

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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WELCOME!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30am Mass (English)

10:30am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30pm – 4:50pm
Sunday 8:00am – 8:20am
Also by Appointment

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



PARISH STAFF

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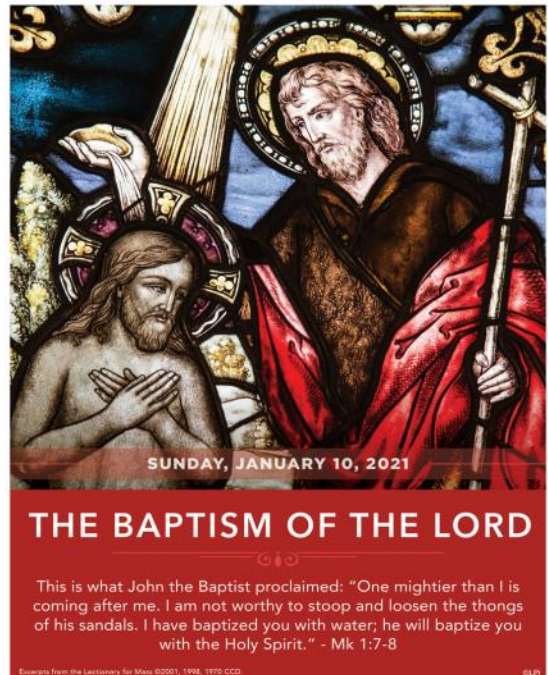
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment
Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

Donation	\$3604.00
Donation Online	\$1,557.00
Maintenance Fund	\$35.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Children's Donation	\$0
Total Donation	\$5,196.00

UPDATE: Annual Catholic Appeal Goal: \$23,323
As of 12/22/2020, Collected: \$32,525



Sunday Readings

The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 55: 1-11; 1 John 5: 1-9
Mark 1: 7-11



And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 1: 11

Our Friendship with Christ Should Include Reverence

St John the Baptist was the first prophet to have arisen in Israel for almost three centuries. He was such an impressive figure that the people thought he might be the Messiah.

- He had so much influence that King Herod eventually had to imprison him in order to avoid a popular revolt against the King's scandalous behavior, which John was denouncing.
- Even a hundred years after Christ's resurrection this prophet's disciples continued to carry on his mission of preaching repentance and baptizing.
- Christ himself called John "a prophet and more than a prophet... the greatest among men born of women." On the significant scales of holiness and historical importance, it's pretty clear that St John the Baptist occupies a pretty high level.

Yet John himself points out that "One mightier than I [Jesus] is coming after me."

- To emphasize his point, he adds that he is "not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." Taking off someone's sandals, in the ancient Near East, was a task reserved for slaves.
- It was a slave's job to clean those grimy extremities, for which he would need to remove the sandals. So John the Baptist, the greatest of prophets and the greatest of men, claims to be less than a slave in relation to Christ's greatness.

John the Baptist not only recognized Christ's humanity; he also recognized Christ's divinity. As a result, his relationship with Christ was marked not only by confidence and sincerity, but also by reverence. We, who are much less holy and wise than St John the Baptist, should learn from his example.

Making Two New Holidays

In today's democratic and relativistic world, we have to make a conscious effort to develop this healthy sense of reverence. One excellent tactic for that is to add two holidays to our personal yearly calendars.

First, we should celebrate our baptismal anniversary with at least as much hullabaloo as we do for our birthday.

- Our birthday was important, but our baptismal day was even more important: it was our supernatural birthday. Baptism is the sacrament that makes us children of God and citizens of Christ's kingdom; it is the door to everlasting life.
- When Jesus was baptized, it showed that he was taking on our human nature and wanted to free us from our sins by taking them upon himself.
- When we were baptized, Christ's desire was fulfilled: we traded in our inheritance of original sin for a share in God's own divine life; it was the beginning of our eternal adventure.

Second, we should celebrate our saint's day as a major personal holiday.

- When we were confirmed, we consciously took the name of a saint, a patron, because we were consciously taking upon ourselves the responsibility of following Christ, we were reverently pledging our allegiance to Christ the King.
- And in the sacrament of confirmation, the Holy Spirit poured his gifts into our soul, the same gifts that he had poured into the soul of our patron saint.
- By yearly celebrating that anniversary, we have a chance to renew that commitment, and to keep our priorities straight.

Reverence comes from a wise awareness of God's goodness and majesty. Adding those holidays to our calendar, for every member of the family, is a sure way to increase that awareness. It's also a lot of fun, and God isn't against fun - after all, he invented it.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021

- SUN 1/10** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
- MON 1/11** Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20
- TUE 1/12** Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
- WED 1/13** Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
- THR 1/14** Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
- FRI 1/15** Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
- SAT 1/16** Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
- SUN 1/17** 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021

- Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord
- Wednesday:** St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

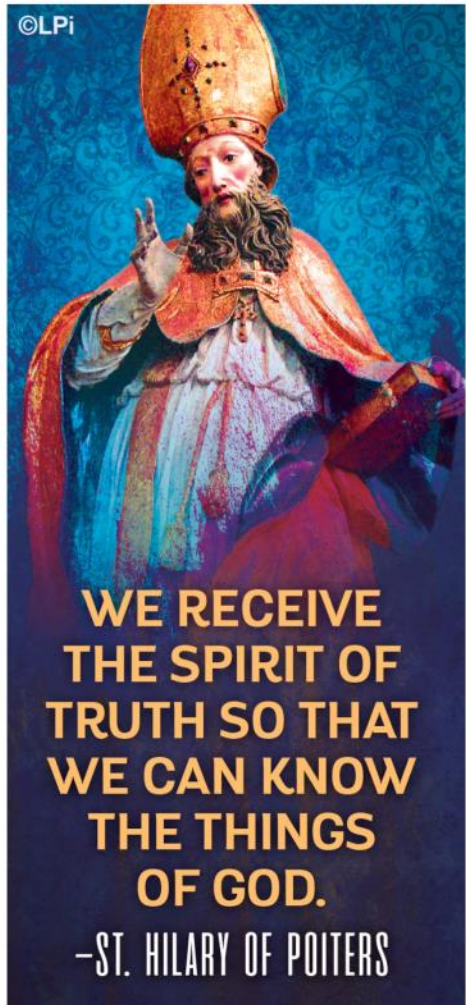
LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

We carry a greater depth of self-confidence and chance of succeeding when we have affirmation, a sense of direction and clear purpose in life. Each of these serve to provide our lives with meaning, allowing us to clearly establish priorities and goals. They also are necessary for integrity, which is the conviction and single mindedness that keeps us grounded in the truth of who we are. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Jesus' baptism provides him with exactly what he needs to get about the business of his mission as the Son of God. He is given what he needs to be successful in fulfilling the purpose for which he was sent. Our baptisms give us these same gifts. We receive the affirmation we need from God, knowing that we are one of his beloved daughters and sons. We are gifted with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Are we ready and willing to answer the call?


BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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**WE RECEIVE
THE SPIRIT OF
TRUTH SO THAT
WE CAN KNOW
THE THINGS
OF GOD.**

—ST. HILARY OF POITIERS

*The future
starts
today, not
tomorrow.*

— ST. JOHN PAUL II