



# COME TO THE WATER

## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 8/9 2022

*'The people were filled with expectation...'*  
(Luke 3:15)

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord showcases the truly special nature of Jesus: Fully human, yet fully divine. On one hand, you have Jesus insisting that John baptize him (when he doesn't even need it), thus making him one of **us**... but then you have a dramatic celestial display of the heavens opening up and God speaking, thus making him one with **God**.

It's this two-fold nature of Jesus that people have struggled to understand for over 2,000 years. And as beautiful as artwork of Jesus is, it certainly doesn't help the situation. For example, should we view Jesus a sweaty

carpenter in sandals with dirty fingernails, or should we view Jesus a regal vision of glory enthroned in Heaven? Should we imagine Jesus as getting cold, hungry, and feeling emotions, or should we envision him transfigured in radiant light?

Here's the thing: Neither views are wrong, and both are actually very correct. Whether you view Jesus as the 30 year old guy going into the murky Jordan River, or whether you view Jesus as the divine Messiah with the Holy Spirit descending upon him, you're still holding your Lord in your mind and heart. That's the beauty of our faith. That's what happens when the word is made flesh and dwells among us: He can be all things to all people.

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## FROM FR. STEVE...

Dear Family,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast marks the official end of the Christmas Season. With this feast we also see the transition from Jesus' early, mostly hidden, life to the beginning of His public ministry. The question often arises as to why Jesus needed to answer John the Baptist's call to receive a baptism of repentance? Why would someone Who is perfect and sinless and Who is God Himself, need to undergo such a baptism? The same question can be asked of why Jesus, Who is perfect and sinless and Who committed no crime was put to death, that is sacrificed, on a cross? He didn't need to do either! Jesus did these things out of love for us! He did them for our salvation. His baptism, as John himself said, is not the same baptism that we would one day receive as Christian people. Jesus' baptism made holy the waters that would eventually be used for our baptism. Jesus' baptism was another epiphany when His divinity and identity as God and Messiah was made known to the world through the voice of the Father. This feast of the Baptism of the Lord allows us to embark on yet another year of learning from the teachings of Jesus proclaimed to us each time we come to Mass. It allows us to continue our growth as Christian people. May we always be ready and eager to encounter Jesus anew as we contemplate His great love for us!

Merry Christmas one last time until December!  
Praised Be Jesus Christ...Now and Forever!!!!

Father Steve

**URGENT WARNING:** If you receive an email that appears to be from Fr. Steve asking you to contact him regarding an urgent need, most often asking for you to purchase gift cards or some other item, **DO NOT ANSWER IT AND DO NOT DO IT!** First, Fr. Steve would never ask for these things at all, but especially via an email or text message! There are many evil people out there across the world who are creating bogus accounts of priests and ministers around the world using their names trying to trick people. They are evil and will one day have to answer for their actions! Fr. Steve's email is [fr.steve@olcp.org](mailto:fr.steve@olcp.org). That is the only one that he uses at the parish. Any other account is bogus. If you receive one of these types of emails, please call the office to let us know.

## POT O' GOLD IS BACK!

Saturday, March 12, 2022 (Party Info TBD)



**Top Prize: \$10,000**  
**(10) \$500 Prizes**

**Early Bird Drawings:**  
**Sweetheart Drawing (Feb. 14): \$250**



**Tickets are \$30 each or (2) for \$50 - (Each ticket admits one to the party drawing.)**

Tickets on sale after all Masses, at the parish office (260 Okell Street), or mail in ticket requests. Please make sure name, address, and phone number are included. Please send to Our Lady of Charity Parish • 260 Okell Street • Buffalo, NY 14220. Adding a self-addressed stamped envelope will get you entered into a mystery drawing! If you are interested in selling tickets, please see one of the ticket sellers or pick some up at the office.

# DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>

**Holy Family Site**

Faith Formation Grades 1-8, 6:30pm, Hall

**St. Ambrose Site**

Yoga, 6:00pm, Parish Center

### Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

**Holy Family Site**

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Hall

### Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

**St. Ambrose Site**

Social Action, 7:00pm, Parish Center

### Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>

**Holy Family Site**

Yoga, 6:00pm, Hall

**St. Ambrose Site**

Boy Scouts Troup #256, 6:00pm

### Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

**Holy Family Site**

Community Dinner, 4:30pm, Hall

### Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup>

**St. Ambrose Site**

Confessions, 3:15pm, Church

## FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm - 7:45pm, Holy Family Site

Faith Formation Grades 1-8

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, St. Ambrose Site

Confirmation Class Grades 9-10

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

### January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Collection: \$5,400.00

Renovation: \$1,517.00

Christmas: \$295.00

Mary, Mother of God: \$825.00

Oplatek: \$89.33

Thank you for financially supporting Our Lady of Charity Parish (especially as we enter the heating season)!

## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE

An 8-Part Bible Study Featuring Jeff Cavins  
You're invited to get in touch with our faith.

Our Mother of Good Counsel

3688 South Park, Blasdell

(Parish Activity Center)

Tuesdays: Jan. 4 - Feb. 22

10:30am - 11:45am OR 6:30pm - 7:45pm

Registration is FREE (but required). Workbook is \$25 (recommended, but optional).

For more information and to register, contact Deacon Michael Dulak at (716) 913-0476.

## SOCIAL ACTION

Looking to get involved helping those less fortunate? There will be a Social Action Committee meeting on **Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm** in the Parish Center. All are welcome to attend!

## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Did you know? Catholic Charities' Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program (OKPEAP) is available to parents or caregivers and their significant others who have experienced conflict regarding custody and/or access issues related to their children. OKPEAP helps parents develop a "business" relationship and encourages co-parents to refrain from putting the children in the middle of conflict. Groups are held throughout Western New York. Ready to connect? Call (716) 896-6390. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org). Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



## CHECK THIS OUT

Want to support Our Lady of Charity Parish while doing your online shopping?

1. Go to Smile.Amazon.com
2. Type in Our Lady of Charity
3. Choose Our Lady of Charity - Buffalo, NY
4. Check the box
5. Start shopping!

A portion of your purchase will go right back to our parish!



## FUN FACT:

The Jordan River is 156 miles long, with the Sea of Galilee in the middle. This is also the river the Israelites crossed to the Promised Land, and it was the largest supply of fresh water in the region.

# DISCIPLES STAY IN THE KNOW

## FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

Dear Parish Family,  
The Bishop Kmiec Food Pantry and the So. Bflo Community Table are in need of some food items this winter. Supply is low or unavailable through the Food Bank so if you just put a few items in the grocery carts each week, we'll make sure they get them. Thank you for your generosity and God bless!

- Grape/Strawberry Jam
- Cream of mushroom, etc. soup
- Chicken and beef broth
  - Canned fruits
- Disposable salt & pepper shakers

## A VOCATION VIEW

Christ gives us the gift of Baptism, through which we each have a vocation in the Church. Pray for those who are discerning a call. If God is calling you to this, contact Fr. Dave Baker at (716) 847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).

## WEATHER CLOSINGS

If Buffalo Public Schools are closed – morning Mass at St. Ambrose will be cancelled. Fr. Steve will celebrate Mass at 8:00am for the intention for that day at Holy Family. People are welcomed to the Mass at Holy Family, however please use an abundance of caution when making that decision.

## COMMUNITY DINNERS

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact the parish office at 822-5962 or Mary Anne at 822-1837. Thank you!

### Sponsors for the coming weeks include:

- January 14: Cub Scouts
- January 21: Boy Scout Troop #256
- January 28: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- February 4: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- February 11: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- February 18: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

## TAX STATEMENTS

Any parishioner who would like a statement of your donations for 2021 should submit your request in writing. Please include your name, address, and envelope number. All requests should be in the parish office by January 31, 2022. You may put your request in the collection basket. Thank you very much for those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope. We will get them to you as soon as we are able. Thank you for being patient.

## WE HAVE A WINNER!

Congratulations to Jim Coughlin as our "Way to Start the New Year" \$200 Early Bird Winner! Next early bird is on Valentine's Day! We will continue selling tickets after Masses, at the office and at Mineo's pizza.

## MASK MANDATE UPDATE FROM THE DIOCESE

A reminder that masks should be worn not only when entering and exiting churches and worship spaces, but throughout the duration of the liturgy, even when seated. While we want to build places of worship that foster the welcome of all, particularly at this beautiful time of year, part of our pastoral outreach in this extraordinary time should be to ensure the safety of all of our congregants.

### PARISH STAFF

#### Pastor

Fr. Steve Jekielek  
Fr.Steve@olcp.org

#### Administrative Assistant

Diana Deck  
d.deck@olcp.org

#### Deacons

Deacon Tim Maloney  
Deacon Steve Schumer

#### Sacramental Preparation

Maureen Brown  
Kathleen Mulqueen

#### Business Manager

Elaine Williams  
E.Williams@olcp.org

#### Weekend/Weekday Help

Fr. Robert (Bob) Hora

#### Prayer Link

768-4022  
823-2067

#### Director of Music & Worship

Brian Meyer  
music@olcp.org

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday

4:00pm (St. Ambrose Site)

#### Sunday

8:30am (Holy Family Site)  
10:00am (St. Ambrose Site)  
11:30am (Holy Family Site)

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4:30pm  
(Office will be closed 12:00pm - 12:30pm for lunch)  
Friday, closed

(716) 822-5962

Please consider remembering our parish community in your will.



## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

### First Reading

Is 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the LORD: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching. I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

The word of the Lord.

**R/. Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

**R/. The Lord will bless his people with his peace.**

Give to the LORD, you sons of God, give to the LORD glory and praise,  
Give to the LORD the glory due his name; adore the LORD in holy attire. **R/.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters, the LORD, over vast waters.  
The voice of the LORD is mighty; the voice of the LORD is majestic. **R/.**

The God of glory thunders, and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
The LORD is enthroned above the flood; the LORD is enthroned as king forever. **R/.**

### Second Reading

Acts 10:34-38

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."

The word of the Lord.

**R/. Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "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." 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# DISCIPLES PRAY TOGETHER

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Let us remember all those who have gone before us:

**+Gloria R. Jordan, +Charlotte Driscoll,  
+Judith Palyszeski, +Albert Kelley.**  
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

### The Baptism of our Lord + Order of Mass +

- **Processional:** Healing River of the Spirit (#665)
- **Gloria:** German Mass
- **Readings and Responsorial Psalm:** #1011
- **Offertory:** There Is One Lord (#905)
- **Mass Parts:** Community Mass (#370, #373, #372)
- **Communion:** Come to the Water (#584)
- **Recessional:** Baptized In Water (#903)

## SANCTUARY LAMPS

**St. Ambrose Site (January 9 - 15)**

**Robert Strianese, Sr. (Birth. Rem., req. by his family)**

## HOPE IN THE DARKNESS

Amid 1,000 Colorado houses destroyed by fire, a Virgin Mary statue stands unscathed. Mary remained — as she will in our lives, interceding for us through the darkest of times, praying for us to Jesus Christ, her Son, Our Lord and Savior.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

“MASTER, THE ONE YOU LOVE IS ILL.” (JOHN 11:1-2)

Edna Albert, Irene Andrzejewski, Irene Barrett, Louise Beamish, Teresa Beamish, Lillian Beyers, Ann Alvira-Buchnowski, Patricia Cajak, Maureen Canney, Cheryl Clontz, Patricia Colern, Caroline Dominesey, MaryAnn Forsyth, Vara Jones, Madisyn Ledder, Janet Murray, Karen O’Neill, Mary Pilon, Maryann Rigby, Sandy Riley, Jane Rozek, June Stebbins, Ruth White  
Daniel Barry, Michael Beyers, Leon Bolick, Owen Chase, Eric Crawford, Vincent Crawford, Frank Czapezyk, Francis Davis, Larry Deskiewicz, Richard Dinnocenzo, Paul Fitzpatrick Sr., Jason Florea, Eric G., Jacob Heberling, Emmett Jakubowski, Rob Karr, Andrew Kuper, Gabe Lopez, Robert Maggio, George Rodriguez, Josean Rodriguez, The family of Coach Frank Rossi, Jeremiah Smith, Jim Sweeney, Tom Walsh, Christopher Zuercher

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sat./Sun., Jan. 8/9 - Baptism of our Lord

**SA • 4:00pm**  
**Living & Deceased Members of the Driscoll Family**  
*(req. by Jack Driscoll)*

**HF • 8:30am**  
**Peg Hammond** *(req. by Colleen Higgins)*

**SA • 10:00am**  
**John Godwin** *(req. by Carolyn Nenni)*

**HF • 11:30am**  
**Robert Strianese, Sr.** *(Birth. Rem., req. by his family)*

### Mon., Jan. 10 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA • 8:00am - Fran Faltisco** *(req. by Cathy Geary)*

### Tues., Jan. 11 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA • 8:00am - People of the Parish** *(req. by Fr. Steve)*

### Wed., Jan. 12 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA • 8:00am - Sandra Thompson** *(req. by Maria & Chrissy)*

### Thurs., Jan. 13 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA • 8:00am - Donavan Miller** *(req. by Divine Mercy Prayer Group)*

### Fri., Jan. 14 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA • 8:00am - Linda Kurcz** *(req. by Cathy Geary)*

### Sat./Sun., Jan. 15/16 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time

**SA • 4:00pm**  
**Paul Fitzpatrick, Jr.** *(req. by the Charleton Family)*

**HF • 8:30am**  
**James Coughlin** *(req. by Deborah Godwin)*

**SA • 10:00am**  
**Karen Blake** *(req. by Mary Blake & family)*

**HF • 11:30am**  
**Dottie Davis** *(req. by the OLCP Seniors)*

## ENVELOPE UPDATE

**Please note: Collection envelopes have been mailed to your house. If you did not receive 2022 envelopes (and are not using WeShare), please call the office. If you are not registered and would like to join our parish community, simply stop by for a registration form or download one from our parish website. (Found on the front cover)**

**PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> in observance Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

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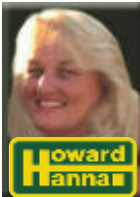
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