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OFFICE HOURS:

Mon–Thu: 8:00 AM–12 noon & 1–4 PM; Fri: Office Closed

Offices located at 208 E. Edith • Lafayette, LA 70508

JANUARY 9, 2022 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

PARISH MINISTERS

Rev. William Schambough*Pastor*
Deacon Keith Duhon*Deacon*
Chenell Privat*Secretary to the Pastor*
Sandra Smith*Bookkeeper*
Eva Green*Coordinator of 1st-11th Grade Religion*
Celeste Fortier*Safe Environment Coordinator*
John Buroker*Choir Director*

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION: Saturday from 3:00–3:55 pm, 20 minutes before daily Mass and by appointment, (please call the office).

BAPTISM: Preparation for the sacrament is provided to parents held in the evenings. (See bulletin for time and place.) Parents are encouraged to attend during pregnancy, to avoid undue delays.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: For Anointing, death, or in case of an emergency please call the parish office.

MARRIAGE: Couples planning marriage are asked to contact the pastor or deacon at least six months before.

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

Saturday:.....4:00 p.m.
Sunday:8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.

****Weekday Mass Change due to COVID:**

Monday & Friday 6:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:.....8:30 a.m.
Holy Days:..... 6:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME, VISITORS.

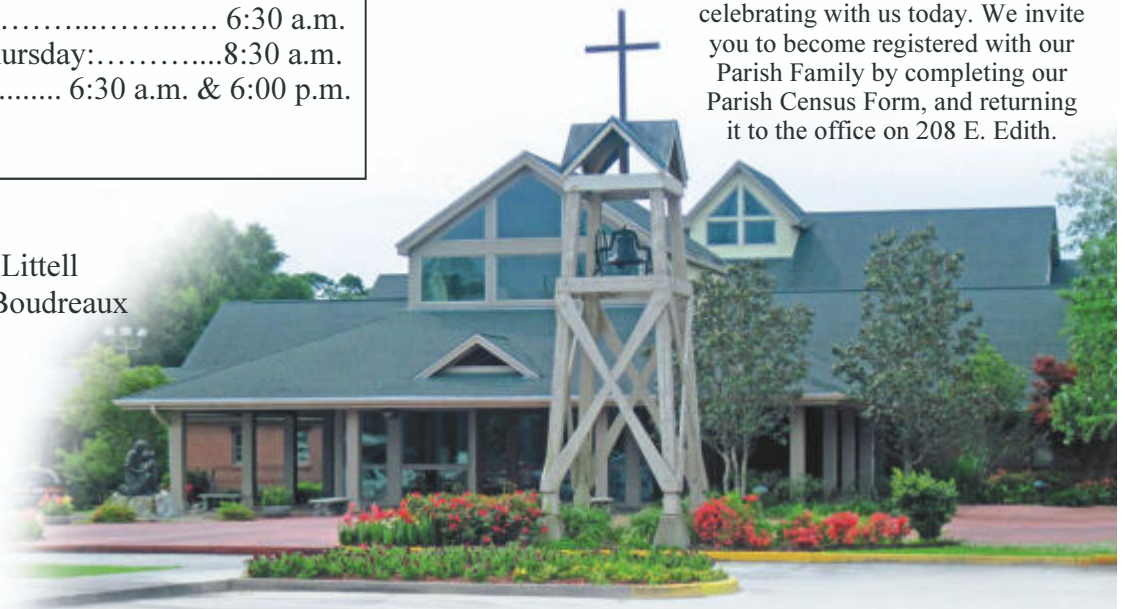
We extend a warm welcome to the individuals and families who are celebrating with us today. We invite you to become registered with our Parish Family by completing our Parish Census Form, and returning it to the office on 208 E. Edith.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pam Begnaud Trista Littell
Bob Cole Troy Boudreaux
Dan Guidry
Steve LeMaire

PARISH TRUSTEES

Linda Desormeaux
Robert Landry



The Baptism of the Lord

“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 place 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 popular. 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.

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Our Gift Back to God

Offertory	\$ 14,428.00
Mailed/Dropped in Office	+ 2,925.00
Total (January 2nd)	\$17,353.00
Weekly Goal	\$12,000.00
Plus/Minus Our Goal	+\$5,353.00
Offertory (December 24th & 25th)	\$15,970.50
Offertory (December 26th)	\$13,497.85
Religious Education	\$ 3,713.00

Thank You!

Jesus, whom God called “my beloved Son,” is also the “servant” of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. We who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in the service of God and neighbor.

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 Intention

Weekend of January 8 & 9, 2022
Sat. 4 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. for the intentions listed,
Sun. 10:30 a.m. for our parish (Pro Populo)

Gertrude Boudreaux, Mabry, Tina Simon & Children (Her Birthday), John Joseph Quinn, Therian LaFleur, Jacquelyn Albert, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Cameron Bailey, Dale Broussard, Mena & Murphy Courts, Geraldine (Gerry) Foreman, Joseph & Vivian Johnson, Steven Gael Broussard

Weekday Masses

Monday 10	Vocations to the Priesthood
Tuesday 11	Claire Maraist
Wednesday 12	Sick of the Community
Thursday 13	St. Joseph Parish
Friday 14	Vocations to the Priesthood

Sanctuary Candle

Previous Priests

Please Pray For The Sick

Dolores Benoit Luby Landry Guy McKeon
 Lilly Mae Romero Enola G. Bernard Gail Anslem
 Mary Belle Broussard Mary Trahan Sara LaCroix
 Phillip LaCour, Sr. Norval Knapp Heather Herrick
 Bernice Blanchard Richard Terry Broussard
 Jeff Harrell Mike Blanchard Lynn Broussard
 David McKeon Lucille Fabacher
 Rita Randazzo Sheryl Palmisano

Elderberries Organizational Meeting There will be an organizational meeting of the Elderberries on Tuesday, **January 11th**, at 9:30 a.m. in the Life Center. If you would like to join our group, please attend this meeting.

The Next Baptism Seminar will be held on Thursday, **January 13th**, at 6:30 p.m. in Church. Parents are encouraged to attend during pregnancy in order to avoid any delays.

A Pro-Life Baby Bottle Fundraising Campaign will be held the weekend of **January 15th** to benefit our local pregnancy resource center and the operation of a maternity home for homeless, pregnant women. All of the services are free of charge. Together, they will provide pregnancy testing, counseling, ultrasound imaging, STD and abstinence education, shelter, food, and other services to pregnant women in need. Baby bottles will be available after all masses and may be returned the following weekend with a donation.

2022 Diocesan Pro-Life Rally and Walk Our annual Diocesan Pro-Life Rally/March/Prayer Service will start at Parc International on Saturday, **January 15th**. The rally will begin at 9:00 a.m. and it will end with us marching from Parc International to the Cathedral. We should arrive at the Cathedral for 11:30 a.m. where Bishop Deshotel will greet the participants on the steps of the Cathedral, and begin the prayer service. The prayer service will end at 12:30 p.m., then we will meet back on the streets and march to the federal courthouse. Once there, we will pray for our Nation. We will then head back to Parc International.

Events This Week

Mon. (10th): Mass 6:30 a.m.
3rd, 4th & 5th CCD

Tues. (11th): Mass 8:30 a.m.
1st & 2nd CCD
Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.

Wed: (12th): Mass 8:30 a.m.
Adoration 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Thurs. (13th): Mass 8:30 a.m.
Baptism Seminar
6:30 p.m. Church

Fri. (14th): Mass 6:30 a.m.
Parish Office Closed

Sat. (15th): Mass 4:00 p.m.
Baby Bottle Campaign

Sun. (16th): Mass: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
and 5:00 p.m.
Baby Bottle Campaign

THANK YOU!!

Fr. Schambough is graciously overwhelmed by the generosity of our parishioners at Christmastime and especially the generosity to our parish by your gifts, your tithing, and your attendance at so many of our liturgies. I tried to write thank you notes but there are so many cards and gifts this year - I will offer a private Mass later this month for your intentions and look forward to experiencing the graces of the new year with all of you!

Word of Life “Abortion affects countless marriages, more than many people recognize. But God’s grace can bring true healing in relationships. Learn more at respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage or find help via goo.gl/XPyrMb.” *May all who suffer from participating in abortion turn to God’s loving forgiveness.*

Knights of Columbus Youth Leadership Award The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council 12163 would like to invite high school seniors to compete in the Catholic Youth Leadership Award. There will be two winners (male and female) chosen from our parish who will each receive a \$100 prize. The winners will move onto the Diocesan level and those winners will go onto state. The Diocesan prize is \$1000. The State prizes are \$4,000 for 1st Place, \$3,000 for 2nd Place, and \$2,000 for 3rd Place. There will be a male and female winner awarded at all levels. Applications can be downloaded from the KC website at <https://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cyla/>. They must be printed, signed, and dropped off at church in the KC drop box **located in the gathering area**. Deadline for receiving applications is **January 25, 2022**. For more information please contact Derek Meche at mechetelecom@gmail.com. Additional information is also available at the KC website listed above. Good luck and God Bless!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday’s Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11



Abide Women’s Conference

Women of Acadiana, join us for the Abide Women’s Conference **February 4th-6th** at the Doubletree Hotel in Lafayette. Conference speakers include award winning author Kathryn Whitaker; Fr. Justin Brady from Idaho who has extensive knowledge in Theology of the Body, and more! Visit <https://www.abidewomensconference.org/> for more information. Space is limited. Register today.

St. Joseph Website Please visit our Parish Website at www.stjo-milton.org. You will find lots of great information from calendars of current and upcoming events, religious ed registration forms, census forms, bulletins, and much more. This is a great way to stay informed!



Thought of the Week Don’t allow yourself to wake up with yesterday’s issues troubling your mind. Refuse to live backwards, see everyday as a new chapter.



“A priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you.” - Cure’ of Ars

Please Pray for Our Priest:

- Rev. George Ajuruchi, SSJ
- Rev. Ambrose Akalawu, CSSP
- Rev. Alexander Albert
- Rev. Thainese Alphonse
- Rev. Anthony Anala, SVD
- Rev. Rick Andrus, SVD
- Rev. Henry Anthony, HGN

Baptismal Bib

Question: 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?

Answer: 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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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



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