

January 12, 2020

The Baptism of the Lord

Dear Parishioners,

In this bulletin you will see many items related to our deeply held belief that every human life is sacred. Our lives as Christians give witness to the love that God has shown by creating us and sustaining us in this life. Moreover, He has become man and lived among us. He did so both as a sign of God the Father's love for us and to give us an example of what authentic love looks like so that we can imitate Him.

When it comes to feeding the hungry (as we do with our Food Pantry) or clothing the poor (as we endeavor to do at the Clothing Closet) or donating bears to sick or abused children thru BearHugs, we all find joy in participating. Christian love is a source of consolation both for the one who serves and the one who is served!

At this time of year our witness to the sanctity of life intensifies. Our responsibility to feed the hungry, visit the imprisoned, teach the Faith, care for the sick and perform the other works of mercy find their foundation in the right to life. It should be obvious that anyone who denies the right to life by way of "a woman's right to choose" or under the disguise of "women's health care" denies all other civil rights. The civil rights which accrue to us by virtue of our being human rest upon the right to life.

Although civil rights are a high-profile topic in the media and in politics, the issue of abortion still has unabashed supporters who are well aware of the fate of children who are aborted. The civil rights of the unborn are blatantly ignored. Our current social climate pits the "rights" of a mother against the child's right to life. This is the first and most obvious clue that something is terribly wrong. The impression of a false opposition between men and women is also exploited to characterize women as "oppressed" while the little girl in the womb is ignored.

So, why do we find it to be a difficult topic to discuss among ourselves? Well, the first reason is that it is such a horrible reality in itself. Second, those who have been involved in abortion are carrying wounds that are intense and filled with shame and/or denial. Guilt causes the prideful to claim the right "to choose" as a denial of wrongdoing. For the humble, guilt causes them to wither into shame. Lastly, politics have been polarized over this issue. You are aware of the effect this has had on public and private discourse.

Now, as Catholics and followers of Christ, there is no room for allowing these challenges to intimidate us into silence. Our witness to the right to life must be ready on our lips. As we all strive to protect the most fundamental civil right may our daily prayer transform hearts. There can be no authentic affiliation with Christ for those who defend or even give approval to so grave a crime against humanity.

For those who have been involved in abortion in any way, the Lord calls them to repentance and conversion. And therefore, to a new found joy! No sin is greater than God's mercy. In the sacrament of Confession, not only is the mortal sin removed, but the priest has been given the faculty by the Pope to immediately remove the penalty of excommunication that automatically adheres to those who are directly involved in abortion.

I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the LORD, your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him. For that will mean life for you, a long life for you to live on the land which the LORD swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give to them. (Deut. 30:19-20)

We see throughout the pro-life movement a multitude of examples of the most sincere and convincing voices coming from those who have undergone conversion and have been ennobled by the Lord to speak for the truth in a very public manner. The pain of their loss remains, but the consolation of God's mercy has removed the shame and equipped them to serve in the civil rights movement.

All of us who have a living conscience are being called at this time in history to defend the most vulnerable among us. **Mother of God pray for us, Fr. Flum**



Dear St. Michael and St. Dominic's Parishes:

On behalf of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Center at the UM Prince George's Hospital Center, I would like to thank you for your very generous of new stuffed animals for our patients.

Today is Christmas Eve, and a mother came in for services. Since she had young children, she wanted to have a stuffed animal for each of them. So a stuffed animal that you provided went home to find its way under the tree for the kids, whose mother wants only the best for them. Please know that just today you have helped three people.

We know that you have many organizations that you could donate to, and we are honored that you have chosen ours. You certainly have been an enormous help to people who are hurting.

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Center
University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center

Readings for the week of January 12, 2020

Mon	1/13/20	1 Sm 1: 1-8/ Ps 116/Mk 1: 14-20
Tues	1/14/20	1 Sm 1: 9-20/1 Sm 2:1. 4-8abcd/Mk 1: 21-28
Wed	1/15/20	1 Sm 3:1-10.19-20/Ps 40/Mk 1: 29-39
Thurs	1/16/20	1 Sm 4: 1-11/Ps 44/ Mk 1: 40-45
Fri	1/17/20	1 Sm 8: 4-7. 10-22a/Ps 89/Mk 2: 1-12
Sat	1/18/20	1 Sm 9: 1-4. 17-19; 10: 1 Ps 21/Mk 2: 13-17
Sunday	1/19/20	Is 49: 3. 5-6/Ps 40/ 1 Cor 1: 1-3/Jn 1: 29-34

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	01/11/20	5pm	Dawn Rich, Jordon Burgess, & AMELEX Employees
Sunday	01/12/20	8am	Brenda Martinez
Sunday	01/12/20	10am	Ann Proctor +
Sunday	01/12/20	11:30am	Parishioners & their families
Monday	01/13/20	8am	George Jones +
Tuesday	01/14/20	8am	Fred & Mary McGuire
Wed.	01/15/20	8am	Nellie Jones +
Thursday	01/16/20	8am	Merla Pearce Christiansen +
Friday	01/17/20	8am	Doris B. Reiss +

Let's March for Life!

Please sign up if you are interested in attending the March for Life 2020

on **Friday, January 24th** with St. Michael's and St. Dominic's. Depending on how many people go, we may join another parish's bus, or if we have enough participation, we will make our own travel arrangements!

Every child should be received gratefully and with love. Stand up to defend these innocent little ones in the womb; stand up to defend mothers and fathers who are lied to, who are told that their child is no child at all, and that committing the atrocious crime of abortion will make them have happier lives. If we do not stand up, we will have to answer to Almighty God.

Lord, have mercy on us, and on the whole world!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

Saturday	01/18/20	5pm
Rosary Leader: Irene Goldsmith		
Server: James Aviles	Lector: Claude Boswell	
EMHC: TBD		
Sunday	01/19/20	8am
Rosary Leader: Betty Lindsay		
Server: Julissa Holly	Lector: James Holly	
EMHC: TBD		
Sunday	01/19/20	11:30am
Rosary Leader: Kevin Mondorf		
Server: Kayla Aure	Lector: Chris Patterson	

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS

St. Michael's		
Offertory Collection for	\$ 3616	
Jan 1st Holy Day Collection	\$ 1693	
St. Dominic's		
Offertory Collection	\$ 694	

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: For those who suffer from chronic illness, especially Joe Aviles, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Jackie Chapman, Brianna Daniels, Dorothy Dunston, Kathy Fisher, Mabel Hamilton, Florence Henderson, Crystal Johnson, Bernice Kirby, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Betty Lindsay, Kenny Lindsay, Adam Lumpkins, Rachel Makle, Michael Mohun, Ralph and Regina Nasatka, Fannie Newman, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Betty Proctor, Dawn Russo, Lucille Shanks, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie Stewart, George Thomas, Terry Wilson and Belinda Windsor, may their crosses be joined to the Cross of Jesus.



Food Pantry Staples
Always Needed:
Canned Tuna
Canned Chicken
Canned Soups
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Spaghetti Sauce

Special PRO-LIFE Movie Night!

Join us on Wednesday, January 22nd to watch the powerful, recently released film *Unplanned* (2019). This film tells a true, gripping story which will move and inspire your heart. We do not recommend this film for children below high school age. The synopsis below is taken from unplannedfilm.com:

"Unplanned is the inspiring true story of one woman's journey of transformation. All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was to help women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved in upwards of 22,000 abortions and counseled countless women about their reproductive choices. Her passion surrounding a woman's right to choose even led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in... until the day she saw something that changed everything."



The parish Hall doors will open at 6:30 PM, with showtime at 7 PM. Please bring a dish, snack or dessert to share. Don't miss this opportunity! **RSVP to Joanna Mason** evangelization.stmichaelbaden@gmail.com.

PRO-LIFE LECTURE and NATIONAL PRAYER SERVICE

Pro-Life leader entrepreneur, poet & storyteller Sean Flannigan will deliver the 25th Annual March for Life kickoff lecture, **On man's Valiant Journey for God, Family and Country**, Friday, Jan. 17th, 7:30 pm – Rock Creek Knights of Columbus- 5417 West Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD For more info. Go to www.DefendLife.org.

The 26th Annual National Memorial for the Preborn and their Mothers and Fathers will be held the morning of the March for Life, Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 at Constitution Hall in Washington, DC, 1776 D St., NW (18th and D St) Free Admission, no ticket required. Mass at 7:30am (Doors open at 7am). Interdenominational prayer service 8:30am to 10:30am. March of Life rally follows. Visit www.nationalprayerservice.com for information.