

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	1/11	All Holy Spirit Parishioners and Families, All Souls of Relatives, Poor Souls & Unborn Children, Deceased Members
SUN 10:00 am	1/12	All Holy Spirit Parishioners and Families, Joseph Loi Tran, Ngo & Nguyen Family Living and Deceased, All Souls of Relatives, Viola Smith Riley, Poor Souls & Unborn Children, Deceased Members

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	1/18	All Holy Spirit Parishioners and Families, J.Hayes, Special Intentions, Poor Souls & Unborn Children, Deceased Members
SUN 10:00 am	1/19	All Holy Spirit Parishioners and Families, Joseph Loi Tran, Ngo & Nguyen Family Living and Deceased, Viola Smith Riley, Special Intentions

WEEKDAYS

MON 1/13	Joseph and All Souls
TUE 1/14	Thanksgiving & Peace for Family
WED 1/15	Thanksgiving & Peace for Family Father Bach Bday
THU 1/16	Poor Souls
FRI 1/17	An Unknown Soul



Reading I Is 42:1-4, 6-7 - Thus says the LORD: **Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.**

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

Reading II 1 Cor 1:1-3 - Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. **Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel (A) Jn 1:29-34 - John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel."

John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."



"This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3,17).

St. Pope John Paul II - Homily at the Mass
of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - 13 January 2002

"This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3,17).

We have just heard in the Gospel the words that rang out from heaven when Jesus was baptized by John in the River Jordan. They were spoken by a voice from on high: the voice of God the Father. They reveal the mystery that we are celebrating today, the Baptism of Christ. The Man on whom the Holy Spirit descended like a dove is the Son of God who took human flesh from the Virgin Mary to redeem it from sin and death.

How great is the mystery of salvation! Dear parents and godparents, the children you present are introduced into this mystery today. By receiving in the Church the sacrament of Baptism, they become sons and daughters of God, "sons in the Son". It is the mystery of the "second birth". The faith of the Church gives the receptivity to grace that the infants need to pass from the state of sin to spiritual life

2. Dear parents, I address you with special consideration, since you have given these creatures life, collaborating with the work of God, the author of all life, and, particularly, each human life. You have given them birth and today you present them at the baptismal font so that they may receive a second birth from water and the Holy Spirit. Christ's grace will transform their life from mortal to immortal, freeing it from original sin. Give thanks to the Lord for the gift of their birth and for their spiritual rebirth today.

But what power enables these innocent and unknowing infants to make such a deep spiritual "transition"? It is faith, the faith of the Church, professed particularly by you, dear parents and godparents. It is precisely in this faith that your little ones are baptized. Christ does not bring about the miracle of regenerating man without human collaboration, and the first form of cooperation is faith, so that interiorly attracted by God, the creature freely entrusts himself into his hands.

Today these children receive Baptism on the basis of your faith, which I will shortly call you to profess. How much love, dear friends, and how much responsibility are found in the act you will perform in the name of your children!

3. Some day in the future, when they will be able to understand, with their personal freedom, they will have to make the spiritual journey that with God's grace will lead them to confirm in the sacrament of Confirmation, the gift they receive today.

But will they be able to be open to faith if they do not receive a supportive witness to it from the adults who surround them? These children need you first of all, dear parents; then they also need you, dear godparents, in order to learn to know the true God who is merciful love. It is up to you to introduce them to this knowledge, first and foremost, through the witness of your behaviour in the relationships you have with them and with others, relationships marked by attention, acceptance and forgiveness. They will understand that God is fidelity if they can first recognize his reflection, even if it is limited and faint, in your loving presence.

Great is the responsibility of parents to cooperate in the spiritual growth of their children! The blessed couple, Luigi and Maria Beltrame Quattrocchi, were well aware of this. I recently had the joy of raising them to the honour of the altars, and I ask you to get to know them and imitate them. If you find great the mission of being parents "according to the flesh", how much greater is that of collaborating in the divine fatherhood, offering your own contribution to shaping in these creatures the image of Jesus, the perfect Man.

4. Do not ever feel alone in this demanding mission! May you be comforted by confidence in the guardian angels, for God has entrusted to them his unique message of love for each one of your children. Then the whole Church, for you have the grace of belonging, is committed to helping you: in Heaven the saints are watching over them, especially, those whose names the children bear and who will be their "patrons". On earth there is the ecclesial community, and there it is possible to strengthen your faith and Christian life by the good food of prayer and the sacraments. You will not be able to give to your children what you have not been the first to receive and assimilate!

For all of them, there is our Mother according to the Spirit: the Blessed Virgin Mary. To her I entrust your babies, so that they may become true Christians. I also entrust you, dear parents and godparents, to the Virgin Mary so that you may always know how to pass on to these infants the love they need to grow and to believe. Indeed, life and faith go hand in hand! With God's help may this always be true in the life of every baptized person!



Anna Massey, Beatrice M. McMillon, Brenda Thompson, Brandon, Bobbie Henry, Cameron Nedd, Chloe Pomes, Catherine Hernandez, Dawson Macera, Denise Wiltz, Elinor McKeon, Elizabeth Gale Hardy, Erena Hardy, Jr., Gary LeRouge, Geneva C. Jones, Glynn Boyd, Jerod Boyd, Jeanne & Dan Schmitt, James Casby, Jason Boyd, J.W. Prejean, Kim D. Davis, K. Franklin & Family, Kayla Guitierrez, Lula Ward, Leslie Eiswerth, Matthew Prejean, Major Deloche, Minnie Linyear, Martha Davis, Mary Landreneau, Pam Kamphuis, Roderick Boyd, Richard. R. Vernotzy, Sr., Sliman Family, Tom Thomas, Trudy Morris, Tyrone Wiltz, Vernotzy & Eidt Families, Viney Miller, Wadlington Family, Wayne Belaire

January 20



Father Bach 1/15, Michael Nedd 1/18, Shirley Schwartz 1/9, Suzanne Matthews 1/8, Robert Eisworth 1/4, Rose Demers 1/1, Audrey Steward 1/5, Dana Schmitt 1/28, Joachim Rochon 1/22, Pat Bowes 1/7, Gary LeRouge 1/18, Barbie LeRouge 1/26, Eucharía Agwaramgbo 1/28, Elizabeth McKeon 1/20, Carlos Gimenez 1/24, Matthew Busby 1/6, Richard Vernotzy, Jr. 1/11, Chance Meyers 1/1, Ebube Agwaramgbo 1/5, Otis Rideaux 1/18, Eddie Lewis 1/3, Richard Lewis 1/2, Estelle Gordon 1/21, Julia Rodriguez 1/12, Anna Chiasson 1/22