the Spirit and become adopted children of God the Father. We are washed clean of original sin and come under the salvation Jesus obtained for us by His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This is the birth of our Hope and Joy in the Lord! May we hold the GIFT of our baptism in our hearts today and always!

COMING SOON: Knights' Annual Superbowl Party at St. Linus – Stay tuned for more details! If you are an adult Catholic male that would like to join the Knights of Columbus Father Veryser Council at St. Linus and St. Sabina's, please reach out to any of us that you see around the Parish. Joining the Knights is a terrific way to socialize, grow in Spirituality, and to participate in many rewarding works of Charity and Mercy. We look forward to counting you as a brother! God Bless You and your families and we pray that you continue to grow in Faith and Love!

### **St. Sabina Parish Contribution Statement 2021 Request Form**

**YES, I would like a copy of my contribution statement reflecting donations made to St. Sabina Church during this past year 2021.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** Upon receiving this request, a copy of your contribution statement may be picked up at the parish office during regular business hours. If you wish to have your statement mailed, kindly notify the parish office by simply putting a self-addressed, stamped envelope in the regular collection bag on the weekend. A statement will be mailed to you at that time. Also, donations made to the Catholic Services Appeal 2021 will not be reflected on this statement. Those are mailed out by the Archdiocese of Detroit. However we are able to give you the amount contributed to CSA 2021 for verification purposes. We appreciate your presence among us, thanking you abundantly for your continued support to St. Sabina Parish.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

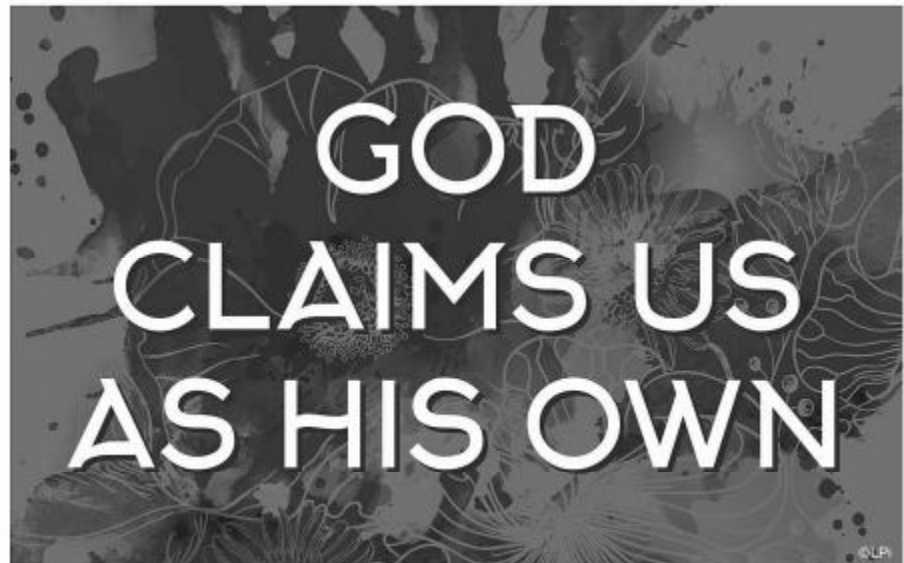
### ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

*"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ."*

— Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death,



the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper pace of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what

baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us unpopular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

*"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

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

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— — — — —

**READ THE  
GOSPEL AND  
COMPLETE A  
PUZZLE!**

— — — — —

*For kids—young and old*

**Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:**

JOHN  
MESSIAH  
BAPTIZING

WATER  
POWERFUL  
SANDALS

HOLY SPIRIT  
FIRE  
JESUS

A	J	T	U	A	R	B	Y	W	E	N
H	O	L	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T	O
E	H	A	I	T	O	S	U	F	A	M
J	N	E	G	Y	W	A	T	E	R	E
I	Y	B	E	H	E	U	P	L	M	S
H	S	I	N	U	R	M	O	A	Y	S
J	U	P	A	W	F	I	R	E	C	I
E	M	O	Z	T	U	Y	M	S	U	A
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	E	O	T	H
U	D	Y	T	O	E	A	N	G	E	D
S	O	B	A	P	T	I	Z	I	N	G

**SHARING THE GOSPEL**

Your Dad says, "Wash your hands, please. It is almost time to eat." After you wash your hands really well, your Dad smiles. He says, "That's my boy. You did a good job!" In today's Gospel, it was time for Jesus to be baptized.

After his baptism, Jesus talked to God his Father in prayer. Jesus did everything his Father asked. God was happy with his Son and said, "I'm pleased with you."

**PRAYER**

God, I want to make you and my parents happy.

**MISSION  
FOR THE WEEK**

Find out what makes God happy. As a family, read John 15:9-12.





**St. Sabina  
Mission Statement**

*We become the Real Presence of Christ through prayer, education, worship, and service. Gathering in Christ's name we share our time and talents with our community, and welcome all.*

**St. Sabina Catholic Church**  
**Fr. James Lopez, Pastor**  
**Rev. Mr. Matthew Wisniewski**  
**Permanent Deacon**  
 25605 Ann Arbor Trail  
 Dearborn Heights MI 48127  
 Mass Saturday 8:30 am  
 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm  
 Sunday Masses—8:30 & 11:00 am  
 Confessions Heard by Appointment Only

**Parish Office Contact Info**  
 8191 Kinmore St.  
 Dearborn Heights MI 48127  
 Phone: 313.561.1977  
 Fax: 313.561.1315  
 pastor@saintsabina.org  
 secretary@saintsabina.org  
 Office Hours: 9a—4p Mon.—Fri.

**Rectory**  
 25605 Ann Arbor Trail  
 Dearborn Heights MI 48127

**Parish Website:**  
[www.stsabina.weconnect.com](http://www.stsabina.weconnect.com)

**Music Minister**  
 Joanie Iwankovitsch 313.408.1222  
**Custodian**  
 Bob Trzcieski 313.722.5199

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 Joe Frederickson (Vice Chairperson)  
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 313.529.8873  
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From the desk  
of Fr. Don

**HOW DO WE LIVE IN FAITH?**

**More than any other theme,** Jesus taught the presence and availability of the Reign or “Kingdom” of God. All scholars seem to agree on this. He dared to say that you can live in this right now.

**That’s quite amazing** and not what we think. Most organized religion pushed the kingdom into the future and made it equal to “heaven.” That is exactly what Jesus is **not** saying! “The kingdom of God is now, although not fully now!”

**Our only assurance** for what happens later is that we have begun to touch and live it now. This is the peace and serenity of the saints, even under trial.

**The word for living in this way,** living in the “in-between” with trust and surrender, is called **Faith**. Forget for the moment about believing in the Immaculate Conception, the role of the Papacy, any Atonement theory, or Biblical inerrancy. Those may all be true, but they’re not what Jesus is talking about here.

**Jesus is talking about** the grace and the freedom to live God’s dream for the world - while not rejecting this wounded world as it is. That’s a tension that is not easily resolved. It is the lovely, intimate, and spacious place that Jesus invites doubting Thomas into when he tells Thomas to physically “touch” him in the very place of the wounds.



Dear St. Sabina Parishioners  
and Friends

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to you for your kindness and generosity shown this Christmas Season. I thank you for your Christmas greetings, gifts, cards, and especially your prayers.

All my best wishes to everyone for a Happy and Healthy New Year 2022.

God’s Blessings, Fr. Don

**Weekend Lector Schedule  
January 16 2022**

4:00 p.m. Raul & Erica Bravo  
 8:30 a.m. Val Schuster  
 11 a.m. Marilyn Honoway

**Weekend Eucharistic Minister Schedule  
January 16 2022**

4:00 p.m. M. A. Owens, T. Ostafinski,  
K. Policicchio  
 8:30 a.m. M. Koss, P. Koss, K. Laczowski  
 11 a.m. L. Tallieu, J. Chackunkal, M. Lizbinski

*May Jesus be the source of strength for those who suffer from heavy burdens of life, a haven of hope and light in darkness. Keep all the sick, those in the hospital, the homebound, and those awaiting surgery in your thoughts and prayers. “Heavenly Father, we lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace. In Jesus’ name, Amen!*

Sr. M. A. Ankoviak  
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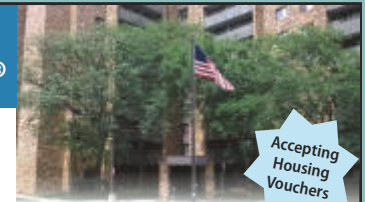
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