



# ST. CHRISTOPHER

CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 9, 2022

## 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 3:16bc

### WEEKEND MASS

Sunday

8:00 am, 11:00 am,  
5:30 pm

### WEEKDAY MASS

Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday  
9:00 am

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday

3:00 pm - 4:00pm  
or by appointment

### ADORATION WITH CONFESSIONS

Third Thursday of  
Every Month at  
7:00 pm

### LOCAL PARISHES WEEKDAY MASS

ST. MARY, ST. CLAIR  
Mon., Tues., Wed, Fri., 9am  
Thurs., - 6:30 pm

ST. STEPHEN, PORT HURON  
Tues., Wed., Fri., - 8:30am

ST. MARY, PORT HURON  
Wed., Thur., Friday 8:15am  
Tues., - 7pm

ST. EDWARD, LAKEPORT  
Mon., Tues., Wed.,  
& Fri., - 8am, Thur., - 7pm





***Pope Francis' Mission Statement:  
To Become a Band of Joyful Missionary Disciples.  
Archdiocese of Detroit's Mission Statement: To Unleash the Gospel.  
Saint Christopher's Parish Mission Statement: Transform Lives in Jesus Christ Through the  
Power and Freedom of the Gospel.  
Parish Vision Statement: Foster a Personal Encounter with Jesus.***

***Pastor's Ponderings.*** Greetings and the Father's Blessing be upon you, my dear spiritual children. News of a significant nature is that our seventeen confirmandi will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Robert J. Fisher next Sunday at the 11:00 AM Mass, whom we welcome as our guest. If anyone is trying to avoid crowded events, this would be the Mass next weekend to avoid. The 8:00 AM Mass will likely have fewer attendees and you can spread out if you prefer. The 5:30 PM will most certainly be least attended and you will definitely be able to physically distance from others according to your comfort level. Once again, I ask that you please keep the confirmandi, their sponsors, and their parents in your prayers. Thank you.

Later next week, a representative group will be going on the March for Life in Washington, D.C. to continue to peacefully protest legalized abortion in the United States and be witnesses of our Christian Faith to the world. We pray for their safe travels and protection. In addition, since January 22 (the decision of *Roe v. Wade*) is a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, and the First of the month of January is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, the whole month of January is dedicated to Prayer for Human Life.

What is "life?" *Life (noun) is the condition that distinguishes animals and plants from inorganic matter, including the capacity for growth, reproduction, functional activity, and continual change preceding death.* This definition of life alludes clearly to the physical life, existence in the physical realm, but what of "spiritual life" (for humans)? Life is also *either of the two states of a person's existence separated by death (as in Christianity and some other religious traditions).* One existence is physical and the other is spiritual. All life is a gift from God too. Then, there is the life of God, which we participate in by grace. We receive more and more of the life of God from grace, for which our seventeen confirmandi will receive too with the sealing of the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

This life of God from grace is also called the "life of the Holy Spirit," or referred to often as the "Life of Charity/Love." The Life of the Holy Spirit can be summed up in the Gifts and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit must be nourished on grace so that they produce an abundance of the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit, which essentially amount to contentment in this physical life, and happiness in eternity in the spiritual life after a physical death. As Christians though, we also live our physical lives and our spiritual lives simultaneously (until death, that is), which is pretty neat – that means we enjoy spiritual living during our physical living. We have both a human life and a divine (spiritual) life, which causes the angels to simply marvel at our existence.

***Catechism of the Catholic Church Preface for this weekend's readings to ponder.*** "Grace is a participation in the life of God. It introduces us into the intimacy of Trinitarian life: by Baptism the Christian participates in the grace of Christ, the Head of his Body. As an 'adopted son [daughter]' he [she] can henceforth call God 'Father' in union with the only Son. He [She] receives the life of the Spirit who breathes charity into him [her] and who forms the Church" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1997*).

***Helpful Prayers.*** In the event someone is still looking for these helpful prayers for spiritual liberation, healing and inner peace, then I provide them here for you again – this time I separated one into two for the sake of clarity. Lies and spirits oppress us, or we have difficulty forgiving, still experiencing hurt from others' offense. So, once again, here are

*(Continued on page 3)*

some simple, yet powerful and strategic prayers we can often pray for healing and peace. These prayers require of us, foremost, faith in the Holy Name of Jesus Christ and belief in His power, repentance of our own sins, and a willingness to forgive all for these prayers to truly be effective in our lives.

- In the Name of Jesus Christ I command \_\_\_\_\_ (depression, doubt, fear, N., N. (or spirit of N., N., etc.)) to depart from me right now and I declare null and void any and all of its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- In the Name of Jesus Christ I renounce the lie that \_\_\_\_\_ (I am not worthy, I have no meaning, I am alone, I'm dirty, I'm ugly, I'm no good, N., N., etc.) and I declare null and void any and all of its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- In the Name of Jesus Christ I renounce the fear of \_\_\_\_\_ (disappointing others, not being loved, not being forgiven, not being good enough, N., N., etc.) and I declare null and void any and all its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- In the Name of Jesus Christ I forgive \_\_\_\_\_ (name of person) for \_\_\_\_\_ (what they did) and I declare null and void any and all of its/their effects in my life in the Name of the + Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Happy Baptism of the Lord!  
Fr. James

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

- Sunday:** Is 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

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday, January 9

8:00 am Mass  
 9:30 am RCIA  
 9:30 am Religious Education  
 11:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting  
 5:30 pm Mass

### Monday, January 10

9:00 am Mass  
 †Gerald Huber  
 by Mike, Sandy & Matt Spanich

### Tuesday, January 11

9:00 am Mass  
 †Souls in Purgatory  
 by the Kalbaugh family

### Wednesday, January 12

10:30 am Small Church Community 3  
 7:00 pm Small Church Community 12 & 16

### Thursday, January 13

9:00 am Mass  
 †Dr. Jennifer Pavlov Askew  
 by Marie Krukenberg  
 5:30 pm - Confirmation Rehearsal

### Friday, January 14

6:00 am That Man is You  
 9:00 am Mass  
 †Gerald Huber  
 by Bill & Dee Brush

### Saturday, January 15

3:00 pm Confessions

### Sunday, January 16

8:00 am Mass  
 9:30 am RCIA  
 9:30 am Religious Education  
 11:00 am Mass - Confirmation  
 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting  
 5:30 pm Mass



Confirmation Rehearsal for the current class is January 13 at 5:30 pm.  
 Confirmation is January 16, at 11 am.

The new Confirmation Prep group (current 8<sup>th</sup> graders) will have their first session (for parents & teens) January 27, 2022 from 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall.

## COLOR OUR WORLD

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which marks the end of our Christmas liturgical season for this year. Many Catholics will be packing away Christmas decorations and returning our homes to their more “ordinary” state of being. For me, there is a routine. Just like every year the sentimental ornaments and decorations will be carefully wrapped and placed in the red and green Christmas bins, then slid onto our storage room shelves beside the other bins that hold seasonal décor. There are the orange and black bins that signify autumn and the pastel bins that hold the spring items. However, I will admit that I have yet to find red, white, and blue bins to store the summer decorations, but those three colors together definitely bring to mind the Fourth of July and summer barbeques!

Is it more work to change out the decorations in a home in order to signal that we have entered a specific season? Yes, it is. Yet, there is something about seeing those items and those special colors that help me shift into a certain frame of mind and to begin to ready myself for the approaching holiday. As many of you know, the Church also has different liturgical seasons and special days, and color is also used to help us turn our hearts and ready our spirits to receive whatever God is longing to give us at that particular Mass. Just as when I see orange pumpkins on people’s porches I begin to think of cinnamon donuts and apple cider, my heart begins to reflect when I walk into Mass and see the priest’s violet vestments during the season of Lent. Whether we are aware of it or not, this simple change in color sends a message to our brains about what we can expect from that particular Mass.

This being said, many of us may not remember what the liturgical Mass colors are and what they signify so I thought a brief review might be helpful.



**Green:** Signifies hope, life, and anticipation. This color is used for Ordinary Time which is the time after the Baptism of the Lord and the time after Pentecost.



**Red:** Signifies God’s love, blood, and fire. It is used for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost Sunday, the Sacrament of Confirmation. Red is also used for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 14).



**Violet** Signifies penance, preparation, and sacrifice. This color is used for Advent and Lent.



**White:** Signifies purity, joy, glory, and light. White is used for Christmas and Easter seasons, Holy Thursday, the solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, the Most Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, and the angels and the saints who are not martyrs.



**Rose:** Signifies anticipation and rejoicing. This color is used for the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) and the fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) which both occur midway through Advent and Lent reminding us of the upcoming joyful events.

In addition, the question may arise, when does the Priest wear gold? Gold can be substituted for White on Solemnities.



God created us as physical beings and our senses play a large factor in practicing our faith. The scent of incense or melting wax, the sound of bells chiming, the feel of Holy Water on our fingers as we make the Sign of the Cross, and the taste of His Body and Blood when we receive the Eucharist all serve to engage us more fully. The Church, in Her wisdom, also engages us by surrounding us with the specific colors of each of the liturgical seasons and celebrations.

We are not meant to remain as detached and cool observers in a sterile environment during Mass. God created color...and it is good! So, take the time to look and *really* see the colors that surround you during Mass, and then allow your heart to engage and your spirit to soar.



Blessings,  
Kristi Socha  
Director of Religious Education



## UPCOMING QUEST CALENDAR (Grades 9-12):

\***Human Foosball** is Sunday, Jan 9 @ 7-8:30pm in the Social Hall. Invite a friend!

\***Boys/Girls Night** is Sunday, Jan 16 @ 7-8:30pm in the Social Hall. The boys will plan the details of an evening for the girls and the girls will plan the details of an evening for the boys. Sure to be fun!



\***Sledding with QUEST** is Sunday, Jan 23, 2 pm - 3:30 pm  
Columbus Park  
**PERMISSION SLIP REQUIRED**

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Frank Behn	Linda King	Greg Porrett
Colleen Berry	Sondra Kota	Chuck Roehl
Mary Bixler	Donna Landschoot	Dorothy Shafran
Elizabeth Bolton	Judy Landschoot	Michael Slowski
Linda Bowman	Alan Langolf	Heather Stadler
Marilyn Bromberger	Barbara Letzgas	Dorothy
Christine Cairns	Edward Letzgas	Vanlerberghe
William Cairns	Kim McConnell	Michael J. Ward
Mary Deising	Kalvert	Robert Wawrzyniak
Denise Gawronski	Mark Meier	Sara Wawrzyniak
Karen Goodmen	Iris Miguel	Phillip Ziezulewicz
Sharon Goulet	Mike Murphy	
Nancy Hubbard	Natalie Lech	
James Jagger	Parent	





# GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

For over twenty years St. Christopher has supported St. Thomas Parish in the Dominican Republic. Over the years teams of parishioners have built classrooms, dug wells, provided computers for the school, built homes, and brought down much-needed supplies. One of the ways the parish supports the St. Thomas Parish is through monetary donations. After mass on January 30, team members will be taking up a collection to send to our sister parish in the Dominican Republic. Donations can also be brought to the Parish Office during the month of February.



#9526

**Family of the Month**  
The Bockhausen family

**Knight of the Month**  
Mark Schwehofer



The Marysville Knights of Columbus Council #9526 will be sponsoring a Youth Free Throw Competition for all boys and girls ages 9 - 14. The competition will be held on Friday, January 14, in the Marysville Garden's School Gymnasium. Registration will begin at 6:30 pm. For entry forms or additional information contact Dave Tokarski at (810)4670.

*All contestants at the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.*

### 2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST

Thank you for your contributions for 2021! If you would like a statement, please fill out this form and submit it to the parish office.

Please check:  Email  US Postal Mail

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope#: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Request forms can also be dropped in the collection slot.

# TMIY

THAT MAN IS YOU!

## ATTENTION MEN OF ST CHRISTOPHER

THE SPRING SEMESTER OF **THAT MAN IS YOU** WILL BEGIN ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2022.

We will be meeting in the social hall at St. Christopher on Fridays. A light breakfast will be served from 6 until 6:20 AM then we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the video beginning at 6:30 AM. Our small group discussions will begin at 7 AM with dismissal at 7:30 AM. We could use some volunteers to assist with the breakfast setup and clean up afterwards.

Thank you for being a part of the TMIY men's group as we all grow in our faith and in our roles of fathers and husbands to serve our families and our community around us.

Don't forget to try to bring a friend and introduce him to a great group of guys and the wonderful fellowship we share with Christ as the center point! See you Friday Mornings.

For more information please contact Marv Redlawski at (810) 326-1700 or check out TMIY.org.



There will be choir practice on January 9 at 12 Noon for the 11 AM Confirmation Mass that is on January 16.

January 9, 2022

WEEKEND LITURGY FOR JANUARY 16, 2022

DAY /TIME	SUNDAY 8:00 AM	SUNDAY 11:00 AM	SUNDAY 5:30 PM
<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	†Sally Eagen by Dave & Linda Tokarski †Andrew Ozerities by the Chrcck family †Helmut "Moot" DeVigili by Patty Klecha	†Sandy McMullen by the Severini family Lexie Kot by Alex Somogy †Deceased memebers of the Kalbaugh family by Sharon & Mark Kalbaugh	Parishioners and Territorial Souls of St. Christopher's Parish
<b>CELEBRANT</b>	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady
<b>LECTOR</b>	Mark O'Brien	Christine Sass	Jenine Ulrich
<b>MUSICIAN</b>	Therese Oldani	Therese Oldani	Brandon Byrne
<b>CANTORS/ CHOIR</b>	Cheryl O'Neill	Mark Privette Evelyn Carl Judy Garijo Marilyn Taylor	Marianna Ranshaw Jeremy Ranshaw Heidi Tenyer Greg Kobe
<b>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS</b>	<i>Hospitality Ministers Needed</i>	Pam Binsfeld Sandy Barrand	Dave Huxhold Lorraine Frendt
<b>EMHC *MASS SAC- RISTAN</b>	Julia Szczygiel Sue O'Brien Mary Brown *	Teri Landschoot Sherry Kobe Cori Krohn*	Elizabeth Moore Debbie Gomola Mike King*
<b>ALTAR SERVER</b>	Vincent Schwehofer Sophia Senyk	Konner Wattle Graysen Sadler Leah Ureel	<i>Altar Server Needed</i>

**THANK YOU**  
for your generosity

DECEMBER 26, 2021

Loose ..... \$ 432.00  
Envelopes ..... \$ 5,143.00  
**Total Collection \$ 5,575.00**  
**Weekly Budget \$ 7,795.00**  
*(amount needed to pay expenses)*

**Parishioner Summary**

Registered Families.....705  
Envelopes Received.....165  
Contributing Families.....23%

JANUARY 2, 2022

Loose ..... \$ 377.00  
Envelopes ..... \$ 7,136.50  
Online ..... \$ 570.00  
**Total Collection \$ 7,781.50**  
**Weekly Budget \$ 7,795.00**  
*(amount needed to pay expenses)*

Christmas (total collected 1/2/22) \$83,513.60

**Parishioner Summary**

Registered Families.....705  
Envelopes Received.....150  
Contributing Families.....21%

Make a Charitable Gift  
from your IRA

If you are over the age of 70 1/2, you must take a required minimum distribution from your IRA. Normally, the amount of this distribution is taxed as ordinary income. Recently enacted federal legislation allows you to make a direct distribution from your IRA to a qualified charity that will not be subject to income tax and still counts toward filling your required minimum distribution. The Office of Planned Giving encourages you to consider making a donation to your Parish. For more information on how you and the Church can benefit from an IRA charitable rollover, contact your financial advisor or the Office of Planned Giving at 313-883-8771



ENCOURAGE SUPPORT  
GROUP MEETINGS

The Archdiocese of Detroit offers monthly Courage and EnCourage ministries support groups for those experiencing same-sex attraction. Courage is for those who experience same-sex attraction while EnCourage is for those parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction.

These ministries provides confidential, welcoming, and informative support for family and friends, and men and women with same-sex attraction.

For more information  
Call: 313-237-5900

Email: [courage@aod.org](mailto:courage@aod.org) or  
[encourage@aod.org](mailto:encourage@aod.org)



2021 GOAL \$65,062.00

Total Pledges..\$63,515.00  
Contributions Received  
\$56,188.51

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THEREFORE, UNDER GOD'S  
MIGHTY HAND, THAT HE MAY  
lift you up in due time.

1 PETER 5:6

**Greg Badley**  
Parish Member



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