

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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JANUARY 10, 2021

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

CONTACT US

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MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends:

Sat - 4 p.m. Sun - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

STAFF

Secretary: Robin Targosky

Bookkeeper: Susan Board

Bulletin Editor: Kathy Swift

DRE: Mary Helen Marling

GOSPEL MEDITATION: A CALL TO REMEMBER

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. The times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these

essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction

and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them.

If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

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SATURDAY, JAN. 9

4:00 p.m. Terry McDonald
Chris McDonald

SUNDAY, JAN. 10

8:00 a.m. Michael Richmond & Mark Richmond†
Carl & Eilene Richmond

10:00 a.m. Wallington Family†
Kathryn Wallington

MONDAY, JAN. 11

8:00 a.m. Josette Anwar†
Carolyn Gordon

TUESDAY, JAN. 12

8:00 a.m. Diane Hill†
Cathy & Roger Frame

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13

8:00 a.m. Sami Wilson
Loretta Saporito

THURSDAY, JAN. 14

8:00 a.m. Charles Freeman†
Kim & Steve Starcovic

FRIDAY, JAN. 15

8:00 a.m. Judy Remke Hayhurst†
Loretta Remke

SATURDAY, JAN. 16

4:00 p.m. James Campbell†
Jim Burke

SUNDAY, JAN. 17

8:00 a.m. Thomas Brent Andrews†
Jim & Marlene Lawther

10:00 a.m. Regina Gonchoff†
Dean & Gina Hoops

Please pray for Debbie H. as she prepares to donate a kidney to Sami Wilson, for whom we have been praying along with her aunt and fellow parishioner Loretta Saporito. After much uncertainty, Sami will be receiving her transplant soon after her 20th birthday, which she celebrated Jan. 13.



Baptism

Recognition of Christ's Mission of Action

The sacraments celebrated by the Church are signs of grace that make a deeper reality present to us. One reality we encounter is Christ's presence in the Church community, his Body. This recognition of Christ's presence in the community should lead to a stronger awareness of being sent on mission to engage in love-inspired action in the world. As Pope Benedict XVI notes in *Deus Caritas Est* (God Is Love), the celebration of the sacraments and the ministry of love are "inseparable." Love in action, he says, is "an indispensable expression" of the Church's being (no. 25). As you read, consider the meaning of your own Baptism, your membership in the community, and the mission on which you are sent. Consider all this as we continue to observe Poverty Awareness Month and the call of Pope Francis to build fraternity with the poor.

Baptism makes us "members of one another." Since the time of early Christianity, Baptism has been the rite of initiation into the Christian community of the Church. In Baptism, the "one Spirit" makes us members of the Body of Christ and of "one another" (Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC], no. 1267). Pope John Paul II describes the result of Baptism as a "mystical unity" between Christ and his disciples, and the disciples with one another, like "branches of a single vine." This reflects the mystical communion of the Holy Trinity (Christifideles Laici [The Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World], no. 12).

Baptism reveals the equality and dignity of each member of the community. In the one Body of Christ, members share "a common dignity" so that "no inequality arising from race or nationality, social condition or sex" exists, for all are one in Christ (Lumen Gentium [Dogmatic Constitution on the Church], no. 32).

Baptism invites us to a vocation of holiness and the practice of charity. In Baptism, we receive a "vocation to holiness," which is "intimately connected" to our membership in the "Communion of Saints," which strives to make present the "Kingdom of God in history." Participation in the Communion of Saints requires a commitment to communion with Christ and "a life of charity" in "this world and in the next" (Christifideles Laici, nos. 17, 19)

In Baptism, we profess our commitment to the Church's beliefs, values, and vision. At Baptism, we embrace a unique vision and set of values: those of the community of the Church, whose values prioritize love for God, self, others, and all of creation. The rest of the community also joins in the profession of faith, illustrating that the community is linked across generations, space, and time.

Prayer Requests

Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Eleanor Smith, Bobby Kleinedler, Sandye Yoho, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Sara Walters, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Mike Morris, Sami Wilson, Bob Kleinedler, Kathryn Ferrera, Richard Blum, Cindy Gunto.

Homebound: Semon & Phyllis Prado, Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro.

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Marie Lohri, Bill Tennant, Ron Jaworski, Raymond Pennybacker, Helen Remke, Barb Meyer.

Names of those recently sick will appear for two months. Please resubmit requests for those who still need our healing prayers.

Calendar of Events

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Saturdays until Feb. 6 | Survey of Catholic Doctrine Course jmckeets@dwc.org |
| Sunday, Jan. 10 | PSR Resumes |
| Wednesday, Jan. 13 | Bible Study: The Prophets 5:30 p.m. in the Church hall |

LECTORS

| | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Jan. 16 | 4:00 p.m. | L. Remke |
| Jan. 17 | 8:00 a.m. | C. Frame |
| | 10:00 a.m. | E. King |

OFFERING DEC. 27, 2020

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$3,867.00 |
| Loose Offering | \$220.00 |
| Church Repair | \$5.00 |
| Xavier Hall | \$20.00 |
| Diocesan Collection | \$130.00 |
| <u>Other Collections:</u> | |
| Christmas: | \$665.00 |
| Giving Tuesday | \$2,840.00 |
| Memorial | \$130.00 |
| Candles | \$69.00 |
| Online Giving | \$340.65 |
| Attendance | 115 |

CHRISTMAS DEC. 25, 2020

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Catholic Charities | \$485.00 |
| <u>Other Collections:</u> | |
| Christmas: | \$2,568.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$20.00 |
| Giving Tuesday | \$40.00 |
| Memorial | \$100.00 |
| Pennies for God | \$6.29 |
| Attendance | 195 |

Report suspected child sexual abuse to law enforcement or Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. Report suspected cases by Diocese personnel to the Diocese at 888-434-6237.

Celebrating a New Soul

Christian Jett Kosky, grandchild of parishioners Diane and Duke Kosky, received baptism Jan. 2 in the church. Parents Timothy and Rebecca Kosky, at the right of Fr. That Son, look on with Christian's godparents as Father presents Christian. Congratulations to the entire family!



\$48,848.68!

The tally is in. Donations to our Giving Tuesday fund drive ending Dec. 31 totals \$48,848.68. Forty-four donors contributed--45 if you count the matching \$6,000 donation from our pierogi group. We are grateful to everyone who was able to participate--including the estate of Eilene Klug. Eilene's sister delivered a check to us on Giving Tuesday for just over \$24,000. A reminder here that 100 percent of Giving Tuesday funds go straight to our parish. There is no assessment from the diocese. 2020 was truly a year filled with uncertainty; nevertheless, we remain certain of our parishioners' care and generosity, and we thank God every single day for you.

IN OTHER GOOD NEWS ...

Last week we unexpectedly received a \$10,000 check from the estate of Helen Cuchta. Helen was a long-time parishioner and a retired housekeeper at Reynolds Hospital. She was 87 when she died Dec. 10, 2019. Remembering our parish in a will is another thoughtful and loving way to give.



NEARLY 50 BOXES OF FOOD went to Feeding Body and Soul Community Kitchen at Simpson Church last week thanks to the Reverse Advent Food Drive sponsored by our Confirmation candidates. Showing some donations are, clockwise from bottom, Reagan Scherich, Brandt Blake, Maddy Thomas, Maitlyn Miller, Addison Blake, Sierra Taylor and at center Allen Laberde. Thank you to everyone who collected food with students.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Grades 1-12.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

REGISTRATION, CHURCH SUPPORT:

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office. Please be sure to update your information when you move or change phone numbers.



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