

JANUARY 10, 2021

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today we celebrate The Feast of The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This Feast speaks of The Importance and Greatness of The Sacrament of Baptism.

Jesus' baptism can be understood only in the light of His Cross. He needed neither, yet He accepted both for our sake. God's son had no sin to be washed in the waters of baptism. Nor did He have sins to be atoned for by way of sacrificing His life on the cross. He took upon Himself our sins and so was baptized for us, and was sacrificed for us. Jesus' public ministry begins with this great step of assuming our sins. That day in the Jordan, He was the representative of all the sinners of the world. And ever since, He represented us sinners till He had all our sins nailed to His cross together with His own body.

Baptism is essentially a "rebirth". Just as our biological birth makes us members of the human family, and children of a particular pair of parents, so baptism makes us members of God's Family, The Church. With our Baptism, We receive a new nature: the nature of the perfect man, Christ Jesus. To The extent we use this gift, we are able to rise above inclination to evil that lurks in each of us. When we use our new Christian nature to the full, we become more out-going, loving and Christ-like.

The whole purpose of our Christian Existence is to participate in the very life of our Lord Jesus Christ. We too are to hear those glorious words that we are God's beloved creatures. The same Holy Spirit that descended upon Jesus is given to us in Baptism and Confirmation. The same mission of doing The Father's will is ours. The same destiny- fullness of life-is at the heart of our calling. Jesus, in the waters of Baptism entered into the depths of our humanity. Through Baptism, we are all called to maturity, holiness, service, community, and generosity.

Today let us sincerely thank God for the great gift of Baptism and pray for the grace to live faithfully, according to our Baptism.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

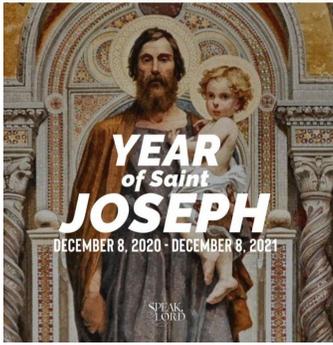
ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	January 9
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday	January 10
8:00 AM	Mass:
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Ricky Brousseau (RIP)
Monday	January 11
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Healing of Cheryl Verchot
7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	January 13
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Wodziak & Tarsa Families
Friday	January 15
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Mass: Rhonda Poole (RIP)
8:00 AM	Mass: Paul T. Copp (RIP)
10:00 AM	Open for your Intentions

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



Year of Saint Joseph

My Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church by Blessed Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1870. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed “Year of Saint Joseph” from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

This year is to increase our love and devotion to this great Saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. After our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph is the most powerful intercessor. The world of today more than ever has to recognize the holiness, greatness and power of St. Joseph.

May St. Joseph bless and protect you and your families.

Fr. Doré

A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted
his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.*

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Canned Soups, and Chef Boyardee Spaghetti-O's. And also Plastic Bags.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30– 11 AM

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my life. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come then spiritually into my heart. So that I may embrace you and unite myself completely to you. And never let me be separated from you.

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfooster.org, and click the “Donate Now” button.

Thank you!

Second Collection—January 16/17

Next weekend’s second collection is for the National Collection for Catholic University of the Catholic Church in the United States, located in Washington, D.C.

End of Year Gift

This year, the Finance Council has asked Fr. Dore to allocate the End of Year Gift for the *Food Closet Ministry and needed Tree Removal.* To date, parish members have contributed \$8,050 for this effort. Please consider making a gift toward this fund. All donations dated December 31, 2020 are deductible from 2020 taxes.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - January 2/3
\$3,499.00

Monthly 2nd Collection - January 2/3
\$2,078.00

Solemnity of Mary - January 1
\$ 505.00

End of Year Gift - To Date
\$ 9,127.00

Thank you for your support!

Living the Liturgy

Inspiration for the week

We carry a greater depth of self-confidence and chance of succeeding when we have affirmation, a sense of direction and clear purpose in life. Each of these serve to provide our lives with meaning, allowing us to clearly establish priorities and goals. They also are necessary for integrity, which is the conviction and single mindedness that keeps us grounded in the truth of who we are. “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Jesus' baptism provides him with exactly what he needs to get about the business of his mission as the Son of God. He is given what he needs to be successful in fulfilling the purpose for which he was sent. Our baptisms give us these same gifts. We receive the affirmation we need from God, knowing that we are one of his beloved daughters and sons. We are gifted with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Are we ready and willing to answer the call?

St. John Paul II



KIDS CORNER

Sharing the Gospel

“Keep trying. you're doing great. I'm so proud of you.” Every child should hear words like that. Every child wants to feel God's love. As Jesus grew from a boy to a man, he showed he was ready to live for God. At Jesus' baptism, God told Jesus, “You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you.” God loves you as his child, too.

Prayer

God, I am so glad you love me.

Mission for the Week

Be careful to use kind words with your family and friends.