



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – JANUARY 10, 2021

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MASS SCHEDULE—INTENTIONS--SAINTS

- (L) Sun., Jan. 10 8:30 a.m. Mass, Paul & Monica
Lynam
- (C) Sun., Jan. 10 10:30 a.m. Mass, Maria Christina
de Rosales
- (L) Sun., Jan. 10 5:00 p.m. Mass, (Spanish) All
Souls in Purgatory

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

- (C) Tues., Jan. 12 Noon Mass, Richard Weis
- (L) Wed., Jan.13 8:30 a.m. Mass, Joyce Skahill
Saint Hilary, Bishop
- (C) Thur., Jan. 14 8:30 a.m. Mass, Margaret Penfold
- (L) Fri., Jan. 15 8:30 a.m. Mass, Bill Taylor
- (L) Sun., Jan. 17 8:30 a.m. Mass, Deanne Hoffman
- (C) Sun., Jan. 17 10:30 a.m. Mass, Ed Larson
- (L) Sun., Jan. 17 5:00 p.m. Mass, (Spanish) All
Souls in Purgatory

CONFESSION HEARD BEFORE ALL WEEKEND MASSES

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Corning Tithes: January 3, 2021 \$2030.00

WHO & WHOSE ARE YOU?

There is an old Indian parable about a tiger cub raised by goats. The cub learned to bleat and nibble grass and behave like a goat. One night a tiger attacked the goats, which scattered for safety. But the tiger cub kept grazing and crying like a goat without getting frightened. The old tiger roared, "What are you doing here, living with these cowardly goats?" He grabbed the cub by the scruff, dragged him to a pond and said: "Look how our faces reflected in water! Now you know who you are and whose you are." The tiger took the cub home, taught him how to catch animals, eat their meat, roar and act like a tiger. The tiger cub thus discovered his true self. This week we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of our LORD JESUS. This Sunday's Gospel suggests that Jesus received from Heaven a fresh flash of realization of Who, and Whose, He really was (His identity) and of what He was supposed to do (His mission), on the day of his baptism in the river Jordan.

What does this feast teach us for our daily lives? The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity and mission. First, it reminds us of **who we are** and **Whose we are**. By Baptism we become the adoptive sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven, and temples of the Holy Spirit. We become incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ, and made sharers in the priesthood of Christ [CCC 1279]. Hence, "Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other Sacraments" (*Catechism, of the Catholic Church*, #1213). Before COVID-19, we used to dip the fingers of our right hands into the holy water font and bless ourselves whenever we enter into Church. *Why?* This blessing is supposed to remind us of our Baptism. And so when I bless myself with Holy Water, I should be thinking of the fact that I am a child of God; that I have been redeemed by the Cross of Christ; that I have been made a member of God's family, and that I have been washed, forgiven, cleansed, and purified by the Blood of the Lamb. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission** 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. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission**

to live as the children of God in thought, word, and action so that our Heavenly Father may say to each one of us what He said to Jesus: "You are My beloved son/daughter with whom I am well pleased." Being "God's child" means that we are to let His thoughts direct our thoughts, His mind control our mind, His concerns be our concerns. In the Church, we all share the same intimate connection with Christ; we are all brothers and sisters in Christ, and so of each other. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission** 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. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission** to accept both the good and the bad experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father for our growth in holiness. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission** to grow daily in intimacy with God by personal and family prayers, by reading the Word of God, by participating in the Holy Mass, and by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Jesus' baptism reminds us of our mission** to be co-creators with God in building up the "Kingdom of God" on earth, a Kingdom of compassion, justice, and love, and to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. In other words, He has called us to help others to see, through the love that we show and the help that we give, that God loves them, that He invites them, too, to be His sons and daughters, and that He wants to be their Helper and Strengtheners through all the troubles that life in this world can bring. **The feast of the Baptism of our LORD also invites us to remember the graces we have received in Baptism and to renew our Baptismal promises.** On the day of our baptism, as Pope St. John Paul II explains, "We were anointed with the Oil of Catechumens, the sign of Christ's gentle strength, to fight against evil. Blessed water was poured over us, an effective sign of interior purification through the gift of the Holy Spirit. We were then anointed with Chrism to show that we were thus consecrated in the image of Jesus, the Father's Anointed One. The candle lighted from the Paschal Candle was a symbol of the light of Faith which our parents and godparents must have continually safeguarded and nourished with the life-giving grace of the Spirit." This is also a day for us to renew our Baptismal promises, consecrating ourselves to the Holy Trinity and "rejecting Satan and all his empty promises," which our profane world is constantly offering us through its mass-media of communication. Let us ask Our Lord today to make us faithful to our Baptismal promises. Let us thank Him for the privilege of being joined to His mission of preaching the "Good News" by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service, and forgiveness.

God bless.
Fr. Litto Thomas.

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS

January 17, 2021

Lectors: Nancy Amdor
EM: Lisa Konecne
Sacristan: Julia Paul
Hospitality: Marcella Gearheart
Musician: Carol Hardisty

ORDINARY TIME

Thanks to everyone who stayed after mass today to help remove and put away all the Christmas decorations and get out decorations for Ordinary Time from now until Ash Wednesday.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Next Pastoral Council meeting is January 19, 2021. The Pastoral Council meeting has been moved to the third Tuesday of each month. Thanks for being flexible with this change.

ITS RECONCILIATION TIME!

Please keep the following students from our parish in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation in February.

Avery Amdor
Nolan Konecne
Mark Ramsey
Max Ramsey

READINGS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021

Jan 10 SUN: Is 55: 1-11/ Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6 (3)/
1 Jn 5: 1-9/ Mk 1: 7-11
Jan 11 Mon: Heb 1: 1-6/ Ps 97: 1 and 2b. 6 and 7c.
9/ Mk 1: 14-20
Jan 12 Tue: Heb 2: 5-12/ Ps 8: 2ab and 5. 6-7. 8-9/
Mk 1: 21-28
Jan 13 Wed: Heb 2: 14-18/ Ps 105: 1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8-9/
Mk 1: 29-39
Jan 14 Thu: Heb 3: 7-14/ Ps 95: 6-7c. 8-9. 10-11/
Mk 1: 40-45
Jan 15 Fri: Heb 4: 1-5. 11/ Ps 78: 3 and 4bc. 6c-7. 8/
Mk 2: 1-12
Jan 16 Sat: Heb 4: 12-16/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10. 15/
Mk 2: 13-17
Jan 17 SUN: 1 Sm 3: 3b-10. 19/ Ps 40: 2. 4. 7-8. 8-9.
10 (8a. 9a)/ 1 Cor 6: 13c-15a. 17-20/ Jn 1: 35-42

BIRTHDAYS

January 15

Jane Rychnovsky