

THE EPISTLE

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD | January 9, 2022

586-228-1210 Parish Office
586-228-6651 Religious Ed
586-228-1094 Food Pantry
24 hr Emergency Line:
586-909-5480

41300 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday
Closed

Saturday
3:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Sunday
7:30 am to 1:00 pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:45 am
9:30 am
11:30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am

Thursday 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 5:30 to 6:30 pm



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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



There is an oddity in the gospels which begs for an explanation: Jesus, it seems, doesn't want people to know his true identity as the Messiah. He keeps warning people not to disclose who he is.

Scripture scholars refer to this as "the messianic secret", suggesting Jesus does not want to reveal his true identity until the time is ripe. This, however, raises another question, specifically, what constitutes the right time to make this revelation known? Two of the Gospels, Mark and Matthew take entirely different approaches to answer Jesus' question.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answers: "You are the Christ!" However, instead of praising Peter, Jesus sternly warns Peter to keep his answer to himself. Why the secrecy?

Simply put, Peter has stumbled into giving the right answer, but he has a false notion, an incorrect conception of what it means to be the Messiah.

In the centuries leading up to the birth of Jesus, and among Jesus' contemporaries, there was no shortage of opinions, thoughts and even requirements surrounding the identity of the Messiah. Most of this thinking was based on fantasy, not reality. The Messiah, it was envisioned, would be some type of super-hero who would vanquish all forms of evil, humiliate those who were sworn enemies of God's chosen people and make the Israelites a super-power who was not to be messed with. The Messiah would simply annihilate anyone or anything that stood in his way. Such a Savior would not be subject to any weakness, suffering, humiliation or death. His superiority would have to be acknowledged by one and all, either willingly or begrudgingly. There would be no holdouts, no doubters, no back talkers. The Messiah would be capable of winning the Nobel Prize, the Stanley Cup, an Oscar or Emmy and all varieties of accolades imaginable. So, when Peter says: "You are the Christ!", that is how he sees Jesus. Peter is focused on earthly glory, worldly triumph, someone so

captivating and compelling that all would worship the ground on which the Messiah was walking on. Hence, Jesus' strong reprimand. In effect Jesus is telling Peter: "Don't you dare tell anyone about these flawed and erroneous notions you have. You are sadly mistaken."

Jesus then goes on to instruct Peter, and all those who aspire to be his disciples, what type of Savior he really is. He is not Superman, nor a Greek god, who is going to razzle-dazzle people on a daily basis so that all will drop to their knees in adulation. So exactly what kind of Messiah is Jesus?

Jesus is a **dying** and **rising** Messiah, someone who in his own life and body will demonstrate that evil is not overcome by miracles but by forgiveness, compassion, empathy and nobility of the soul. These attributes are not the result of crushing an enemy, but rather forgiving and loving an adversary. Jesus takes the paradoxical route, in the minds of many, to demonstrate exactly who he is. The glory of the Messiah is not proven by feats of strength and spectacular deeds. Rather, it is demonstrated by accepting with proper love and graciousness the slings and arrows of life, the unavoidable pain, humiliation, frustration and, ultimately, the willingness to lay down his life for the sake of others. However, when someone lives and dies the way Christ does, there is the subsequent rising to real glory of a heart so stretched and so enlarged that it is capable of transforming evil into good, hatred into love, bitterness into forgiveness and humiliation into glory. That is the work that the Messiah came to do and to demonstrate to others.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus asks the same question of Peter and Peter gives the same answer, but Jesus' response to Peter's answer is very different. In the Gospel of Matthew when

JERRY'S JOURNAL — continued from page 2

Peter says: “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”, rather than chastising Peter, Jesus praises Peter’s answer. Why is there such a difference? Because Matthew revamps the scene so that, in this version, Peter **does** understand the Messiah correctly, and Peter is then rewarded by Jesus who says the following: “Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so, I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld will not prevail against it” (Matthew 16: 17-19). Peter is then rewarded by Jesus and given the power to forgive sins because he has given the correct answer for all the right reasons. Peter understand the Messiah perfectly.

How do we imagine the Messiah? How do we imagine power? triumph? glorification? If Jesus looked you straight in the eye and asked: “How do you understand me?” Would that answer be lauded for being insightful and correct, or would Jesus say: “don’t tell anyone what you just said?”



St. Paul of Tarsus
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekly Schedule

MONDAY January 10	10:00 am Food Pantry 6:00 pm Religious Ed 7:00 pm Parish Nurse/Health Health Ministry 7:00 pm RCIA Session
TUESDAY January 11	5:30 pm Confession 6:00 pm Confirmation Prep-B 6:00 pm Religious Ed 7:00 pm Mass
WEDNESDAY January 12	8:30 am Mass 10:00 am Food Pantry 6:15 pm Home Teach
THURSDAY January 13	8:30 am Mass 10:00 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm K of C Meeting
FRIDAY January 14	Parish Office Closed 7:00 pm AA Meeting
SATURDAY January 15	8:00 am The Journey Men 3:15 pm Rosary 4:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm Sandwich Saturday
SUNDAY January 16	7:45 am Mass 9:30 am Mass—Choir 11:30 am Mass 11:30 am Children’s Liturgy of the Word



Welcome to our New Parishioners:

Kevin and Theresa McCoy

Daniel and Lucia Ulmer

Roy and Bonnie Holcomb

Mitchell and Erin Lockemy

Patrick and Theresa Causley

Michael Shimmel

Kaitlyn Kowaleski

The St. Paul of Tarsus Faith Community welcomes, through the waters of baptism, the following members of our community, who have become a new creation in Christ:

Lena McKay

Please pray for the recently deceased and their families. Grant eternal rest unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Olga Ryan

Francis Smith

Gerald Purdy

Janet Postrzech

Stephen Filipek

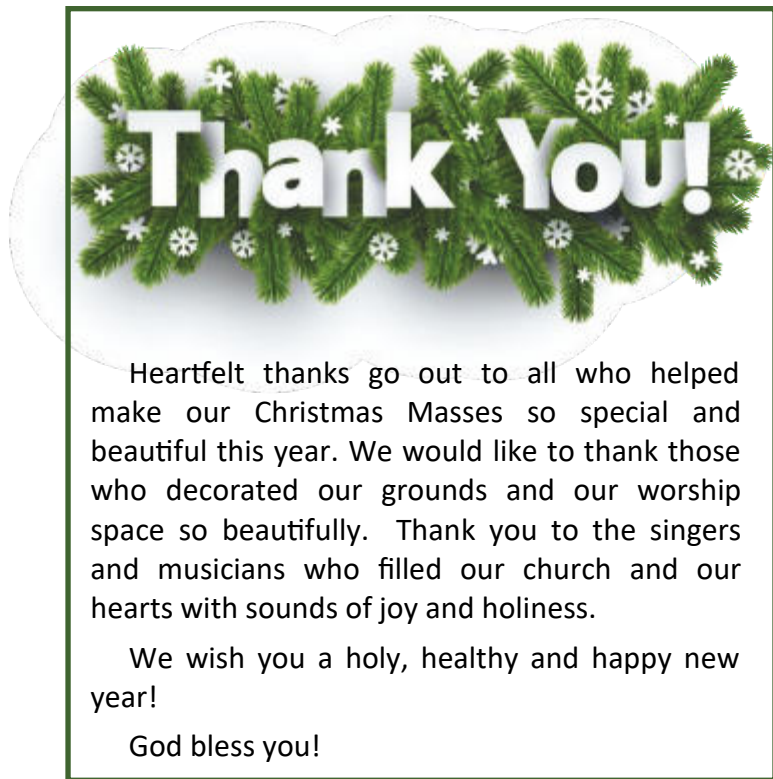
LouAnn Fanning

Elaine Naughton

Michael Savona

Congratulations to the following couples who have been united in Christ by the sacrament of Marriage.

Brandon Jonas and Lisa Jagenow





THE JOURNEY MEN

Upcoming Schedule:

Saturday, January 15 - 8:00 am - Social Hall - TOPIC: Metanoia - Episode 8 + optional Rosary (before session, starting at 7:30 am).

Thursday, January 27 - 6:30 pm - Library - TOPIC: Saved - A Bible Study.

Saturday, February 5 - 8:00 am - Social Hall - TOPIC: Metanoia - Episode 9 + optional Eucharistic Adoration (before session, starting at 7:15 am).

Highlight from a recent session:

How much does God love YOU? ... For God so loved [FILL IN YOUR NAME] that he gave his one and only Son, that if [FILL IN YOUR NAME] believes in him he shall not perish but have eternal life.

Join the Journey ... get spiritually fit ... all men are welcome ... no experience required ... no cost to attend ... see spotmensfsg.wordpress.com OR www.facebook.com/spotjourneymen OR contact Guy Infante:gpinfante@comcast.net.

NOTICE:

The
St. Thecla Church
CHILI COOK OFF

HAS BEEN
CANCELLED

SHORT ANNOUNCEMENT

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to the Redeemer.

In today's world families are becoming disposable. If you know someone who is in a marriage that may be nearing divorce or separation, ask them to visit **HelpOurMarriage.org**. That is HELP OUR MARRIAGE DOT ORG.

Please pray for marriages.

"The chief service I owe you, O God, is that every thought and word of mine should speak of you."

St. Hilary

©LPI

"MARC" MY WORDS

Our Christmas season has "officially" drawn to a close and we begin "Ordinary Time". Today, however, is not so "ordinary" as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. We all know that baptism is a sacrament of initiation. It is the "gateway" sacrament on which all the other sacraments build upon. Through the waters of baptism we become an adopted daughter or son of God the Father, sister or brother to Jesus our Lord and Savior, and become one family in Christ.

The logical question to be asked is: Since Jesus is God, who is sinless, why did he need to be baptized? The truth of the matter is that he didn't! His baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist (a baptism of repentance and not our sacramental baptism) wasn't for him it was an example for us, then and now! If you think about it all that Jesus has done, is doing, and will do is for us!

When Jesus allowed his baptism by John he publicly accepted his mission as God's suffering servant. Through his baptism, his death and resurrection are prefigured. He "dies" by being submerged under the waters of the Jordan River and rises to "new life" when he comes up from under the water. Through his baptism by water and the Spirit we are given the sacramental of Holy Water and the Sacrament of Baptism itself. So you see, it wasn't about him at all, it was for us! (See the

Catechism of the Catholic Church 535-537).

When things are done for us given us, we have the responsibility to use the gifts we have been given. We, by virtue of the grace of baptism, are called to "bring up others" from the depths to the faith by the example of our lives. At our baptism our souls are given an indelible mark left by grace by the Holy Spirit. Because of this we are called to live in such a way as to be a positive influence on others, just as Jesus is! I know that's not an easy task. Yes, we will all fail at times to live up to that task. That is why we have the other sacramental graces. We have the Eucharist so that we have Christ within us to give us strength. We have the sacrament of reconciliation (confession) to know that we are forgiven when we fail, and we ALL fail and need that sacrament.

The bottom line in all this is; to live up to our baptismal promises, we must make use of the other sacraments. That is why Jesus gave us the seven. They are gifts wrapped up in beautiful packages. If, however, we leave them wrapped up sitting on a shelf, they are merely decorations which do not serve their intended purpose. Unwrap and use the gifts as Jesus intended. When we use what we've been give we experience God's...

Peace, Love and Blessings,

Deacon Marc

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022
1:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

ST. PAUL OF TARSUS
SOCIAL HALL



Our Health Ministry—Parish Nurses are hosting a Blood Drive here at St. Paul of Tarsus on Thursday, January 20, 2022 from 1 pm to 7 pm. Reservations are required. Please go to the following website to reserve your time slot:

www.redcrossblood.org

OR

Call our Lead Parish Nurse
Rosalie at:

586-263-3516

We hope to see you there!

TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT VISIT:

WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG

OR CALL ROSALIE AT

586-263-3516



Pantry Needs

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Diapers Size 0-5
- Brown Paper Bags
- Small Laundry Detergent

Season of gratitude!

Many Hands Make Light Work

Our food pantry receives a delivery from the Macomb County Food Bank and Meijer each month. We are in need of able-bodied volunteers to assist unloading the food delivery pickup truck. If you are interested in this volunteer role or have questions, please call Joyce at 586-228-1094.

Spreading Joy, Peace, Love!

Our parish has been beyond generous in supporting our food pantry this past year. Amazing donations from within the local area are humbling as well. Blessings to all as we strive toward a healthy community!

Macomb Wholesale Supply Corp.

Sequoia Tool Inc.

Vision Institute of Michigan

Vince and Joe's

Meijer-Hall Rd.

Clinton Township Senior Center

Chippewa Valley High School Key Club

St. Michael's Church

Shelby Township Fire Dept.

Clinton-Macomb Library

Randazzo's Heating and Cooling

Delta Concrete Industrial

Tax Credits Group, LLC

Gordon Advisors, PC

Ameristeel Inc.

Tech-IV Heating and Cooling

Partridge Creek Senior Village

Panera Bread

St. Peters Church

Hanover Grove Cooperative

Christ Lutheran Church

Grosse Pointe Crisis Club

R & S Lawn Service

Molding Experts, LLC

Macomb Autism

2021 YEAR-END TOTALS

All our efforts make a huge difference in the lives of struggling families. With you by our side, we continue to meet the needs of our community!

Families: 1,349

Individuals: 4,028

No other group of people deserve gratitude more than our volunteers. They lend their time and effort to the less fortunate without expecting anything in return. Thank You for having a big heart and choosing to help us! The food pantry couldn't exist without you. May you be blessed as you are a blessing to others!

Volunteers: 33 Monthly

Volunteer Hours: 3,772

Thank You St. Paul of Tarsus Parish!

Food Pantry Hours:

Monday: 10am to 12pm

Wednesday: 10am to 1:45pm

Thursday: 10am to 12pm

Phone: 586-228-1094

Thank You!

The Magic of Hope with Anthony Grupido



Aside from dazzling crowds with his awe-inspiring magic, Anthony also uses his magic to be an advocate for mental health. Dealing with his own depression and anxiety, he uses his platform to talk to school-age kids about similar struggles they might be dealing with.

Students in Middle School and High School, along with their parents, are invited and encouraged to attend this awesome presentation.

Saturday, February 12, 2022

10:30 am Keynote presentation

11:30 am Lunch

12:30 pm—1:45 pm Workshop



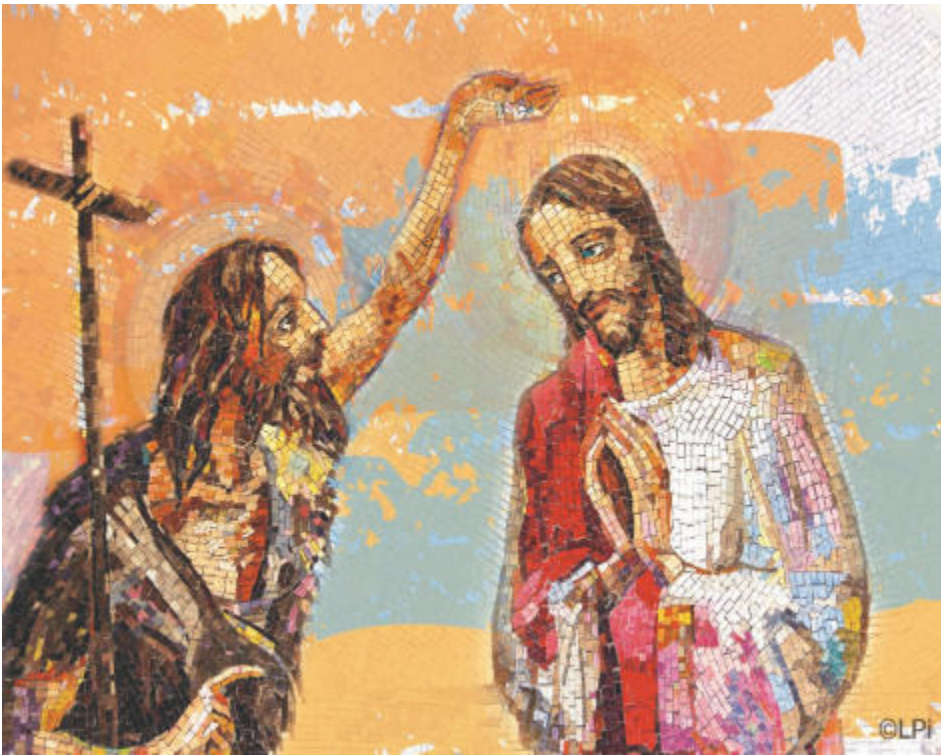
St. Paul of Tarsus
CATHOLIC CHURCH

RESERVE YOUR SPACES NOW! MASK REQUIRED.

Social distance seating will be set up so space is limited.

Reserve a spot for yourself and your student now at:

586-228-6651 or janice@spotcatholic.org



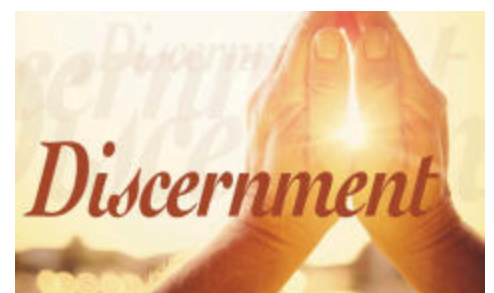
PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

***Discernment Day, Saturday,
January 29, 2022***

A Discernment Day offers a single high school man (freshman –senior) from the Archdiocese of Detroit a unique opportunity to experience the seminary and learn about the priesthood. High school students will meet new friends and grow in their understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you know any men who are interested and would like more information, please contact us:

**[https://
detroitpriestlyvocations.com/
discern-the-priesthood/high-
school-discernment-day/](https://detroitpriestlyvocations.com/discern-the-priesthood/high-school-discernment-day/)**.

Those interested must have a phone conversation with Fr. Craig Giera, Director of Priestly Vocations, before they are allowed to register.



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

Mass INTENTIONS



Tuesday, January 11 — Weekday

7:00 pm Kenneth Sowinski Sr by Sandy Sowinski
Gloria Jean Oleksiak by Husband and Family
Karim Amin by Lauren
Maya Nguyen by Frank and Janice Burda
Curt Levillier by Family
Gail Levillier by Family

Wednesday, January 12 — Weekday

8:30 am Elaine Naughton by the Duncans

Thursday, January 13 — Weekday—St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am Robert Keller—6th Anniversary by Sandra Keller

Saturday, January 15 — Weekday—BVM

400 pm Rudolfo Yapchai by Galen and Joan Dawkinis
Dolores Delmare by Judy Delmare
Walter and Minnie Cook by Marge Lanzi
Sharon Malowey by Larry Malowey
Elizabeth Levigne by JoAnne Post

Sunday, January 16 — Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45 am Ann Marchese by Joseph Marchese
John Russo by Mark Russo
Walter John Zawadzki by Mrs. Victoria Cook
9:30 am Gasko and Tracy Families by Hal and Marie Gasko
Olga Ryan by Family
11:30 am Robert Liddell by Rosalie Liddell
Mary Lou Giannone by Barb Quigley and Family

Dee Bercel
Mitchell Brand
Lucas Carlson
Connie Colosimo
Ralph Colosimo
Michael Denomme
Leno Difalco
Del Difalco
Michalene Distlath
Jeff Eichelberger
Donald Gasko
Angelo Garavaglia
Fran Gross
Joe Gross
Levi Hester
Brandon Keskitalo
Brittini Keskitalo
Cyndi Kuehnel
Pat Labadie
Henry Leflere
Robert Liddell
Emilio Manzo
Peter Mulhern
Jennifer Robinette
Loretta Suwal
Paul Suwal
Evelyn Rose Swanson
Sarah Swanson
Laura Thomson
Jean Urbanek
Annie Schweiger
Juanita Vazquez
Eileen Wade
Charlene Wojtaszek
Michael Wojtaszek
Sarah Wojtaszek

Names are included in the Prayer List for 3 weeks. If you would like to extend that time, please call the parish office at 586-228-1210 or e-mail parish@spotcatholic.org.



December 6 to December 12



**St. Paul of Tarsus
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Weekly Budget Goal	\$20,000.00
Offertory	\$14,562.00
Non-Pledge Building Fund	\$441.00
Electronic Giving	\$5,935.00
TOTAL.....	\$20,938.00
(Shortage)/Overage	\$938.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Visit SPOTCATHOLIC.ORG to give online.



Dear Lord Jesus and Mary, Mother of God, hold all these brave souls in the palm of your hand; comfort them and their families. Send angels of protection, love, and comfort to all our service men and women. Bring them home safely and comfort their families. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. -Amen.

- YN2 Petty Officer Daniel Adamczyk - Navy
- Pvt. Connor J. Ahrens - Marines
- Petty Officer 1st Class Erick Arnsby - Navy
- 1st Lt. Douglas Bour - Marines
- Pvt. Ethan Budnik - Army
- Spec. Christopher Cooper - Army Reserve
- Spec. Matthew Cooper - Army
- Spec. Nicholas Cooper - Army
- Spec. Tabitha Czekiel - Army
- Lt. Commander Jeffrey Deliz - Navy
- Staff Sergeant Bryan Furman - Army
- Petty Officer 1st Tyler J. Godbey - Navy
- Lt. Jessie Gorman - Navy
- Spec. Ross A. Hood - Army
- Col. Donna L. Hornberger - Air Force
- Capt. Zach Hornberger - Air Force
- Cpl. Logan S. Jabouri - Marines
- Sgt. 1st. Class Patrick A. Johnson - Army
- Staff Sergeant Ayana Jones - Air Force
- Cpl. Conner H. Jones - Marines
- Staff Sergeant Corey J. Jones - Air Force
- Pvt. Shelbyann Jones - Army
- A1C Eric Kelly - Air Force
- PFC. Micah J. Knoche - Army
- LCpl. Trevor Lancaster - Marines
- Senior Airman Owen LaRoche - Air Force
- Gunnery Sgt. Justin Lienemann - Marines
- Chief Petty Officer Nigel Littleton - Navy
- Spec. Chad Lombardo - Army
- SFC Martin D. Malcolm - Army
- Staff Sgt. Scott Maynard - Marines
- CDT Brennan McAlister - USMA
- SSGT Austin McHalek, Marines
- Lt. Anthony M. Morgan - Navy
- SA Antonia N. Nunnery - Navy
- Trinity O'Brian - Army
- Sgt. Connor O'Gara - Marines
- PFC Jack O'Gara - Marines
- Senior Airman Robert Olivier - Air Force
- Col. Robert R. Porchia M.D. - Air Force
- Lt. Col. Stacy Porchia - Air Force
- SSgt. Bryan Pyszk - Air Force
- SA Madeline P. Ricedemick - Navy
- Staff Sgt. Steven J. Schnoblen - Air Force
- LCpl Thomas VanBibber - Marines
- Staff Sgt. Cassie Webster - Air Force

Readings for the Week

READINGS FOR THE WEEK 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

PARISH DIRECTORY

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:45 am
 9:30 am
 11:30 am
 Tuesday: 7:00 pm
 Wednesday: 8:30 am
 Thursday: 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm in church

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
 Friday: Closed
 Saturday: 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm
 Sunday: 7:30 am to 1:00 pm

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Monday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
 Wednesday: 10:00 am to 1:45 pm
 Thursday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

GENERAL INFO

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the parish office or the 24 hour priest emergency line at 586-909-5480, to arrange for anointing for someone who is seriously ill.

PARISH REGISTRATION

You may register online by visiting spotcatholic.org. Newcomers are always welcome!

ONLINE GIVING

Click **Donate** on our parish website home page spotcatholic.org for information or to enroll or give a one-time gift.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Submit text and photos by noon on Monday for the following Sunday to parish@spotcatholic.org.

FACILITIES SCHEDULING

To schedule a parish related event please complete the **Facility Usage Form** available from the parish office or on spotcatholic.org/forms-downloads.

PARISH LIBRARY

Located in the Parish Office Suite - check out spotcatholic.org/library for complete information on hours and resources available.



24 HR EMERGENCY

PRIEST EMERGENCY LINE

586-909-5480

CHURCH OFFICE

PARISH OFFICE

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 Clinton Township, MI 48038

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PARISH FAX

586-228-8935

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jws1953@spotcatholic.org

SR. PRIEST

Fr. Ron Essman

PERMANENT DEACON

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 586-228-1210 ext. 113
deaconmarc@spotcatholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Monica Thimm
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mthimm@spotcatholic.org

PARISH BOOKKEEPER

586-228-1210 ext. 124

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amy@spotcatholic.org

WEEKEND RECEPTIONISTS

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Christine@spotcatholic.org

MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS

Jason Scanlan
 586-228-1210 ext. 121
maintenance@spotcatholic.org

COMMUNICATION

MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Phyllis Bengry
 586-228-1210 ext. 122
phyllis@spotcatholic.org

BULLETIN

parish@spotcatholic.org

WEBSITE

parish@spotcatholic.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

parish@spotcatholic.org

PARISH CALENDAR

<https://www.spotcatholic.org/events>

RELIGIOUS ED

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PHONE

586-228-6651

PARISH CATECHETICAL LEADER

Peggy DeClercq
 586-228-6651 ext. 4
pdeclercq@spotcatholic.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Celeste Triner
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pdeclercq@spotcatholic.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SECRETARY

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 586-228-6651 ext. 5
janice@spotcatholic.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SECRETARY & OFFICE ASSISTANT

Kathy Andrzejewski
 586-228-6651 ext. 2
kathy@spotcatholic.org

SACRAMENTAL PREP

BAPTISM PREP

Peggy DeClercq
 586-228-6651 ext. 4
pdeclercq@spotcatholic.org

MARRIAGE PREP

Deacon Marc Rybinski
 586-228-1210 ext. 113
deaconmarc@spotcatholic.org

RCIA COORDINATOR

Peggy DeClercq
 586-228-6651 ext. 4
pdeclercq@spotcatholic.org

ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS & AL-ANON

Tom Murray
tommurray2013@gmail.com

ALTAR SERVERS

Kim Heiss
kheiss@wowway.com

AMERICAN HOUSE

Gail Oliveri
augailtab@gmail.com

ALTAR CLOTHS

Carol Golec
carolgolec@gmail.com

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

Deacon Marc Rybinski
586-228-1210 ext. 113
deaconmarc@spotcatholic.org

DONUT SUNDAY

Lori Finn
mfinnfam@sbcglobal.net

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC)

Sally Gryniewicz
msgryniewicz@comcast.net

ENVIRONMENT

Phyllis Bengry
phyllis@spotcatholic.org

EVANGELICAL CHARITY

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EVANGELIZATION

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pdeclercq@spotcatholic.org

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Tom Loria
thomasaloria@aol.com

FOOD PANTRY & CRISIS OUTREACH

Joyce Yaklin - Coordinator
586-228-1094
jyaklin@spotcatholic.org

Toni O'Neill - Assistant
586-228-1094
toneill@spotcatholic.org

St. Paul of Tarsus CATHOLIC CHURCH

GARDENERS

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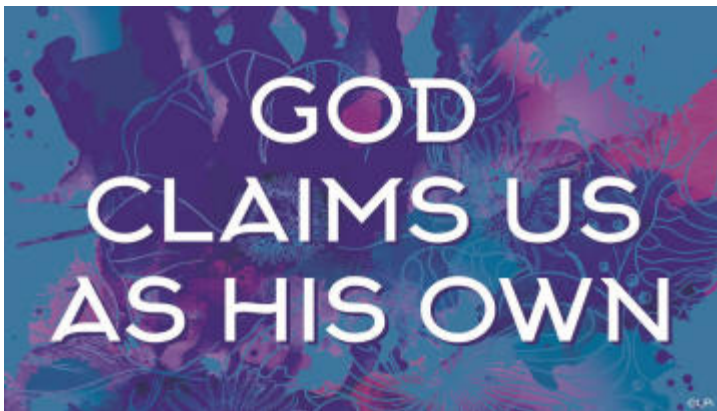
YOUTH MINISTRY

Celeste Triner
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SCHEDULE—January 15 and 16, 2022

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

	4:00 pm Mass	7:45 am Mass	9:30 am Mass	11:30 am Mass
Rosary @ 3:15 pm	Paul Parker			
Welcome Host	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule
Presider	Fr. Jerry	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Jerry
Altar Servers	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule
Lectors	Bohn Castle	Krause Gonko	DiBella Charland	Okerhjelm Gough
Hospitality	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule	See schedule
Sacristan	Janet Valentine	Diane DeLuca	Wanda Maleszyk	Steve Hull
Purificator	Annette Alfred	Annette Alfred	Annette Alfred	Annette Alfred



UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE

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 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.

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