

The Baptism of the Lord

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is “to be our model of holiness.” All of Jesus’ words and actions model for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we’re meant to be. Jesus’ baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. “This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased.” And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit’s grace and power to continue Christ’s mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let’s do as Jesus did. Let’s live in our baptism!

Sunday Collection for December 28/29, 2019 was \$2,836.00 & January 4/5/2020 was \$2,700.00.

Support for Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio

We need to pray for and support our Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and for all those affected by the sexual abuse crisis in our church. It is hard for me to believe this allegation in the light of how open, proactive and strong he has been as a leader in addressing this issue. The timing of its release seems to me highly suspicious. The accusation against our Bishop was made while he was in Rome meeting with the Pope and came shortly after the conclusion of his investigation in the Diocese of Buffalo.

Whatever the outcome may be—we owe him our prayers. Let us remember Jesus is with his faithful people and with his church; we will survive this difficult period by God’s grace and our faith and prayers.

El Bautismo del Señor

La Navidad termina con la Fiesta en honor del Bautismo del Señor; es otra manifestación de Dios por medio de su Hijo. Ahora el profeta Isaías nos muestra al Siervo de Dios en quien se complace: “Miren a mi siervo, a quien sostengo, a mi elegido, en quien tengo mis complacencias. En él he puesto mi espíritu para que haga brillar la justicia sobre las naciones.” No queda más que agradecer el inmenso amor de Dios por nosotros. ¿Como no apreciar el ser hijos/hijas de Dios por el bautismo? Desde que nos bautizaron, sea pequeño o grande, Dios espera que al menos estemos seguros de que tenemos un Padre amoroso y compasivo, que se alegra con nosotros. La lectura del Libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles ayuda a comprender que “Dios no hace distinción de personas, sino que acepta al que... practica la justicia.”

Está Fiesta es similar a Pentecostés, pero, en otra forma de manifestación del Espíritu Santo. Juan, lo explica claramente cuando dice: “Es cierto que yo bautizo con agua, pero ya viene otro más poderoso que yo, a quien no merezco desatarle las correas de sus sandalias. El los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo y con fuego.” Bien, ahora cabe la pregunta para reflexión personal: ¿Qué acciones hago para complacer a Dios? ¿Hay fuego en mi corazón de tal manera que arde en buenas obras? Fijémonos en la humildad de Juan Bautista; el reconocio que su ministerio tenía que disminuir para que el ministerio de Jesús brillara y se expandiera. ¿Crees tú que los lideres actuales en las parroquias hacen lo mismo que Juan?

Readings for the week of January 12, 2020

Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17
Monday:	1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday:	Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A Message from Fr. Tom

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. It is a celebration that is a transition from Christmas to Ordinary time—a transition from the Old Testament to the New—a transition from a time of expectation to the time of mission and ministry in the life of Jesus. This moment in the life of Jesus is critically important for all of us. It matters because the voice from the heavens validates the identity of Jesus: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

How can the sinless Son of God accept the baptism of a sinner? The sinless Jesus accepts the baptism of a sinner because he desires solidarity with all peoples. In following after him, by our baptism, we have solidarity with God. Thus Jesus bonds himself to the Father and shows to all who come after him the path they must take to God the Father.

By our Baptism we are freed from original sin and given Sacramental grace. It’s hard to change our sinful ways. And so God gives us this Sacrament which definitively claims us and orients our lives towards Him. You have been born again. Don’t let anybody tell you different. Remember and celebrate the day of your Baptism! Baptism is the door to the other Sacraments. In Confirmation the mature seal of initiation is completed. In Confession and the Eucharist we are supplied with the graces we need day-in and day-out to move toward God and away from our sins. By our Baptism we are now claimed by God through Jesus. The game plan of Christian life is given to us. In the waters of Baptism we die so that we may live with Christ. We rise to new life when we bring to life within us the values of the Gospel—calling out to us—as it were—to a life of continual reform and renewal in Jesus Christ.

Sacramental Guidelines Regarding Communion—A Reminder!!!

In order to receive the Body of Christ worthily each Sunday the faithful Catholic must:

1. Have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion.
2. Receive in good conscience. This means being free of any serious mortal sin—this requires going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession every few months.
3. If you are in a civil marriage, common law marriage or cohabitating (sharing intimate relations on a permanent basis) this state blocks the reception of the Sacraments.

4. Fast one hour prior to the start of Mass.
5. The preferred manner to receive the Eucharist/Holy Communion for at least the last 1,000 years is by mouth. This is supported by documents of the post-Vatican II era. You may receive by hand if you wish. However, please do not grab at the host with your hand. Please receive Jesus like a beggar—a beggar who is in need of God’s healing and grace. If one receives by hand—hold out your hand like a plate.
6. The communicant must respond with a firm ‘Amen’ before placing the host in their mouth. Do not say ‘thank you.’ This is a spiritual gift from God—not the priest. Please say ‘Amen.’
7. The communicant should receive when they are in the presence of the priest. **NO ONE MAY WALK AWAY WITH THE HOST IN THEIR HANDS.** There have been reports of desecrations of the Sacrament. We need to be on our guard and vigilant about this. The enemies of Jesus and the church are very real.
8. Please arrive early before the start of Mass to pray and recollect yourself for the gift you are about to receive.
9. Please stay to the end of Mass and remain a few minutes to recollect yourself and make a spiritual thanksgiving. No one should walk out of the church immediately after the reception of the Eucharist.

Thank you for bearing these points in mind.

Fr. Tom

Transfiguration Men’s Shelter

We have been assigned our 2020 winter week for the Transfiguration Men’s Shelter. The dates we will be needing assistance are:

Sunday, January 19, 2020 through
Saturday, January 25, 2020

If you can help us by providing a complete hot meal for 35 men consisting of salad, entrée, dessert and beverage, or if you are unable to provide the food but would like to help by serving, we can always use a helping hand.

Please contact Angela Scotti @ 718-782-3881 or the Parish Office @ 718-387-0256.

Please be assured whether you do this personally, with your family, group or organization your kindness and generosity is always greatly appreciated.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**Gifts of Love—Emergency Food Pantry
At Divine Mercy Parish**

“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome... “(Matt 25:35-36)

Lord, we are grateful for the gift of food and the opportunity to serve others in Your name. Please continue to bless our faith community with love and unity. Join our hands, one to another, and lead us in the way you have designed for us. Rest your favor upon us and keep us always in Your care. Amen.

Special Items needed: **Canned meats**
Food Pantry Coordinator

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – January 12, 2020**

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES
Immacolata Baglivo by granddaughter Tina

**Diocesan Pilgrimage
Oberammergau
The Passion Way**

Visits to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Rebenburg, Passau,
Salzburg & Munich May 12-21, 2020
Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Spiritual Director and Rev.
Frank Schwarz, Chaplain

For a Brochure Call Peters Way Tours 516-605-1551x
17. For more information kaitlin@petersway.com

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR
CELL PHONE DURING MASS**

**Queen of the Rosary Catholic Academy
Brooklyn Bingo Night**

Friday, February 7, 2020 7:00 PM
St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

Price \$10; includes one card, coffee and dessert.
Plus...Extra cards and raffles will be sold.

Purchase tickets at the school (11 Catherine Street) by
Monday, February 3, or contact Annette Marino (646-
361-8467).

No tickets sold at the door.
Children under 16 NOT permitted.
Prizes to be won!!!

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Francis of Paola Church**

Saturday, January 11, 2020

5:00pm Carmela San Pietro by Scotti Family

Sunday, January 12, 2020

8:00am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish
11:30am Immacolata Baglivo by Family

Monday, January 13, 2020

7:45am Anna & Pietro Donnanduono by
daughter Antoinette & James Long

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

7:45am Sofia Friscioni by daughter Lina Sciotti

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

7:45am Anna & Pietro Donnanduono by
daughter Antoinette & James Long

Thursday, January 16, 2020

7:45am Aniello De Sarno by Family

Friday, January 17, 2020

7:45am Giuseppe & Ersilia Falce by Iginio &
Giovanna Falce

Saturday, January 18, 2020

7:45am Sabato Zero by Dennis Torre & Sonia
Rivera
5:00pm Anthony, Jennie & Frank Torre by
Torre Family

Sunday, January 19, 2020

8:00am Open Intention
11:30am Salvatore Bifulco by Caroline
Carannante & Family

Save the Date:

St. Anthony's "Carnevale"
Tuesday February 25, 2020

**Clases De Ciudadania
!GRATIS!**

Clases son los

LUNES Y MIERCOLES

Demezando: El 6 de Enero, 2020

Horario: 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Direccion: 295 Woodbind St., Bklyn., NY 11237
Registracion en el 265 Wyckoff Ave., Brooklyn, New
York 11237. CEO: Monsignor James J. Kelly

JANUARY 12, 2020

Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Nicholas Church

Sunday January 12, 2020

10:30am Open Intention

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

7:00pm Filomena Vitale by Sciangula Family

Sunday, January 19, 2020

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to add (or remove) a name to this list...

Marlena Ferone-Washack, Patricia Clarke, Trish Randall, Anthony Delio, Laura Vayda, Michael Santoro, Marie Salvato, Caroline Bark

Pray For the Recently Deceased

James Sullivan, Michael Younghese, Agnes Sullivan, Deborah Gelski, Lorraine Lagalla, Nicholas Val Farina, Salvatore Bifulco

Annual Catholic Appeal 2019
December 16, 2019

Goal: \$35,578.00
Pledged \$45,607.00
Received \$42,309.55
Total Pledges 151

St. Cecilia's Chapel: St. Cecilia's Chapel located at 84 Herbert Street is open weekdays following the 8:30 morning Mass until approximately 3:00 pm.

Brooklyn Evening of Fraternity

Saint John Paul II House of Discernment
January 27, 2020

Holy Hour // Conference // Dinner

341 Highland Blvd., Bklyn., N.Y., 718-827-2454
Re. Vincent Chirichella Asst. Vocation Director

Religious Education Up-Dates

January 16: Confirmation Parents Meeting 7 pm, in St. Francis of Paola basement

For more information on the above call the Religious Education Office at 347-521-0068, 9 am to 3 pm.

Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, January 12, 2020

9:30am Barney & Angie Cavallo

Lucy & Pete LaVeglia

Caliendo Family

President Donald Trump: Living Intention

7:00pm Monsignor Errico Dante

Monday, January 13 2020

8:30am All Victims Suffering From Clerical Abuse

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

8:30am Rose Marie Pellegino

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

8:30am Robert Barretti

Thursday, January 16, 2020

8:30am Giovanna DeSarno by Maria Sepe

Friday, January 17, 2020

8:30am Arthur Knapp, Jr.

Saturday, January 18, 2020

8:30am Rev. James Krische: Living Intention

Sunday, January 19, 2020

9:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

7:00pm Philip Hofmann

Saturday, January 18th

Concert with Choral Chameleon

Praised for their "contemplative beauty" by the New York Times in their performances, the vocal ensemble Choral Chameleon brings a wonderful program to the beautiful space of St. Nicholas Church.

Please join the DMP Concert Series for our first concert of the new year on Saturday, January 18th, at 7:00 pm

This wonderful event is a great opportunity to invite friends and family into the life of our parish community.

The concert will be free of charge.

Congratulations: We congratulate the following student from our Parish who has attained Honor Roll status at The Mary Louis Academy:

Dominique Earle First Honors

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **13**

FILENAME: **04-0284.53b**

PHONE NUMBER: **718-389-0010**

FAX NUMBER: **718-389-5090**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE

Comments:

RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94th Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

Andrea.Haro@nypd.org

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm

Receive Our Parish Bulletin **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.