A large mosaic depicting the Baptism of the Lord. It shows John the Baptist on the left, pouring water from a shell over the head of Jesus on the right. The mosaic is composed of many small, colorful tiles in shades of blue, yellow, red, and brown. The scene is set outdoors with a simple background.

JANUARY 9, 2022

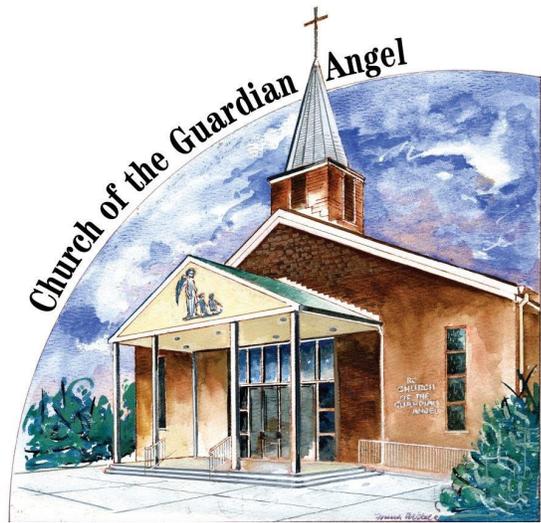
The Baptism of the Lord

John said, "I am baptizing you with water,

but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals."

~ Luke 3:16



CHURCH OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL

320 Franklin Turnpike
 Allendale, New Jersey 07401

201-327-4359

WWW.GUARDIANANGELCHURCH.ORG

PASTORAL STAFF

	201-327-4359
Rev. Tadeusz Jank, <i>Pastor</i>	x201
tjank@guardianangelchurch.org	
Rey Escalon, <i>Deacon</i>	201-264-0145
escalonr@hotmail.com	
Lori O'Reilly, <i>Parish Secretary</i>	x202
loreilly@guardianangelchurch.org	
Frances Ferraro, <i>Parish Catechetical Leader</i>	x208
fferraro@guardianangelchurch.org	
Ali Zambrotta, <i>Secretary for Religious Education and Local Safety Environment Coordinator</i>	x205
azambrotta@guardianangelchurch.org	
Klajdi Cerriku, <i>Director of Music</i>	862-232-8390
cerrickuklajdi@gmail.com	
Silvana Anello, <i>Rental Coordinator</i>	x218
sanello@guardianangelchurch.org	
Jennifer Kavanagh, <i>Youth Minister</i>	x204
jkavanagh@guardianangelchurch.org	
Robert Yager, <i>Custodian, Maintenance, Groundskeeper</i>	x203
ryager@guardianangelchurch.org	

Stan Brach and Jean Escalona, *Trustees*

Rectory Phone	(201) 327-4359
Rectory Fax	(201) 327-6478
Religious Education	(201) 327-0352
Rentals	(201) 783-5414

Prayer Chain Ministry

Coordinator: Arlene Sabino (201) 934-8441

Ministry of Stewardship & Finance

Finance Council Michael Simendinger (201) 236-3135

Pastoral Council Chris Kehoe (201) 739-4408

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please email Deacon Rey Escalon at escalonr@hotmail.com to arrange for infant baptism and parental instruction.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please contact Youth Ministry office at 201-327-4359 x204 for information about teen sacramental preparation.

**SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST
 SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Eve - 5:30 p.m.
 (Sunday Obligation)

Sunday - 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAYS: Monday - Friday - 9:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS: schedule posted in bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment.

SACRAMENTS FOR THE SICK

Please contact the Rectory for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and to request Communion for the homebound.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please call the Rectory at least one year in advance.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Please contact Father Tad or the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365.

RCIA -THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

If you are an adult interested in becoming Catholic, or if you are a baptized Catholic who would like to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist and/or Confirmation, please call Fr. Tad at 201-327-4359 x201 or Frances Ferraro 201-327-0352 for children and teens.

MESSAGE FROM FR. TAD

Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022



Baptism of the Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the [Baptism of Our Lord](#). But “why did Jesus get baptized?” He obviously was free of sin. What was the point?

This moment when Jesus is baptized shows just how much God wanted to enter our world — to be one of us, to live as one of us, to share in all we are.

What he did was an act of solidarity and love, **He wants to be with us, to walk with us.** And he does.

He walks with those [who are dealing with many problems](#).

He walks with those [who are alone or sick or in any need](#).

He walks with anyone [who wants to walk with him, and who seeks a way to God-the Father](#).

And he wants us to know that [we are not alone](#).

The baptism in the Jordan reminds us that through Jesus, **God is with us.**

On the calendar, this feast closes the Christmas season.

But don't think of it as an ending. Today marks a beginning—it recalls the beginning of Christ's public ministry, and the start of an incredible journey.

It is one that still goes on - [our faith' journey](#).



Fr. Tad



Thank you to everyone who participated to make our Christmas season beautiful...attended Mass, served the parish community in various ways, made a Christmas offering, or worked behind the scenes. ***It was appreciated! Happy New Year and all the best in 2022!***

ACCOUNTABILITY WITH HEARTFELT THANKS



[Catholic Charities received a payment of \\$1,322](#) as a result of your generosity to the Donation Bins at your Church from June 1st, 2021 to November 30th, 2021. These funds combined with monies from other parishes in a similar program throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to show the compassion of Christ to 48,053 individuals served in 84 programs at 26 sites ([FY 20/21](#)). Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.



Saturday	January 8
5:30 pm	Elayne McGill
Sunday	January 9
7:30 am	Joseph Cinelli, Sr.
9:30 am	Joseph Cinelli, Sr.
11:30 am	Joseph Cinelli, Sr.
Monday	January 10
9:00 am	Katherine deVinck
Tuesday	January 11
9:00 am	Julia Rock
Wednesday	January 12
9:00 am	Gerry Del Gatto
Thursday	January 13
	Thomas Gaetano
Friday	January 14
9:00 am	People of the Parish
Saturday	January 15
5:30 pm	Irene Astoria
Sunday	January 16
7:30 am	James Rapport
9:30 am	Maria Menendez
11:30 am	Agnes Glasheen

GUARDIAN ANGEL HERITAGE FUND

The **Heritage Fund** is a restricted fund, approved by the Archdiocese of Newark, allowing parishioners and others to make restricted donations to the parish for the Heritage Fund. The donation would go toward a specific item or project of their choosing from a list developed by the Heritage Committee and Pastor. These donations would not be assessed by the Archdiocese.

We are in the planning stages of forming a committee and creating a list of projects and items needed with associated costs. Once a committee is finalized and a list created it will be publicized to all parishioners. This is an exciting step to ensure the long term future of Guardian Angel parish.

If you are interested to learn more about The Heritage Fund or want to participate on the committee please contact the Rectory Office.



By Baptism we become members of the Church, the Body of Christ.

*This weekend **Callie Jaye Allen**, daughter of Lauren and Matthew Allen, will be baptized in our parish. Proud grandparents are Jack and Janine Glasheen (parishioners) and Dave and Sally Allen.*

May Callie always find a welcome home here at Guardian Angel.

For the month of **January** we are collecting cans of **Hearty Soups** and **Crackers** for the Center for Food Actions.

Please drop off your donated items to the Rectory front porch area in the gray bin. The porch door is open **Monday to Thursday from 9am to 2pm**. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



The **December 26th collection** was \$6,531 with \$3,075 from the collection basket, mail in and drop off at the rectory and \$3,456 from Faith Direct.

The **January 2nd collection** was \$7,130 with \$3,674 from the collection basket, mail in and drop off at the rectory and \$3,456 from Faith Direct.

MASS CARD OFFERINGS



Beginning January 1, 2022 the suggested offering for **Mass cards** have changed. The suggested donation for a weekday Mass offering is \$15. The suggested donation for a weekend or holy day Mass offering is \$20. Masses can be offered for the living or deceased or any occasion. You can also offer in memory the lighting of the **Sanctuary Lamp** which will be noted in the bulletin. The donation is \$15. **Altar Bread** can also be offered for all Masses during the week. The donation is \$15. If you have any questions please contact the rectory office at 201-327-4359 x202 or email gachurch@guardianangelchurch.org. Thank you.

SYNOD 2021 -2023 WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Pope Francis announced the Sixteenth Ordinary Synod of Bishops, which will take place in 2023 in Rome. His theme for the Synod is for a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission. The term “synodality” means walking the same road together. We journey as a Church together, all of us – Pope, bishops, clergy religious, and those on the margins. The mission of Christ can only be accomplished by all of us collaborating together to make the Gospel heard in our time. Every age in Church history has had to figure out the best way to proclaim the Gospel and this is our time.

Pope Francis asks us to consider this question of proclaiming the Gospel and continuing his mission through prayer and discernment together. His overarching question is: *What does the Holy Spirit expect of the Church of the 21st Century?*

We want your response to these questions:

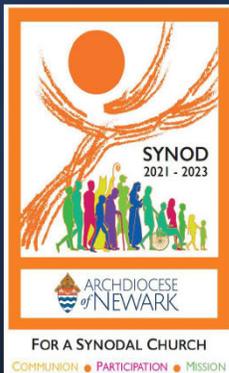
1. How is this “**journeying together**” happening today in your parish community, campus ministry, university, school, youth group, religious congregation or other area of Church life?
2. How are we “**walking together**” as a Church, and what steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together?

Information sessions were held by the Archdiocese Synod Committee in person and on Zoom in November and December. If you missed part of the info session or would like to share about the synod with others in your community, there’s a link to a recorded session - <https://youtube/fRLqjRVZZXU>.

In the bulletin next week details on how everyone can have their voice heard will be announced. Listening sessions for the parish are being planned.

If you are interested in helping with the listening sessions whether in person or Zoom please contact the **Parish Synod Coordinator Deacon Rey** as soon as possible at escalonr@hotmail.com.

Synod Prayer for the Archdiocese of Newark



**We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.**

**With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.**

**We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.**

**All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS...



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES. Classes continue to be held in-person. You will be notified via email if we switch to a virtual format, and we will provide you with the meeting IDs and passcodes.

FAMILY MASS. Our next Family Mass is scheduled for **Sunday, February 6**. An email will be sent out the week of January 24 with the link for Signup Genius to participate. We look forward to celebrating with you!

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING. The First Eucharist Parent Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 13 at 10am-11am **OR** 7pm-8pm in the Church. First Eucharist Kits will be distributed at the meeting.

ANGELS IN ACTION. Our **January initiative is “hearty soup and crackers.”** Please drop off your donated items to the Rectory front porch area beginning January 4, 2022. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

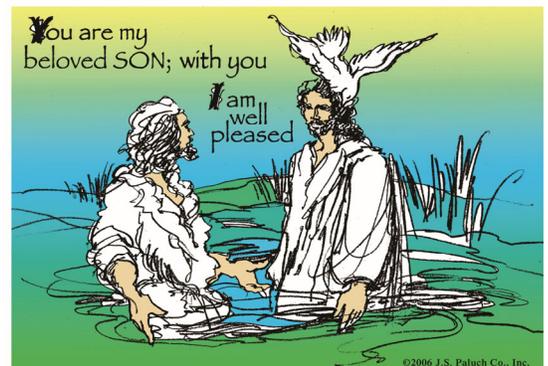
SPECIAL NEEDS AND CHALLENGES IN CATECHESIS. As a parish community, we welcome all families and support them by making faith formation and Sacraments available to children with special needs and challenges. Please contact our office for more information on how we can best serve your family.

Religious Education — 201-327-0352

Frances Ferraro - Director of Religious Education: fferraro@guardianangelchurch.org

Ali Zambrotta - Secretary Religious Education / PGC Coordinator: azambrotta@guardianangelchurch.org

“Only if people change will the world change; and in order to change, people need the light that comes from God, the light which so unexpectedly on the night of Christmas entered into our night.” Pope Emeritus



YOUTH MINISTRY



Dear Young Friends,

Certainly, we all know someone who seems like a “hopeless case”- a poor soul who has the wrong focus in life and is constantly making the wrong choices. When praying for that person in your life (which we should all *strive* to do), ask for the intercession of Saint Angela of Foligno. In her youth, through marriage and motherhood, her focus was only on material things and gaining social status. Not until the age of 40 did she recognize the emptiness she felt, which only God could fill, and through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, made a full conversion. She went on to write, teach and sacrifice for the poor as a secular Franciscan and her feast day is January 7th. Her story shows that we are never finished growing in faith and that we never know where someone else’s faith journey will lead.

Jennifer Kavanagh
jkavanagh@guardianangelchurch.org
201-327-4359 x204

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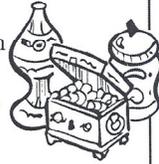
January 2022

Guardian Angel Church

One Minute Meditations

Laying our gifts at the feet of the King

The three Wise Men gave Jesus gifts worthy of a king. We can also present Him with our own royal gifts. While ours may not be actual gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can still give to Him the best we have. Give God the first and the best of what you have and He will give you more than you can imagine in return.



Fall in love with God

From the moment God created you, he has been deeply in love with you. He made you deliberately so he could love you. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5). He waits for you like a parent anticipates the return of a beloved child. Don't let Him wait long.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4-5).



Who needs Jesus?

Many today say that they don't have a need for Jesus. They go to work, have homes, put food on their tables, raise families without His help. In fact, daily activities go on but the world can't really make sense without Him.

Truth. The truth is in Christ, "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). We cannot understand the truth without Him. To make sense of the world, we need Jesus to lead us.

Life. The life we have will eventually end. To keep living, we need Jesus. "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father,

but by me" (John 14:6). Eternal life comes through Him.

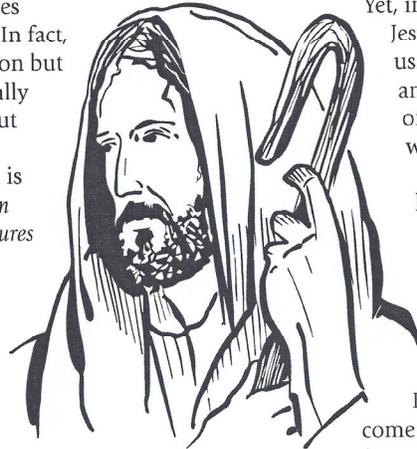
Death. None of us escapes death.

Yet, in the Resurrection, Jesus defeated death for us. It didn't hold Him and He offers the gift of life to each of us if we live in Him.

Sin. Even the holiest of us sins. Without Jesus, what becomes of us? He "gave himself as a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:6). If we don't accept

His price, our sins come back to us for eternity.

Suffering. Modern science can alleviate but not eliminate some of the world's suffering. Jesus provides comfort and healing to those who trust Him and surrender to Him.



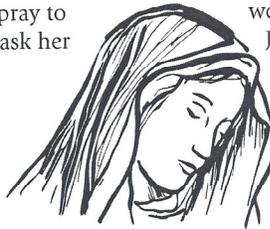
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics pray to Mary?

Catholics don't pray to Mary, but instead ask her to pray for us. For example, the Hail Mary prayer asks the Mother of God to stay close to us in prayer.

While we don't

worship Mary, we honor her as Jesus' mother. On the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our own mother (John 19:27). We can approach her with our needs and concerns and ask her to present them to Her Son. Mary always leads us to Him.



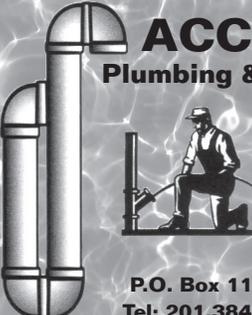
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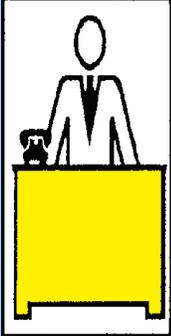
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