

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.

Mass Intentions



Sat., Jan. 09, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Louis Perschall Sr., Nick Sita, Ruthi Olson, Jay Adams, **and for the living:** Special Intention, Karge Family, Kelly Constanza, Karen Bovia, Kim Gavin, Ethel Istre, Gene and Mary Helen Grabbe

Sun. Jan. 10, 7:30 a.m. Parishioners

Sun., Jan. 10, 9:15 a.m. Frank Minyard, Noel Labourdette, Ken Miller, Normie Miller, Bridget Mizell Miller, Fr. Michael Dobbins, Earl (Sonny) Williams, Gloria Richard, Carol Pieri, Connie Metz, Vin and Joyce LeBlanc **and for the living;** Fr. Vincent Phan, Joann Fish, Deacon Jay and Maggie Zimmer and Olga Mathes

Sun., Jan. 10, 11:00 a.m. Joseph Legnon

Mon., Jan. 11, 8:00 a.m. Margaret Mary Mule’

Tues., Jan. 12 NO MASS

Wed., Jan. 13, 8:00 a.m. Catherine Mule’

Thurs., Jan. 14, 8:00 a.m. Priscilla Stahel (L)

Fri., Jan. 15, 8:00 a.m. Sean Grimes

POPE FRANCIS’S JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION

Human Fraternity; May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

PRAYER LIST

Rosalind Baham	R.J. Bourgeois
Fred Kopfler	Louise Cashmere
Kenneth Vicari	Yolanda Bourgeois
Roy M. Piazza	LeLe Kopfler
Pam Strander	Roxanne Troxclair
Debra Vandendorre	Walter Boroughs
Jason Stein	Ryan Ware
Catherine Atkins	

Weekly Collections

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Envelopes	\$ 2,093.00
Loose	\$ 2,100.00
Bldg. and Pres. Fund	\$ 697.00
E-giving	\$ 485.00
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	\$ 763.00

Thank you to all for the continued contributions. If you wish to give online, please go to:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>.

THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

Sanctuary: Cecilia Abdulai

Blessed Mother: Special Intention

St. Joseph: Jason Stein

St. Anne: David and Megan Augustin

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7-day candle please call 796-3806.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Our 100th Anniversary as a parish is quickly approaching. Flowers will be placed on the altar next week to commemorate kickoff of this event. Next week a commemorative banner will be placed on the front of St. John’s Church. Planning for this event has been going on for quite some time prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Early planning had to be put on the back burner due to State and Archdiocesan restrictions on large gatherings. Currently planned for June 13, 2021 we have the Archbishop scheduled to say mass at 11 a.m. with a reception following. Covid 19 may alter or eliminate those plans altogether. More to come.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS LET US PRAY,

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power, and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help us. Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us. **AMEN**

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES/STATEMENTS

We still have several boxes of issues envelopes that have not yet been picked up. We will mail the 2021 contribution statements in the coming weeks. If You would like to begin using envelopes, changed address or P. O. Box, please call 796-3806.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We welcome all newcomers to St. John's Church and invite you to register as members of our parish family. Please complete a "Parishioner Form" located in back of church and drop it in the collection basket. A member of St. John's Church will contact you to assist you with registration.

ARCHDIOCESAN SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

will take place on March 14, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Church in New Orleans. If you will be celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary this year (married in the year 1996) please note, this celebration **WILL NOT BE A MASS**, but a prayer service. Please use the online form which can be found at <https://nolacatholic.org/wedding-anniversary>. You can also call the office at 796-3806.

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS

Take a fascinating tour of the Mass in this 5-part DVD study beginning Tuesday, January 12th from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. or Wednesday, January 13th from 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. Dr. Edward Sri explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. In this study, you will come to know and understand the Mass like never before, leading you to a richer, more fruitful worship experience. Come join us in Odilo Hall for the DVD presentations and discussions.

FEAST OF FAITH The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say "in the names," but "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our yes to all this, our first profession of faith.

THE OUTREACH MINISTRY

Thank everyone who contributed to our Christmas basket outreach. We appreciate everyone who made donations and helped pack and deliver baskets. Thank you to the PSR students for making Christmas cards to include in the baskets. God bless you!

REMINDERS

PSR Classes, Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30 a.m., Jonathan Hall and Office Classrooms

First Saturday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Weekly Wednesday Adoration, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

First Friday Adoration Benediction, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Men's Study Group in Odilo Hall, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus meeting, Thurs, Jan. 14th 7 p.m.

Weekly Wednesday Evening Adoration, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday night Adoration, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Church.

On Monday, January 11th at 9:00 a.m. in Odilo Hall, our Church history class will conclude our study of the time period on Weak Leaders and Schism by looking at the precursors of the Protestant revolt, John Wycliffe and Jan Hus, as well as the very important Council of Constance. We will also study St. Joan of Arc, who almost single-handedly preserved the throne of King Charles VII and brought an end to the Hundred Years War in a way favorable to France. Finally, we will view the final demise of the Roman Empire when Constantinople fell to the thundering cannon barrage of the Ottoman Turks.