## **CHURCH OF ST. ANN**

311 CARR AVE, KEANSBURG NJ | 732.787.0315 | STANNKEANSBURG@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

## **PARISH LIFE**



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Monday 8:00am	1-11-21 <b>Genevieve Cordi</b> rq by The Diomede Family
<i>Tuesday</i> 8:00am	1-12-21 <b>Kevin Hedlund</b> rq by Wayne & Ann Commarto
Wednesday	1-13-21
8:00am	Purgatorial Society of St. An
Thursday	1-14-21
8:00am	<b>Thomas Padden</b> rq by Loving Family
Friday	1-15-21
9:00am	<b>Candy Frable</b> rq by Loving Friend
<i>Saturday</i> 5:00pm	1-16-21 <b>Kitty Arnold</b> rq by Bayshore Senior Center
Sunday 8:00am	1-17-21 <b>Barbara Puglisi</b> rq by Shelia Gibney
10:30am	<b>Eileen Callahan</b> rq by Mary Dickey
6:00pm	<b>John Policastro</b> rq by Loving Sister <b>Louise Nardi</b> rq by Alfred Nardi



#### THE SANCTUARY LAMP

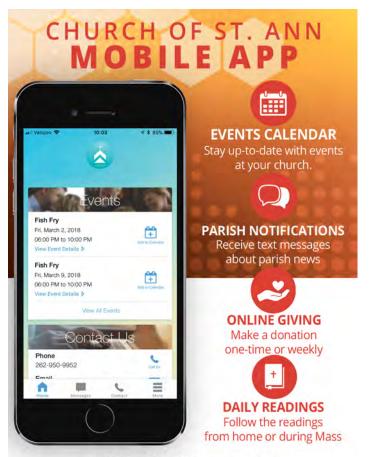
The Sanctuary Lamp is available for special intentions. The Lamp burns weekly for deceased members of a family or requests for a special intention. The donation is \$20. Please call the Rectory for further information.. This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for

Louise Nardi rq by Loving Family



## WINTER SCHEDULE

<u>Masses</u> Mon - Fri 8A, Sat 5P, Sun 9A. <u>Office Hours</u> Mon - Fri 9A - 1P. <u>Church Hours</u> Mon - Fri 8:30A - 12P. <u>Confessions</u> Sat 1P - 2P *inside* the church sacristy.



Apple AppStore Weconnect parish app GooglePlay Weconnect app v.3

## WEEKLY PRAYER

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021**

SUN 1/10	ls 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or ls 55:1-11/ls 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3)]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
MON 1/11	Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20
TUE 1/12	Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
WED 1/13	Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
THR 1/14	Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
FRI 1/15	Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
SAT 1/16	Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
SUN 1/17	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021**

Sunday:	The Baptism of the Lord
Wednesday:	St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Sunday:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

We carry a greater depth of self-confidence and chance of succeeding when we have affirmation, a sense of direction and clear purpose in life. Each of these serve to provide our lives with meaning, allowing us to clearly establish priorities and goals. They also are necessary for integrity, which is the conviction and single mindedness that keeps us grounded in the truth of who we are. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Jesus' baptism provides him with exactly what he needs to get about the business of his mission as the Son of God. He is given what he needs to be successful in fulfilling the purpose for which he was sent. Our baptisms give us these same gifts. We receive the affirmation we need from God, knowing that we are one of his beloved daughters and sons. We are gifted with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Are we ready and willing to answer the call?

# BAPTISM OF THE LORD



WE RECEIVE THE SPIRIT OF **TRUTH SO THAT** WE CAN KNOW THE THINGS OF GOD. -ST. HILARY OF POITERS

The future starts today, not tomorrow.

- ST. JOHN PAUL II

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#### FIRST READING

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked man his thoughts; Let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving (Is 55:6-7)

#### **PSALM** You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation. (Is 12:3)

#### **SECOND READING**

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. (1 In 5:6)



#### GOSPEL

And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Mk 1:11)

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## **WORSHIP & MEDITATION**



#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION** Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?

## LITURGICAL LIFE



#### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments When God Whispers

"You don't need to shout. My hearing works just fine."

Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I'm not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn't correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I've got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens ("This is my beloved Son!") really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things in person.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But here's the good news: God doesn't need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.

Let's wake up each morning ready to hear God's whispers throughout the day. Let's make a conscious effort to invite those whispers into our hearts, where they can become a catalyst for grace in this world.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

#### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!





#### WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

#### Question:

Why do we hold hands during the Our Father?

#### Answer:

The practice of members of the assembly holding hands while praying the Lord's Prayer during the Mass is a custom that developed organically in the 1970s and 1980s. While some commentators acknowledge that the practice varies from place to place, it is a fairly universal reality in parishes across the United States. For some, this action symbolizes the communion of Christians praying together as one family of believers honoring the Father of All. Critics of the practice sometimes express concern that holding hands can be a distraction from the more significant unity that is experienced when we process to the altar to receive sacramental communion.

And so, we're left to ask, what is the answer?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (the document that offers specific instructions for the celebration of the Mass) is silent on the practice, saying only that "all the faithful say the prayer" with the priest. The website of the US Bishops simply observes that "No position is prescribed in the Roman Missal for an assembly gesture during the Lord's Prayer." And so, we're left to discern within ourselves and within our parish and religious communities what is an authentic gesture of praise during this important point of the Mass. For some, this means continuing to hold hands, while for others, this may mean adopting another posture of prayer.

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This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

- Mk 1:7-8

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## **LITURGICAL LIFE**

#### **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK** Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

#### **First Reading**

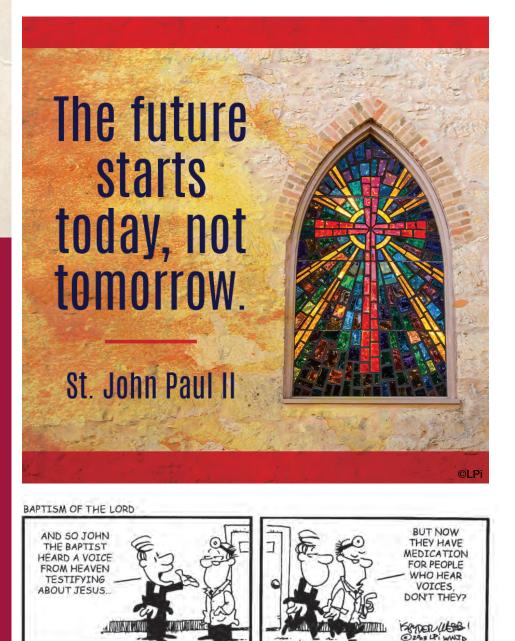
Isaiah was called to be a prophet to bring justice and freedom to those suffering, to be a "light for the nations." How do see yourself serving others in need in your life?

#### Second Reading

John teaches his community that God Himself has "testified on behalf of His Son." In what way does this divine assurance help strengthen your faith?

#### **Gospel Reading**

The preaching of John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus is the opening scene in the Gospel of Mark. In Jesus' baptism, the Father, Son, and Spirit were fully present. As a baptized Christian, can you think of a time when you experienced God's presence?



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## LITURGICAL LIFE

#### **3 EASY STEPS**

#### To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



#### Wash Your Hands

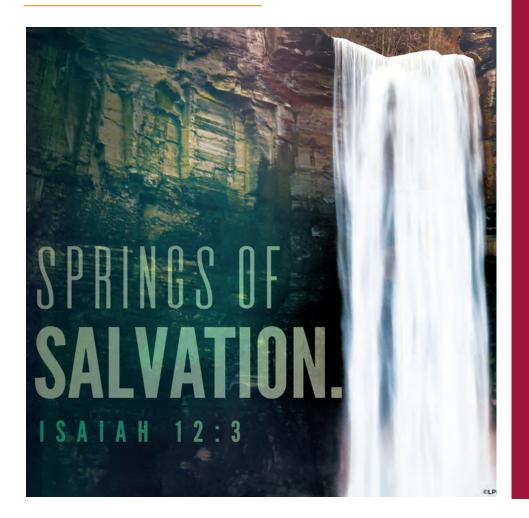
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

#### Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

#### Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water *he saw the heavens* being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

### - Mk 1:9-11

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