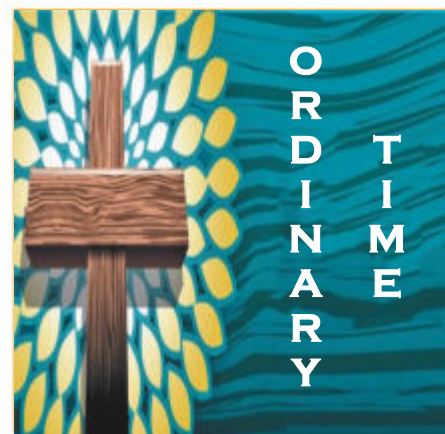


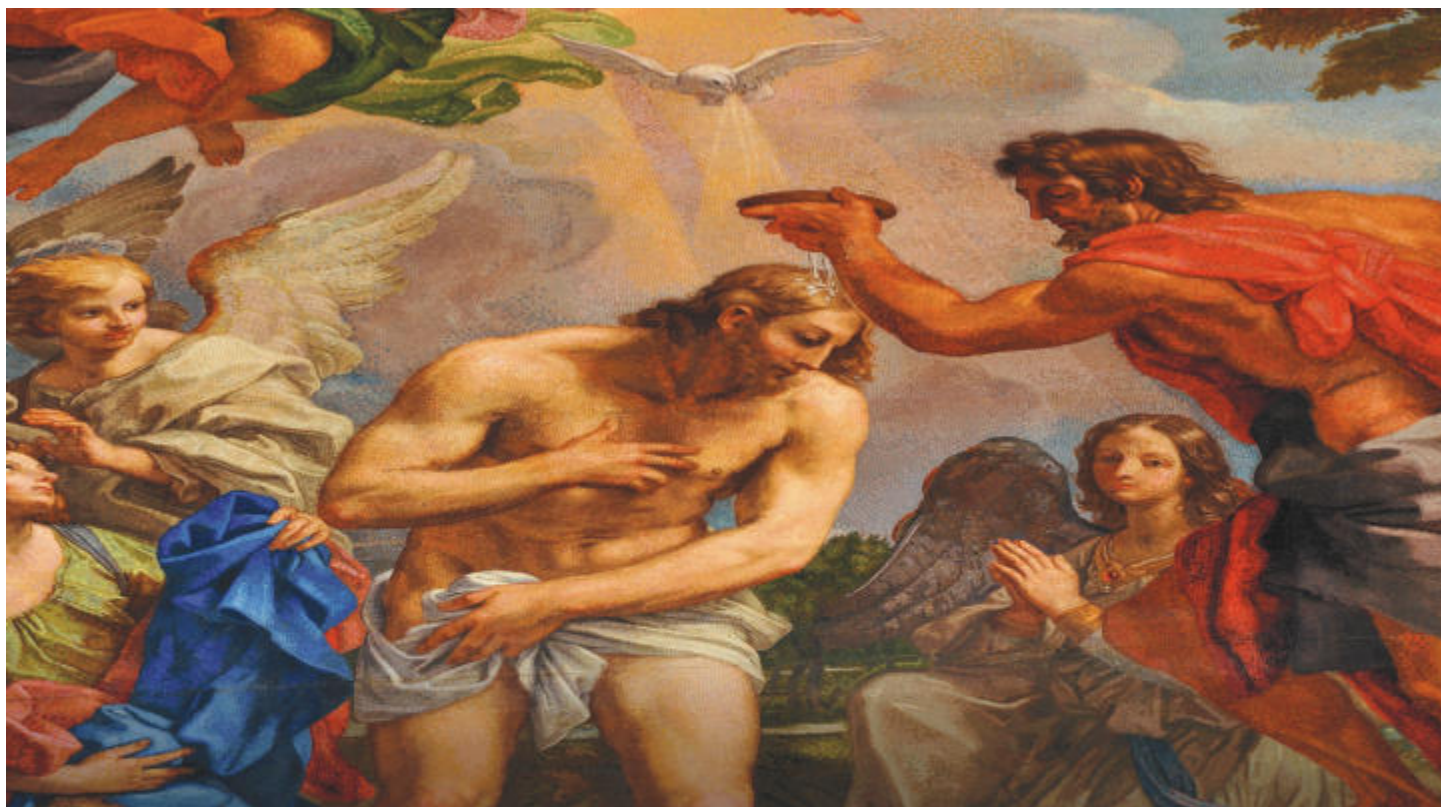
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Toni Drzewiecki, *Executive Assistant*
Jennifer Lang, *Director of Faith Formation*
Bill Morris, *Director of Buildings & Grounds*
Thomas J. Mudd, Jr., *Director of Music*



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

Masses: Sat. 4:00pm (Vigil), Sun. 8:30am & 10:30am
Weekday: 8:30am (M-F) Reconciliation: Sat. 3:00pm



From the Desk of Fr. John

Greetings on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today we remember our own Baptism, celebrate Christ's Baptism, and launch out from the Christmas Season into the wonderment of Ordinary Time. Baptism celebrates our life-long faith journey, and our "dying and rising" in the Baptismal waters to a new life in Christ. The Readings speak of life, with the Gospel climaxing on the verse of God the Father, "You are My beloved Son." On this last day of the Christmas Season, how you will be open to allow Christ to be more manifested in your life? Ordinary Time can be that beginning to a new Season of change in your own life.

This Weekend will change our Altar décor, and Christmas decorations will be shortly removed. At all the Weekend Masses we invite you to take your Ornament from the Parish Christmas Tree home (*but keep it handy so you can bring it back next year*), and we also invite you to take a fresh poinsettia home. They are still beautiful plants and allow you to continue Christmas at home. May they beautify your home.

This Weekend we will also begin selling chances for the upcoming "Oklahoma!" Musical at Shea's Buffalo. The Raffle is \$2/chance, and 3 chances for \$5.00 (sold after Masses). Please also save the date for Vera Bradley Bingo on Feb. 27th. Vera Bradley handbags are expensive, and you won't want to miss this fun time. Save the date and join in!

Merry Christmas, Fr. John.
frjohn@stjohn23.com

DONATION UPDATE! THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE MAILED OR DROPPED OFF THEIR WEEKLY DONATIONS. WE ARE GRATEFUL. PLEASE HELP US.



JANUARY FUEL COLLECTION

Please be sure to help with our January Fuel Collection. It greatly helps in paying winter costs. Please use your envelope or a write on a blank envelope "fuel." Thanks for your generosity!



INCOME TAX TIME!

Would you like a statement of your recorded contributions for income tax purposes? Call (823-1090) or write us by depositing a note in the collection. We're happy to help! Most of all, we're very grateful for your support.



CONSIDER JOHN THE BAPTIST. St. John was a magnificent, towering character; a martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power. He was a man "so great" that some mistook him for the Messiah. But why was he great? *Because he prepared the way.* "One worthier than I is coming," he insisted. And because of that humility, he was given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptized the Son of God. Examine your life. How do you "prepare the way" for Christ?

Stewardship in Faith:
For the week January 2, 2022:
Regular: \$ 6,291.00



Help Us! Without Sunday Mass for several months due to COVID-19, our annual collections have been affected. Would you help us? As you know, our collection revenue is down overall, and without regular contributions, we will experience problems with bills. Please prayerfully consider increasing your contribution if you are able. Help us help you. God's generosity can't be outdone.



"Dustbusters, Inc." ... Team #3 will clean the Church the week of January 9th. Thanks!



JOIN THE BINGO FUN . . . WE'RE READY!!!
SATURDAYS 7:00 PM

Sat. Purple Progressive No. 54 – Guarantee \$ 1,000.
Sat. Black Progressive No. 51 – Starting \$ 162.



LIVE-STREAM MASSES & EVENTS:
FACEBOOK.COM/ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH

PRAY FOR YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES
2022 Mass Intentions are available for your loved ones at \$15. It is a great way to pray & love them.



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, moving out of the Christmas Season into Ordinary Time. "After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened [] And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" (Lk 3:21-22). The Baptism of the Lord is observed annually the Sunday after January 6th, and is the Second Epiphany event in the Church. Jesus welcomed His own baptism as an example for the rest of us and as a sign of his true identity. He is God's Son, the living presence of God on Earth. When we renew our Baptismal promises, we proclaim our belief in the waters of Baptism and our new and ongoing life in Christ. His Baptism marked the beginning of His public ministry. Our Baptism began our journey. Are you up for the challenge of living out your Baptismal promises? Follow Him.

We pray through the power of Christ for the healing of ... Robert Rath, Stephen Boryszewski, Leo Schiffhaer, Alice Morrisley, Jeanette Watkins, Judy Kelly, Michael Weishaupt, Lynn McKenna, Grace Lord, Fred Postolise, James Hogan, Rosalie Diaspara, Marian Spoor, Patricia Walczak, Thomas Lavelle, Marge Dutka, JoAnne Hahn, Max Wojciechowski, Tony Peters, Christopher Travis, Rick Stoddard, Kaylin Kline, Elizabeth Fay, Rick McEvoy, Cheryl Lane, James Ruggiero, Gladys Roche, Norman Dailey, Mary Laubenthal, Heidi Sheehan, Beverly Smith, Harry Gray, Sharon Quinn, Hugh & Judy Bondanza, Andrew Dodges, Phyllis Elbers, Alice Kowalewski, Patti Catanzaro, David Smith, Eleanor Szeffler, Roslyn Hawthorn, Kevin Denecke, Mary Jane Lane, Melissa Piskor, Jack Fadeley, Robert Loniewski & Rhonda Strumpf.

We pray for the faithful departed ...
Eileen A. Coughlin, Laurie Hartel, Alice M. Kaszuba,
David L. Luchowsk and John A. Szewczyk
"May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen."



From the Desk of Jennifer Lang, Director of Faith Formation

This weekend the Church celebrates the Baptism of Our Lord, and the end of the Christmas Season. This is a day in which to remember our own Baptism which freed us from Original Sin and made us members of the Catholic Church. One custom for this day was to make a visit to the Church of one's Baptism. This day also calls us to remember that "there is One greater than I." As we live our lives, we do so in ways that point to Jesus Christ. This can be done through prayer and service, worship and celebration, sacrifice and generosity. Yesterday, there was a K - 5 class in which the kids learned all about Epiphany. At the end of the month, we will celebrate Catholic Education Week.

Jennifer Lang, Director of Faith Formation
 Email: faithformation@stjohn23.com



Catechetical Corner
A Weekly Faith Growing Bulletin Corner

Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time (derived from the word *ordinal*, meaning "numbered"), refers to all of those weeks of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. During Ordinary Time, the Church focus on the Mystery of Christ in its fullness. It encompasses two different periods in the Church's calendar — the Season following Christmas until the beginning of Lent, and the Season immediately following Easter until the beginning of the Church year, the First Sunday of Advent. The normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green. In any given year, there are either 33 or 34 Sundays in Ordinary Time because Easter is a moveable feast. Thus, the Lent and Easter Seasons "float" from year to year, and the number of Sundays in each period of Ordinary Time vary from the other period as well as from year to year.



HOW DOES ONE BECOME A SAINT?

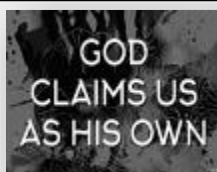
There are four steps for one to be declared a Saint. After a considerable time after an individual has died, the Bishop of that Diocese can open an investigation into the life of the person to see whether they lived their life with sufficient holiness and virtue for Sainthood. If so, the Bishop submits the recommendation to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints for permission to open the case. Once the case is accepted, the individual can be called "A SERVANT OF GOD." If the Congregation for the Causes of Saints approves the case, it is passed to the Pope. If the Pope decides that the person lived a life of "heroic virtue," they can be called "VENERABLE." To reach next stage, beatification, a miracle needs to be attributed to prayers made to the individual after death. After beatification, the individual is given the title "BLESSED." Canonization is the final step in declaring a deceased person a Saint. A second miracle normally needs to be attributed to prayers made to the candidate after they have been beatified. Then the Pope declares that person a "SAINT" at a special canonization ceremony.

TAKE COURAGE: BE NOT AFRAID!

*Courage Is Not The Absence Of Fear,
 But The Triumph Over It!*



"We are called to live our Baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ." — Pope Francis



Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. At Baptism, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life. It requires our cooperation.

When we make decisions based on core Gospel truths, we really act as Christ Himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how you live your Baptism. It can be difficult. We need God's mercy and assistance to help us fulfill our life's purpose and make decisions based upon God's wisdom and guidance. He alone is the One who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for Catholic principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Catholicity was popular? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, you have the Lord as your anchor to steady you in the tempests of life. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.



HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW. . .

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. *So, don't wait to be kind.* Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

Sometimes life does not give you what you want, NOT because you do not deserve it, but because YOU DESERVE MORE.

***Baptism of the Lord.* Read the Church's teachings related to Baptism at www.stjohn23.com.**

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 8, 2022, The Baptism of the Lord

4:00pm. Adam Spider - *by Carol Breitwieser*
AND: Edmund & Mary Zadzilka - *by Joyce Zadzilka*

Sunday, January 9, 2022, The Baptism of the Lord

8:30am. Michael Miliotto - *by Kevin Gavin*
AND: Karl Switzer - *by Kibler Family*
10:30am. Matthew Reichert - *by Gail Smith*
AND: Wallace Piotrowski - *by Sandy Rosinski*

Monday, January 10, 2022, Weekday

8:30am. Kathleen Dolan - *by Gavin Family*
AND: Jorgen Ejlli (*For Strength*) - *by Albina Ejlli*

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, Weekday

8:30am. In Thanksgiving - *by Ellie Wieleba*
AND: Parishioners of St. John XXII Parish

Wednesday, January 12, 2022, Weekday

8:30am. Paul Fusco, Jr. - *by Wife, Beverly*

Thursday, January 13, 2022, St. Hilary

8:30am. Dorothy McFarland - *by Estate of Mary Higgins*
AND: Parishioners of St. John XXIII Parish

Friday, January 14, 2022, Weekday

8:30am. All Souls' Intentions
AND: Parishioners of St. John XXIII Parish

Saturday, January 15, 2022, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm. Pauline Malczewski - *by Bob & Kathy Ives*
AND: Camille Rybarczyk - *by Family*

Sunday, January 16, 2022, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am. Edward Perillo - *by Family*
AND: John & Elizabeth Kostek - *by Children*
10:30am. Bob Berger - *by Dan & Gail*
AND: Wallace Piotrowski - *by Dick & Barbara Lavelle*



Scriptures for Next Sunday

First Reading: Is 62:1-5

Psalm: 96:1-3, 7-10

Second Reading: 1 Cor 12:4-11

Gospel: Jn 2:1-11

The Sanctuary Light will shine this week for Bob and late Camille Rybarczyk (Wedding Anniversary).



ST. HILARY OF POITIERS (JAN. 13TH)

Raised a pagan, St. Hilary (315-368), converted to Christianity when he met his God of nature in the Scriptures. His wife was still living when he was chosen, against his will, to be the Bishop of Poitiers in France. He was soon taken up with battling what became the scourge of the Fourth Century, Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. The heresy spread rapidly, with St. Athanasius being the Lord's mouthpiece for the truth. St. Hilary was banished from France to far off Phrygia, and was ultimately called the "Athanasius of the West." While writing in exile, he was invited by some semi-Arians (hoping for reconciliation) to a Council the Emperor called to counteract the Council of Nicaea. St. Hilary predictably defended the Church, and when he sought public debate with the heretical Bishop who had exiled him, the Arians, dreading the meeting and its outcome, pleaded with the Emperor to send this "troublemaker" home. He was then welcomed by his people.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday Mass. We're Open: Saturday 4:00 p.m. Vigil, Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Also view Mass live on Facebook, YouTube, and at www.stjohn23.com.

Choir Rehearsal. Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Liturgy of the Word. Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Healthy Living: Fun low-impact exercises while sitting with Kathy Zawadzki. Monday at 9:15 a.m.

Rosary. Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

Classic Citizens. Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

Holy Name Society. Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Liturgy of the Hours: Morning Prayer. Thurs. at 9:00 a.m.

Bingo. Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Next Sunday at St. John's

Choir Rehearsal. Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Liturgy of the Word. Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Win Shea's Tickets To

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**Saturday, Feb. 19th @ 8:00 PM
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Drawing on Sun., Feb. 6th, after 10:30 AM Mass**

Save The Date!

Vera Bradley

BINGO

SUNDAY, FEB. 27TH @ 1:00 PM

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