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The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

All you are thirsty, come to the water!
—Isaiah 55:1

THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When 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.

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FEAST OF FAITH

The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say “in the *names*,” but “in the *name* of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our *yes* to all this, our first profession of faith.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

REHEARSAL

Psalms are sung in the home and rehearsed in the streets.

—St. Ambrose

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Onyekwe

Administrative/Financial Secretary:

Mary Alyce Fiechtl

DRE: Lois Freeland

Facilities Management: Joey Wall

Web Page:

saintandrewcatholicchurch.org/

E mail Address: finsecstandrew@outlook.com

Facebook.com: Saint Andrew the Apostle

Catholic Church

Mass Intentions

Jan 9th: Parishioners of St Andrew
and St Regina

Jan 10th: Harold Segerson +
by Khuyen Segerson

Jan 17th: Parishioners of St Andrew
and St Regina

Liturgical Ministers

January 17, 2021

Lectors —Eleanor Michie

Gift Bearers —

Eucharistic Ministers —

Sacristans— Carmen McDaniel

Altar Linens — Rose Huff, Patty Wall

Ushers—Men of the Parish

TODAY’S READINGS FOR YEAR B

First Reading — Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations

(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* *Isaiah 55:1-11*.

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* *Isaiah 12:2-6*.

Second Reading — God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38) *or* *1 John 5:1-9*.

Gospel — You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11).

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Parishioners

Gary Adams, Grant Adams, Joe Bobak,
Ethel Huffman, MaryAnn Maness, Deacon Jim Moss

Relatives

Kelli Blankenship, Thomas Blankenship, Austin Ernst, Emily Ernst, Jackie Donnett, Andrew Grower, Christine Hart and the twin boys Benjamin and Theodore, Nicholas Kirkpatrick, Jenny Moore, Andrew Morlan, Yu Youn Suk

Friends

Emma Cupples, Sunny Maness, Fr Robert Ponticello

Coming Events

Father Anthony is on vacation the entire month of January. If an emergency arises, and you need a priest, please contact St Mary’s in Jackson at 731-668-2596

Sunday Scripture Study Group will meet on Friday, January 15th at 10:00 am. All are invited to attend.

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 baptistery, 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 baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10;
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Mass Schedule



Friday: Communion Service
11:30 am

Vigil on Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins
Wednesday: St. Hilary
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

WEEKLY OFFERING

December 20th	
Budget	\$2100
Actual	\$3712
Bldg.	\$0
Over	\$1612

WEEKLY OFFERING

December 27th & 30th	
Budget	\$2100
Actual	\$2859
Bldg.	\$0
Over	\$759

WEEKLY OFFERING

January 3rd	
Budget	\$2100
Actual	\$2215
Bldg.	\$123
Over	\$238