

THE BAPTISM of the Lord

"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." - Lk 3:166c

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Jan. 8 Christmas Weekday 4 pm People of the Parish

+Dorothy Indelecato 89th bday by family

Sunday, Jan. 9 Baptism of the Lord

8 am + Mary Gardia by Kathy & John

+Stella Schultz by family

10 am +People of the Parish

5 pm +Feliks & Mary Turek by Sons

+Jeff Pawelek by Helen Majewski

+Dorothy Louks by Ricky & Colleen Parker

Monday, Jan. 10 Weekday

8 am +Jonathan Cross

6:30 pm +Alexandra Bochenek 1st ann. By Parish

Tuesday, Jan. 11 Weekday

8 am +Aidan Morrow

Wednesday, Jan. 12 Weekday

8 am + Mickey Holuta by family

Thursday, Jan. 13 St. Hilary, bishop/doctor

8 am +Charlotte Louise Amaya by Sharon Amaya

+M.S. Lesniak (20th ann.) by family

Friday, Jan. 14 Weekday

8 am +Dennis Philips

Saturday, Jan. 15 Weekday

4 pm +Robert Czapiewski by family

+Lillian Guido by family

Sunday, Jan. 16 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

8 am +Cecilia Prestrak by family

+Walter & Helen Piwowar by Aniol Family

10 am +People of the Parish

5 pm +Arthur & Mary Ann Hansen by family

COLLECTION FOR ST. JOSEPHAT/ST. ALOYSIUS

Once again, we will be collecting coffee; creamer (powdered); hot chocolate (cans only); new hats, gloves and socks; hand warmers and eyeglasses for the homeless shelter at St. Josephat/St. Aloysius during the month of January. Boxes will be placed at the doors for your donations to this wonderful cause.

Won't you please consider making a donation during these cold winter months to someone less fortunate.

THANK YOU FOR DONATING TO THE BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who took the time to keep their appointments. We processed 36 donors, deferred 5. collected 2 partial pints and ended up with 29 pints. Thanks to you, we were able to help **87** potential patients.

MANY THANKS to those who helped decorate the church and parish grounds for the season of Advent and Christmas. Our joy at this season should be reflected outward to inspire the neighbors and the passersby, offering an opportunity to ponder the mystery of God's love made visible at Christmas in the birth of his Son, and to abide in that joy daily.

The ushers are to be commended for their assistance to those who attended Mass, as well as offering a warm welcome to visitors or those in need.

Please be mindful of your safety in during the winter season when cold, ice and snow can be a danger. Use good judgment, and please don't take unnecessary risks. The Lord needs you healthy for his work.

And thank you for your generosity to the parish at Christmas. We have many upcoming needed repairs that will be very costly.

SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF BAPTISM

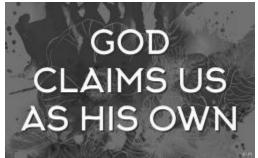
- 1. We are granted sanctifying grace. When we're baptized, our Original Sin is forgiven, and, in the case of adults, personal sins. We are no longer separated from God's Divine Life.
- 2. We receive the three theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, and other spiritual gifts.
- 3. We receive the grace of the sacrament that empowers us to live as children of God and reject temptation, to believe in God and desire to serve him
- 4. A sacramental character is imprinted upon us. It is an indelible spiritual mark that conforms us to Christ. It can never be lost, even by sinning.
- 5. We become adopted children of God our Heavenly Father and are given the hope of eternal life.
- 6. We become incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Church. We become Christ's co-workers in the work of salvation and evangelization.
- 7. We share in the Priesthood of the Faithful, called to holiness, to offer our entire being in prayer and sacrifice, sharing in the Cross of Christ that we may be worthy to share in his Resurrection.
- 8. We join the Communion of Saints.

 Those in heaven, those in Purgatory and all who belong to Christ are our brothers and sisters. We are called to support one another by prayer and good example.
- 9. We die with Christ at baptism and rise with him to new life. This is why we need not fear death.
- 10. We are privileged and enabled to share in the seven Sacraments Christ gave to his Church as helps to heaven and sources of grace and renewal.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - 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 deci-



sions? 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 can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is 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















EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS 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 himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

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

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — 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 — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that 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 the 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

For the last time this year: **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!**

Today is the Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord which officially ends the Christmas Season. Next Sunday we return to Ordinary Time with green vestments until we reach Ash Wednesday and Lent.



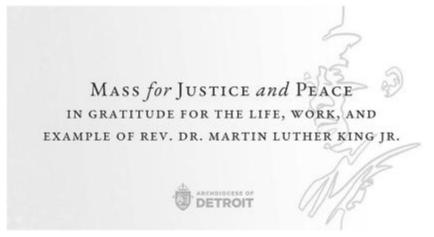
The history of this Solemnity is pretty interesting. In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons, aka The Trinity. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. By virtue of His Baptism by John, He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world".

The question then becomes, why do we celebrate this Feast during Christmas? Well, let me tell you! Originally the baptism of Christ was celebrated on Epiphany, which commemorates the coming of the Magi, the baptism of Christ, and the wedding at Cana. Recall that the Greek word epiphany means manifestation. These three events in Christ's life were all manifestations of His Divinity. Over time in the West, however, the celebration of the baptism of the Lord came to be commemorated as a distinct feast from Epiphany and the wedding feast at Cana was celebrated separately as well. The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated in the Catholic Church as well as the Anglican and Lutheran Churches on the first Sunday following The Epiphany of Our Lord (which we celebrated last Sunday). In the Catholic Tradition, we have maintained the connection with the Epiphany in celebrating the solemnity as the end of the Christmas Season.

As I said, next week it's back to Ordinary Time, which we all know is anything but ordinary. Next week and over the next several weeks, we'll begin to explore the sacraments.

God Is Good All the Time! All the Time God Is Good!

Don't forget, join us this Friday and every Friday at 3PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM. See the ad in our bulletin or on the parish website for details on how to join in. Hope to see you there!



Join us on - Monday, January 17th at 11:00 a.m. for Mass at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament or via livestream to pray for Peace and Justice in our country and our world.

As a champion of civil rights, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dreams were much aligned with many of our Catholic teachings: care for the poor and vulnerable; solidarity in our one human family, regardless of race, ethnicity, religious, or economic differences; the life and dignity of all people; fair wages and treatment in civic matters; peace, equality, and social justice among

all; and discipleship of Christ.

Please join us to pray for continued progress on race relations and the work begun by Dr. King. **Celebrant and Homilist:** Fr. Phil Cooke, S.J.

IF YOU WANT PEACE, WORK FOR JUSTICE!

The Baptism of the Lord

In today's Scripture readings, Isaiah fore-tells the preaching of Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist. In the Gospel



from the Evangelist St. Luke, John professes: *I am baptizing you with water... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.* In a spirit of evangelization, let us draw closer to the Lord in discipleship, invoking the Holy Spirit to enkindle a fire in our hearts.

May this fire move us forward as faithful stewards to carry out our baptismal promises to cast-off evil and be committed to his Word, to love and serve God and our neighbor, and to spread the Gospel message of the Good News to everyone we encounter. We can begin to evangelize—or re-evangelize—family members and friends simply by inviting them to an evangelization program like Alpha or Christlife.



We are engaging 1,000 volunteers to pray for young people and those who minister to them for the Feast of St. John Bosco! Sunday, January 30 – Saturday, February 5th

LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP AT: boscoprayer.org WILL YOU JOIN US?

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus stood in line with everyone else and was baptized. There is something incredibly humbling about how this must have played out. Then, God did something truly awesome and inspiring. Through a very gentle and simple action he let the world know about the special relationship He shares with Jesus.

That's exactly what is so incredible about our baptisms as well! Through those holy waters God announces to the world the special place we also occupy in His heart. We no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. We do not need to fumble around, tripping over ourselves and wondering why we are even here. The answer has been given. All we have to do is live out the vocation we have received, to live the Gospel in fidelity to our Creator.

There is nothing to fear and worry has no place. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor and God is very pleased. ©LPi

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RE-SPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: The prophet Isaiah was called to bring words of comfort and good news to the beleaguered Israelites held captive in Babylon. How do you minister to those in your life struggling to find God's presence?

Second Reading: Paul taught Titus that baptized believers are called "to live temperately, justly, and devoutly." How well do you think you live by this moral and ethical standard?

Gospel: We hear today the account of the baptism of Jesus and God's words from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." What do you imagine Jesus did (prior to the start of his public ministry) that was so pleasing to God? ⊚LPi



Please remember in your prayers the souls of **Henry Lemmens**, **Dorothy Louks**, who were buried recently from our parish. May they share in the fullness of eternal life with Christ our Savior. May their families be consoled in the hope of the resurrection.





Norm Abramczyk Louise Ames Anna Axe Harry Bacalia Sue Bacalia Norma Bak Violet Barrette **Bob Behmer Bob Bellottie** Jim Bellottie Vincent Bellottie Judy Bennett Sharon Bieniek Cvnthia Blaha Marilyn Block Evelyn Boettger Aaron Boyless Thomas J. Brennan, Jr. Ken Butler Joan Buzo Jacob Cassar Michaeline Chwastek

Richard Cline Zoe Cossin Betty Ann Crawford Sylvia Cyncewicz Tina Doney Jason Dull & Family Marsha Farmer Geraldine Filippi Cecil Fernandez Tina Fernandez Lisa Foster Rose Fraley Duane Glossa Roseann Gomez Bob & Lori Gonzales Gary Graham Jr Abigail Graves Jennifer Hanna Green Charlotte Gutierrez Eileen Halpin Annie Hapunowicz Ronald Hetner Tina Hovis Sue Jagodka Joanne Kacher Norman Kaleto Brenda Kaleto Fr. Terry Kerner Phyllis Kinnell Evelyn Kisell Joan Klimchalk

Chris Kovac John Kovac Jenene Kozinski George Kramar Patrica Lacopelli Jennifer Lasky & Family Joseph Lasky Margaret :Lasky Henry Lemmens Guadalupe Madrigal Phyllis Mareck **Donald Martin** Erin Martin Larry & Carol McGrew Linda Molek Steven Monroe Pat Mozdzen Suzanne Nicholas Gigi Novak Daniel O'Connor Diane Owens John Palmer Mary Pellegrini Helen Petroski Jimmy Piche Kathleen Pietras Mary Pike Jeff Pingilley Jess Pingilley Linda Pingilley Robert Pingilley

Sam Pingillev Wayne Pingilley Carol Regnier Whitney Regnier Noemia Reid Linda Robb Richard Roberts Laura Salazar Fred Sanscrainte Matt Sanscrainte Joann Sanscrainte **Dennis Scanland** Darlene Shannon Phil Shannon Rose Shannon Jaxon Shubik Margaret Smith Jimmy Stecki Gerald Stevens Jim Tokarczyk Laurie Trupp Michael Wheelock Eileen Winnie The Wirick Family Frank Wojcik Stephen Zelle



Air Force

Matthew Thornton, Nicole Thornton, Michelle Thornton, Brittany Mack, Tiffany Kay Smith (Ladd), husband, Don Smith

Army

Josh Harpster, Zachary Robbins, Robert Truchan, Anthony Lemieux, Bryce Bieniek, Tony Pernicano, Jacob Grzebienik, Matthew Hapunowicz

Marines

Joseph Krawzyk, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph McGinnis, Corporal, Andrew Clark, 1st Lieutenant, Cody S. Pratt, Luke Cohen, PFC 1st Class

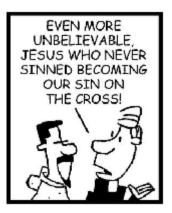
Navy

Ryan Detlor, Patrick Hanosh

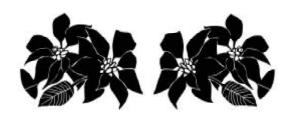
Army National Guard Vincent Nowak, Michael Dunne

BAPTISM OF THE LORD









2021 Christmas Flower Offerings in Memory Of:

Robert Barber Marty Bergiel Dr. Richard Boudreau Glen E. Boque Fr. Brennan Alex and Anna Broderick Dave Carroll **Michael Collins** Fr. John Cusmano Danko family Rosemary Fisher Mary Gardai Ralph & Mary Greenia Annie Karbosky Loretta Kemp Lawrence Klimchalk Koselka family Kuhne family Henry Lemieux Chester Merta. Sr. Michalik family Jesus and Ricardo Munoz Irene Pastuszka Peters family **Dennis Phillips** Janet Piestrak Sal and Dee Rodriguez **Shirley Roose** Brett Schwartz Shockling family Frank Siciliano Carl E. Stowers. Sr. Dot Tebelman Joseph & Mary Tofil Fr. Joe Triano Sam Vail Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vella Warunek family Wielkopolan family Gerry Wszola Rosemary Wubbe

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Baptismal Bib

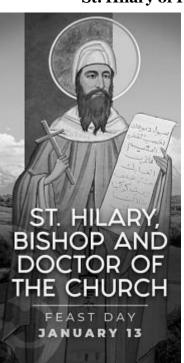
Question: At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

Answer: When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "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, and this is symbolized by the white garment. ©LPi

St. Hilary of Poitiers | January 13



Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity.

From Phyrgia St. 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, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today.

St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX. ©LPi



Please drop off your donations on Mondays and Wednesdays between 12:00 and 2:00pm or call Matt at 313.595.1317

Here is the current list of needs for our pantry:

Chili Beans (No Kidney Beans please)

Progresso and Chunky Soup

Pineapple Pancake Mix

Fruit Cocktail Pears

Strawberry Jelly Spaghetti & Sauce

Cereal (please NO Rice Krispies of Frosted Flakes) Needed: Fruit Loops and Captain Crunch

Pancake Syrup (Need Badly)

We have begun a new year. We ended last year with serving 29 families within a four-hour period. The need is out there and we are here to serve our neighbors in need. Thank you to those who reached out to us in volunteering to help a the pantry. Currently, we are all set. May we have a better year than last year.

Thank you once again for all your help. God will send His blessings to you throughout the year.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Sat. January 15 4 pm Marge Taylor

Sunday, January 16 8 am Pat Wallace 10 am Kathy Munoz 5 pm Francis Tofil

Sat. January 22 4 pm Chris Bergeron

Sunday, January 23 8 am Tom Koselka 10 am Michael Munoz 5 pm M J Favot **Sat. January 29** 4 pm Gretchen Searynk

Sunday, January 30 8 am Mary Ellen Sobczak 10 am Gary Schoenherr 5 pm Francis Tofil





Prayer During A Health Crisis

Compassionate and Loving Father,

In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of your presence. In You allow us to find hope and healing. Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.

Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom.

Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap your arms around our world and hold us in your love.

Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.

We ask this in Your Name. Amen. ©LPi

BULLETIN EDITOR

** bulletin@smgoretti.com **

All submissions are due 10 days before publication date.

The deadline for bulletin submissions is **2:00pm on Thursday, 10 days before the bulletin date**.

Exceptions occur when the bulletin is required to be sent early due to holidays.

Please plan ahead as submissions received past the deadline will be published in the following week's bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as a Word document (single spaced), PDF or photo format (JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PNG), attached to or in the body of an email



Online giving makes it easy to give! You never have to bring envelopes, cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget.

There are no fees for on-line giving.

- ★ Visit the St. Maria Goretti website at www.stmariagorettiparish.com
- **★** Click on the Online Giving link on the left side of the home page.
- \bigstar Complete the registration form

Please feel free to call the Parish Office if you should have any questions or want to know more about Online Giving.

Your donations are vital to the success of our Parish community.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

with Deacon Regis
Join us on
Fridays at 3:00pm to pray the
Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM.
To connect by computer use this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85478055945
To connect by smart phone call
1 (312) 626 6799

PARISH COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS AND GROUPS

Parish Council

Chairperson: Richard Fron

Co-Chairperson: Chris Bergeron

Secretary: Thomas Koselka

Members at Large:Barbara BalniusMario FerrantePat WallaceDavid GriswackValerie KoselkaJohn O'CallaghanMarge TaylorSandy VanAssche

Linda Wielkopolan

Worship Commission: David Griswack

Education/Formation Comm: Marge Taylor

Christian Svc. Commission: Cathy Nagle

Finance Council: Dianna Dunne

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313.999.5144

Ushers President:

Dave Griswack

St. Maria Goretti Parish Directory

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www.facebook.com/groups/st.mariagoretti48125

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PARISH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

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SENIOR DEACON Rev. Mr. Lawrence Girard

PARISH DEACON

Rev. Mr. Regis Buckley deacon@smgoretti.com

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE Jan Russell - DRE DRE@smgoretti.com or FaithForm@smgoretti.com 313.563.0960

ORGANIST ELYSE PENZATO music@smgoretti.com

BULLETIN EDITOR bulletin@smgoretti.com

St. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY Ext. 309 Matt Kulczyk Direct Number: 313.563.3970

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. Monday Evening: 6:30pm First Friday: 8 a.m. & 12 Noon

First Saturday: 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS Saturday: 3 - 3:30 p.m. or by request

HOLYDAYS TIMES TO BE DETERMINED

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Each Monday, beginning at Noon, ending prior to 6:30pm Mass

BAPTISMS Contact Parish Office for arrangements. *Pre-Baptism Class required*.

MARRIAGES Please contact Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance.

Parish Office Hours

Calls after hours should be limited to emergencies only.

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 4 pm

(The office is closed daily for lunch Noon - 1 pm)

Friday: CLOSED for the time being

If you need to contact the parish office, please call during regular business hours. You can also reach the parish office by email: parishoffice@smgoretti.com



Sunday, Jan 09, 2022 FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Tell **PREPARE** it like it is The hidden days are over. When the Spirit descends on Jesus and the heavenly voice proclaims him beloved, Jesus is effectively outed as the Di-WORD vine Son. Did Jesus know this was the hour when his private life would come to an end? When any dreams he may have had for a quiet domestic existence were surrendered for good? The underlying truth is that on the day of our Baptism,

we each surrender the notion of a private world that's all about us. As Pope Francis puts it, "Immersing us in Christ, Baptism also makes us members of his body, which is the Church, and participants in its mission in the world." Be the beloved. Share the love. TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or 40:1-5, 9-11; Acts 10:34-38 or Titus 2:11-14; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 (21). "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Monday, Jan 10, 2022 Give every child a chance According to the National Center for Child Poverty, about 15 million children in the United States-21 percent of all children-live in families with incomes below the federal poverty line. The Christ Child Society seeks to address the critical needs of these children. U.S.born Servant of God Mary Virginia Merrick, who died on this day in 1955, founded the Christ Child Society in 1887 at the age of 20—despite being paralyzed from a childhood injury. Today, its 6,000 members volunteer nearly 400,000 hours and serve more than 75,000 children and their families annually. You may find a chapter—or start one—at nationalchristchild.org. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20 (305). "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Tuesday, Jan 11, 2022 Pray the way to a more perfect union Dom Lambert Beauduin, a Belgian Benedictine monk, died this day in 1960—but not without influencing the way we pray at Mass. As a liturgical scholar, Beauduin championed—years before Vatican II—the idea of worshipers actively participating in the Mass rather than sitting in pews to pray their private devotions. He promoted the idea of congregants literally "being on the same page," able to follow along with the Latin by using worship aides to translate the words of priests and prayers. "Beauduin had an insatiable thirst for unity," notes a biographer. Pray for greater unity in our church today. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28 (306). "On the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught."

Wednesday, Jan 12, 2022 Here I am, Lord Jesus saw his healing ministry of the sick and spiritually oppressed as a call from God. It is the same call each of us receives, not only to serve God and his people but to serve ourselves—to be our best selves, which will bring us the greatest joy. Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, known as an apostle of love, explains the profound grace that comes with responding to God's call in his "Jesus, the very thought of thee" hymn: "... how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!/ But what to those who find? Ah, this No tongue nor pen can show;/ The love of Jesus, what it is None but His loved ones know." TO-DAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39 (307). "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."

Thursday, Jan 13, 2022 MEMORIAL OF HILARY, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH In defense of the faith Saint Hilary (d. 468) was a bishop during a time of great contention in the early church. He was popularly selected to lead, and he undertook scholarship that continues to be recognized today. His informal title, "Hammer of the Arians," has a violent ring to it, but in fact, he defended the Trinity against the Arian heresy through his writing, even though his opponents used the more forcible method of exile. Living a truly Christian life—loving those who oppose you, forgiving wrongs, turning the other cheek—has often been ridiculed by those who prefer the use of force. You can "defend" the faith by the way you choose to live. TO-DAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45 (308). "A leper came to him and kneeling down begged him and said, 'If you wish, you can make me clean.'

Friday, Jan 14, 2022 I feel your pain Healing gospel-style involves assessing the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the ill person. As Pope Francis says, Jesus asks us: "To stop and listen, to establish a direct and personal relationship with others, to feel empathy and compassion, and to let their suffering become our own as we seek to serve them." This holistic approach is slowly being embraced by Western physicians. Today's healthcare providers are encouraged to use such tools as the FICA method to assess a patient's faith; its importance in their decision-making; their connection to a community of like-minded believers; and the recommended action related to the spiritual assessment. We're all commissioned to be healers to some extent; the next time someone comes to you in pain, remember this compassionate approach.

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Saturday, **Jan 15**, **2022 The stone rejected** In our continued observance of the *Amoris Laetitia* Family Year, we are reminded by Pope Francis to consider the complexities of people's lives when we're tempted to judge their family or marital situation. "It can no longer simply be said," writes the pope, "that all those living in any 'irregular situation' are living in a state of mortal sin." Non-traditional families need to be offered "understanding, comfort, and acceptance." We need to stop applying moral laws as if they were, in the pope's words, "stones to throw at a person's life." Consider today the grace of God's mercy, compassion, and forgiveness operating in your own life. TO-DAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Mark 2:13-17 (310). "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."



The Archdiocesan Mass for the Protection of the Unborn is an annual liturgy to pray for an end to the practice of abortion and to celebrate Christ's victory over death. The liturgy coincides with the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision and is said in solidarity with the thousands of pro-life witnesses who gather in Washington DC for the annual March for Life. Join us for Mass at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament or watch the livestream at www.aod.org/livemasses Celebrant: Archbishop Allen Vigneron Sunday, January 23, 202211:00 AM 9844 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202

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