

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Floyd Helgoe, Fr. Finnestad, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Dorothy Snell, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Lonnie Guderjahn, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Mae Jackson, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson & Patsy Votava

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION! On January 13th, we dive into Chapter Thirteen! High school is at St. Brigid.

ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 8:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Sat at 8:00 AM. **More Confessions:** Sun 8:00 AM. **January Church Cleaners:** PAUL & SHERRY O'TOOLE, SCOTT & MARY SALWEI & ASHLEY JOHNSON. **Collection:** Don & Duane (Jan 10); Paul & Blanca (Jan 17). **Reader:** Jim (January). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Leroy Daley (Jan 10); Michael Dumas (Jan 17). **Sacristan:** Scott (Jan 10); Melissa (Jan 17). **Rosary:** Mary S (Jan 10); Jim Y (Jan 17)

ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray the Rosary: Sundays at 10:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed and Fri at 11:00 AM; **More Confessions:** SAT. 4-5:00 PM, MON 5-5:15 PM. **January Church cleaners:** L-R. **Collection:** Doug & Gary (Jan 10); Trevor & Scott H (Jan 17). **Readers (Jan):** Sat-Brain S; Sun.-Matt F. **Sanctuary Lamp:** Benjamin Puppe and Arni Johnson (Jan 10); TJ Elsasser (Jan 17)

Prayer for Our Country: every Friday at 6:00 pm at St. Brigid

“33 Days to Greater Glory” We will meet every Thursday (St Brigid) from Feb 4 to March 11 for this “total consecration to God the Father.” The books cost \$14 (or \$10 for electronic copy). Please join us for this life-changing consecration. For info, contact Kim Ford at: kimberlyf@cavalierhospital.com

Baby Shower! For Brynn Spicer (Samantha and Tim): Jan 16, St Brigid, 10-11:30 am, open-house style (mask please)

Mon		Jan 11	5:15 pm	St Brigid	Sarah Hepokoski
Tues	St Marguerite	Jan 12	8:00 am	St Patrick	+Louise Copeland
Wed	St Hilary	Jan 13	Noon	St Brigid	+Mike Houska
Thur		Jan 14	8:00 am	St Patrick	+Frank & Mildred Kleinschmidt
Fri		Jan 15	Noon	St Brigid	+Carol Longtin
Sat		Jan 16	9:00 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick parishes
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	Special Intention (Mason)
Sun	2nd Sunday in Ordinary time	Jan 17	8:30 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick parishes
			10:30 pm	St Brigid	+Sam Givand

Stewardship (as of 12-31-20)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	100.00	3420.00	St Patrick's Care Collection Dec 2020		265.00
Plate			God's Gift Appeal Goal 2020	23,768.00	8,928.00
Weekly Total			God's Gift Appeal Actual	14,653.82	6,897.02
Yearly Actual Total	113,324.48	46,058.09	Percent of Members Participating	49%	73%
LAST YEAR TOTALS at this time	112,624.83	44,788.42	Christmas	3,241.00	965.00
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	855.00		Cemetery	3,440.00	5,738.50
St Pat Tuckpointing \$54,955.00			Care & Share	210.00	199.00
St Patrick Sidewalk Repair \$11,080.00	Total Cost	66,035.00	Immaculate Conception	265.00	75.00
Funds Raised for both Projects		60,788.90	St Bernard Cemetery		235.00
Monthly Envelopes Building Fund		5,926.00	St Anthony Cemetery	1020.00	
Balance needed for Sidewalk Repair		Pending	St Helen Cemetery	970.00	

Pastor: Fr. Charles LaCroix
charles.lacroix@fargodiocese.org

The Baptism of the Lord

St Brigid & St Patrick

January 10, 2021

PO Box 280
Cavalier ND 58220
Phone: 701-265-8877

“ONE MIGHTIER THAN I”
(The Baptist baptizes Jesus)



John the Baptist Announces Jesus

John the Baptist had been reprimanding especially the Pharisees and Sadducees who were coming to his baptism. He said to them "*Brood of vipers! Who has shown you how to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruit befitting repentance. And do not think to say within yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that God is able out of these stones to raise up children to Abraham. For even now the axe is laid at the root of the tree; every tree therefore that is not bringing forth good fruit is to be cut down and thrown into the fire.*"

After castigating the Pharisees (for their hypocrisy) and Sadducees (for their disbelief in the Baptist's announcing of the coming of Christ), he said, "*He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and will gather His wheat into the barn; but the chaff He will burn up with unquenchable fire.*" All of this was more than a prelude to Christ's Baptism. It was the necessary preparation of the people to believe in Christ as the Redeemer, to repent of sins in order to recognize Jesus as indeed the Messiah.

Christ's Baptism and Humility

As described by St. Matthew we are told: "*Then Jesus came from Galilee to John, at the Jordan, to be baptized by Him. And John was for hindering Him, and said, 'It is I who ought to be baptized by thee, and dost thou come to me?'*" But Jesus answered and said to him, "*Let it be so now, for so it becomes us to fulfill all justice.*" Then he permitted him. The meaning of Christ's Baptism by John takes meaning only from **two facts**: that John's baptism was the external confession of being a sinner, and, that Jesus was not a sinner. John protested about baptizing Jesus. He knew, already from childhood, who Jesus was. John's mother told Mary that she, Elizabeth, was not worthy to have the Mother of my Lord to come visit me. John had been **sanctified** in his mother's womb, when Mary, carrying Jesus in her womb, greeted Elizabeth. John had to have been enlightened by the Holy Spirit all through his life on the fact that Jesus was not only the Messiah but the Son of the Most High.

John therefore strongly pleaded, not to baptize Jesus. But Jesus insisted. **Why?** Because Jesus was beginning His public mission of redeeming a sinful world. Because Jesus wanted to be *humiliated*. Because Jesus wanted to symbolize His mission of Savior of sinners, in the Jordan by being associated with sinners, and, on Calvary by being crucified between two criminals. The lessons for us are *beyond counting*. We are so naturally concerned about what other people think of us. We are so fearful of being thought less of by others. We are so fearful of being demeaned in the sight of others. We are so dreadfully afraid of being humiliated and will resort to all sorts of schemes to avoid humiliation. Yet, here is the all-holy God choosing to be humiliated, to teach us the value of humility, to redeem us, especially from our sins of **pride**.

Announcement of Christ's Divinity

The evangelist, St. Matthew, tells us, that something remarkable happened at the Jordan: "*And when Jesus had been baptized, He immediately came up from the water. And behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and coming upon Him. And behold, a voice from the heavens said, 'This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.'*" This is the first public announcement of Christ's Divinity as the Second Person of the Trinity. What happened? The heavens were opened. The Holy Spirit descended as a dove upon Jesus. A voice from heaven was heard. The Heavenly Father was well pleased with His Son Incarnate. The key to this revelation is the fact that Jesus was identified as the living God. The implications for us are fundamental to *everything* in our faith in Christ.

It is Christ's **Divinity** that is the cardinal mystery that we are to believe. Everything else in our life depends on this. Christ's Divinity is the basis for our *obedience* to Jesus' commands. Christ's Divinity is the basis for our love of Him, who is our God, who for love of us became man.

(From: *The Real Presence Association*)