



The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2016

Mass Intentions

Sunday
8:00 AM Living & Deceased of St. Joseph Parish
10:30 AM ✠ Ted Geraets / Helen Fonstad
Monday
8:00 AM ✠ Richard Reilly / Bill & Janis Foley
Tuesday
8:00 AM ✠ Jack McCoee / Bill & Janis Foley
Wednesday
8:00 AM ✠ Andrew Cooper / Family
Thursday
8:00 AM Richard and Michael Fortunati /
B. Fortunati
Friday
8:00 AM ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday
5:00 PM ✠ Ted Geraets / Mary Fonstad
Sunday
8:00 AM Mark & Robin Warriner / Scott Family
10:30 AM Living & Deceased of St. Joseph Parish

There are dates available for Mass intentions for a deceased loved one or for a special intention. Please contact the office.

Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Please welcome Msg. Theodore Hay, who will be celebrating our 8:00 AM Masses this week, and Rev. Richard Altenbaugh, who will celebrate our weekend Masses and hear confessions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Kindly pray for our parish family and all those who are journeying in a special way with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Larry Bovat, Paul **Bruechner**, Patricia Caudill, Deacon Pat Clemens, Ginny Cook, Ed Dubin, Ed & Eleanor Feeney, **Harry Fletcher**, Jo Flynn, Antonietta Geronilla, **June Henderson**, **Dot Holman**, **Marvin Jenkins**, **Margie Kings**, Barbara Kuntz, Joe Lacoy, Cece LaManna, Germaine LaPlante, Mary Link, Evan Linville, Monk Manning, Monroe Matheny, **Sara Manning**, Mary Miller, Bob & Margaret Nail, **Vera Patterson**, **Marvin Peterson**, Claire Patton, Marsha Porter, Sr. M. D. Richardson, **Babe Rohan**, **Anita Sanford**, Ruth Sas, Margaret Schaff, Kristie Toohey, **Rick Van Norden**, Bootsie Williams, Mary Woods

~ Prayer Requests ~

Terry Danson – 251-961-2165 or tsdanson@gmail.com

First Friday Memorial Mass Association

Our Loved Ones – Bob & Margaret Nail	✠ James E. Link	Living & Deceased Kilday Family
Living & Deceased Kaiser, Klein & Murphy Families	✠ Deacon John Cartaro	Living & Deceased Chubb & Burns Families
Living & Deceased Scott & Weiss Families	✠ Anita Warriner	Living & Deceased Fehn Family
Living & Deceased Bush, Alvarez & McAleer Families	✠ Joseph LaManna	Living & Deceased Lacoy & Clancy Families
Living & Deceased Mullek & McCandless Families	✠ Doris Mullek	Living & Deceased Kearns & Paterson Families
Living & Deceased Patton & Norton Families	Mignon Kilday	Living & Deceased Altar Society Members
Living & Deceased Shields & Self Families		For the Baptized Who Do Not Practice Their Faith
Living & Deceased Cretaro Family		The Holy Souls in Purgatory

This Week's Schedule

Monday	8:30 AM	Rosary Cenacle
Wednesday	9:00 AM	Adult Faith Formation Bible Study – IM Hall
Wednesday	4:30 PM	Catechism Class – IM Hall
Thursday	5:30 PM	RCIA Classes – IM Hall

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND

5 PM = 83 8 AM = 62 10:30 AM = 80 Total = 225

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory gift for Christmas = \$2,174.00
Offertory gift for New Year's Day = \$2,878.00
Offertory gift for January 3 = \$5,493.00
Maintenance = \$853.00

Extraordinary Holy Year – The Jubilee of Mercy

On March 13, 2015, Pope Francis announced a historic event. For only the fourth time in Church history, there will be an extraordinary Jubilee Year, an extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The Holy Father said, "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy." Therefore, "Merciful like the Father" is the motto he chose for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The citation is from St. Luke, 6:36, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful."

This extraordinary Jubilee began on December 8, 2015, with the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and concludes on November 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King. By calling for a Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has highlighted the constant message of his pontificate: mercy

Mercy is Pope Francis' answer to evil. "The limit imposed upon evil, of which man is both perpetrator and victim, is ultimately Divine Mercy." (St. John Paul II, Memory and Identity).

This extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy offers us special graces from the Father of Mercies. The Holy Father has attached indulgences to making a pilgrimage to either one of the major Basilicas of Rome or to other churches designated by a Diocesan Bishop.

If you are ill or know someone who is ill, due to have surgery, or is in the hospital and would like a visit from the pastor, please call the rectory.

Gospel Reflections

CALLED TO SERVE

For many weeks now we have been celebrating the appearance of the divine presence in human form. As a child, he came to Mary and Joseph, was seen by the shepherds, and then by some wandering magi from the East. Today we celebrate another showing, later in time, to a group gathered at the Jordan River.

John hesitated to baptize Jesus, whom he recognized as "one mightier than I." But he did as Jesus asked, and the "Holy Spirit descended" and heaven's voice spoke to Jesus, "You are my beloved Son." Jesus was beginning his public life of teaching and service. Soon he would start calling others to join him.

Peter was one of the first to be called by Jesus. In today's second reading, he announces the heart of the message: "peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all." Peter was called, and you and I are called to spread that message and to serve God's word.

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.**

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE

Information to be put in the bulletin must be in the office by the Monday before the weekend that it needs to be in the bulletin. We are very grateful to Tom Kuklish, who has offered to print and fold them at a minimal cost. Let Tom know how much you appreciate his help.

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) Baldwin Deanery Quarterly Luncheon

January 20 – 9:30 AM – Christ the King Church, Daphne. The guest speaker will be Faustin Weber, the first principal of St. Michael's Catholic High School in Fairhope. To carpool, for more information, and to register for the luncheon (required by January 16), please call Margie Schwieterman at 251-256-0123.

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS PORK ROAST DINNER

January 24, 2016 – 11 AM to 2 PM – K of C Hall Old Foley Rd and US Hwy 98, Elberta – Dine in or carry out. Tickets are on sale after the weekend Masses. Whole roasts are available for \$25 (pre-sale only). For more information, please check the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Jim Spencer at 850-384-5037 spencerjknn@gulftel.com.



"Coffee with the Padre" – This month the CCD Class will be our host. If you would like to help any of the host groups, please let us know by signing the schedule on the table in the vestibule or calling the office. All are invited to join us "between the Masses" for fellowship every 1st and 3rd Sunday in the Parish Hall.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY ~ We are again collecting food. Please place your nonperishable items in the container provided in the classroom in Immaculate Mary Hall. Thank you for your generosity. On the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11 AM, we distribute food to anyone who has a need.

PLEASE NOTE: We are still collecting canceled stamps, box tops, labels, can pop tops, ink cartridges and greeting cards in the containers provided in the double classroom. **PLEASE do not include envelopes or any correspondence that comes with the card** as it is only the cards that the schoolchildren can use.

85th Annual Catholic Charities Appeal

Please watch your mail this week for a letter from Archbishop Rodi regarding the 2016 Catholic Charities Appeal. Please prayerfully consider supporting it.

Quarterly Cursillo Gathering ~ Ryan's Steakhouse, 2301 S. McKenzie St., Foley, at 12:45 pm, January 18, 2016. Come one, come all for those who are members and those who want to know more about Cursillo. For more information, please contact Diane Perdue at 251-504-8904 or d.c.perdue7@gmail.com.

The Old Country Philosopher Sez - Bob Nail

There have always been bad people
Since Adam and Eve. You know
We have a voice. God gave us a choice
Of the way that we should go.

NOTICE: The auditorium, kitchen and rooms in Immaculate Mary Hall are available for rent. For more information, please contact the office.