

BAPTISM
OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 12, 2020



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606
www.ststanserie.org

email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Monday - Friday at 8:00AM
Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Saturday at 4:00PM
Sunday at 9:30AM

Holy Days of Obligation: 8:00AM

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671
www.holytrinityrc.org

email: parishoffice@holytrinity.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM
Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Saturday at 5:00PM;
Sunday at 10:00AM

Holy Days of Obligation: 5:30PM



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



The Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2020

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is “to be our model of holiness.” All of Jesus’ words and actions model for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we’re meant to *be*. Jesus’ baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. *“This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased.”* And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit’s grace and power to continue Christ’s mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let’s do as Jesus did. Let’s live in our baptism!



WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of January 12, 2020

Sunday:	Is 42:1-7/Ps 29:1-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17 [Baptism of the Lord]
Monday:	1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-19/Mk 1:14-20 [St. Hillary]
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1-8/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2-10/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-19/Mk 2:1-12 [St. Anthony]
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-7/Mk 2:13-17 [Christian Unity]
Next Sunday:	Is 49:3-6/Ps 40:2-10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34 [2nd Sunday]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke’s Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint John’s Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.454.2873).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

*Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity
Partners in Faith & Mission*

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452-3395) from Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Linda at 814.864.8476.

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray Luniewski at 882-1032.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: New Registration Change of Address Change of Telephone Number

Change of E-mail Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., January 13th, 8:00AM - Special Intention
 Tues., January 14th, 8:00AM - Viola Andrews (Zill Family)
 Wed., January 15th, 8:00AM - Deceased Members of the Speice Family
 Thurs., January 16th, 8:00AM - Deacon Bob Walker (Family)
 Fri., January 17th, 8:00AM - Virginia Czulewicz (Ed & Family)
 Sat., January 18th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (Pro Populo)
 Sun., January 19th, 9:30AM - Leo Weiner (Susan Weiner & Carol Daub)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of
MARCIA DRZEIWICKI [gifted by Rich & Diane Valahovic].



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO HER

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for **CAROLE COPELAND** this past Wednesday. Please keep Carole, her family, and loved ones in your prayers.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH meeting will be held on Monday, *January 20th* at 7:00PM. It will be held at the Community Center on 14th & Wallace. All are invited to attend.

SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

... will be in need of desserts for Monday, January 20th. Please bring your donations to the Nazareth Center the weekend of January 18-19, or on Monday between 2:00 - 3:00PM.

INCOME TAX CONTRIBUTION REPORTS are available from the Parish Office upon request. We are *truly grateful* for every parishioner's donation to the mission and ministry of Saint Stanislaus Church! If you are in a position to increase your giving, or if you have not contributed for some time, please consider doing so in order that we better meet our weekly budgetary needs.

THE 2020 CHURCH CALENDARS are available at the church entrances. We thank the Edward Garr Funeral Home for, once again, sponsoring this year's calendars.

WEEKLY OFFERING (DECEMBER 22, 2019)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$103,900.00
12/22/19 Collection	\$2,535.00	\$73,075.00
Net over/under	(\$1,621.00)	(\$30,825.00)

Mass Attendance (Christmas):
 4:00PM = 80
 9:30AM = 92



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 11th
 Server: Jack Ciecierski
 Lector: S. Wycech
 Gifts: Pedersen Family

Sunday, January 12th
 Server: Shane Green
 Lector: Dan Pomorski
 Gifts: Holy Name Society

Saturday, January 18th
 Server: Marlene Shaba
 Lector: Bobby Sulecki
 Gifts: Lombard Family

Sunday, January 19th
 Server: J. & A. Wildfire
 Lector: Ray Przybyszewski
 Gifts: Barclay Family



PARISH COUNCIL will meet at 6:30PM on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 14th** (not Monday, as was mistakenly printed in last week's bulletin). It will be held at Holy Trinity.

FISH & PIEROGI DINNERS

Back by popular demand... St. Stan's will host our annual Fish & Pierogi dinners on February 28th, March 13th, and March 27th. Volunteer forms are available at the church entrances and plenty of help is needed. If you are able, please complete a form and return it to the Parish Office (or place it in the collection basket) as soon as possible. Our delicious food, and the enthusiastic volunteers, make our dinners a tremendous success!

SUPER BOWL POOL

The Holy Name Society will hold its annual "Super Bowl Pool" on Sunday, February 2nd. If you are interested in purchasing a square for \$50, please contact Val Jaskiewicz (899-9506).

Our January 1st lottery winner: **RAY PRZYBYSZEWSKI** (#454)

WEEKLY OFFERING (DECEMBER 29, 2019)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$108,056.00
Christmas Collection	\$2,666.00	-----
12/29/19 Collection	\$2,996.00	\$78,737.00
Net over/under	\$1,506.00	(\$29,319.00)

Mass Attendance (Christmas):
 4:00PM = 250
 9:30AM = 76

Weekend:
 4:00PM = 72
 9:30AM = 82

Holy Trinity Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

5:00PM - January 18th

* SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR
INSTALLATION MASS AT ST. STAN'S *

10:00AM - January 19th

Lector: E. Korytowski
Servers: M. & L. Brieger
EM: E. Korytowski, M. Nitzczynski,
& E. Simora

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., January 13th, 8:00AM - Mass at Saint Stanislaus
Tues., January 14th, 8:00AM - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families
Wed., January 15th, 8:00AM - Mass at Saint Stanislaus
Thurs., January 16th, 8:00AM - Carolyn DiMattio (Family)
Fri., January 17th, 8:00AM - The Souls in Purgatory
Sat., January 18th, 4:00PM - **INSTALLATION MASS AT ST. STAN'S**
Sun., January 19th, 10:00AM - The People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)



There **WILL NOT BE a 5:00PM Mass** celebrated at Holy Trinity *next weekend, January 18th*. Mass with the Rite of Installation of a Pastor will be celebrated by Bishop Persico at Saint Stanislaus at 4:00PM. Please join us in support of Fr. Jason.

ZABAWA 2020 MEETING (DATE CHANGE)

There will be an organizational meeting for all area chairs at 9:00AM on **Saturday, January 25th**. All chairs should plan to attend this important first meeting of the year. If you would like to be involved in this coming year's Zabawa, please contact Ray Luniewski or the parish office!



PARISH COUNCIL will meet at 6:30PM on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 14th** (not Monday, as was mistakenly listed in last week's bulletin). It will be held at Holy Trinity's Gathering Space.



The sanctuary candle is lit this week in memory of **ANNA KAMINSKI** by Pearl and Kathy Wisniewski.



- 1/12 - Shirley Buzanowski
- 1/15 - Dorothy Carlson & Robert Koziel
- 1/16 - Josh & Tyler Chermack,
and Peter Smith
- 1/17 - Irene Krol
- 1/18 - Antoinette Herbstritt



A boy went up to the priest and asked, "Why do you dress so funny?" The priest replied, "This is my work uniform." The child asked, "Do you have a boo boo?" The priest was puzzled, but quickly figured out that the child was looking at his white and black Roman collar. The priest pulled out the white plastic insert and showed it to the child telling him that it was also part of his uniform. On the back side of the collar was written: "Wash with warm soapy water." The priest showed this to the boy and then asked him "Do you know what this says?" The boy, obviously too young to read, said, "I sure do." The priest a little taken aback asks, "OK then, tell me what they say." The little boy replied, "Kills fleas and ticks for up to six months."

WEEKLY OFFERING (JANUARY 5, 2020)

Regular Offertory..... \$2,982.00 (50/146 mailed)
Loose Cash.....\$65.00
Total Offertory.....\$3,047.00
Mass Attendance: 5:00PM = 69 / 10:00AM = 68

Christmas.....\$3,530.00
Christmas Gifts\$1,685
Residence Gifts.....\$260.00
Solemnity of Mary\$848.00

THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal	\$3,000.00
Amount we need	\$2,365.00
Amount Received ...	\$3,047.00
Net over/under	\$682.00
CSA Balance Due.....	\$1,480.00
	\$81,000.00
	\$64,420.00
	\$66,332.00
	\$1,912.00
	\$24,745.00

T Y Y J K E W N U P D N O I D
D Z J J V S E U G J Z X F X G
V Q V O C X P Y I A E R J M I
O A L I H W F I M S L S D W F
I O M K F N U A R Z H I U P X
C M X X B F L E T I U P L S X
E H S O N Z F T J N T Z W E U
A I K R Z X I J S Y B E L R E
K U A D P S L O B Y A T T K P
C O W S D K L R K C P W H F Q
Y P D E G A G D W I T A E L M
E E S O R P M A E M I T A B S
B N K U V H D N B M Z E V P G
S E W R L E Z O A H E R E A Z
T D P L E A S E D O D L N N Z

GALILEE	HEAVEN	VOICE	LOVE	JESUS
OPENED	DOVE	JOHN	PLEASED	SON
JORDAN	WATER	FULFILL	BAPTIZED	SPIRIT

"This is my beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

- Matthew 3:17



The Rite of Installation of Pastor

Bishop Persico will install
Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L.
as Pastor of Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity Parishes
On Saturday, January 18th, 2020
During the 4:00PM Mass at Saint Stanislaus.
A reception will follow in the Social Hall at Holy Trinity.



**We're excited.
You're invited.**

On January 18th, both Holy Trinity & St. Stanislaus parish communities will gather together at St. Stan's to celebrate the installation of Fr. Jason as our pastor. Parish Council wishes as many as possible be present to show our support and affirm Fr. Jason as our pastor. *Parish Council has recommended that there* **NOT BE A MASS AT HOLY TRINITY ON JANUARY 18TH.** Please take note of this and plan to attend the Installation Mass at St. Stanislaus.

Following the Installation Mass, there will be a **BRIEF RECEPTION** in the vestibule at St. Stan's. At 6:00PM, Holy Trinity is honored to host Bishop Persico, Fr. Jason, and the parishioners of Holy Trinity & St. Stan's, and guests of Fr. Jason, for a **RECEPTION DINNER** at the Social Center. Please contact either Parish Office if you plan to attend, or complete the bulletin insert and place it in the collection basket, so that we can have an adequate amount of food prepared.

EVERYONE IS CORDIALLY INVITED to attend the formal installation of Fr. Jason Glover as our pastor. Additionally, we would like you to join us for a brief reception in the vestibule of St. Stan's. After, please join us at Holy Trinity's Social Center for a celebration and dinner reception at 6:00PM. Please see enclosed flyer and **be sure to RSVP** for the dinner reception.

CASH BINGO

The 3rd Street Falcons will host a Cash Bingo on January 12th starting at 1:00PM; doors will open at noon. The event is sponsored by the Saint Benedict Alumni & Ministries. Each pack costs \$20; extra packs are \$5. There will be instants and a 50/50 raffle. The kitchen and bar will also be open.

SUPPORTING THE DIVORCED

"Surviving Divorce Ministry," a 12-week support group, begins 6:30PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. The group meets at Saint Mark Catholic Center. Cost is \$15 per person and includes a book/journal and all materials. Find Comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic teaching. Call the Family Life office at 824-1261 for more information and/or to register.

PRO-LIFE MARCH

The annual Pro-Life March will take place on January 24th in Washington, DC. The "People for Life" organization is coordinating busses to depart Erie at 11:00PM on January 23rd and return around 1:30AM on January 25th. The cost \$55. For more information, call 814.882.1333.

GANNON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

... is hosting it's annual "CARE" game, formally known as the "Pink Zone" game, on Saturday, January 25th, at 1:00PM at the Hammermill Center, located on 6th & Peach Streets. The event supports cancer survivors in our community through the Allegheny Health Network at Saint Vincent Hospital. The game also includes a gift basket raffle. For more information, call 871-5811.

WITH HONORS

We warmly congratulate Cayden Lombard (Cathedral Prep), Nina Mangini (Mercyhurst Prep), Haley Rorhbach (Villa) and Marlene Shaba (Villa), who all received second honors this past academic term! We are proud of your achievements!

"CULINARY ARTISTS" are invited to bring "sharable treats" to Holy Trinity or St. Stan's for Fr. Jason's reception.

ERIE'S MARCH FOR LIFE

... will take place on January 18th, beginning at 10:45AM. The March will start at Perry Square and will conclude with a brief program at 12:30PM. For more information, call 882.1333 or visit www.peopleforlife.life/january2020.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

1/13 - Deacon Tom Matusiak, Shirley & Stan Widomski; 1/14 - Julie Slomski & Katherine Krainski;
1/15 - Dorothy & Mead Carlson and Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark; 1/16 - Corinne Dyakon & Mary Jo Sulecki;
1/17 - Dave Slubowski; 1/18 - Pearl Wisniewski; 1/19 - Bill Dyakon

PLEASE OFFER PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS THIS WEEK:

1/12 - Fr. Mark O'Hern; 1/13 - Msgr. Gerry Koos; 1/14 - Fr. Steve Schreiber; 1/15 - For All Vocations;
1/16 - Fr. Steve Collins; 1/17 - Fr. Jamie Power; 1/18 - Fr. Johnathan Schmolt

Sunday, Jan 12, 2020

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Farewell to the hidden life

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

"I formed you, and set you as... a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind."

Part of our life belongs to us in a private way. The rest is lived in the public eye at school, work, church, or in the community. Even if you're not a celebrity, the private part of who you are is shrinking fast, as more of what we do becomes common knowledge and on the record. Jesus, too, had his hidden years, those first three decades we know little about. At his Baptism by John, heaven claimed him and put his identity on the record. His hidden days were over. After our Baptisms, our choices are on the record too.

Monday, Jan 13, 2020

MEMORIAL OF HILARY, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Let the truth be known

1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20

"The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Much like our own times, in the early centuries of the church, many competing ideas circulated about what Christians should believe, including Arianism, which said that God the Father and God the Son were not one. But because of clear-thinking, Spiritfilled people like Saint Hilary, a bishop and later-named doctor of the church, truth prevailed. Truth seems to be taking quite a beating in our own time, so pray for guidance and wisdom and the intercession of Hilary—and like him, stand up for what you know to be true.

Tuesday, Jan 14, 2020

Choose holiness

1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28

"Jesus commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him."

It's fun to see the kids dressed up as little red devils at Halloween or to scream with our friends at horror movies. Yet, it is difficult and painful to address the reality of evil in the world. How do we contend with this? Pope Francis in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et exsultate (On the Call to Holiness in Today's World)* writes, "We should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech, or an idea... The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy, and vice." Spend time with God and ask for help in examining your own heart, in rebuking that which is not of God, and in nurturing all that is of God.

Wednesday, Jan 15, 2020

Find the perfect word

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39

"Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect."

Imagine having the eloquence and foresight that no word you spoke was without truth. That was God's gift to Samuel in the Old Testament and to many prophets that followed, including Saint Marcellinus, whose feast day is today. Saint Marcellinus was a fourth-century desert monk celebrated for his prophecies and healing powers. Finding the right words does not come easy for most of us. But if we allow ourselves to be guided by God's word, we will learn to express ourselves in love - always the perfect

Thursday, Jan 16, 2020

Close encounters

1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45

"He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly."

Leprosy was considered contagious at the time of Jesus. Following the Mosaic Law, anybody who touched a leper would be banned from society. That's why Jesus encourages those he heals to keep quiet. But good news demands to be shared. The good word gets around. Encounters with the Lord are like that. You've just *got* to tell somebody! What's your encounter story?

Friday, Jan 17, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ANTHONY, ABBOT

Let's get our priorities right

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1-12

"It is not you they reject, they are rejecting me as their king."

How ironic that Saint Anthony of Egypt, a hermit who sought solitude in the desert, would attract the very crowds he was trying to escape. But attract he did - not just admirers who sought advice but disciples who wanted to attain Anthony's same degree of serene single-mindedness for the gospel. Thus some of the first monastic communities formed, teaching adherents to be solitary while also communal, requiring they eschew the trappings of "living in the world." The point of monastic spirituality, after all, is an intentional focus on God's reign rather than the passing preoccupations of the world. How will you seek the reign of God today - can you trust in God instead of the "ways of the world"?

Saturday, Jan 18, 2020

May we all be one

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Mark 2:13-17

"There were many who followed him."

Every year on this day Christians in the Northern Hemisphere officially begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—an observance lasting eight days, strategically placed between two significant dates for the larger Christian Church. The week begins on the feast of the Confession of Saint Peter, on January 18, and concludes with the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul on January 25. Begun in 1908 as the Octave for Christian Unity - and heavily promoted by the Graymoor Franciscan Friars, as it still is today - the week promotes prayer to sustain the ecumenical spirit of the worldwide Christian Church. Consider some ways you can pray with and for those of other denominations who also love Christ. Embrace the words that Jesus prayed in John 17:21 - that "they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You."

