

BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 13, 2019



SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019

5:30 P.M. Ann Nolan
Phyllis DeNova
Julieta Amar
Isabel Yu Cubillan
Bonifacio Cubillan, Sr.
Roberto Amar

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Walter Donnelly
10:00 A.M. Benjamin Glorioso
Teresa Cutro
12:00 P.M. Ida Brown (10th Anniversary)

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019

8:00 A.M. Ann Nolan

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019

8:00 A.M. Maureen Foley
Intentions of Angelina Gabriele, Children
& Grandchildren

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019

8:00 A.M. Intentions of Florence Grim

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019

8:00 A.M. Kay Quinn-Janosek

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

5:30 P.M. Mary & Joseph Purcella

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Susan & Frank Moro
10:00 A.M. Benjamin Glorioso
Dorothy & Frank Orofino
Roy & Shirley Parian
Rocco Tarulli
12:00 P.M. Frank Caropreso
Ann Nolan
Joseph Mazza

Pray daily for the safety of our servicemen and women serving their country.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mary Carton	Jacob Hicks	Barry Bach
Ava Rae Nebbia	Matthew Polifonte	William Pannone
Gary Ragusa	Alex Haines	Evelyn Means
George Link	Jerry Jacobs	Michael Soojian
Susan Nichols-Boggio	Kevin Kerrigan	Ryder Sasso
Mike Tidaback	Robert Moreno	Larry Ferry
Frances De Maria	Dorothea King	Jerome Foray
Manuel Esguerra	Frank Michaelson	Norberto Marin
Cenelia Soto	Robert Nebbia	Estella Soto
Sharon Acquire	Noah Lorencovitz	Florence Grim
George Macagnone	Jessica Skorubski	Alex Coronel
	Christopher Berry	

DECEASED: Margaret Anderson Julieta Amar
Angelo Lapadura Anthony Carafella

CHURCH MEMORIALS

Church Altar Candle in memory of Margaret Anderson requested by Armando Haro.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday, December 23, 2018 - \$6,815.00
Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today, we solemnly celebrate the feast of "The Baptism of the Lord." Till yesterday, we celebrated an *'infant Jesus.'* From today, we celebrate an *'adult Jesus.'* This is why today's celebration marks the transition from the liturgical season of Christmas into the liturgical season of Ordinary Time.

The baptism of Our Lord Jesus by John the Baptist in the River Jordan is an important event in Jesus' life with profound significance. It is highly symbolic, having deep meaning with numerous implications. It's importance is characterized with the fact that all the three Evangelists St. Matthew, St. Mark & St. Luke agree that the baptism of Our Lord Jesus also marks the beginning of his public ministry.

One may wonder, and even find it difficult to understand, and may ask the question: *'Why did Jesus need to be baptized by John the Baptist in the first place?'* John the Baptist preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and therefore, most of those coming to him were repentant sinners. But Jesus was sinless; he did not commit any sin; so, in no way did he need this baptism of John the Baptist.

For three reasons:

Firstly, Jesus did it to show his unity and solidarity with the human race, which he came to save. In lining up for baptism by John like a sinner, Jesus set aside all exemption for himself and completely identified with the sinful humanity and became one like them. In this humble submission, we see a foreshadowing of the *'baptism'* of his bloody death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. He submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love he consented to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins.

Secondly, he did it to sanctify the water of baptism, so that our sins are washed away and we come to a state of grace in order to follow him. This meaning of baptism in relation to forgiveness of sins is still maintained. When we are baptized, the original sin, as well as personal sins are washed away; we become free from sin and acquire the state of holiness & grace.

And thirdly, to fulfill righteousness, to give a new, full & divine meaning to baptism.

The epiphany is a revelation of who Jesus was - the Divine witness to Jesus' standing as the Son of God.

"Why did Jesus choose the wedding at Cana for His first miracle?"

There is no way to know for certain why Jesus chose a wedding in Cana to perform His first miracle. It seems that Jesus' family had close connections to the event in Cana. The fact that Jesus' mother, Mary, is concerned with the lack of wine suggests that she was involved in the planning and organization of the wedding. The fact that after the wedding Jesus' brothers travel with Him to Capernaum, indicates that Jesus' whole family was present for the wedding. Could the wedding have been that of a relative of Jesus or a family friend? It is quite possible.

Weddings usually lasted for seven days, during which time food and wine supplied by the bride's and groom's families flowed freely. To run out of either implied a thoughtless or impoverished host. Running out of wine would bring dishonor upon the family name. As a personal favor, Mary turned to her divine Son for help. Her family was about to be shamed in the community, and she knew her Son could do something about it.

Jesus' earthly ministry had begun at His baptism by John the Baptist. Although He had never performed a miracle in public, it was time to demonstrate who He was. It is interesting that the quality of wine He supplied was superior to anything that had been served thus far. The quality of the wine stunned the host. The miracle made a strong impression on Jesus' new disciples, teaching them from the start that He could take care of them. Jesus' creation of wine may be significant, prophetically. Jeremiah had foretold that in the Messianic age "they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD—the grain, the new wine . . ." (Jeremiah 31:12). Amos said that Israel "will plant vineyards and drink their wine" (Amos 9:14).

The fact that the miracle was performed at a wedding is also significant. By His attendance, Jesus places His stamp of approval on the marriage covenant, and with His miracle He shows from whence the blessings in a marriage spring. The love and joy inherent in a wedding ceremony are also characteristic of the ministry of Christ, who came into this world because of love and brought joy to all who believe. Also, Jesus may have chosen this family situation to perform this miracle because it is something everyone in every culture can relate to. An ordinary setting became the showcase for His supernatural power. Perhaps that is another lesson He wants us to learn from it. He wants to do something supernatural in the everyday events of our lives, as well.

FOLLOWING THE STAR

Epiphany is not a word we use very often. It's a Greek word meaning manifestation or a showing forth. The Gospel speaks of this today. Astrologers travel from afar in search of the newborn king of the Jews. At their journey's end they present him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold because he is a king; frankincense because he is a priest, and myrrh because he is human. Afterwards they return to their home country amazed at how the newborn king could be born in such simple surroundings. He revealed himself to them in the ordinary. When you think about it, our lives are made up of ordinary things and ordinary happenings. But seen through the eyes of faith, they can have a deep meaning. Take a cup of water, for example. What is it? Two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. It's very common and ordinary. And yet, it causes a seed to burst into life; it brings comfort to those in need of fresh water; it refreshes us when we are tired and it is used in baptism to welcome new members into the Christian community. Or take a piece of bread – the most basic of all foods. Have you noticed that when we share it lovingly with someone who is hungry, it becomes a feast. Jesus used ordinary bread and wine and changed them into his body and blood. A cup of water, a piece of bread, of themselves not much of anything and yet, each one can manifest, in its own way, the care and compassion of God. With the eyes of faith, we open ourselves to the epiphanies of God all around us. We see it in the love and concern we have for one another; in the outpouring of food and gifts for the needy over the past few weeks. We see it in the fun and laughter we share; in the excitement of a child, the energy of our teens and the contentment of the elderly. Indeed, if we have eyes to see, all creation speaks to us of God. Sometimes it takes a poet to shake us out of our 'business as usual' mode of living to remind us of the beauty all around us - someone like Gerard Manly Hopkins who wrote: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God. It will flame out like shining from shook foil." It must be said on this feast that the Epiphany of God is somewhat meaningless for you or me if the showing forth of Christ's love has no impact on the way we think or live. Christ could manifest himself a thousand times, but if we are not receptive, it loses its impact. And make no mistake about it, Christ is trying to reveal himself to us. Let us be open to his presence in our lives. Follow the star.

NOW, WHEN YOU SHOP ON AMAZON, YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION TO OUR PARISH AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU

There are two easy ways you can be sure you are contributing a few dollars to the parish each time you shop:

Go to smile.amazon.com

To do this:

1. Enter "smile.amazon.com" in your browser address bar
2. Select St. Francis of Assisi Church Haskell as your charity
3. Shop & place your order

Amazon will automatically donate a percentage of your purchase money to the parish.

OR

Go to the parish website, click on the Amazon "get started" button, and shop as usual: you will automatically be in the St. Francis account.



A NEW BEGINNING

It's never too late to change your ways;
You can always start anew.

Discard those habits you're tired of
And fashion a whole new "you."

Don't consider the past a waste of time,
Just learn from your mistakes.

But if you want to forge ahead,
A change is what it takes.

So start right now and set new goals;
Decide what you want to do.

Be patient and take one step at a time,
But be sure to see each one through.

For as each step is finished
And you add it to the next,

You soon will see that you have built
A stairway to success.

Frances Gregory Pasch

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Just a few reminders:

Classes resume as follows...

10th Grade (refer to calendar)

1/20/19 – Mass & Retreat; 1/20/19 – Practice;

1/24/19 – Confirmation – 7:30 PM

9th gr – Jan. 13th, 6:45pm

KIDNEY NEEDED

Fran Ferraro is a parishioner in our parish who needs, most of all, your prayers, but who is in need of a kidney. Sometimes just knowing of a need or talking about it, brings amazing results. So, in your conversations, you may want to bring this topic up because you never know whose ears that this story falls upon, might be the lifesaving ones. But, above all, prayers are priceless. Thank you and God bless you.

*Promise gives purpose
Purpose gives light,
Light gives perspective,
Perspective gives sight.*

*Life is an artscape,
God holds the pen,
Christmas reminds me
Again and again.*

Janice Cortis

**LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019**

Frank & Sandy Polglaze

LECTORS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

5:30 P.M. Dom Cortellessa & Martha Bisaccio

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

7:30 A.M. Erika Reid

10:00 A.M. Sue Kummer & Annie Rivera

12 NOON Linda O'Connell & Debbie Ackerly

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

5:30 P.M. Lois Bonaceto & Maria Invernon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

7:30 A.M. Pat Demarest & Sandy Weigand

10:00 A.M. Judy Moran & Mary Avella

12 NOON Tony Mazza & Brenda McWeeney

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

5:30 P.M. Peter Sutula & Kevin Bruenjes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

7:30 A.M. Danielle Reid & Collin O'Keefe

10:00 A.M. Mackenzie King & Jonathan Hogue

12 NOON Aaron Manalili & David Ackerly

< KID'S > KORNER

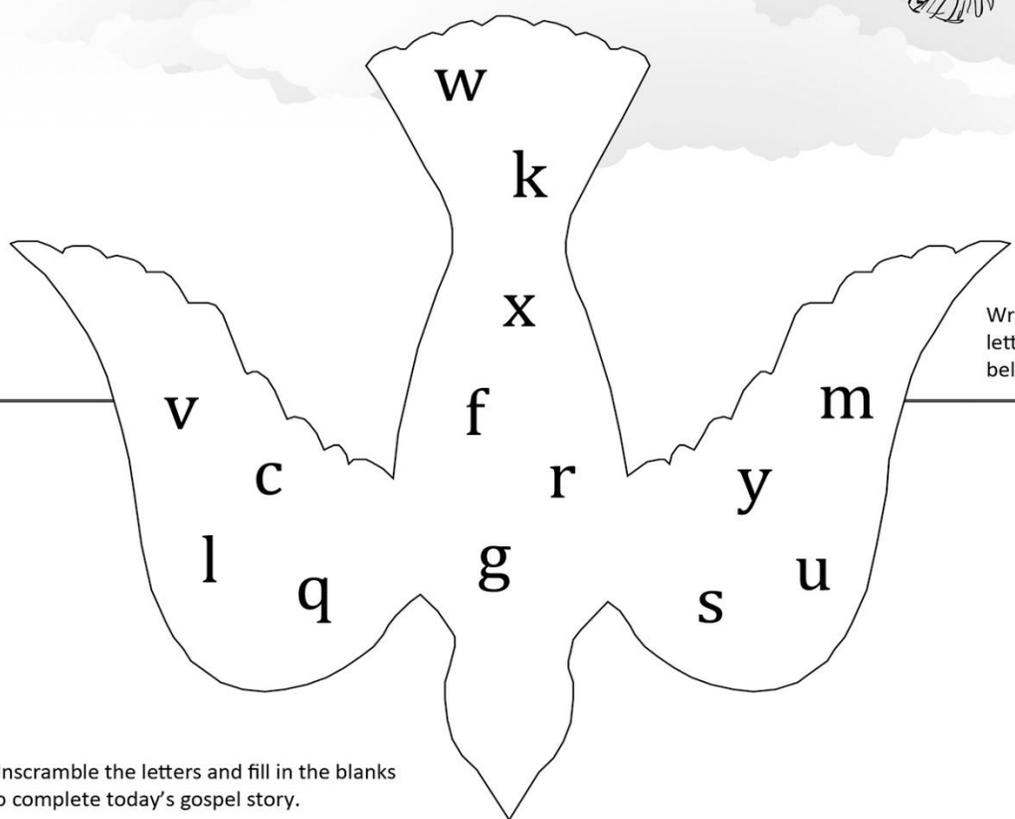
Gospel Today The Baptism of the Lord | Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

After Jesus was baptized by John, and while He was praying, the Heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove.

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***And a voice came from Heaven,
"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."***

Luke 3:22



Write the missing letters in the space below...

Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete today's gospel story.
Note: There are two words, use each letter one time.

_____ many
people, including Jesus.