

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Today's Feast marks the conclusion of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. It's a feast of transition from Jesus' hidden life to that of His public ministry. It also echoes the theme of the Epiphany in that the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of His first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist.

First of all, it needs to be pointed out that Jesus did not need the baptism of John. John was baptizing as a call to and sign of interior repentance. Jesus had no need to repent. But, nonetheless, He comes to John. John resists at first but Jesus insists. Why did He receive baptism?

First, by accepting the baptism of John, Jesus affirms all that John has said and done and affirms his sacred role of preparing the way for Jesus and for a new era of grace. Therefore, the Baptism of Jesus acts as a bridge between the Old Testament prophets (of which John was the last) and the New Testament era of grace and truth.

Second, it has been said that when Jesus entered the waters of baptism, He was not baptized by the waters, rather, His Baptism was one in which all the created waters of this world were, in a sense, "baptized" by Him. By entering into the waters, Jesus sanctified water and poured forth His grace making all water the future source of salvation.

Third, the Baptism of Jesus was an epiphany. It was a moment of manifestation. As He emerged from the waters, "Heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from Heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" This manifestation of the sonship and divinity of Jesus took place in a physical, audible and visible form so that all present would know, without question, that Jesus was the Son of the Father. Thus, His baptism is a way in which the Father introduced His Son and His Son's mission to the world.

As we prepare to begin Ordinary Time, reflect, today, upon these words of the Father at the Baptism of Jesus. Hear the Father speaking to You about the divinity of His Son. Turn your eyes to Jesus and prepare yourself to follow Him and to heed every word He speaks. He was sent into this world to draw us to the Father, allow Him to fulfill that mission in your own life. (Catholic Daily Reflections)



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Please pray for: Mary Lambert, Heidi Reid, Gerald Moriarty, Justin Lefave, Ann Ruigrok, Daniel Bellemore, Laurie Lirette, Ursula Thompson, Betty DeKleine, Donna Brewer, Nila Suan, Lucille Paolini, Peter Vander Linden, Karen Nesbitt, Desmond Liston, Kerry Walsh, Noel Davis, Norah Kirkby and Joseph O'Grady.

MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE JANUARY 11 – JANUARY 19, 2025		
Saturday, January 11	5:15 p.m.	Our Parishioners
Sunday, January 12	9:30 a.m.	Patrick O'Grady
Tuesday, January 14	6:30 p.m.	Unannounced Mass
Wednesday, January 15	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Unannounced Mass ADORATION
Thursday, January 16	9:00 a.m.	Deceased members of The Edwards and Fitchell families
Friday, January 17	9:00 a.m.	Leslie MacRae
Saturday, January 18	5:15 p.m.	Our Parishioners
Sunday, January 19	9:30 a.m.	Patrick O'Grady
The Sanctuary Candle the week of January 19, 2025: Rita Chamberlain		

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Budget for weekly collections: \$3,500
January 1 & 5/6 2025: \$2493
Loaves and Fishes: \$1256
Initial offering: \$598

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD: January 26, 2025: In the Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis*, Pope Francis instituted the Sunday of the Word of God, which is celebrated on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world." (Pope Francis)

VOLUNTEERS: We are always seeking volunteers for Saturday and Sunday Mass. **Specifically we need ushers for Saturday evening Mass.** Please consider helping if you're able. Please contact the office if you can help in any way.

"O bless the Lord, my soul!" Psalm 104

JANUARY 12, 2025

<i>MASS TIMES</i>	<i>USHERS</i>	<i>LECTOR</i>	<i>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER</i>	<i>WELCOME DESK</i>
Tuesday, January 11 5:15 p.m.	Rick Fraaser	Joanne Story	Melinda Condon	Melinda Condon
Wednesday, January 12 9:30 a.m.	Peter Verhoeven	Emily Heffernan & Lloyd Clayton	Joan Murray	Janie Verhoeven
Saturday, January 18 5:15 p.m.	Michel LaBonté	Mary MacDermott	Carol Ravnaas	Carol Ravnaas
Sunday, January 19 9:30 a.m.	John McGeough	Emily Heffernan and Mike Kozey	Marguerite Whiteland	Janie Verhoeven

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday, January 11 & Sunday, January 12	After Mass	Chalice is visiting the Parish
Sunday, January 12	9:30 a.m.	First Communion Class
Monday, January 13	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Tuesday, January 14	7:00 p.m.	Knights Meeting
Wednesday, January 15	6:30 p.m.	Men's Bible Study

FEAST OF OUR PATRON SAINT ST. JOHN BOSCO: We are excited to announce the 2025 SJB weekend. Please mark on your calendars the weekend of January 31 – February 2, 2025.

Friday- **Kids' night with Ray's Reptiles** 6:00-7:00 p.m. (pre-register with office, no cost)

Saturday – **Parish breakfast** 8a.m.-10:30a.m.

Sunday – **Potluck** 4p.m. – 8p.m.

Sign up sheets are in the atrium for the potluck. We hope you are able to join us!

CHALICE: Chalice is coming to St. Francis Xavier & St. John Bosco Parish! At the January 11-12 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. It is a powerful way to reveal God's love for those most in need. Please visit chalice.ca for more information about Chalice and its mission.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We are excited to announce that Fr. Albert will be leading a weekly Women's Bible Study on Monday nights at 6:30 pm. **It is not too late to join!** We will be studying the Gospel of Matthew using the Great Adventure Series. Contact the office if you're interested.

CONFESSION: Are you looking for a time to see a priest for Confession? Confession is available Wednesdays during Adoration (9:30-10:00a.m.) and half an hour before Mass on the weekend.

TAX RECEIPTS: Tax receipts for the 2024 year will be available mid-February.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated around the world on January 18-25, which are also the dates recommended by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. The importance of unity among Christians and the responsibility of the people of each parish to work for this unity should be emphasized throughout the week.

TRANSFORMATION NIGHT: (Our Lady of Divine Fire Mission)

Wednesday, January 29, 2025; 7:00 – 9:30 pm

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church (1111 Taylor-Kidd Blvd., Kingston)

Experience the "Transforming Power of the Steadfast Love of God". Nancy Steele (www.nasteele.ca), author and recent keynote speaker at the 2024 Women's Fall Retreat has a heart to help people grasp just how much God loves them. The evening will begin with Adoration and worship with song. After Nancy's presentation there will be an opportunity for personal prayer ministry from the Encounter School of Ministry graduates. **NO CHARGE.**

For more information email kingston@encounterschool.org

THE FRANCISCANS: IS GOD CALLING YOU?

The Gospel and the "following of Jesus Christ" were not idealistic but rather "dynamic values" for St. Francis and his followers. People inspired by the Gospel values that they saw in Francis wanted to follow him. These values are the substance of Franciscans today: the Poor Clares, the Secular Franciscans (for women and men, single or married) and of the Friars. Is God "calling" you or "inviting you to be a part of the Franciscan mission? Order? Please send an email to Friar Reto Davatz at FRRDavatz@archkingston.ca.

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