

January 13, 2019

**Sunday After The Epiphany of the Lord  
(First Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

**The Baptism of the Lord**

Feast



**Jesus' Baptism**

**Makes Us All God's Beloved**

God's manifestation of his power in his Son becomes visible at the Jordan where the baptism of Jesus reveals the unique relationship among the Trinity. A voice came from heaven, *You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased.* God in claiming Jesus as *my beloved*, makes us also God's children in name and in truth.

Today's Bulletin is sponsored  
by an Anonymous Parishioner.

**MASS INTENTIONS**



Saturday, January 19  
4:30 p.m. Stazy Hajek  
Sunday, January 20  
8:00 a.m. Mary Ann & Emil Lev

**Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy**

Next weekend is *The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5**  
**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 96**  
**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11**  
**Gospel: John 2:1-11**

**BOOKINGS AVAILABLE**

**Sanctuary Light** – February 3, 10 & 24  
**Bulletin Sponsor** – January 20 & 27  
**Altar Flowers** – January 20 & 27

The Sanctuary Light  
will be lit this week  
in memory of Annette Novak.



**2018 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL**

2018 Assessment ..... \$7,761.00  
Contributions So Far ..... \$ 7,250.00  
Amount Yet to be Contributed ..... \$ 511.00

*We thank all those who have contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. We are counting on all so we can pay off our debt.*

**St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund  
Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha**

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

*In Memory of Emil Lev*

*Lisa Williams, Houston, TX - \$50*

*In Memory of Mariella Herzik Lemon*

*Sue Isaac, Flatonia, TX - \$50*

*Larry Kana, Weimar, TX - \$20*

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER  
FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – JANUARY 18-25**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on January 18, and concludes on January 25, the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. This year's theme is *Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue* (cf Deuteronomy 16:18-20). "... It is through our unity in Christ that we will be able to combat injustice and serve the needs of its victims." Throughout 2019, join Christians everywhere in praying "for the full unity which is Christ's will."

**ORIENTATION**



As the baptized Jesus emerges from the waters of Jordan, God's voice declares, "You are my beloved son, with you I am well pleased," (Luke 3:22) revealing his true essence and identity. This is a remarkable reminder of the importance of

our own Baptism as the sacrament that declares our own identity as members of the Body of Christ. Just as God declares the baptized Jesus to be his Son, in Baptism we become sons and daughters of God in Jesus Christ, and the Spirit of God descends on all of us to strengthen us in our Christian mission of love and service. Jesus Christ is baptized, not to receive forgiveness, but to reveal to us his identity and to show us the way to ours. – LTP

**Fr. Gabriel On Spiritual Retreat**

Fr. Gabriel will be away for the Priests' Annual Spiritual Retreat this week. Remember him and the priests of the diocese in your prayers this week.

*Call the Parish Office for any pastoral need.*

Through the waters of Baptism  
**Briley Kate Grahmann**  
child of Hilary & Greg Grahmann  
has begun her journey of faith  
in our Christian community.



## REFLECTION

### The Baptism of the Lord

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Christmas season. Tomorrow we enter into Ordinary Time and hear the beginning of Christ's ministry on earth.

Today, however, we ponder Baptism – Christ's and our own. The scripture readings summarize the themes of the entire Advent-Christmas season. The voice announces the future events as associated with John the Baptist. The gospel passage from St. Luke moves us from looking forward to the coming of the Messiah to the fulfillment of God's promise.

Jesus's baptism by John clarifies the respective roles and identities of John and Jesus. John's role was preparatory and temporary. He offered the prelude to the promise that would be fulfilled by Jesus. As God's beloved Son and servant with whom God was well pleased, Jesus would exercise the role of Christ and baptize with Spirit and fire. After his baptism, Jesus' ministry began in earnest and John's came to an end (Luke 3:20).

Jesus would also allow himself to be immersed in the baptism of suffering and death. Through these saving actions, all who are baptized in Jesus' name enter fully into his life and his death.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



January 17 – Elizabeth Janak

## VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



### Remember to pray for the following intentions:

*For Joan*

*For Family*

*For Health*

*Pray For My Loving Family*

*For Patrick & Marlies Jasek*

*For Carly & Shelly to Get Well*

*For Kathy Ford - Complete Healing*

*For Gwen Hesseltine - Battling Cancer*

*I Hope That I Can Get 100s On My Tests*

*For My Son For Strength & Soften His Heart*

*Prayer For My Daughter & I With Our Relationship*

*Pray For The Love & Protection of Baby Emery & Vivian*

*Prayer For Myself & My Family To Have a Healthy, Happy Long Life With Faith In Our Hearts*

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

## LOOKING AHEAD LITURGICALLY

### ORDINARY TIME CYCLE C



Each year of the three-year Liturgical Cycle, (A. B. C.) is dedicated to one of the synoptic Gospels, (Matthew, Mark and Luke). This year we are in Cycle C. We read from Luke's Gospel. Luke is an exquisite storyteller, with a keen eye for deep characters, pungent storylines, poignant ironies, and heartwarming endings. Luke's Gospel contains certain features that the other Gospel accounts omit or mention only in passing. Luke alone gives us the stories of Jesus' infancy narrative.

### Overview of Ordinary Time During The Winter Sundays One – Five

On the First Sunday of Ordinary Time (that time in the Liturgical Year when we are not celebrating a special season like Advent, Christmas or Lent) we celebrate Jesus' baptism. After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we continue the celebration of Ordinary Time. In these Sundays, we will witness the beginnings of Jesus' ministry. We will hear of the call to discipleship and the paradoxes and difficulties that will be encountered in the proclamation of the reign of God.

### The Lectionary

The First Readings for these Sundays deal with "ordinary" life. On the Third Sunday, there is the liturgical assembly with a reading from the law of the Lord led by Ezra, the priest and scribe, after the return from exile. On the Fourth and Fifth Sundays, we hear of the call of the prophets Jeremiah, a very young man when called, and Isaiah, who received his call while worshipping in the Temple.

The Second Readings are from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, a community graced with many spiritual gifts. On the Second through Fourth Sundays, we hear Paul's instructions concerning the proper use of, and attitude toward, these gifts. The reading for the Fifth Sunday is the earliest account of the Resurrection of Christ from the dead.

The Gospels. On the Second Sunday we hear the Gospel of the wedding at Cana where Jesus changed water into wine – in St. John's Gospel, the first of the "signs" (miracles) that Jesus performed, manifesting his glory and power as the Son of God. The Third through Fifth Sundays we return to Luke chapters four and five, dealing with the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.