

## The Work of the People

### *The Baptism of the Lord*

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the final great celebration of the Advent-Christmas Season and marks the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. Jesus' baptism is the third of the four great epiphanies or manifestation of the presence of the Divine in our midst. The first of these epiphanies comes at the announcement by the angels to shepherds (the poor of Jewish society) of the newborn king. The second of these epiphanies we celebrated last Sunday and this is the announcement that the savior is not just for the Jews but also for all. As I have said, we celebrate the third of these epiphanies today as we hear the voice from the heavens proclaim: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." The fourth of these epiphanies is at the time of the Wedding Feast at Canaan.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord also proclaims a theophany, a revelation or manifestation of the divine Sonship of Jesus by his anointing and appointing to his messianic office. It is the feast that proclaims the Baptism that elevates believers to the status of sons and daughters of God.

In the Gospel today, Jesus comes to the one who prepared his way, seeking to receive his baptism, a sign not of sinfulness but of righteousness, his right relationship with God and total commitment to his kingdom. Here at the beginning of his ministry, we see God's Spirit descending upon him and hear the voice of the Father affirming his beloved, with whom he is pleased. What a great thing to realize that we, too, are God's beloved and God is pleased with us.

The reflection this week is from Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz who is Archbishop of Louisville, Kentucky.

"I was only ten days old when baptized, and so I really don't remember how that water of grace first touched me – likely through a pouring on my forehead. Today, I love the practice of immersion, which shows to all the senses that there is a death going on.

Feeling unworthy, St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the River Jordan only with the insistence of the Sinless One, who was dying not to his sin but to take on ours. No wonder Pope Emeritus Benedict speaks of the cross of Jesus in the shadows as the baptism takes place. Like a good novel in which the first sentence contains the kernel of the conclusion, so Jesus' first breath of public life, begun with his baptism by John, contains that essence.

Of course, Jesus did not stay submerged. He rose to take another breath and so began his public ministry from which we draw salvation and hope. He would of course rise again – this time three days later from his cruel death – this time to take a breath that would be breathed onto his first apostles that first Easter evening.

St. Matthew tells us that Jesus came up to the sound of the clear voice of the Father: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Thank you, Jesus, for taking the plunge for us. In our baptism, we are joined to both events of your blessed life: the death under water and the rising from the depths – the sacrifice of the cross and the rising on Easter morn. How good, through adoption, to be called 'beloved.'"

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 12

Monday: 1Sm. 1:1-8/Mk. 1:14-20  
 Tuesday: 1 Sm. 1:9-20/Mk. 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: 1 Sm. 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk. 1:29-39  
 Thursday: 1 Sm. 4:1-11/Mk. 1:40-45  
 Friday: 1 Sm. 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk. 2:1-12  
 Saturday: 1 Sm. 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk. 2:13-17  
 Sunday: Is. 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor. 1:1-3/Jn. 1:29-34

### CONFERENCES

A hallmark of the New Evangelization is finding new ways to witness to the joy of the gospel in contemporary society. In our diocese, the 1:38 Women's Conference and the 22:32 Men's Conference have been experiences of this spiritual renewal. I am pleased that they will continue. The Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020, and the Women's Conference will be held on March 28, 2020. Both will be held in Our Lady of Peace church in Erie.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The words in today's gospel, "This is my beloved, with Him I am pleased," are words every child needs to hear often. Affirmation is important to raise happy and confident children.

### MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Affairs usually start with friendships. You start by sharing your problems with each other. As the friendship deepens you start giving each other mutual support and encouragement - especially about your unmet needs. That may evolve into an attraction, like a powerful magnet. Then, before you know it, you may even find yourself in bed with your "friend." Let your "friend" be your spouse.

### CASH GIVEAWAY AND GAME NIGHT

Tickets are still available for St. Anthony Cash Giveaway and Game Night to be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020 from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm. Ticket prices are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Please place your ticket monies in the collection basket this week. Your assistance will make this annual event successful.

*"Here I am Lord!  
 Send me out to share your good news."*

# WORSHIP

Monday, January 13  
8:00 am + John Auer  
Tuesday, January 14  
8:00 am + Peg Styborski (Kathleen Lipkovich)  
Wednesday, January 15  
7:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE  
Thursday, January 16  
8:00 am + Margaret Weidner (Ginger & Dick Kester)  
Friday, January 17  
8:00 am + Albert Mukina (Joan Rembielak/Phyllis & Bob Wronko)  
Saturday, January 18  
4:30 pm + Mark Smith (Rose Smith & Family)  
Sunday, January 19  
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE  
Heather A. Dunnigan (Pauline & Dick Baker)  
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY  
Living & Deceased Parishioners

# PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE  
(Except Holy Days)  
7:00 am - Communion Service  
Tuesday, January 14  
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena  
Saturday, January 18  
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions  
Sunday, January 19  
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE  
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY  
NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month  
at 12:30 pm

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 - 4:30 PM**  
Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Kathleen Lipkovich/  
Jim Samson  
Lector: Shawn Pflieger  
Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 - 9:30 AM**  
Eucharistic Ministers: Larry Douglas/Theresa Douglas/  
Don Marteeny/Christine Krzysiak  
Lector: Vicki Eckstein  
Altar Servers: Max Marteeny/Andrea Walker

**ST. BERNADETTE**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 - 8:00 AM**  
Eucharistic Ministers: D. Nowak/A. Braymer/G. Beisler  
Lector: M. Braymer  
Ushers: S. Styborski  
Altar Servers: A/M/R Braymer

	<u>12/30/19</u>	<u>1/5/2020</u>
Offertory	\$437.00	\$807.00
Votives	6.00	34.00
Maintenance		15.00
Christmas Offering	509.00	
CCD		30.00
Communications		30.00
Initial Offering		60.00
Solemnity of Mary		203.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$952.00</b>	<b>\$1,179.00</b>

CSA: Pledged - \$9,275  
Paid - \$8,995

### BAKED GOODS/DESSERTS NEEDED

The weekend of Jan. 18 - 19, 2020, parishioners will be called to provide a baked good or dessert for St. Anthony Cash Giveaway and Game Night set for January 25, 2020. Food items can be dropped off to the Parish Center on Friday, Jan. 24 from 8:30 am - 10:00 am or on Saturday, Jan. 25 after 2:30 pm.  
Thank you in advance for your support of St. Anthony annual fundraiser.

### THEME BASKETS

*There are still baskets available for your use in the Gathering Space to provide a "theme basket" for the upcoming Cash Giveaway and Game Night at St. Anthony on January 25, 2020. If you have questions, please call Kathleen at 814 282-6707. **THEME BASKETS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE GATHERING SPACE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 15.** Thank you in advance.*

### YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To reduce the cost of mailing a report, if you want a year-end statement of your annual contributions to St. Anthony of Padua or St. Bernadette, **PLEASE CLIP THIS FROM THE BULLETIN AND RETURN IT IN THE COLLECTION BASKET BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020.**

**NAME:**

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(Please Print)

**BINGO** - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, January 20. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors and kitchen open at 5:00 pm.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

Sun. Jan. 19 - 10:30 am - Religious Ed. Class at St. Anthony

### STEWARDSHIP

	<u>12/29/19</u>	<u>1/5/2020</u>
Offertory	\$797.00	\$4,380.00
Maintenance	395.00	328.00
Candles	52.00	75.00
Cash Giveaway Tickets	460.00	90.00
Special Offering	65.00	
Christmas Offering	375.00	
Altar Flowers	10.00	
Oplatki	20.00	
Donation for Roof Repair	150.00	200.00
Solemnity of Mary		299.00
Initial Offering		158.00
CSA	235.00	365.00
Reimbursement	3,041.26	
Latin Mass	245.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,845.26</b>	<b>\$5,895.00</b>

Catholic Service Appeal  
Pledged—\$24,202 Paid—\$23,732

**CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA**

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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