

January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord

# St. John<sup>the</sup> Baptist Catholic Church

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## 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

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**Holy Mass** Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM  
Monday– Friday 8:00 AM

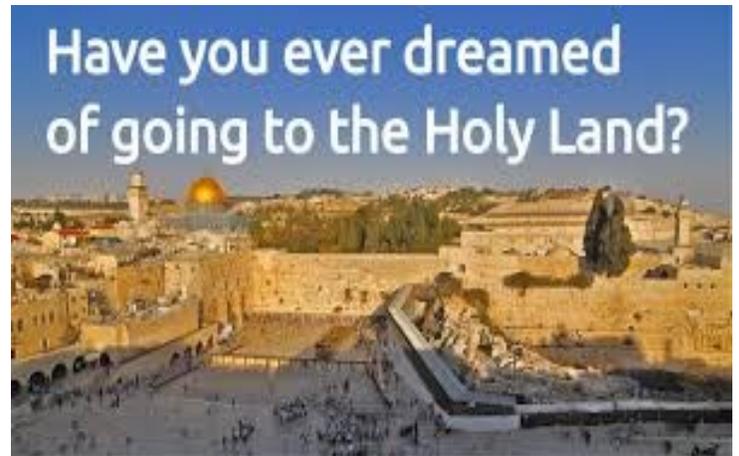
**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Monday, Tuesday and Friday 6:00 PM;  
Saturdays 4:00 PM; or by appointment

**BULLETIN  
STANDARD DEADLINE:  
9:00 A.M. MONDAY**

Dear Parishioners,

Today we commemorate the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. I was on pilgrimage to the Holy Land just this past year and it was powerful to visit this spot where Jesus humbled himself, sanctified the waters and gave us the path to salvation. It was powerful to renew my baptismal promises at that holy site. It was from this moment of his baptism, that Jesus sets off on his public ministry to teach and preach and heal and to save. For the rest of us, at our baptism we set out on a mission also. We are given everything we need at our baptism to become holy to become saints. In fact, it is at that moment of our baptism that we receive the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance, the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity and the gifts of the Holy Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence, and fear of the Lord. We are to spend our life in developing and unlocking these virtues and gifts, to really focus on each of these areas in our lives. When we do that, the fruits of the Holy Spirit are ours also including charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, longanimity, gentleness, faith, modesty self-control and chastity. And, who doesn't want more of these in our lives? In other words, become holy, become a saint. After today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord our Christmas celebration comes to an end and our Christmas decorations come down. I am always a little sad this time of year. The church is so beautiful during Christmas! But too, there is something comforting about moving into ordinary time, which gives us a little time between our Christmas celebrations and the beginning of Lent. Thank God for the Liturgical seasons; Advent, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter and more ordinary time before the cycle repeats. The Church calendar gives meaning to our daily lives! When we enter into the liturgical seasons they really orientate us towards Christ and being his disciple and put us on the path to heaven which is the hope that carries us on.

God Bless,  
Fr. Butler



Fr. Butler's pilgrimage to the Holy Land that was scheduled in January has been rescheduled November 8-18, 2021



*Thank you for supporting Catholic Charities and giving hope to families in need this Christmas. A total of \$1475 was collected in gift cards and monetary donations. Please pray for all the families Catholic Charities helps feed, clothe and shelter. May their New Year be brighter because of you!*



*We pray for ...*

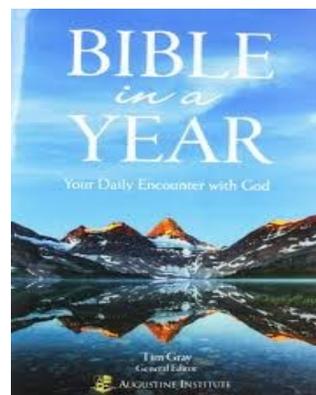
***Cheryl Gonzales***

...That she may now enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray for her family and friends, that they may find peace in the promises of Christ.



**We welcome into our faith community:**

***Levi Nicholas Rogers***  
***Son of Nathan and Rilee Rogers***



***BIBLE IN A YEAR***  
***20 minutes a day to know the power and wonder of God's word. We have the soft cover for \$27 or \$35 for the leather version. Call 815-498-2010 or stop by the office to pick up your copy.***

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**  
**January 10, 2021**  
**The Baptism of the Lord**

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?



Millie Anderson, Suzanne Burton, Patricia Butler, Kathleen Carr, Patrick Doherty, Joann Duffy, Joan Frieders, Sharen Gavin, Michael Geever, Denise Green, Virginia Hann, Ron Hann, Margaret Hardekopf, Linda Hickey, Jerry Hinterlong, Mary Holevas, Leslie Hollarbush, Ted Ivanauskas, Jim Johnson, Deb Kulbartz, Doris Langston, Jan Magioni, Karen McCormick, Tom McCrea, William McKillip, Irene Osifchin, Brody Roberts, Bob Scholl, Gavin Springsteen, Diane Verlare, Bob Wade, Jerry Welte, Trish Wojcik



**SANCTUARY LIGHTS**

Our candle offerings this week  
are in memory of:  
**Francis Werner**  
*Req by Pat Werner*



**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

**Edward Medical Group**

Please patronize the sponsors of your bulletin as  
a "thank you" for their generosity.



**December 25, 2020—\$6034.00**

**December 27, 2020—\$3125.00**

***Donor statements from  
the parish will be  
e-mailed this year  
instead of going through  
the post office. If you  
want a hard copy,  
call the office  
at 815-498-2010***



**Weekly Rosary**  
Is at 8:30 AM every Friday  
in the church during the  
winter months.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**January 11-17, 2021**

Monday	8:00 am	Helen Stryker Req by Chuck, Linda, Julie Hickey
Tuesday	8:00 am	Don Wegener Req by Delores Devine
Wednesday	8:00 am	Don Wegener Req by Gerry & Carol Hinterlong
Thursday	8:00 am	Dorothy & Bill Zaininger Req by Gayle Zaininger & Family
Friday	8:00 am	Francis Werner Req by Pat Werner
Saturday	5:00pm	Richard Haupt Req by Marie Haupt & Family
Sunday	8:00am	Clifford Mackaben Req by Mark Mackaben
	11:00am	Pro Populo People of the Parish

## LITURGICAL ROLES

**January 9-10 2021**

Saturday 5:00 pm	Lector	N/A
Extraordinary Ministers		N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	Lector	N/A
Extraordinary Ministers		N/A
Sunday 11:00am	Lector	N/A
Extraordinary Ministers		N/A

## ALTAR SERVERS

**January 9-10, 2021**

Saturday 5:00 pm	N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	N/A
Sunday 11:00 am	N/A

## JANUARY USHERS

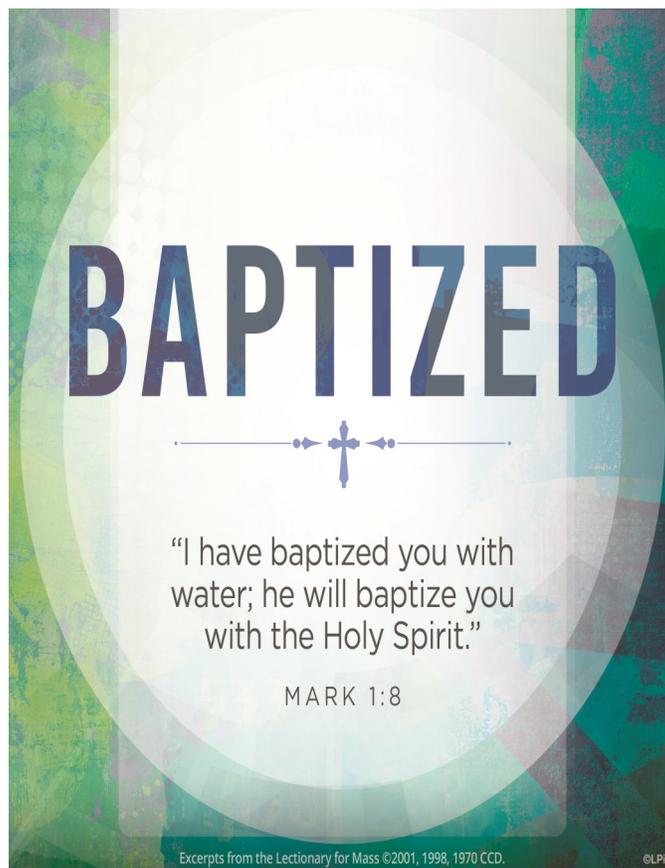
Saturday 5:00 pm	N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	N/A
11:00 am	N/A

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**FRIDAY, January 15, 2021**

**Pray Rosary in Church**

**8:30 am**



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the week of January 10, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd,  
5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11  
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf.  
7c]/Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/  
Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9  
[8a]/Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk  
1:40-45  
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/  
Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/  
Mk 2:13-17  
Next Sunday: 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