

St. Mary/St. Patrick Catholic Church

BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 11, 2015



Baptism of the Lord

"I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." That was a lowly job. Removing someone's sandals back in the days when everyone walked everywhere on dusty, sandy desert ground was a dirty task. So when John the Baptist said he wasn't even worthy for that humble duty, he was emphasizing an important point.

John understood Jesus' real identity. He knew that this was not just another good man, not just a wise teacher or a gifted leader. John realized that Jesus was truly God-made-man. And because of this, the prophet also comprehended how perfect Jesus was. In relation to this perfection, John honestly acknowledged his own sinfulness with this analogy about the sandals. But look what happened: even though John proclaimed that *"one mightier than I is coming after me,"* Jesus showed up at the Jordan River and asked John to baptize him! Jesus humbled himself by going through this ritual of cleansing and purification, even though he didn't need to. John may have thought himself unworthy, but that didn't stop Jesus from coming to him.

Jesus wants to come to us too. Not because we have *"earned"* his love or because we are *"worthy"* of some great honor, but simply because he loves us. God sent his Son to us to be one of us, to walk among us, to care for us and guide us. When we were baptized, he counted us among his beloved children in a special way, but that joyful bond is not a thing of the past. By our baptism we are always his children, even when we may be disobedient or belligerent ones. His love is not calculated or quantified; it is a free gift. May we appreciate this gift enough to show our gratitude by a life well lived.

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Mary/St. Patrick Conference wishes to thank all of our parishioners of St. Mary/St. Patrick, St. Anne's CCW, Catholic Women's Club, and Lake Summerset Grams for their generous support. Money and food donations allowed us to:

- Assist 31 families
- Visit 132 Senior Citizens
- Service meals at St. Elizabeth Center 18 times

Our members provided 359 hours of service and drove 3247 miles to provide assistance which included:

- Groceries
- Rent
- Utilities
- Gasoline
- Car Repairs

Thank you for your continued support!

MARCH FOR LIFE

Are you unable to go to Washington DC for the national March on January 22nd? Don't worry- Northern Illinois is offering TWO marches on the weekend of January 17th/18th.

~~Northwest Families March For Life will be held on Saturday, January 17th, at 1PM, at St. Theresa Church, 455 N. Benton St., Palatine. Speakers will include Joe Schielder, National Director of the Pro-Life Action League and Pastor Mike Gates of Living Hope Church. Free food, drinks and sweets. More information at www.NorthWestFamiliesforLife.weebly.com or Laura Vandecar at 847/651-4877.

~~March For Life Chicago to be held on Sunday, January 18th, at 2PM, beginning at the Federal Plaza, 50 W. Adams and march to the State of Illinois Building, 100 W. Randolph. Featured speakers include Archbishop Blasé Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago, Patrick McCaskey- Chicago Bears, Abby Johnson, Pro-life activist and former Planned Parenthood Clinic Director, U.S. Reps. Dan Lipinski and Peter Roskam and many more.



CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN BOARDS AT ST. MARY AND ST. PATRICK CHURCHES. OUR PARISH RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY IS DISPLAYING PICTURES OF CHILDREN BAPTIZED IN OUR PARISH THIS PAST YEAR. CHILDREN ARE A GIFT FROM GOD. LET US THANK HIM AND THE PARENTS FOR THIS GIFT AND PRAY FOR THEIR HEALTH & HAPPINESS.



BE PART OF THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT IN YOUR HOME

You can make a difference in the cause of life. Whether it is abortion, contraception, the elderly, the handicapped, immigrants, assisted suicide or the other causes that disrespect life, an action by you can make a difference. Our parish Respect Life Ministry is forming an email tree by which you can do this. More details next week. There is no cost to you.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

NEW DIOCESAN VOCATIONS WEBSITE

A brand new website dedicated to Vocations in the Diocese of Rockford has recently been completed. Go to <http://www.rockforddiocese.org/vocations>. In the site you will find valuable resources for both young men and women discerning God's call for their life. It contains frequently asked questions, discernment resources and many professional videos of our own seminarians talking about vocations.

GROCERY DELIVERY TO SHUT-INS

The Durand Ecumenical Council spearheads the Grocery Delivery to Shut-ins Program. Volunteer drivers are needed to spend a couple of hours on Wednesday morning picking up the bags of groceries from Pacemaker, delivering them to seniors, receiving payment for the items & returning the payment to the store. Volunteers are called on to help only 2-3 times a year. If you can help please contact Renee Shambeau at 815/248-3089.

<CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING>

>>2015 CATHOLIC CALENDARS

The 2015 Catholic Extension Calendars, sponsored by McCorkle Funeral Home, are in the baskets on the registers. Please feel free to pick up your copy.

>>"A CALL TO JOY"

Copies of the book, "A Call To Joy" by Matthew Kelly are available to all parishioners, their friends & families, and guests this Christmas season. Please feel free to pick up your copy at the entrance to the church. Christmas blessings to all.

I'LL DO IT SOMEDAY

Most people live an eight day week: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and **Someday**. It's a significant day, that **Someday**. Many important things get left until **Someday**. **Someday** we will thank friends and family. **Someday** we will spend more time with our children. **Someday** we will find time to serve God and His Church.

The tragedy of it is **Someday** isn't part of any week. And because **Someday** never comes, those important things never get accomplished. The true purpose of our lives should never be a **Someday** project. Now is the time to make a commitment to Christ's work here on earth. In this new year of 2015, ask yourself what gift of time or money can I give to see that Christ's work is done through me?

→ We have an idea for you!! The current Social Concerns Coordinator of the meals for those recovering from illness and/or surgery will be stepping down February 1st. Could you help out? The position of coordinator is to work with those who have volunteered to deliver meals and set up a schedule for those to receive the meals. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2409, if you have questions and/or would like to volunteer.

→ There is also a need for volunteer drivers. Transportation is provided to members of our parish who need a ride to a doctor appointment, treatments, etc. Again, please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, to volunteer.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES
THIS MONTH CLASSES WILL BE HELD
JANUARY 11th, & 18th.**

KN-12 9-10:15AM Preschool 10:30AM

PARENTS: REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S FOLDER FOR IMPORTANT & TIMELY INFORMATION.

In January and February the students will be learning about the "Celebration of the Christian Mystery" (sacraments) during RE classes. January 11th is the Baptism of the Lord which concludes our Christmas season. We will then be in Ordinary Time until Lent begins on February 18th, with Ash Wednesday.

⊕ A meeting will be held this **Sunday, January 11th, at St. Mary Church, from 9-10:00AM.** This is for parents of students preparing to receive their First Eucharist.

⊕ The Catechist & Aide meeting will be held next **Sunday, January 18th,** after the 10:30AM Mass. Lunch will be served.

COMING SOON

Training for new Altar Servers will be held in February. Those who have already signed up should continue to work on their prayers as they will be reviewed in January. It is not too late if anyone in 5th grade and older is interested to sign up. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, to receive a packet.

Souper Bowl Sunday will be held January 31st/February 1st

Boy Scout Sunday is February 8th.

Confirmation Student and Sponsor Retreat will be held on Sunday, February 8th, at St. Mary Church.



CHRISTMAS CHOIRS

We would like to thank the youth that led us in song & worship at the 4:30PM Christmas Eve Mass. They were; Lucas Abele, John Abele, Molly Flynn, Rogan Flynn, Ariel Hendler, Anna Jozsa, Lauren McCartney, Grace McCoy, Sean Miller, Veronica Miller, Sara Moore, Alisa Moore, Mhairi Robertson, Emily Steder, Jenna Steder, and Sara Steder and Tristan Hendler- trumpeter.

Members of the adult choir who sang at the 9:30PM Christmas Eve Mass were; Linda Gallagher, John & Diane Kochanski, Tom & Dorothy Koziol, Jim & Pat McClellan, George Moser, Anna Mae Mulcahey, Tina Riley, Marlene Saelens, Ray & Phyllis Schafer, and Helen Shockey.

Both choirs were accompanied by Sue Welstead- organist and Heather Schneider- choir director. Thank you to all for sharing your time and talent with our parish.

PLEASE PRAY



Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of **Veronica Genovese**, cousin of Cheryl (Genovese) Walsh, who died December 30, 2014.

May God grant her Eternal Rest and let his Perpetual Light shine upon her forever. Amen.

Cheryl and her family would like to thank the prayer tree and parish members who kept Veronica in their prayers the past few months. It was a great comfort.



PARISH PRAYER TREE

Our Parish Prayer Tree offers a network of support and prayers not only for our parish, but for the community at large. Requests may be called to Mary Borgmann at 815/865-5555 or Margie Flynn at 815/865-5430.

Please remember our homebound parishioners and those currently in Medina Manor Center, along with Joann Ahmer, Cynthia Armour, Anthony Baccelli, Carolotta Baylor, Gay Lou Beling, Terry Brogan, Dave Brown, Emmett Callahan, Tim Collins, Claire Converse, Agnes Cooke, Kevin Davis, Eddie Devore, Fred Devore, Ilene Diepenbrock, Ralph & Lynn Dulyea, Kathie & Ted Dutkiewicz, Diane Fabris, Sheamus Fay, Maria Guehlsdorf, Frank Guentert, Rylan Hanson, Jennifer Hicks, Kurt Janisch, Tony & Dee Jason, Al Jose, Bill Kibble, Ruth & Carolyn Kneip, Irvin & Dolores Kowalski, Jack Krajewski, Agnes Kramar, Eileen Krug, Rose & Bill Landers, Ed & Joanne Litke, Keith & Laurie Ludolph, Roy & Dan Mauer, Ruby & Jesse Mercer, Marge Morris, Lil Mowris, Anthony Neuzil, Barb Neuzil, Glen Nosbisch, Carol Nyman, Holgier Oksnevad, Kelli Palmer, Sandy Pauley, Jozie Pobjecky, Vi Preisco, Marianne Reier, Theresa Risser, Jimmy Rogers, John Rosellini, Louis & Margaret Rotilla, Jack Sala, Gwen Schill, Jean Smith, Dennis Shippy, Laurie Slocum, Len & Carolyn Sparaco, Michelle Swearingen, Bob Trocke, Summer Victor, Kim Walsh, Laurie Walsh, Steve Walsh, David & Laura Welter, Jim Wenger, Bella, Riley Grace, & Zachary Williams, Marion Vencill, Loretta Sanders, and Theresa Mikosz.

+Please remember those going through tests & treatments and include their families and caregivers. Remember our servicemen and women currently serving, and include Nic Blum, Karl Ciecko, Will Francis, Lucas Graves, Dean Harris, Rev. Bob Keener, Landon Ketchum, Zeth Willard, and Charlie Wojcik.

If you or your loved one no longer needs our prayers please let us know so we can keep our Prayer List current. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, with any changes. We appreciate your help.

ST. ANNE'S CCW UPDATES



→ **ST. ANNE'S MONTHLY MEETING** will be held this coming Tuesday, January 13th, at 10AM at St. Mary Church Hall. Overview of the past year and upcoming items for 2015, will be discussed.

→ **MEDINA MANOR PARTY** is scheduled for January 20th. Watch next week's bulletin for information regarding Bingo donations & participation in their monthly 'Birthday Party'.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Deacon Steve Pulkrabek will facilitate a class next Sunday, January 18th, from 9-10AM at St. Mary Church Hall. He will be reviewing "The First Series of Catholicism" by Fr. Robert Barron. Refreshments will be served.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Jan. 17 4:30PM Steve Pulkrabek
 Jan. 18 8:00AM Larry Pelter
 Jan. 18 10:30AM Dick Mulcahey

LECTORS

Jan. 17 4:30PM Polly Stache
 Jan. 18 8:00AM Greg Ryan
 Jan. 18 10:30AM Dan McCullough

USHERS

Jan. 17 4:30PM Mike & Sue Alberstett
 Jan. 18 8:00AM Bill Walsh, Tom Walsh
 Jan. 18 10:30AM Shirlee Jasien, Natalie Folk

ALTAR SERVERS

Jan. 17 4:30PM Connie & Joslyn Schultz
 Jan. 18 8:00AM Robbie Sadler, Brady Dolan
 Jan. 18 10:30AM Stephen & Elizabeth Conroy

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Jan. 18 Michael & Carol Rosko
 Linda Gallagher, Ginny Borth

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION TOTALS

	2014	2015
Sunday Envelopes:.....	\$8909.00	\$7987.00
Sunday Offertory:.....	\$205.00	\$306.00
Student Stewardship:.....	\$.00	\$1.00
Holy Day:.....		\$2117.25
Building maintenance:.....		\$345.00
Fuel:.....		\$10.00
Christmas:.....	\$22164.30	\$17976.00

Financial statements for 2014 for parish and diocesan contributions will be mailed to you UPON REQUEST ONLY. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, for this statement which will be available after January 20, 2015.



January 17 - 18, 2015

- Retirement Fund for Religious
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- Catholic Communication Campaign
- Catholic University of America
- Rockford Diocesan Priests' Pension
- Catholic Elementary School Financial Support for the Diocese of Rockford

Please bring the National Appeal envelope to Mass, or donate online at www.rockforddiocese.org/donate

Next weekend Catholics across the country will contribute to the National Appeal—A Combined Appeal for the Universal Catholic Church. Your donations make a real difference. Please be generous. Watch for the National Appeal Envelope in the mail this week from the Diocese. Use the special envelope for your contribution and put it in the regular weekend collection.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Jan. 10
 4:30PM (SP) +Hedy Simmer

Sunday, Jan. 11—The Baptism of the Lord
 8:00AM (SM) People of the Parish
 10:30AM (SM) +John Flynn

Monday, Jan. 12
 7:30AM (SM) Communion Service

Tuesday, Jan. 13—St. Hilary
 7:30AM(SM) +Elwood Kramar

Wednesday, Jan. 14
 7:30AM(SM) +John McDonald

Thursday, Jan. 15
 7:30AM(SM) +Jim Patterson

Friday, Jan. 16
 7:30AM(SM) +All Souls

Saturday, Jan. 17
 4:30PM (SP) +Ted Hill

Sunday, Jan. 18—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00AM (SM) +Loretto & Augusto Azul
 10:30AM (SM) People of the Parish

(SM) =St. Mary-Durand
 (SP) =St. Patrick-Irish Grove

MEMORIAL CANDLE INTENTIONS



Lighting candles is an ancient practice that we continue to honor today. A lit candle signifies the hope we have in our hearts and the prayers we are offering for a particular intention. In our parish we have two special ways of burning candles for the sake of prayer. Seven day candles burn before the **Tabernacle** and the **Icon of St. Mary** in St. Mary Church. They are available to be lighted for your intention & burn for one week. While we do ask for a donation of \$10.00, cost should not be a prohibiting factor. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, to schedule.

TABERNACLE CANDLE

Jan. 11th-Jan. 17th +Loretto & Augusto Azul
 Jan. 18th-Jan. 24th +Kaitlyn Miller

MARY ICON

Jan. 11th-Jan. 17th +Kaitlyn Miller



FLORAL MEMORIALS

Floral memorials dedicating the two bouquets on either side of the Tabernacle at St. Mary Church are available for loved ones—living and deceased or for special intentions such as holidays, anniversaries or other special events. A donation of \$15 per vase will help to offset the cost of these flowers and enable you to have a beautiful floral tribute for one week. Please call the parish office at 815/248-2490, to schedule.

Jan. 18th-Jan. 24th +Ted Hill

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