

The Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

He saved us through the bath of rebirth
and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

-- Titus 3:5



Daily Mass

Week of January 13th – 17th

- Monday: 8:00 Erin Sabrina Breckenridge+
- Tuesday: 8:00 Ray Wilson Van Deusen+
- Wednesday: 8:00 Charles McPhee+
- Thursday: 8:00 Special Intentions
- Friday: 8:00 Lenore McCracken+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Sheila Callaghan, Marian Flandick, James Breen, Janet Laurent, Sharon Rinehart, Mike Abell, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini and Cecilia Uyeda.

Recent Collections	
Plate --December 29 nd	\$9,043.00
Plate --January 5 th	\$10,942.00
Rainy Day Fund	\$1,005.00

2025 Annual Seminary Collection!

The Diocese of Oakland's Annual Seminary Collection will be this weekend, January 11th and 12th. Your contributions support the formation and education of these men who are giving their lives in the service of God's people as priests in the Diocese of Oakland. Please keep them in your prayers. Thank You!

2024 Contributions

The 2024 contribution records will be available at the end of this month. They are scheduled to be mailed to parishioners who contributed \$250.00 or more during 2024. If you did not contribute \$250.00 and would like to receive a statement, please call the Parish Office and request a copy. Thank You!

An Ancient Baptistery!

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistry, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistry in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is said of Jesus in one of today's readings that "he went about doing good and healing all those oppressed." That is a brief but telling description of what our Lord was all about. His activity was directed to the human needs of all he met.

We move quickly from the birth of our Lord to his mission of mercy and grace, which includes what was promised before his birth, that he would lead us from darkness to light.

The world today is very much in darkness: to take only one example, the horrible destruction and genocide in Gaza. This is reported and described but there is all too little condemnation of such inhuman crime. The world stands by and watches as women and children are slaughtered.

As followers of Jesus we break this silence. We cry out with the voice of the prophets: stop the evil, admit the wrongdoing, leave the darkness and turn to the light of truth and justice. Do not cooperate with evil by sending bombs to destroy.

The Christmas season is over but the message of peace and reconciliation is never over. Keep that hope alive in your heart.

Fr. Basil



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.

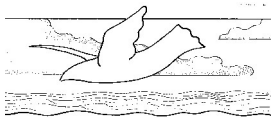
The Crab Feed & Auction Is Here!

Brought to you by the Corpus Christi Men's Club and the Corpus Christi Parent Group (CCPG), the 62nd Annual Crab Feed and Auction will be held on Saturday, February 1st. Buy your tickets today at: <http://www.ccfed.org> to join us for this 90's Prom themed event. You can bust out your scrunchies, satin dresses, velvet suits and crimped hair! This fun event will be held in the School Auditorium and doors will open at 5:00 p.m. Come together to enjoy an evening of food, friends and fundraising, including a seated crab dinner plus a live and silent auction, drinks and dancing. Funds raised will support Corpus Christi School and our Parish. Purchase your tickets today!

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.



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).

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

Second Reading -- Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

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

Readings For The Week January 13th -- 18th

Monday: First Reading Hebrews 1:1-6;
Psalm 97;
Gospel Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday: First Reading Hebrews 2:5-12;
Psalm 8;
Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday: First Reading Hebrews 2:14-18;
Psalm 105;
Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Thursday: First Reading Hebrews 3:7-14;
Psalm 95;
Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Friday: First Reading Hebrews 4:1-5, 11;
Psalm 78;
Gospel Mark 2:1-12

Saturday: First Reading Hebrews 4:12-16;
Psalm 19;
Gospel Mark 2:13-17



The Waters of Baptism!

Baptism of the Lord **W**hen new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this "knits" the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he "knit" himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary's womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

Parish Concert Photos!

Photos from the Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 22nd, and the Choir Concert on December 15th are available for viewing and free download. The site is: www.dennism-pics.com. Click on the "Parish" folder. The password is: frleo (no spaces, all lower case). Then, click on the "Christmas" folder. Next, click on the gallery that you wish to view. Any photo can be downloaded by clicking on the down arrow in the lower right corner of the selected photo.