

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

610

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

January 9, 2022

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

OUR

## LaCuesta's Quest

Expectations matter. We all know that from experience. When a man and woman entering into marriage have the same expectations, it gives them a firm footing which to begin their lives upon. But when those expectations don't match up, it can be disastrous, right? And when an employer and employee have the same expectations, it can be truly be a stable work relationship that can go on for years. But if they don't have the same expectations, the employee will almost certainly be looking for a new job sooner rather than later. And when people living in an apartment building expect the same things from one another, harmony is sure to follow. But if no one can agree on what is acceptable behavior, it can be a tough environment to live in. Yes, expectations matter.

"The people were filled with expectation..." That's the way the Gospel Reading (cf. Luke 3:15-16, 21-22) we heard at Mass today begins. "The people were filled with expectation..." Of course, that's why they went out to the desert in the first place—to hear what John the Baptist had to say, to see what he was all about. So what exactly were the people "expecting"? Well, it's hard to say with certainty. And of course, not every person had identical expectations. The most obvious answer (and the one that is explicitly mentioned) is that they were wondering whether John was the Messiah. John made it perfectly clear that that was not the case. But I think it goes way beyond that.

After all, John preached repentance, and used a ritual bath (baptism) to signify that. So, if people were flocking to John it must also have been that they were longing (searching) for something not simply regarding a Messiah but regarding themselves. John was telling them that they NEEDED to be different, that they COULD be different. John made sure that they knew they needed to change, they needed to be more faithful. Put another way: it seems to me that people went out into the desert because they wanted to be more! The way things were was not good enough. Something better was out there—better for themselves as individuals, better for the Jewish community, better for the world. And John made sure they knew where and to whom to look.

Today, on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we gather not simply to reaffirm who Jesus Christ is but also to reflect on our own baptisms (what it meant back then, and what it means now). For most of us, we were baptized as infants. That means that adults (parents in almost every case) made the decision for us. And they did so out of love but also with certain hopes and expectations. They hoped that we would grow up

(Continued on page 3...)

## **Pray for our Sick**

Please pray for the sick of our parish especially: G.P.A, Bruce & Kathy Anderson, Alicia & Tim, Anderson, Christine Anne, Chloe Arnold, John Barber, Beth Bartja, Dave Beutler, Larry & Susan Bialecki, Rich Brenner, Ava Burkey, S.C., Mike Chambers, Sue Chitwood, Seth Clark, Howard Cook, Dcn. George Cousino, Patricia Davis, Tom Dieter, Bob & Ruth Drudge, Ron DuVall, D. & A. E., Charles Esteves, Jim Etts, Caroline Flaczynski, J. Flanagan, Tom & Joanne Foster, Carollee Gilmore, Florence Grandowicz, David Greer, Gayle Grove, Sharon Grycza, A.L.H., Nan Hankenhof, Doris Hervieux, Gerogianne Hobson, Shannon Huber, Thelma Humphrys, Jessica Jenkins, Virginia Johnson, Eugenia Jones, Jacob Kahn, Gloria Karczewski, C. & M. Kehoe, Thomas Kern, David Kolar, Rich & Lexie Kopas, Dick Laurell, Vicki LaValle, Josh LaVigne, Loren LaVoy, Madeline & Mary Lemerand, Laura Lorenzo, Katie M., Ed McCormick, Nick McCoy, Regina Meszaros, Betty Miller, Joseph Mitchell, Rick & Madeline Mitchell, Amanda Moore, Ken & Lynn Muntz, Pat Myers, Patricia Novembre, James Nyhan IV, Carita Pakulski, David Perry, Margie Perzynski, Lucille Pirrone, Jamie Poupard, Marie Rakolta, Crystal Regnier, Lu Rosser, Mary Russell, Joe Rutkowski, G.S., Joan Salisbury, Pat Schoenradt, Paul Schornack, Joe Seager, Midge Sherman, Ernestine Slaviero, Tracy Smith, Jill Stoll, Barbara Szczurek, Christy Szymanski, Tenney Family, Alice Truna, Erick Urbaniak, Cheryl Usery, Cindy Vebenstad, Andy Vebenstad Jr., L.W., M. Walentowski, Walter, Pat Webber, Ralph Wenski, Roberta Wesolowski, Dana Willi, Hazel Young, and Tom Zoldowski.

#### **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church**

\*Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 PM;

Sunday, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM \*Daily Mass: Mon. Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat, 9:00AM.

Church open daily until 2:00PM (no Thurs & Sat). Confession: Saturdays, in Room 1, 9:45-10:30AM; 3:00-3:45PM; weekdays by appointment—call the Parish Office.

**Baptism and weddings:** Prearrangement required. Call the Parish Office for details.

Jane Czupich, Parish Secretary         olmc@bex.ne           Parish Office         734.847.2805           Fax         734.847.8970           Email         olmc@bex.ne           Faith Formation Office         734.847.1725	Rev. Mr. Marty Selmek Rev. Mr. George Cousino TBD Linda Moeltner Chris Knudsen	
Fax         734.847.8970           Email         olmc@bex.ne           Faith Formation Office         734.847.1725	Jane Czupich, Parish Secretary	/ olmc@bex.net
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To sign up, simply text **OLMC1** to **84576** or sign-up online: **ourladyofmountcarmel19.flocknote.com** 

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The St. Vincent de Paul "Fill the Top Hat" fund raiser will be January 29/30. You will see SVDP members holding top hats at the entrances of the church at the end of each Mass. Proceeds will support Gabriel's Gift Baby Closet. Your donation will help us help those in need.

Is there someone you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 734-847-2805, #20. so together we can help those who are hungry or in need.

Gabriel's Gift Baby Closet may be used for families



in need with children age 3 and under. The closet is open Monday, 10:00 AM to noon, and Thursday 3-5:00 PM, or by appointment. Call 734-847-2805, #19 and leaving your name and phone number.

# Your Envelope Speaks...

#### December 26:

 Budgeted Weekly
 \$ 10,400

 Actual
 \$ 6,340

 Over/Under
 \$ - 4,060

 Budget YTD
 \$ 270,400

 Actual YTD
 \$ 232,727

 Over/Under YTD
 \$ - 37,673

#### January 2:

Budgeted Weekly \$ 10,400
Actual \$ 8,063
Over/Under \$ - 2,337
Budget YTD \$ 280,800
Actual YTD \$ 240,760
Over/Under YTD \$ - 40,010

**Christmas Collection** (as of 1/2/2022): **\$91,561.00** 

Thank you for generous support at Christmas and throughout the year!

# Flowers for Our Lady

The flowers donated in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel are provided this weekend by Don & Mary Smith in honor of Al & Eileen Couturier.

To donate flowers and have your intentions lifted in prayer, sign up at the church bulletin board, or call the Parish Office, 734-847-2805; olmc@bex.net

# **Holy Hour**

Monastery of the Visitation 1745 Parkside Blvd., Toledo

Sunday, January 9 4:00 PM

Vespers, Rosary, Homily & Benediction

#### **GOSPEL of LIFE**

"When they saw the Child, they recounted the message that had been told about him" (Luke 2; 17). The shepherds saw the newborn Christ, and the message that they had heard was that he was a Savior for all people. Seeing him, they understood this even better. After all, who is more approachable than a baby? Nobody, no matter how poor or lowly, would have reason to be afraid to approach him. (-Fr. Frank Pavone) Lord, you continue to reveal yourself in the tiny babies yet in the womb. May we see you and love you in them.

#### Pickle Ball

#### New for 2022!

Adult pickle ball nights.
Wednesday evenings, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, starting January 12 in the OLMC gym.

Bring your own paddle.

No charge, no registration ...
iust come check it out!

Please direct questions to: Dave Kowalski, 419-343-2576. Hope to see you there!



(LaCuesta's Ouest continued...)

## 2022 Envelopes

You should have received your 2022 offertory envelopes in the mail. If you did not, please let us know.

If you are giving electronically, and do not plan to use the envelopes you received in the mail, please also let us know.

Please be patient as we work through this new process.

Direct any questions or concerns to: olmc@bex.net; 734-847-2805.

# **Eucharistic Adoration**

Spend quality time in Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays, any time after the 9:00 AM Mass, until Benediction at 4:00 PM.

to love God. They hoped that we would stay tethered to the faith of the Church. They hoped that we would grow up to be kind, compassionate and faithful. In other words: the day we crossed that threshold, our parents and family and friends wanted beautiful things FOR us and FROM us.

Do WE still have those same expectations? Those same hopes? Those same dreams? Maybe we've stopped thinking it's that important. Maybe we think we can remain on a spiritual "cruise control" where everything stays exactly the same and where nothing needs to change. Maybe we feel that our baptism was just something that happened long ago not something we need to live out each day. It can be painful to think about these big questions. After all, we all fall short of perfection. And since we can't be absolutely perfect, we've stopped trying. Yet, what we expect from ourselves is only half the question. What also matters is what God expects FROM us and FOR us.

That's why expectations truly matter in the spiritual life. If OUR expectations and GOD'S expectations don't match up, we can never be the person God created us to be. We will continually fall short and will experience life in a diminished way. But if we align our expectations with those of God, if we strive to remain close to the Lord Jesus, if we truly want to BE more, who knows what might be possible? Our baptisms might have been long ago but the grace is still there, the calling is still there, our Lord Jesus is still there...expecting wonderful things from us. Let's expect the same and strive to make them happen!

- Fr. Don A. LaCuesta

#### **Mass Intentions**

Monday, January 10

9:00 AM † Frank Wesolowski

Tuesday, January 11

9:00 AM † Rita Drabek (1st Anniv)

#### Wednesday, January 12

9:00 AM † Nancy Hamman

9:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration

4:00 PM Benediction

#### Thursday, January 13

No Mass

#### Friday, January 14

9:00 AM † Sigmund & Leatrice Geremski

#### Saturday, January 15

9:00 AM † Leo Gramlich

† Richard Frantz

† David Hofheinz

† Joseph & Michael Wlodarski

# Sunday, January 16—Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

9:00 AM

Intentions of John & Chris Barber (50th Wedding Anniv.)

† Marjorie Scavio

11:00 AM

† Richard Slovak

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# Readings for the Week

January 10

Mon: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20 Tue: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28

Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/

Mk 1:29-39

Thu: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45 Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/

Mk 2:1-12

Sat: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/

Mk 2:13-17

Sun: Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/

Jn 2:1-11



Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc)

# YouTube Sunday Mass

9 AM Sunday Mass streamed if you cannot join us in person: OLMC-Temperance, MI



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