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Fr. Romil Aperocho, Associate Pastor  
Fr. Michael Farrell, Pastor Emeritus  
Fr. Larry Olszewski CSC, Assisting Priest  
Jack Alexander, Deacon

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*JANUARY 9, 2022*

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

Daily Masses: Mon - Sat | 8:30 AM  
Confessions: Sat | 3:30 PM  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 PM  
Sundays Masses: 8:00, 9:30, & 11:30 AM

### **PARISH STAFF**

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**Danielle Cardamone,**  
Communications  
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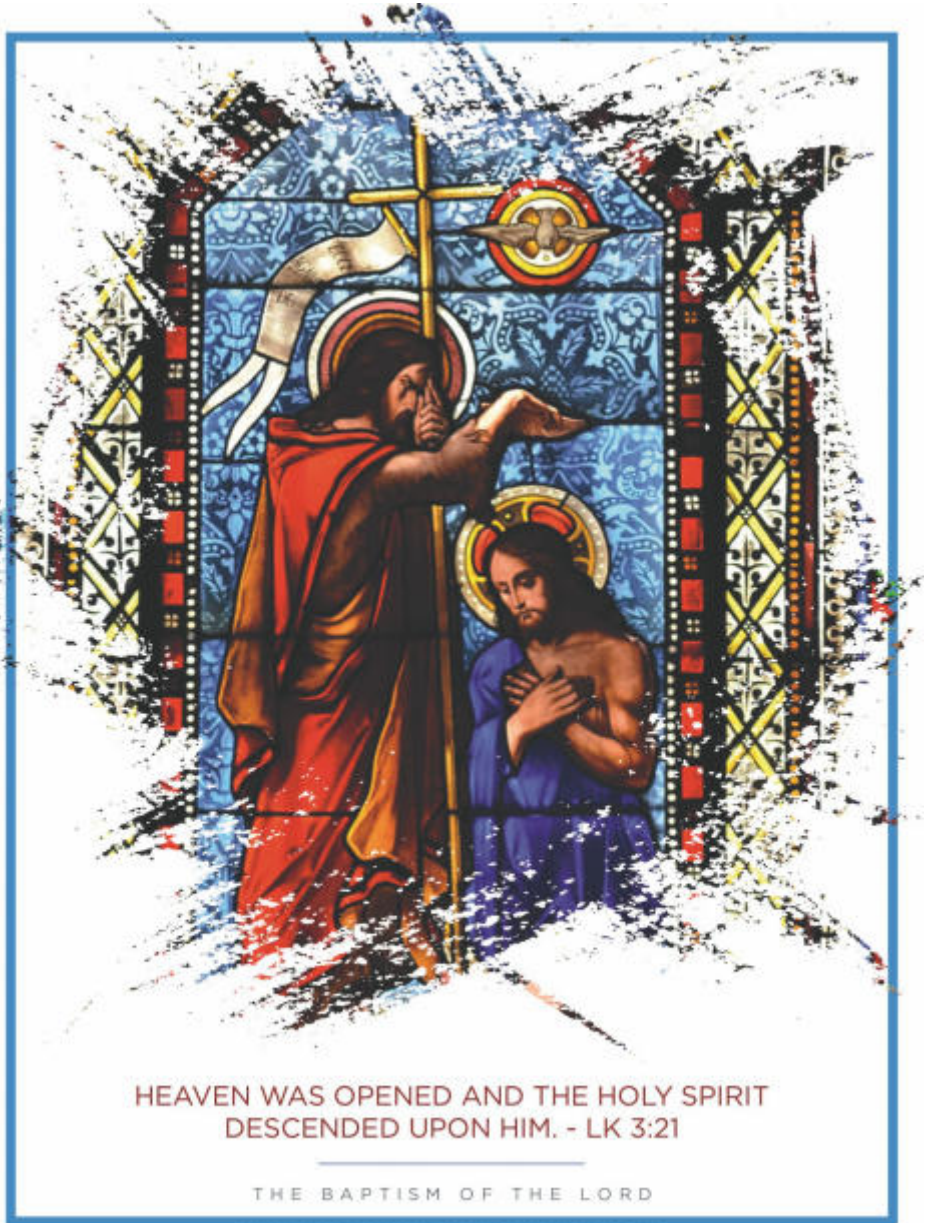
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**Gayle Little, Youth Director**  
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EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1999, 1970 CCL: 15/P

### **Mission Statement**

We, the community of Divine Mercy Parish, profess and proclaim Christ crucified, risen and alive in His Church. We invite all to a life of discipleship through worship, ongoing formation, merciful witness, and service which actively builds the Kingdom of God here on earth and by which we journey towards the eternal Kingdom in Heaven.

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

### *Monday, January 10th*

8:30 AM †Jacob Roberson

### *Tuesday, January 11th*

8:30 AM †Connie Infusino  
†Michael Micale

### *Wednesday, January 12th*

8:30 AM †Barbara Smith

### *Thursday, January 13th*

8:30 AM (SI) Anna Miller

### *Friday, January 14th*

8:30 AM †Patrick Nehring

### *Saturday, January 15th*

All living and deceased members of  
Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:30 AM †Jenny Reitz  
†Tara Harpel

4:30 PM †Jeanette & Ronald  
Draina  
†Henry Arnold

### *Sunday, January 9th*

All living and deceased members of  
Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:00 AM †Thomas Urbanek  
9:30 AM †Patrick Nehring  
11:30 AM †Anthony Milano

*If you would like to have a Mass  
offered for a special intention please  
contact the Parish Office.*

## Contact Information

Church Office:

(321) 452-5955

Hours: M-Th: 9:00-4:00

F: 9:00 - 12:00

Closed for Lunch:

12:00-1:00

1940 N Courtenay Pkwy,  
Merritt Island FL 32953

## 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

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

January 9, 2022

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 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.

©LPi

# WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together;  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

### PSALM:

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

### SECOND READING:

He saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

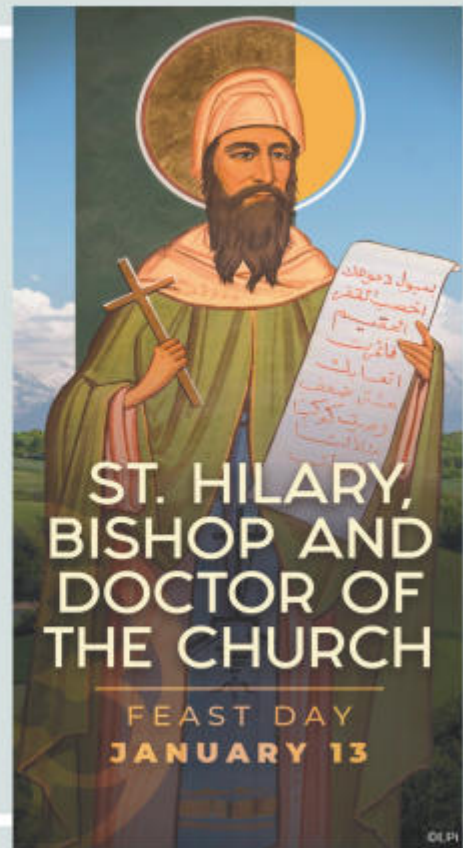
### GOSPEL:

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 3:22)

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

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord  
Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Saint of the Week

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 Phrygia 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.

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

St. Hilary

## WHAT'S GOING ON



### REMEMBER *in your prayers*

*"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)* Please pray one "Our Father", one "Hail Mary" and one "Glory Be" for our fellow parishioners in need of our prayers.

Tabitha Buchanan  
John Bonavito  
Dot Buckley

Curt Anderholm  
Chad Little

Claire Ingino  
Susan Person

Michael Cherup  
Teresa Cherup

*Please call the Parish Office at 321-452-5955 should you wish to add yourself or a loved one to our prayer section of the bulletin.*

### *Special Collection*

The Special Collection at all Masses this weekend will be for Seminarians.

## OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

### *Monday, January 10th*

8:30 AM Daily Mass  
10:00 AM Anne's Angels

### *Tuesday, January 11th*

8:30 AM Daily Mass  
6:00 PM SVDP Meeting  
6:30 PM Chorale Practice  
7:00 PM Welcoming Committee Meeting

### *Wednesday, January 12th*

8:30 AM Daily Mass  
1:00 PM Senior Games  
6:00 PM Religious Education  
6:00 PM EDGE  
7:15 PM Children's Choir Practice

### *Thursday, January 13th*

8:30 AM Daily Mass  
10:00 AM Martha's  
7:00 PM Contemporary Choir Practice

### *Friday, January 14th*

8:30 AM Daily Mass  
9:00 AM First Friday Adoration until 1:00 PM

### *Saturday, January 15th*

6:00 AM March for Life—Leaving from Our Saviour's  
8:30 AM Daily Mass  
3:30 PM Confessions (CHPL)  
4:30 PM Vigil Mass  
6:00 PM Youth Group Lock In

### *Sunday, January 16th*

**8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:30 AM Masses**  
8:00 AM Coffee and Sweet treats after ALL Masses  
8:30 AM RCIA  
6:00 PM Youth Group

### **MEN'S CAMPING RETREAT w Fr. Leo Hodges**

Would you like to join a group of men on a noble spiritual quest from the afternoon of January 21 through the early afternoon of the 23rd. Tents provided and hot water too, all that is needed is a beginner's mind and a willing spirit. For more information, please contact Fr. Leo Hodges at [frleo@standrew-orlando.org](mailto:frleo@standrew-orlando.org), or contact Tom Crowell at [\(321\) 432-3342](tel:3214323342) for more information.

### **SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

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from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



After Jesus was baptized, He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and heard a voice saying "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." When we help those less fortunate, impoverished or on the borderline of poverty, we should know, in our hearts those same words are being said, "I am well pleased". Thank you for your continued generosity to the food chest and poor box.

***Food Requests: Meat & Fish, 1 lb bag of Rice***

Did you know that the SVdP Pantry reaches out to our neighbors with more than just Food? We also provide toiletries and some clothing to those in need. Can you donate new socks or clean tee shirts for homeless men or women? We also need shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Hotel sizes are great! For the sake of the environment how about recycling paper bags and shopping bags with us. All can be placed in our food bins.

### **DIVINE MERCY COMMUNITY PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS**



Our Prayer Chain can be reached by calling Julie Dunn at 321-432-8548.

Please pray for our parishioners who are ill at home, in the hospital or nursing homes, and for those whose names we do not have.

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PARISH

### I Hope I Am Like Him—"Everyday Stewardship"

"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



### REMINDER...

Please remember to update your email address with the Parish Office if it has changed within the last year. Tax statements will be emailed shortly.



*Sometimes things can go very wrong in a marriage.*

**Retrouvaille** is a program to help heal and support married couples experiencing difficulties, couples broken, lonely and hurting. It's also for couples who have separated or divorced and want to try again. Our next program begins in Winter Park **January 28-30, 2022**. Not counseling or group therapy. For more information and registration, call **352-274-4614**. **All calls and names held in strictest confidence.** We invite you to visit our website at [Retrouvaille.org](http://Retrouvaille.org)

## LOCK-IN FOR

Lifeteen

9-12 Grades

**PLEASE BRING \$5 TO HELP WITH COSTS**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 15-16**

Meet in the Dome at 6:00 pm

We will spend the night no-one will be allowed to leave unless a parent checks you out. We will attend the 4:30 pm Mass Saturday and will be released after dinner.

Please Bring a Sleeping Bag, PJ's, Hygiene items etc.

All permission forms should be turned into Ms. Gayle by

January 9th so we can plan on activities and food. If you want to donate any food or drink items, it is greatly appreciated.

## KID'S CORNER



### Sharing the Gospel

Your Dad says, "Wash your hands, please. It is almost time to eat." After you wash your hands really well, your Dad smiles. He says, "That's my boy. You did a good job!" In today's Gospel, it was time for Jesus to be baptized. After his baptism, Jesus talked to God his Father in prayer. Jesus did everything his Father asked. God was happy with his Son and said, "I'm pleased with you."

### Prayer

God, I want to make you and my parents happy.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of God telling you, "Good job!"

### Mission for the Week

Find out what makes God happy. As a family, read John 15:9-12.



**Religious Education Classes** for grades Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade has begun. Classes meet every Wednesday evening from 6 - 7:15 PM.

Religious Education for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders is called **Edge** and those sessions also meet on Wednesday evenings from 6 - 7:15PM

**LifeTeen** is the Program for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and they meet every Sunday evening from 6 - 8PM

### Preparation Classes for Sacraments are as follows:

Confirmation - January 23, February 27

Confirmation Retreat—Sunday, February 6th

First Communion - February 20 and March 27

These are all Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 11:00 in the Dome for parents and students. Registration packets for all grades can be picked up in the Narthex after all Masses. Registration is also available on the parish website:  
[www.divinemerchchurch.org](http://www.divinemerchchurch.org).

### FORMED—

FORMED is a website full of excellent Catholic content. Log in to [divinemerchchurch.org](http://divinemerchchurch.org)

If you are an adult interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Mary Frances Coburn in the Parish Office.

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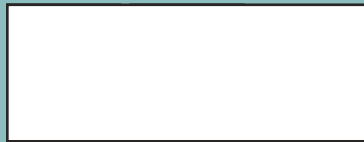
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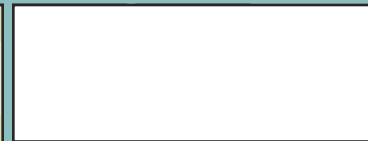
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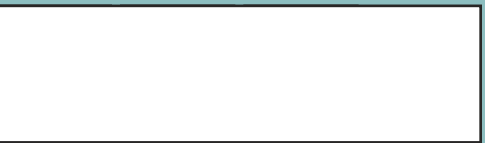
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