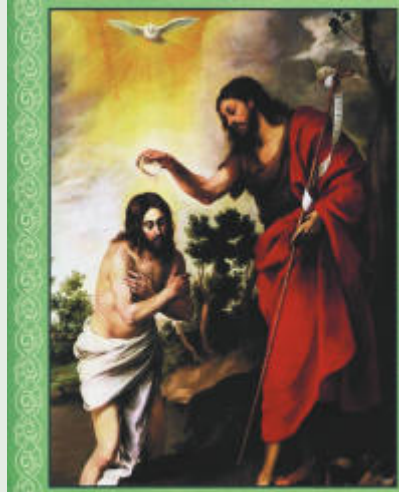


“I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Luke 3:16bc



ST. ALPHONSUS

PARISH

151 ST. ALPHONSUS WAY • CROSSVILLE, TN 38555

Phone: 931-484-2358 • Fax: 931-484-7407

Email: office@stalonline.org

Website: www.stalonline.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StAlphonsusCrossville

Parish Office Hours: Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, the Catholic community of St. Alphonsus is committed to knowing, loving, and serving God, and His creation.

• JANUARY 9, 2022 •

St. Alphonsus Happenings

SATURDAY, January 8

Mass at 5pm

SUNDAY, January 9

Mass at 8:30am* & 11am
CCD, 9:45am

TUESDAY-FRIDAY: 8:30am Morning Mass

TUESDAY, January 11

CCW monthly meeting after morning Mass

WEDNESDAY, January 12

Mass at 6:30am & 8:30am
Youth Ministry, 5:30pm

THURSDAY, January 13

RCIA, 6pm
Choir Practice, 6pm

SATURDAY, January 15

Mass at 5pm

SUNDAY, January 16

Mass at 8:30am* & 11am
CCD, 9:45am
Spanish Mass, 4 pm

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, January 8

5:00pm †Lorraine Matthews

SUNDAY, January 9

8:30am †Stephen J Smith
11:00am Intentions of Father J. Orr & Our Parish

TUESDAY, January 11

8:30am Intentions of CCW; †Jerry Lorenc

WEDNESDAY, January 12

6:30am Celebrant's intentions
8:30am †Dale Schneider

THURSDAY, January 13

8:30am For all who are ill

FRIDAY, January 14

8:30am Intentions of Frank Vormohr

SATURDAY, January 15

5:00pm †Jerry Lorenc

SUNDAY, January 16

8:30am †Anne Perella
11:00am †Leona Dolfie Bolton
4:00pm Our Parish Family

Holy Father's prayer intention for January:

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



Administrator/Pastor

.....Rev. Mark Schuster
DeaconDeacon Peter Minneci
Director of Business & Finance
Karen Otuonye
Director of Music
Marian Sullivan
Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry
Pauline O'Keeffe
Assistant Director of Faith Formation
Sara Carey

Mass Times

Sunday: 8:30am*, 11:00am

Mass in Spanish: 4:00pm on 1st & 3rd Sunday
Tuesday - Friday: 8:30am, Wednesday: also 6:30am
Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

First Friday & First Saturday Mass & Devotion: 8:30am
 *- Streaming Mass on You Tube

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Daily, 30-45 minutes before each Mass
Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45pm
Sunday: 7:45 - 8:15am & 10 - 10:45am



Whether you are just visiting or are new to Crossville, we welcome you to St. Alphonsus Catholic Church!

People often attend Mass at a parish for months or even years without officially registering. Parish registration is an expression of your commitment to being an active member of our community. Parish registration also simplifies the process for the planning and preparation of baptisms, weddings, and funerals, and for serving as sponsor or godparent for a sacramental candidate. Parish registration can be easily accomplished by contacting the parish office.

(We also need your help in keeping our records current. Whenever there is a move, birth, death, or marriage in your family, please notify the parish office.)

Readings for the week of 1/9/2022

Sunday: 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
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: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

1. i
2. e
3. e
4. g
5. b

Observances for the week:

**indicates Saint or Blessed highlighted in this bulletin*

Sunday: Baptism of the Lord
Monday: St. William; St. Nicanor
Tuesday: St. Hyginus*, Bishop & Pope
Wednesday: St. Aelred; St. Benedict Biscop
Thursday: St. Hilary*, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Felix; St. Malachias
Saturday: St. Maurus, Abbot
Next Sunday: Five Franciscan Protomartyrs; St. Marcellus



Our Automated External

Defibrillator is in the main hallway across from the St.

Alphonsus statue. On top of

the AED is an emergency container for **diabetics** (juice, crackers with peanut butter or cheese).

These **should not** be used for snacks, they are for emergency purposes only. Please let the office know if you use something from the box so it can be replenished.

Question: At my grandson's Baptism the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why was this done? **Answer:** When an adult is baptized, he or she is often vested in a white garment symbolizing the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they

are freed from sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are presented as symbols so that we can better grasp and understand them. Infants are often dressed in a white gown which serves as the baptismal garment. If this is the case, then nothing else is needed. However, if the infant is not dressed in white, a white bib is often used as the baptismal garment. At the point in the rite calling for the investiture, the prayer says, "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 which is symbolized by the white garment. ©LPi

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 claims us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity was 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. ©LPi

Pope Hyginus served as the ninth Bishop of Rome from c. 138 until his death in c. 142. Hyginus instituted godparents at baptism to assist the newly baptized during their Christian life. He also decreed that all churches be consecrated. He is said to have died a martyr, though no records verify this. He was buried on Vatican Hill near St. Peter's tomb. His feast day is January 11th.



LIBRARY CORNER

Did you know...our parish library has an extensive Biography section? While there is a lot of material about saints, there are also several books about notable individuals. Doctor Woman of the Cumberlands, an autobiography by May Cravath Wharton, MD, is Dr. May's own story of her health ministry among the mountain people of Cumberland County, TN. Whether you are new to the area or just curious about the history our county, this is the book to read. It is an easy read and is written like a novel rather than a history book. Duty, written by Bob Greene, is the story of Paul Tibbets who piloted the Enola Gay—the airplane that dropped the atomic bomb—in 1945. Portions of this book come directly from Tibbets' scrapbook. It is a powerful tribute to the ordinary heroes of an extraordinary time in American history, and we just celebrated the 80th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 2021. These books have been temporarily moved to the area noted "Library Picks" behind the door. And don't forget to check out the whole Biography section to see if there is something else there you might enjoy!



The CCW Scholarship Card and Game Party has been postponed. It will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

**-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 him and others in the name of someone called Jesus.

"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 true: the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the One in whose name we perform it.

Consider John the Baptizer, 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—which is exactly the way wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insisted. And because of that humility and 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 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 ©LPI



St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (about c. 315 – c. 387), was born a pagan in Gaul (modern-day Poitiers), France. His name comes from the Latin word for *happy* or *cheerful*. St. Hilary studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually working his way through the Bible. He became a Christian and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the "Hammer of the Arians", Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against the heresy of Arianism, which denies Christ's divinity. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the Arians. From Phrygia 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, and his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. In addition to his important work as bishop, Hilary was married, and the father of St. Abra of Poitiers, a nun known for her charity. He was elevated to Doctor of the Church—a title given to those saints who provide important contributions to theology and doctrine—in 1851 by Pope Pius IX. His feast day in the General Roman Calendar is January 13, but has been celebrated on January 14 when his feast falls within the Octave of Epiphany.

Attributes: episcopal vestments, mitre and crozier, and a beard, usually white and often long.

Patronage: The villages of St. Hillary in Cornwall, Glamorgan, and Llanilar in Ceredigion bear his name. In France most dedications to Saint Hilary are styled "Saint-Hilaire" and lie west (and north) of the Massif Central; the cult in this region eventually extended to Canada. In north-west Italy the church of Sant 'Ilario at Casale Monferrato was dedicated to St. Hilary as early as 380.

Baptism of the Lord—Mix and Match

1. Where was Christ baptized?
2. Who baptized Christ?
3. Who survived on honey and locusts?
4. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a ___ and alighting on him.
5. This river looks much like it did in Christ's day. Its banks are lined with tall reeds and flowers, one of which is named ____, in remembrance of His baptism.

- A. Rabbi; B. baptisia; C. water lily; D. eagle; E. John the Baptist; F. Sea of Galilee; G. dove; H. Temple; I. Jordan River; J. Joseph



St. Alphonsus Resources and Organizations

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry: Pauline O'Keeffe

Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation: Sara Carey

RCIA (joining or returning to Catholicism): Sara Carey

Marriage: Our diocese mandates a minimum six-month period for marriage preparation, and attendance at an Engaged Encounter is required. Visit dioknox.org for more information.

Contact the Office

Anointing of the Sick/Communion to homebound:

Contact the Office

- Knights of Columbus (K of C)
- Council of Catholic Women (CCW)
- Hispanic Ministry
- SACS Community Services: 931-484-8074

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