



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

January 12, 2020 The Baptism of the Lord

The Mission of the Holy Spirit Parish Community

As the family of the Holy Spirit Parish Community, we welcome all to our home, Christ's home. Our journey in Faith brings us together through prayer, Eucharistic celebration, support, love and caring. We commit to give generously of ourselves, our time, and talent to one another, and to all in our neighborhood.

May the Holy Spirit guide and comfort us in our never ending journey for peace and strength as witnesses for God's goodness.

PASTOR
Rev. Joseph D. Wolf

DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRIES
Sr. Katherine Marie Bogner, SSMN

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Karen Adamski

PARISH SECRETARY
Karen Cheman

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
Rasa Stalygiene
(716) 773-3858

PARISH CENTER/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(716) 875 - 9478

RECTORY
91 Dakota Street

Phone: (716) 875-8102/Fax: 875-4186
Email: holyspirit.northbuffalo@verizon.net
Web site: www.holyspiritchurchbuffalo.com

NOVENA: Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Followed by Mass at 6:15p.m.

CONFESSIONS: Every Saturday beginning at 3:15p.m.(Holy Spirit Church)

Every Sunday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. (St. Margaret Church)

SICK CALLS: Phone rectory immediately in case of serious illness or accident. Also please let us know if you are confined at home and would like Communion brought to you.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance at the rectory. Attendance at Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter is required.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: If you are asked to be a Godparent, please call the rectory for your letter of recommendation, which attests that you are Baptized, Confirmed, and, if married, married in the Church. Of course your weekly presence at Mass here is vital to being a good role model as Godparent.

BAPTISMS: Please call the rectory to schedule your pre-Baptismal Class. Baptisms are normally celebrated on Sundays at 12:15pm, or during one of the weekend Masses.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome all newcomers to our parish family and invite you to register as a member of the parish. Please stop by the rectory and introduce yourself!

OLD PARISHIONERS: If you are moving out of the parish, please notify the rectory by phone as soon as possible.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays: 4:00 p.m. (Holy Spirit)
Sundays: 8:00 a.m. (St. Margaret)
..... 9:30 a.m. (St. Margaret)
..... 11:00 a.m. (Holy Spirit)
Holy Day Masses: Consult the bulletin.
Weekdays: Mon., & Thurs., 8:00 a.m.
(St. Margaret)
..... Wed., 6:15 p.m. (Holy Spirit)
..... Fri., 8:00 a.m. (Holy Spirit)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m. Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, January 14

8:00a.m. ~ Communion Service (Sr. Katherine Marie)

Wednesday, January 15

6:15p.m. ~ Deceased Members of Manzella Family
req. The Family

Friday, January 17 St. Anthony

7:30a.m. ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Church

8:00a.m. ~ All Souls

Saturday, January 18

4:00p.m. ~ John V. LoTempio req. Gaetana & Carmela
Campanella

Joseph Gigante (Anniversary Remembrance)

req. Family

Sunday, January 19 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00a.m. ~ Maria Mantione req. Lina Privitera

Gabby Parisi req. Andrea DeMarco

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, January 18

4:00p.m. ~ Rosie Kieffer

Sunday, January 19

11:00a.m. ~ Forest Lovullo; Andrew Santa
Maria



MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, January 18

4:00p.m. ~ Mary Ellen Loncto

Sunday, January 19

11:00a.m. ~ Hedy Auletta



EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 18

4:00p.m. ~ Nick Macchia; Carmen Manzella; Cathy Sliz

Sunday, January 19

11:00a.m.~ Mike Delmont; Carmela Lunetta; Rita Riley;
Mary Senger; Ray Schwartzott



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Jo-Ann Mangione from Manzella Family

FREE SPIRITS NEWS

Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 13th @ 12noon in Church Hall. Doors open at 11:30am. Join us for Lunch/50/50/bingo.

- ⇒ **Bake Sale** weekend of **Feb. 15th & 16th.**
- ⇒ **Feb. 25th - Seneca Niagara Casino**-Payment deadline **Feb 1st.** \$25 (includes \$30 slot play and buffet)
- ⇒ **Mar. 22nd - Lancaster Opera House** Matinee performance of Nunsensations "The Nonsense Vegas Revue" payment deadline **Feb. 13th.** \$38

FOOD PANTRY... Can you help stock our shelves with the following items: **canned fruit; tuna fish; spaghetti sauce**



Whatever you do for one of my least brothers or sisters, you do for me" (Jesus)

Team IA: Sr. Katherine Marie; Norm Matuszewski; Rita Riley; Laura Zeitler work 1/16/20 9am - 10am.

Team IB: Sheila Blum, Mary Burger; Teresita Morales; Jamie Ridout work 1/16/20 5pm - 6pm

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 12

9:30-10:45am ~ Religious Education
Classes ~ Parish Ctr.

Wednesday, January 15

7:00p.m. ~ Bible Study ~ Winter Chapel

Thursday, January 16

9:00 - 10:00a.m. ~ Food Pantry

5:00 - 6:00p.m. ~ Food Pantry

6:00p.m. ~ Adult Choir practice ~ Church

Sunday, January 19

No Religious Education classes due to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday



**The Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2020**



The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is "to be our model of holiness." All of Jesus' words and actions model

for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we're meant to *be*. Jesus' baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. "This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased." And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit's grace and power to continue Christ's mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let's do as Jesus did. Let's live in our baptism!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JAN 13 - JAN 19

- Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17
- Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

BIBLE STUDY...Our Bible Study group will meet on Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00pm in the Winter Chapel. We continue our study of the 1st Book of Samuel and read about Hannah and her son, Samuel... these are wonderful stories, full of faith and love.

RCIA...A prayer for the beginning of a new year:
"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'"

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS...Today is the Parent Meeting at 9:30am in the Winter Chapel.
There are no classes next week, January 19, due to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

2020 CHURCH ENVELOPES are now in the back of Church for you to pick up. If you don't find a box with your name please sign the sheet on the table.

HELP FOR YOUR MARRIAGE. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? **Retrouvaille** helps couples through difficult times. For more information, call 716-474-9371 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org. All calls are confidential and pre-registration is required. Next weekend date is February 14-16.



A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

One of my earliest memories, from the days before I learned how to read, is that of Sunday mornings and my father reading the comics to my older brother, John, and me. In those days the only Sunday paper was the Courier Express. And I think my father referred to the comics as "the funnies," or maybe that is what they were called back then. So, when we got home from Mass at Fourteen Holy Helpers in Gardenville, John would sit on my father's left knee and I would sit on his right one. And Dad would read "the funnies" to us. It is only for this reason that I still find myself reading "The Family Circus" in the Sunday Comics section of the Buffalo News. Last Sunday's struck me as particularly poignant. The scene was that of the Christmas decorations being taken down and stored for another year: the ornaments into the compartmentalized boxes, toys scattered *everywhere*. In the midst of this chaos, one of the children entertains his siblings with, "...Then, after Jeffy's birthday comes Easter, then it's vacation time and then PJ's birthday, Dolly's birthday, and **MY** birthday, then comes Halloween and then it's Christmas again!" There is always the temptation to rush ahead.

To the external observer or visitor, it perhaps appears strange that the church is still decorated for Christmas. After all, stores have long-ago marked down their Christmas merchandise, and are already pushing us toward the next season (or two). But the Catholic Church acts from the perspective of 2,000 years of human experience. And one of the lessons learned from such a long history is that some events were (and are) so monumental, so important, that we should take time to enter into the mystery and be profoundly changed in the process. The birth of God's Eternal and Invisible Son in time, taking on a visible, audible human nature like our own, is in fact far more remarkable than could ever be grasped on just Christmas Day. And so our manger has stayed in place, quietly inviting each of us to ponder yet again the message of a God so radically in love with each person.

Some years back, there was a nationwide billboard campaign of a religious nature. On each was a phrase or quote or insight, followed by the signature, "God." But of all the humorous and thought-provoking messages, the one that received the widest and most welcome reception by far was simply the billboard that said, "I love you. I love you. I love you. Signed, God"

Today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the Church's official end of the Christmas Season. Tomorrow begins the season of "Ordinary Time." Is there some spiritual insight, some lesson learned from this past Christmas that we want to carry with us into our daily lives? If so, try to hold on to that lesson while hearing again the closing words from Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan, when the Father's voice was heard, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Sincerely in Christ,
 Father Joe

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY

Hebrews 13:16: *"Do not neglect good deeds and generosity. God is pleased with sacrifices of that kind."*



Offertory Collection:\$4,522.00
 The same week a year ago:\$5,216.50

2019 TAX STATEMENTS

Tax Statements will be available starting January 1, 2020. If you need a copy printed for your 2019 tax preparations, please fill out the bottom portion of this box and put it in an envelope in the weekend collection (Attn: Karen) or call the rectory office during regular business hours to request a statement (875-8102).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____



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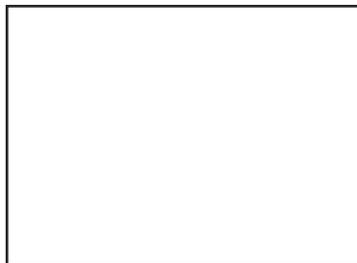
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