

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## JANUARY 12, 2020

### FROM OUR PRIESTS' DESKS:

Little is known of the life of Jesus from the time of his birth and infancy to the time of his baptism, described in today's Gospel (Mt. 3: 13-17). Almost thirty years, by far the largest part of Jesus' life, are passed over by the Scriptures in silence. Many writers have speculated about those "hidden years", drawing more from imagination than from fact about the daily life of the Holy Family in Nazareth—about Jesus, Mary and Joseph. All we know for sure is what St. Luke tells us at the end of chapter two of his Gospel: that Jesus for his part progressed steadily in wisdom and age and grace before God and men.

To speak about Jesus "making progress" sounds a little strange. In thinking about the perfection of his divine nature we forget that he was also human—that he was like us in all things but sin. So, it was necessary for him, as it is necessary for us, to learn from the experiences of life, to discover who we are and what we are to do with the one and only life we have. And in this process of self-discovery and of self-acceptance there are turning points, important moments in which the choices we make determine in a very real way the future direction our lives will take. Perhaps we can think of these moments in our own lives—they may be connected with our families, our careers, our faith, or all three; they may have been well-planned for, or maybe they were unexpected and caught us by surprise.

For Jesus one of those moments was his baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. That event, recorded in all four Gospels as a sign of its importance, speaks of a religious experience in which God is revealed as a Trinity of persons, loving and supporting each other—the Holy Spirit descends in the form of a dove; the Father speaks words of approval and encouragement, and Jesus is identified as the beloved Son. For most of us Baptism was an event of the distant past—for some more distant than for others—something we know happened to us but which we don't remember since we were only infants at the time. We do remember, hopefully, the principle effects of Baptism: to cleanse us of original sin, to make us children of God and heirs of heaven, and to incorporate us into the mystical body of Christ, the Church. These effects, of course, are not visible or tangible—we can't see them or feel them. It is only faith that makes us aware of them, of their meaning and challenge: Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel; come out of the darkness into the light; stop living for yourself alone; make room for God and make room for others. And when we do these things our Baptism becomes a living

reality for us, and we become vessels—open to receive and open to give.

Looking at our lives and our world in these first days of 2020 we can probably see much that is good, many things to inspire hope and gratitude, but also much room for improvement—problems that need to be addressed; relationships that need to be renewed; injustices that need to be corrected. How do we fit in? Where do we fit in? New Year's is a traditional time for making resolutions, some needed changes we want to make in our lives, perhaps above all life-style choices that will promote better physical, emotional, and spiritual health. In making these choices we should be realistic and practical as well as challenging ourselves to be more self-disciplined, more truthful and honest, more patient and more self-giving. The New Year will, no doubt, contain many surprises for all of us—some pleasant and others not so pleasant; some welcome and others unwelcome. May God's grace accompany us as it accompanied his Son; may it help us to promote love rather than hatred; healing rather than injury, and peace rather than conflict.

*Fr. John Gruben, OAR*

### **PRAYER FOR RESPECT FOR LIFE**

Heavenly Father, the beauty and dignity of human life was the crowning of your creation. You further ennobled that life when your Son became one with us in his Incarnation. Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception until the last moment at death. Give us courage to speak with truth and love and with conviction in defense of life. Help us to extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness to those who do not reverence your gift of life. To all, grant pardon for the times we have failed to be grateful for your precious gift of life or to respect it in others. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen!



**WASHINGTON D.C.**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020**

On the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision legalizing abortion, come and walk for the sake of the unborn on Friday, January 18, 2020. Buses leave from St. Francis of Assisi in W. Nyack @ 6am. Adults \$30 / Students \$15. **For more info, visit [www.RocklandRTL.org](http://www.RocklandRTL.org)**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**Day Of Prayer And Penance Here at Sacred Heart  
Marking the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade:**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, starting at 9:30am with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and ending with the Rosary for Life, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and Benediction beginning at 3:00pm.

## SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

**Feast of the Holy Family—\$ 13,557.**

**Last Year's Collection - \$14,176.**

**January 5<sup>th</sup> Collection —\$13,342.**

**Last Year's Collection—\$13,923.**

**Solemnity of the Virgin Mary - \$5,526.**

**Last Year's Collection - \$5,544.**

**Catholic Communications/ University - \$3,287.**

**Last Year - \$3,384.**

**Flower Collection – \$4,229.**

**Last Year's Collection —\$6,060.**

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 12

CYO Clinic – 1:30pm in the gym

### Monday, January 13

Rel. Ed. Grade 6 – 4:30pm

Rel Ed. Grade 7 – 7:00pm

Hispanic RCIA – 7:00pm in the Rectory

Novena – 7:15pm

### Tuesday, January 14

Rel. Ed. Grades 3 – 5 – 4:30pm

Rel. Ed. Grade 8 – 7:00pm

Choir Practice – 7:00pm

Prayer Group – 7:30pm in the Rectory Chapel

### Wednesday, January 15

St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry – 2:00pm to 4:00pm

CYO Basketball – 5:00 to 9:00pm gym

Children's Choir Practice – 5:00pm

Hispanic Prayer Group – 8:00pm cafeteria

RCIA – 7:00pm

### Thursday, January 16

CYO – 5:00pm to 9:00pm

### Friday, January 17

### SHS Mother and Son Event

### Saturday, January 18

St. Joseph Group – 7:30am in the Rectory

Rel Ed. Grades 1 & 2 – 9:30am to 11:00am

### Sunday, January 19

CYO Clinic – 1:30pm in the gym

## PRO-LIFE EVENT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ROE VS WADE

For those who are unable to travel to D.C. for the Pro-Life March on January 24<sup>th</sup> the Cardinal will be saying the Holy Mass at 7:30pm on Wednesday Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> with Eucharistic Adoration with the Sisters of Life at 6:30pm. For more info: call St. Aedan's at 845-735-7405.

## SACRED HEART SCHOOL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 27, 2020- January 31, 2020

Will be celebrating Catholic Schools week with several events. Please stop by for a tour and an application. To Tour the school; please call the school office at 845-357-1684.

## PLANNING CATHOLIC FUNERAL LITURGIES WORKSHOP

February 1, 2020

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

St. Joseph's Seminary

When a loved one dies, we want to prepare a beautiful funeral Mass, but the burden of grief can make this difficult. Learn how to prepare a prayerful and beautiful funeral liturgy that gives glory to God and honors the deceased in Christ.

Get answers to these questions, and more:

- What is the Catholic teaching about death?
- What is the history of Catholic funeral rites?
- What role do the funeral rites have in the mourning process?
- What are the options for readings, music, prayers and words of remembrance?
- Can Catholics be cremated?

Presenter: Fr. Matthew Ernest, S.T.D., Professor of Liturgy at St. Joseph's Seminary

Registration Fee: \$15

Register at: [nyliturgy.org/funeralworkshop](http://nyliturgy.org/funeralworkshop)

## MEN'S RETREAT AT THE MARIAN SHRINE

**For Who:** Open to all men ages 18 and up.

**When:** Friday, February 7th- Sunday, February 9th

**Accommodations:** Private Rooms at the Marian Shrine Retreat House, all meals included. \$200 total cost

**Speaker:** Fr. Steve Ryan

**Why:** We are hoping to have 40+ men and make this an annual opportunity.

All men could use a retreat and the message will be practical and straight-forward. Please come gentlemen.

**For more information please call The Marian Shrine at (845) 947-2200 Ext. 303**

## THANK YOU! SCARR FUNERAL HOME

We wish to extend a big thank you to Mr. Lenny Scarr Jr. and the Scarr Funeral Home for once again supplying our beautiful 2020 Calendars.

## 2019 CONTRIBUTION OFFERINGS

The year-end reports for 2019 from the envelope company and parish pay if you have signed up for online giving, will reflect totals for the year 2019 for envelopes on which parishioners' numbers and amounts have been recorded on the outside throughout the year. Statements will be mailed by the end of January.

**Thank you for your generous support!**

## DEBT AND DEFICIT REDUCTION COLLECTION

JANUARY 18 & 19, 2020

The Parish Debt and Deficit Reduction second collection will take place.

## ANUNCIOS

El Grupo de Oración en Español tiene lugar habitualmente los miércoles, a las 8 de la noche en la cafetería.

Los próximos bautizos en español tendrán lugar el 18 de enero 2020 a la 1pm. Contactar en la oficina 357-0035.



## BANNS OF MARRIAGE FOR THE THIRD TIME

THERESA MUÑOZ AND JASON TRINIDAD



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Keith Alanis, Jenna Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Pat Brady, Annette Burbridge, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Gail Curtin, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Roy Harris, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Susan Jarkiewicz, Anna Kasperska, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Rosemarie Manthey, Matthew Luludis, Marie Marasuilo, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Rich McDowell, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Joseph Mikulka, Barbara Neilson, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Shace Paljusevic, Peter Princi, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly, Frank Salveggi, Janet Schwartz, Ruth Schwetz, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing, and Vladimir Zaslavsky.

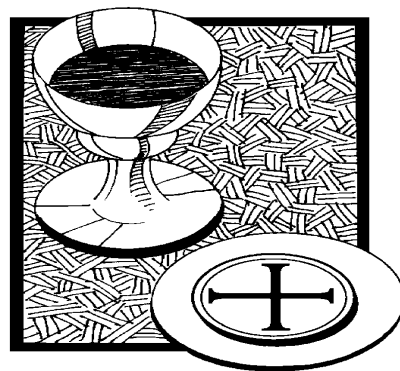
## ALTAR MEMORIALS JANUARY 12, 2020

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of  
PALMA & HENRY HECK



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones:

Especially: Ann Bugdin-Cummings, Michael Califano, Gloria Tosto



## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

#### SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS

5:30pm – Marianne DeRosa

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Dianne Messina

10:00am – Catherine Howard & Fr. John Quinn

11:30am – Palma M. & Henry J. Heck

1:00pm – Carol Stronach

5:30pm – Parish Memorial Society

### MONDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00am – Ellen Murphy

9:00am – Jackson DiDona

7:15pm - Novena

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

7:00am – Eugene & Rose Magurno

9:00am – Lester Bernstein

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

7:00am – Alfred & Louise Gelso

10:00am – Luc Celestin

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

7:00am – Milton V. McKewin

9:00am – Andrew Louis Kravic

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

7:00am – Robert Dierline

9:00am – Sandra Torres

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

9:00am – Kathryn Hetherington

### SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS

5:30pm -Catherine T. Greeley

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Carmel Curley

10:00am – Catherine Greeley

11:30am – Saverio Stillo

1:00pm – Patricia A. Fitzpatrick

5:30pm – Parish Memorial Society

## BOOSTER CLUB

WEEK 23- JANET CURCIONE