

Reflection on Sunday's Readings

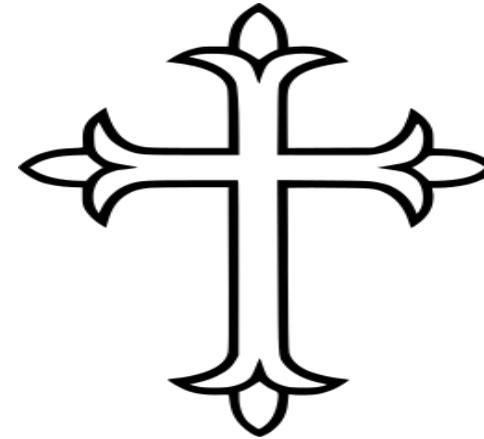
Scripture lessons summarized:

His baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First it was a moment of identification with us sinners. Sinless, Jesus received the baptism of repentance to identify himself with his people who realized for the first time that they were sinners. [As given in the anecdotes, St. Damien, St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), Gandhi, and Mandela identified with the people whom they served.] Second, it was a moment of conviction about His identity and mission: that He is the Son of God and that His mission was to preach the Good News of God's love and salvation and to atone for our sins by becoming the "suffering servant." The Father's words, "This is my beloved Son," taken from Psalm 2:17, gave Jesus the identity of God's Son, and the words "with whom I am well pleased," from Isaiah 42:1 (referring to the "suffering servant"), pointed to Jesus' mission of atoning for the sins of the world by His suffering and death on the cross. Third, it was a moment of equipment. The Holy Spirit equipped Jesus by descending on him in the form of dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing. Fourth, it was a moment of decision to begin public ministry at the most opportune time after receiving the approval of his Heavenly Father as His *beloved Son*.

Life messages: (1) **The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity.** It reminds us of who we are and Whose we are. By Baptism we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit. (2) **Jesus' baptism reminds us also of our mission:** a) to experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children, and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them and serving them in all humility; b) to live as the children of God in thought, word and action. c) to lead a holy and transparent Christian life and not to desecrate our bodies (the temples of the Holy Spirit and members of Jesus' Body), by impurity, injustice, intolerance, jealousy or hatred; d) to accept both the good and the bad experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father for our growth in holiness; e) to grow daily in intimacy with God by personal and family prayers, by meditative reading of the Word of God, by participating in the Holy Mass, and by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (3) **It is a day to thank God for the graces we have received in Baptism,** to renew our Baptismal promises and to preach Christ's 'Good News' by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service and forgiveness

St. Aloysius, Gate of Heaven & Sacred Heart Church

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JAN 5, 2019.



Parish Staff
Rev. Edward Bader, Administrator
Rev. Antony David MMI

Trustees
Ms. Jane Ryan
Mr. Andrew Carlson

Religious Education

Youth Activities
Mrs. Mary Davis

Parish Council Chairperson
Mr. Michael Park

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Livingston Manor, NY 12758

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Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00 PM	St. Aloysius
Saturday	5:30 PM	Sacred Heart Church (July 4th to Labor day)
Sunday	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	11:00 AM	Gate of Heaven

Weekday

M/T/F	8:15 AM	St. Aloysius
Thursday	12:00 PM	St. Aloysius
First Saturday	8:15 AM	St. Aloysius

Adoration

M/T/F	7:30 to 8:15 AM
Friday	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Eve:	5:30 PM	Gate of Heaven
Holy Day:	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	7:00 PM	St. Aloysius

Sacraments

Confession: Before all masses.
Baptism: Call the rectory to make arrangements.
Marriage: Call the rectory to schedule your Wedding and pre-Cana classes
Pastoral Visitation
When confined at home, please call the rectory to arrange for a visit and Holy Communion. Please call the rectory if you are facing surgery or hospitalization and would like the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As a parish, we strive to bring our communities of Catholic Christians together, as we have for over 100 years, by loving and serving God and Each other through Worship, education and service.

MASS INTENTIONS: Jan 11 - Jan 19, 2020

Saturday, Jan 11

4.PM- Vivian Kocher

Mon, Jan 13

8.15. AM - Widows

Thurs, Jan 16

12. PM- Lee & Yonker Families

Saturday, Jan 18

4.PM- Milrded Irace

Sunday, Jan 12

9:00 AM - Vivian Kocher

11:00 AM - James Halvey

Tues. Jan 14

8:15 AM - Lapsed Catholics

Fri. Jan 17

8.15 AM- Enslaved

Sunday, Jan 19

9:00 AM- Vivian Kocher

11:00.AM- Denise Halvey

NOTE: No Gift can replace offering a mass for departed soul or welfare of living. We have openings for weekdays and weekend masses.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK & DECEASED

For the Sick: Joni & Vinny Salvatore, Colleen & Jerrilynn O’Neil; Nora Fernandez,; Laurie & William McMichael, Carol Faughn, Christopher Merklin, Jack Tempel, Robert Ackerly, Sr. Grace, Maureen Connolly, Dave Tucker, Shannon Bruning, Patty Lewis, Lynne Hyzer, Beth Marie Martin, Kristi Romolo, Erma Carlson , Jim Wilbur, Dom Formato, Darren Steele, Jonell Dalton, Carrie Neer-Molinari, Mary Muhlig, Scott Branning, Easton Gorr. Joe Salvia. Joe & Linda Mchugh, Jerry & Roe Mills, Ken & Arsenia Mchugh, Deniese Harting, Maureen Molloy, Frank Kinsley, Mary Jones, Carl Diane Rafi and Walter Hanewich.

For the Deceased: Wanda L. McGovern,Gail J. Staudt, Rita Ann Evans, Nickolaus Bermel Jr, Bill Guinan, Sr. Kenneth Reddington, Jim Englehardt, Ellen Krajcovic, John Augusta, Max Evans, Mildred Irace, PaulaJordan,Bernard Greenthal, and Vivian Kocher.

<p>Collection for last Week. Thank you See the next week bulletin.</p>	<p>Readings for Next Sunday Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:14a, 12a</p>	<p>BIBLE STUDY Good Soil Bible Study Group will meet this week. Tuesday 4.00 PM at Rectory.</p>
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THE MASS BOOK IS OPEN FOR 2020

If you would like to offer a mass for your beloved departed ones and your intention, please collect forms placed at the table, fill it and send to the Rectory.

At Home or on the Road, God Is with Us

No matter how much we try to extend the holiday with traveling and vacation time and a last party or two, there comes a time when we need to return to our daily activities and responsibilities. School starts up again, work beckons, and we have to bid farewell to Christmas once again. It can be refreshing to reclaim the space that was filled with the Christmas tree and other decorations. We forsake the Christmas cookies and boxes of candy for healthier food choices in the new year. If we’ve traveled to visit family, we return home, put away the suitcases, finish vacation laundry, and settle into our lives. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus traveled a great deal during the first years after the birth—back and forth to Jerusalem, a sojourn in Egypt, a return to their home in Nazareth. In later years, Luke’s Gospel tells us, they traveled on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where Jesus was separated from his parents and found conversing with holy teachers in the temple. Whether we’re traveling or at home, the one thing we know is that God is with us.

We Are Not Alone in the Dark

Darkness is necessary. All life germinates in the dark and we spend fully one half of our lives in that state. Without pervasive darkness there would be no need for light, and still there are places and realities that light cannot illumine. Lightlessness also bears different aspects. It is the impenetrable cloak of mystery that hides the Holy and shades our lives with the nuance of not-knowing. Such darkness can both isolate and integrate us under its shadow. When plunged into blackness, our first instinct is to reach out for one another. Should we turn our headlights off, linger long enough in unknowing, and let our eyes adjust to the dimness, we might discover that most especially in dark times we are not alone

