

# Church of Saint Monica Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Saint Stephen of Hungary

413 East 79<sup>th</sup> St. New York, NY 10075  
**Church Offices and Parish Center:**  
406 East 80<sup>th</sup> St. New York, NY 10075  
(212) 288-6250 Fax: (212) 570 - 1562

**The Baptism of the Lord– January 13th, 2019**

## Office Hours

*Our Offices are open:*

**Mo. 9am – 5pm**

**Tu.-Th. 9am – 7pm**

**Fri. Closed**

**Sat. 10am -2pm**

**Sun. Closed**

*Our offices close for lunch:*

**1pm – 2pm daily**

*Pastor*

*Associates:*

*Deacon*

*Pastoral Associate:*

*Parish Manager:*

*Music Director*

*Cantor:*

*Wedding Coordinator:*

## Parish Staff

**Rev. Donald C. Baker**

[frdcab@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:frdcab@stmonicanyc.org)

**Rev. Msgr. Leslie J Ivers**

[msgrlivers@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:msgrlivers@stmonicanyc.org)

**Rev. Joslin K. Jose**

[frjoslin@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:frjoslin@stmonicanyc.org)

**Mr. Kevin Byrne**

[kbyrne@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:kbyrne@stmonicanyc.org)

**Ms. Maryann Tyrer**

[mtyrer@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:mtyrer@stmonicanyc.org)

**Mr. Michael Ward**

[mward@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:mward@stmonicanyc.org)

**Mr. John Zupan**

[jzupan@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:jzupan@stmonicanyc.org)

**Mr. Joseph Neal**

**Ms. Debbi Burdett**

[DBweddingsnyc@gmail.com](mailto:DBweddingsnyc@gmail.com)

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 12:00pm Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm**

**Sunday: 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm**

**Monday – Friday: 7:30 & 12:00pm**

**Confessions:**

**Saturday 5:00 – 5:30pm and by appointment**

**Our church is open: 7am – 4pm daily for private prayer**



## St. Stephen of Hungary School

**Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Catholic Parochial School**

408 East 82<sup>nd</sup> St., New York, NY 10028

(212) 288-1989 Fax: (212) 517 – 5788

*Principal:*

**Ms. Kelly Burke**

**[www.saintstephenschool.org](http://www.saintstephenschool.org)**

Interested in admissions to our parish school?

**[admissions@saintstephenschool.org](mailto:admissions@saintstephenschool.org)**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Monica, St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Stephen of Hungary opens its doors to welcome and embrace all in our community. We strive through worship, hospitality and service to receive those seeking a spiritual home. In the midst of diversity of thought, life style, nationality, economic status and age, we endeavor to live as a community of faith and invite you to join our family - a family seeking to know and love Jesus Christ.

## TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations

(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.

Psalms -- The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or Psalm 104.

Second Reading -- Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) or Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

Gospel -- A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

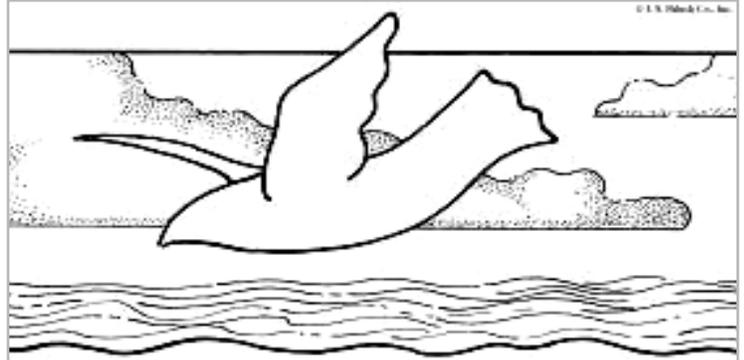
The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday:	Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

# Mass Schedule

<b>SATURDAY</b> 5:30PM	<b>January 12th Vigil</b> <i>Maria Encarnacion Litrenta</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>January 13th The Baptism of the Lord</b>
7:30AM	<i>Brian Kramer (Living)</i>
9:00AM	<i>Brian Thompson</i>
10:30AM	<i>Helen, John Flack &amp; Family</i>
12NOON	<i>All Parishioners</i>
5PM	<i>Maria Teresa Guarneri</i>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>January 14th Weekday</b>
7:30AM	<i>Werner Hertzal</i>
12NOON	<i>Katherine &amp; John Swanchak</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>January 15th Weekday</b>
7:30AM	<i>Ed Bermenghan</i>
12NOON	<i>Amy Connallon</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>January 16th Weekday</b>
7:30 AM	<i>Harlan Reader</i>
12NOON	<i>Mary Planainos</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>January 17th St. Anthony</b>
7:30AM	<i>Tom Terrone (Living)</i>
12NOON	<i>Catherine Lang</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>January 18th Weekday</b>
7:30AM	<i>Jovita Bauto</i>
12NOON	<i>Francisco Alvez Amaral</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>January 19th Weekday</b>
12NOON	<i>Maria O. Velazco</i>



***If you wish to add the name of a loved one to the prayer list, please notify the parish center:  
(212) 288-6250***

# **LIFELONG** *Faith Formation*



## **K-8 Religious Education**

- **K-8 Religious Education** meets on Sundays, 10:15-11:45am in the Parish Center.
- No sessions on February 17 – Winter Break
- Mark your calendar: **Family Faith Formation**, Sunday, March 3, 9-11:45am!

## **Adult Faith Formation – open to all adults!**

- **Sunday Morning Scripture Discussions**, 10:15-11:45am in the Parish Center  
– join us for coffee and conversation every Sunday that Religious Education is in session!  
No charge, no registration needed.
- **Evening Prayer in the Parish Center Chapel each Friday at 5:10pm. All are welcome!**  
It is a simple prayer service, lasting 15-20 minutes, consisting of psalms, readings, and pauses for quiet prayer. It is a lovely way to end your work week. Please consider joining us!

## **Adults who are thinking about becoming Catholic, or**

### **Catholic adults who have missed First Communion and/or Confirmation – It's never too late!**

- contact Maryann Tyrer, Pastoral Associate, to discuss our adult initiation process. You can begin the process any time throughout the year.

**Want to volunteer?** Yes, we need more volunteers, please! Many different opportunities are available, with various time commitments –  
Contact Maryann to discuss how your gifts might meet our needs.

## **Farewell to the Christmas Season, Hello to Ordinary Time!**

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord closes out the Christmas Season, and is also the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. So after this weekend, we go back to the color green, and we go back to counting the Sundays (ordinal time) as we continue to reflect on the life, teachings, and miracles of Jesus, whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. It's a good weekend to reflect on our own baptism. While everyone knows their birthday, do we know the date of our birth into the Body of Christ at our baptism? It's also a good time to say a prayer for our parents and godparents who brought us to the waters of baptism!

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## The Beloved Son

Father God,  
you made known the Sonship of Jesus  
at the moment of his baptism  
and announced to all  
that you were pleased with him.  
Certain of your affirmation,  
and living in the power of the Spirit,  
Jesus would have the fervor to  
announce your kingdom:  
compassion to forgive sins, heal the  
sick, and raise the dead;  
and courage to face abandonment,  
betrayal, and death.  
Awaken us from our indifference  
to the total self-giving of Christ.  
Change our passivity to passion  
so we might have the fervor,  
compassion, and courage  
to follow in his footsteps.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Sunday, January 13, 2019  
Baptized and Sent Forth

*Today's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.* At Jesus' birth, the sky fills with angels singing his glory and a star to guide kings from a far-off land to adore and bring him precious gifts. After those marvelous events, Jesus spends thirty years leading a quiet life in Nazareth. In God's time, he comes on the scene while John is baptizing and insists that John baptize him. In that moment the Holy Trinity is revealed, as the Spirit of God descends on Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's voice from heaven claims Jesus as his beloved Son. Blessed by the Father and filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus embarks on his public ministry. His mandate is to bring justice to the nations: to be "a light for the nations, / To open the eyes of the blind, / to bring out prison-

ers from confinement, / and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness."

At our Baptism, the Holy Trinity is present as God the Father frees us from sin and gives us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and we become a new creation clothed in Christ and enlightened by him. We are invited to participate in the very life of the Trinity! The rite of Baptism gives us our mandate: to "walk always as a child of the light." Talk with your family or a friend about what those words might mean for the baptized. What is the work of children of the light? Talk with God about what those words might mean in your life. What is the particular work to which God is calling you?

## SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

After all weekday masses

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Every Friday after the Noon Mass to 3 PM, with Benediction following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

### **Devotions**

Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

### **Divine Mercy**

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed each Friday afternoon at 3 PM

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

5:00 PM on Saturdays Anytime by appointment

## **BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES:**

Please call the rectory office for more information.

## **COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND:**

If you know of anyone who cannot attend church because of illness or age, and would like to have communion brought to them, please contact the parish office, so that we can arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to bring communion to them.

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

### **Please remember in your prayers**

**ADELE KELLY, JACQUELINE AYAC,  
MARYLYN ATKINSON  
&  
MICHAEL CURLEY**

**ALL VICTIMS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY**

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

**Please pray for our deceased parishioners  
and family members**

**Jeanette Ayac, Christopher Farley  
&  
Charles Masson**

## Sanctuary Lamp



**This Weeks' Sanctuary Lamp  
In Memory of  
Maria Encarnacion Litrenta**

**Offered by Maria Litrenta**

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. They may wonder if you have had any Elvis sightings lately, attended Star Trekkie conventions, or were Cleopatra in a previous lifetime. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John's Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since today there is a blessing on the water. At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time.  
--James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord  
**Monday:** First Week in Ordinary  
Time begins  
**Thursday:** St. Anthony  
**Friday:** Week of Prayer for  
Christian Unity begins  
**Saturday:** Julian Calendar Theophany  
(Epiphany);  
Blessed Virgin Mary

## **SENIOR MINISTRY NEWS**

**On Wednesday, January 16 the Senior Ministry will  
celebrate its first 2019 noon Mass.**

**Please attend if you can.**

**On Friday, January 18, the Senior Ministry will host its first  
movie for the 2019 season. The theme is Ellis Island and the  
American Immigration Experience.**

**As always, there will be a Potluck lunch at 1 pm followed  
by a showing of an award-winning documentary on  
immigration beginning at 2 pm. A substantive discussion  
will follow. Our goal is to plan for a food celebration  
reflecting the diversity in our parish**

**All are welcome to attend. Please telephone Gladys in our  
Parish Center if you plan to attend. 212- 288-6250**

**Thank you. Anne Sabatini, Chairperson**

# Just a word

From your Pastor January 13th , 2019

## Endless Christmas

It was, in one sense, over before it began. The weeks - long buildup, the Holiday music, the decorations in stores and in the streets. All of it came to a screeching halt on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Now the music has returned to normal, the decorations are gone, and once beautiful Christmas trees litter our sidewalks, destined for the land fill.

Except in Church. Here the poinsettias still bloom, the trees still shine with lights, and we are still singing *Silent night, O Come all Ye Faithful*, and *We Three Kings*. I can imagine many a visitor has remarked, "Hasn't anyone told the people here that Christmas is OVER?"

. . . Except for the fact that it isn't. Christmas for Catholics does not END on the 25<sup>th</sup>; it starts then. Traditionally the Season of Christmas lasted for the 12 Days between the 25<sup>th</sup> and January 6<sup>th</sup>, the feast of the Epiphany (Hence the Christmas Carol, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*). Since the Church reformed its calendar however, Epiphany can be celebrated on the Sunday nearest January 6<sup>th</sup> (which is what we do in the US).

Thus, the Season of Christmas is now the period of time between December 25<sup>th</sup>, and the feast of the Baptism of the Lord - which is this Sunday. So, Christmas might seem endless here, but it is coming to an end! Next week, the clergy will be wearing green vestments, and we will be back in "Ordinary Time". But have no fear – lent is 8 weeks from today.

## Book Study

Some of you have already remarked on a bulletin announcement that I am conducting a three-week book study on John Boyne's book *A History of Loneliness*, a novel about the sexual abuse crisis in Ireland. You can find more information about this three-week study in the bulletin.

If you want to participate you have to call the parish center and register. We will ask for your name and for an Email Address, so that I can send you a couple of articles to read in advance of each of the three meetings. Also, you must buy the book (available on *Amazon* et al.) and have read it by the first meeting. The discussion will be of the entire book, each week looking at it from a different perspective.

Some have questioned why we would even want to discuss this novel. It is a novel for adults and dealing with a decidedly adult theme. Some people wish they could just forget this whole scandal and wish we would too.

But really, trying to forget about the sexual abuse of minors in the Church is what got us into this mess in the first place. We need to talk about it, and not be afraid. I am hoping that dealing with the issue in the form of a book club will help people to think about it, understand it better, and even help people make the necessary distinctions between Catholic faith and the institutional Church that enable us to move forward as Catholics.

## A Belated Thank you

I have not had the opportunity to thank you all for the many Christmas gifts you showered on all of the staff here this Christmas, edible, drinkable and otherwise! Your kindness and support are very much appreciated.

Father Baker