

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

— *Isaiah 55:1*

THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this “knits” the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he “knit” himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary’s womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or *Isaiah 55:1-11*.

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or *Isaiah 12:2-6*.

Second Reading — God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38) or *1 John 5:1-9*.

Gospel — You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week’s Collection	\$3,174.00	\$2,834.00
Number of Families contributing	90	72
Total Pledge for 2021	\$161,051.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (1 Weeks)	\$4,372.00	\$4,310.00
Received to Date	\$2,736.00	\$2,834.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$1,636.00	\$1,476.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$255.00	\$255.00

Twenty-three ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$15,460.00	\$15,460.00

Six people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$63,780.00

POOR BOX totaled \$80.00.

21 CHILDREN contributed \$80.00

BAA totaled \$45.00

NEW YEAR’S COLLECTION totaled \$309.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A poll was taken at a large college recently and students were found to be honest about one thing in particular – lying.

There were three major causes given for lying. First was the fear of punishment – 31.3%. Second – 24.3% - was the wish to avoid hurting someone. The third reason – at 18.3 % – was the desire to avoid a disagreeable situation.

The students were also asked under what circumstances a lie would be acceptable and 32.9% said, “To avoid hurting someone.”

The lie that hurts someone else was registered as the “most unforgivable” and rated a negative 54.3% vote.

The big question is: Is it justifiable to lie? What is your answer? If your vote is in tune with the students polled, then you are out of tune with the Word of God.

The writer of Proverbs states that “he that speaketh lies shall not escape.” What God expects is clean, honest hearts that love and speak the truth.

Is God getting what He expects from you?

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES begin last Monday. All classes will be from 4:00pm to 5:00 pm *Classes will be on Monday and Thursday only*. The classes will be as follows:

MONDAY – Grades 5th thru 8th

THURSDAY – Grades 1st thru 4th

All children are asked to bring a box of disposable face masks and hand sanitizer. Also all children are encouraged to bring \$1.00 for the needy and a non-perishable food item.

TOUCHING SAFETY PROGRAM St. Edward Catholic Church Religious Education will present a sexual abuse prevention program to students January 18th and January 21st during class with makeup dates of January 25th and 28th. As parents you have the right to choose whether your child participates in the program. Opt-out forms will be given to parents at Religious Education classes. If you want to opt your child out and haven’t filled out a form, please contact Sandra.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood and St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Teresa and St. Raphael; a member for a donation in honor of the Holy Spirit; a member for a donation in honor of St. Michael; a member for a donation in honor of the Infant of Prague for a special intention; and a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

FIVE PILLARS

Life has five pillars:

1. **FAMILY**
2. **FRIENDS**
3. **KINDNESS**
4. **HONESTY**
5. **HUMILITY**

But the foundation ...is always *LOVE*.

INTERESTING DEFINITIONS

- **Advice:** the approval sought for doing something one has decided to do.
- **Baby:** an angel whose wings decrease as his legs increase.
- **Church collection:** a function in which many people take only a passing interest.
- **Dreams:** the free movies of sleep.
- **Egotism:** the art of seeing something in yourself which others can't see.

GOD IN YOUR BOAT

Having God in your boat doesn't mean that you'll not face any storms. It means that no storm can sink your boat!

Walk in faith and you will never walk alone.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

At a musical evening, a woman was rendering a song, and one of the guests leaned towards the man next to him and muttered:

"What an awful voice. I wonder who she is?"

"She is my wife," replied the other stiffly.

"Oh, I'm awfully sorry," apologized the first. "Of course, it isn't really her voice that's so bad, but that terrible stuff she has to sing. Wonder who wrote that ghastly song?"

"I did," was the even stiffer reply.

SIGNS

"PAIN" is a sign that... "YOU'RE ALIVE."

"PROBLEM" is a sign that... "YOU'RE STRONG."

"PRAYER" is a sign that... "YOU'RE NOT ALONE."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord
Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins
Wednesday: St. Hilary
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** For Rose Marie Smith and Mary Regina Mack on their Birthdays.
Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of John Shack Riley.
Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus for the sick and the Holy Souls.
Thursday: For the repose of the souls of John and Bessie Riley.
Friday: In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.

LITTLE ACTS OF KINDNESS

*Little acts of kindness may
Chase somebody's blues away.
A smile, a look, a fond "hello"
Is a gift that you can bestow.*

*When a soul is in distress
And they send an SOS,
A smile can go a long, long way
When life has gone astray.*

*Little acts of kindness bring
A happiness awakening,
So with a smile and friendly nod,
Give the gift that comes from God.*

READERS

- Sat. Jan. 9th, 4:00 P.M.** Leah & Dayna
Sat. Jan. 9th, 7:00 P.M. Carolyn & Natalie
Sun. Jan. 10th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Jersey
Sat. Jan. 16th, 4:00 P.M. Mary Martha & Julie Ann
Sat. Jan. 16th, 7:00 P.M. Ritz & Savannah
Sun. Jan. 17, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Jersey

READERS – WEEKDAYS

- Monday** - Marilyn
Tuesday - Mary Ashley
Wednesday - Julie Ann
Thursday - Dayna
Friday - Pamela

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

- Monday** - Cathy Pole
Tuesday - Kim Gallon
Wednesday - Rosie Cat
Thursday - Mary Cat
Friday - Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

- Saturday 4:00 P.M.** **January 9th**
Front Mary Margaret
Right Cathy Pole
Left Kim Gallon

Saturday 7:00 P.M.

- January 9th** **January 16th**
Mary Cat Bridgette Anna

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

- January 10th** **January 17th**
Rose Marie Rose Marie
Mary Cat Mary Cat

HOW DO YOU THINK?

POSITIVE THINKERS have a **SOLUTION** for every **PROBLEM**.
NEGATIVE THINKERS have a **PROBLEM** for every **SOLUTION**.

THE CHURCH NEEDS

- ✓ More action and less faction;
- ✓ More workers and fewer shirkers;
- ✓ More backers and fewer slackers;
- ✓ More praying and less straying.

LOVE CONQUERS PAIN

After I watched my dog get run over by a car, I sat on the side of the road holding him and crying. And just before he died, he licked the tears off my face.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

GOD OPEN OUR HEARTS

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy that we may share His wisdom, and become one with Him when he comes in glory, for He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.