

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:
Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD ♦ JANUARY 9, 2022

ALL THAT HE WON FOR THE WHOLE WORLD...

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

IF I WERE TO ASK YOU TO LIST THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST, you would probably say: Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, and His Ascension. But the Baptism of Jesus deserves as much of our attention as all these other “landmark” events in the life of our Lord.

On Christmas morning, Christ came into THE WORLD. On Good Friday, Christ died for the sins of THE WORLD. On Easter Sunday, Christ justified and reconciled God to THE WORLD. Forty days after Easter, He ascended into heaven to intercede with the Father for the life of THE WORLD.

How does this connect to me personally?
This is what Paul wanted us to understand when he said, “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? We were buried with Him by baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life” (Rom. 6:3-4).

Our Lord began to connect with us, began to preach about this new life, after His baptism in the River Jordan. The first thing

parents do who want their children to connect with the Lord is baptize their children.

When our children were getting ready for college, we wanted to get them connected to all the scholarship and grant money that we heard was out there. We had to fill out the applications. But none of it would actually benefit our children until the forms were filled out, the essays written, and the interviews took place. Only then would the general become specific and we realize the benefit.

Now just imagine all of the benefits that are available through Jesus Christ: the

forgiveness of sins, peace which this world cannot give, life and salvation. All these Christ has won for the world by His birth, death, resurrection, and ascension.

But how do these actually get to me? There is a procedure for
—continued on p. 2 >>



The Baptism of Frank Edward Bush • May 16, 2021

St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ♦ Jan. 8-16, 2022
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. JAN. 8 *Christmas Weekday*

1 Jn 5:14-21 3:30-4:30pm Confession
Jn 3:22-30
➤ **5:00pm Vigil MASS for the Baptism of the Lord:** † Natalie Daubner
[Her Family]

SUN. JAN. 9 *Feast: The Baptism of the Lord*

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
Acts 10:34-38 Coffee Hour after each of the Masses
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Donald Vogrin & the 6th Year anniversary of death of † Jim O'Sullivan [The O'Sullivan Family]
➤ **10:30am MASS: For the People**
4:00-5:30pm Confirmation class/PC

MON. JAN. 10 *Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)*

1 Sm 1:1-8
Mk 1:14-20
➤ **12:10pm MASS:** † Mike Stem
[Marie & Robert Skrobola & Family]
Amazing Greys (after Mass) / FFH
3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed Classes / PC
7:00pm Evangelization Team / FFH

TUES. JAN. 11 *Weekday*

1 Sm 1:9-20
Mk 1:21-28
➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Victoria Curley
[Marilyn & Allan DeShano]

WED. JAN. 12 *Weekday*

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20
Mk 1:29-39
➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Mike Stem
[Inge & Pete Roncoli]
7:00pm Finance Council mtg

THUR. JAN. 13 *Weekday (opt. mem. St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church)*

1 Sm 4:1-11
Mk 1:40-45
➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Sonja Rhees
[St. Mary's Altar Society]

FRI. JAN. 14 *Weekday*

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a
Mk 2:1-12
➤ **8:30am MASS:** † Leon Ball
[The Ball Family]

SAT. JAN. 15 *Weekday (opt. mem. Blessed Virgin Mary)*

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a
Mk 2:13-17
3:30-4:30pm Confession
➤ **5:00pm Vigil MASS for the 2nd Sunday in Ord. Time:** † Victoria Curley [Tim & Kim Gouvens]

SUN. JAN. 16 *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Is 62:1-5 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
1 Cor 12:4-11
Jn 2:1-11
➤ **8:30am MASS: For the People**
➤ **10:30am MASS:** † Mike Stem
[Bill & Astrida Panches] ■

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
All that HE won for the whole world...

that, a form that needs to be completed to get baptized, to get our children baptized. Parents: Don't deny your children the benefits they deserve by your unwillingness to baptize them. They too deserve and are eligible for all of these benefits won by Christ for the world. As you heard, our baptism is into Christ.

Picture a huge, solid door, behind which lies a room filled with treasures and wealth. Standing outside that door, you wonder, "How do I get into that room?" "How do I get this door to open so that I may enter to make this treasure my own, and enjoy all this wealth?" Now, picture that all of that wealth is in Jesus Christ. HE is the room in which all of the treasures of heaven are kept. And in His own words, He is "the door." The question is, how do I get that door to open? How do I get into Christ where these treasures are? And the answer is "baptism." Which actually is not something we do at all, but something done to us. We are "baptized into Christ."

Let me draw another picture for you. This one comes from the book of Leviticus and is about the day of atonement. The Day of Atonement was that annual day for Israel when the High Priest would enter into the Holy of Holies with incense and blood to atone for the sins of the entire nation. One sacrifice for all.

The "sinful" High Priest, who was one of the people, could enter into the very presence of the Holy God with the entire congregation waiting outside the Tabernacle. The High Priest took the blood of the innocent lamb into the Tabernacle. But before he went behind the curtain, into the Holy of Holies with that blood to sprinkle on the Ark of the Covenant, he had to do a few things. First, he had to take off the clothes that he was wearing. They were covered in sin. Second, while he had his clothes off he had to bathe in water. Literally, he washed or "baptized" his sins off of him. Third, he would put on the holy garments and enter the Holy of Holies. That's what happens for us in our baptism. As we enter into Jesus Christ, we enter the true Holy of Holies in the true Temple of God. And the life and salvation that He won for the world becomes ours.

This is the profound truth that St. Luke expresses so simply when he writes in today's gospel, "Now when all the people were being baptized, and Jesus also had been baptized..." Why is He who is without sin, in whom the fullness of deity dwells bodily, being baptized? Here we come to one of those "mysteries of God" that opens up before our eyes to see in virtual reality, a beauty that brings us to our knees.

It is by the same sacrament through which we sinners enter into the holy Christ and receive all of the benefits that He won for us, that the holy Christ enters into this fallen and sinful world.

It is like the high priest on the day of atonement before he goes outside to where all the people are waiting. There are certain things he must do. He must take off those "holy garments" he was wearing. And he must then bathe again because he is covered in holiness. When Moses came out from the cloud where he was with God, he never changed his clothes or washed. And his face shone like the sun, and no one could look at him, and everyone was afraid of him. The High Priest must be like the people. Jesus was baptized so that he may come near the people and the people may come near to him without fear.

Dear brothers and sisters, on Christmas morning Jesus came into the world. At His baptism, He came into you and me. The One whose dwelling is in heaven, was baptized into us and made us His dwelling place. So please remember: Our baptism is the most significant event of our life and the lives of our children, because it was there that you entered into Jesus Christ. And Jesus Christ entered into you. And all that He won for the whole world, is won for you. †

Birthday Blessings!

JANUARY 10
Duane Beuerle

JANUARY 11
Karen Berg
Lily McFarland
Tim Tyler

JANUARY 12
Geneva Walkow

JANUARY 13
Jeffrey Sangster

JANUARY 14
Matthew Radze

From Bishop Boyea: Thank you to all who have signed up to my new "Disciples Together on the Way" initiative that begins early in this New Year. **Each week** I will text or email you a specific challenge focusing on a particular habit of authentic Christian discipleship. Inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, it will then be for each of us to live-out that habit over the subsequent seven days.

To register, simply pick up your cellphone and text **ONTHEWAY** to **84576**. Or for more info and to sign-up, visit www.dioceseoflansing.org/on-the-way ♦

Next weekend: A Time to Help

Even though the news cycle changes incredibly fast, we still can remember the vivid images of the devastating and deadly tornadoes that tore through Kentucky and several other states in the midwest and south just two weeks before Christmas. Now we have an opportunity to help. Archbishop José H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has called on all Catholics for prayer and assistance. Bishop Boyea is asking parishes in the Diocese of Lansing to take up a special collection **next weekend, January 15/16** to help those who were in the path of these storms. Please be generous with the collection and your prayers.

Imagine meeting with a best friend...

...the kind of friend who always has your back and would give his life to keep his promise. Would you listen if he warned you about something toxic that could kill you? Or if he promised to share with you his enormous wealth, if you but follow his instructions? Certainly, this level of friendship is priceless. Wouldn't your heart yearn to draw close to him? This is precisely the relationship that Jesus wants with each of us. His promises and warnings are real and available. They've been offered to humanity for thousands of years – with lukewarm reception. God speaks, some listen, some do for awhile, and some never listen. Break out of indifference and learn about the wealth and protection offered in the Bible to everyone. Never forget what Jesus said, "He who sees Me sees the Father." Sign-up for the Bible Timeline series starting on **Thurs., Jan 27**. The promotion flyer with important information and the sign-up envelope are in the church vestibule. If you have questions, contact Dcn Dennis: 734-761-3163, waltersdennis1940@gmail.com OR Bill Kwolek: 734-428-7674 land, 734-775-1124 cell, bkwolek@comcast.net OR the parish office: 734-428-8811

Seminary Visit

The Diocese of Lansing will be offering a "Come and See Weekend" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary **Thurs. through Sun., Jan. 20-23, 2022**. This event is open to men college-age and older from our Diocese, who may be a good candidate for seminary formation. The weekend will include attending daily Mass and Holy Hour with the seminarians, visiting classes, talks on discernment and seminary life, and time for fraternity and personal prayer. There is no cost for the visit. For more information, visit lansingpriest.org/visit/ or email Fr. Whitlock at jwhitlock@dioceseoflansing.org

Take the Next Step

Learn more about becoming a Sidewalk Advocate or Support Prayer Partner. *Ann Arbor Sidewalk Advocates for Life* (SAFL) is looking to grow our team and would love for you to join us. Our trained Sidewalk Advocates and Prayer Partners serve year-round, rain or shine to reach out to change the hearts and minds of abortion-minded women and men. By the grace of God, our Advocates have been involved in many saves at the Ann Arbor Planned Parenthood over the last 7 years, including 20 saves during the Covid lockdown!

All are invited to sharpen the tools in their pro-life tool belt by taking the SAFL Basic Training 2.0. This comprehensive training is life-changing! Ask us how to get involved as a Sidewalk Advocate or Support Prayer Partner today! Take the next step toward helping end abortion in our community! **Next training: Sat., Jan. 15. RSVP by Wed., Jan. 12.**

A Closer Walk

The people of Our Lady of Fatima parish invite the people of St. Mary to an evening of spiritual reflection with Irish tenor Mark Forrest. The "Come Walk With Me" evening is a time for us to reflect on our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. During the evening, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed, and Irish tenor Mark Forrest will take you through an evening of music, reflection, and healing. Consider spending an hour with the Lord as He invites you to a closer walk with Him.

WHEN: Mon., Jan. 10 at 7:00pm. **WHERE:** Our Lady of Fatima, 913 Napoleon Rd, Michigan Center. For more info, contact their parish office: 517-764-2088.

The SANCTUARY LAMPS are burning this week for the following intentions:
PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- + Sonja Rhees
(Pete & Inge Roncoli)
- + Harold Kominars
(Pete & Inge Roncoli)



Please Pray for...

- Katy Doyle
- John Salvatore
- Neoma Reeter
- Josh Zimmer
- Ella Landini
- Anna Brogley (mother of Martin Brogley)
- Sadie (granddaughter of Claudia Damian)
- Cassidy Sangster
- RJ Sangster
- Connie Achtenberg (daughter of Connie & Jim)
- Mary Alice Krzyzaniak
- Tom Leib
- Jean Duffy and her siblings
- Marja Warner
- Connie (Uhr) Marion
- Ryan Coulter
- Mark Wiedmayer
- Jerry Kripas
- Joe Kirk
- Loretta Widmayer
- Duane Beuerle
- Joyce Stein
- Christy Woody
- Paul Whelan
- Kirsten (stepdaughter of Laurie Sanders' brother Mark)
- Bruce Sommers

...and for the repose of the soul of
† Fr. David Hudgins
and of † Ralph Brighton
and of † Sarah Brown
and for their grieving loved ones.

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, December 26, 2021

Sunday Env (62)	\$ 4,640.00
Welcome & Loose	227.00
E-Giving (9)	499.63
Solemnity of Mary	25.00
Christmas (5)	3,923.00
Combined toward budget:	... \$ 9,314.63
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal:	+ 4,014.63

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Bldg. & Maint (5)	\$ 85.00
Retired Religious (1)	20.00
E-Giving Ret. Rel. (1)	25.00
Poor Box	44.00
Votive candles	44.00

THINK YOU MIGHT BE PREGNANT? NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION
Call (800) 712-HELP (4357)

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An "AA" group meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary's)

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