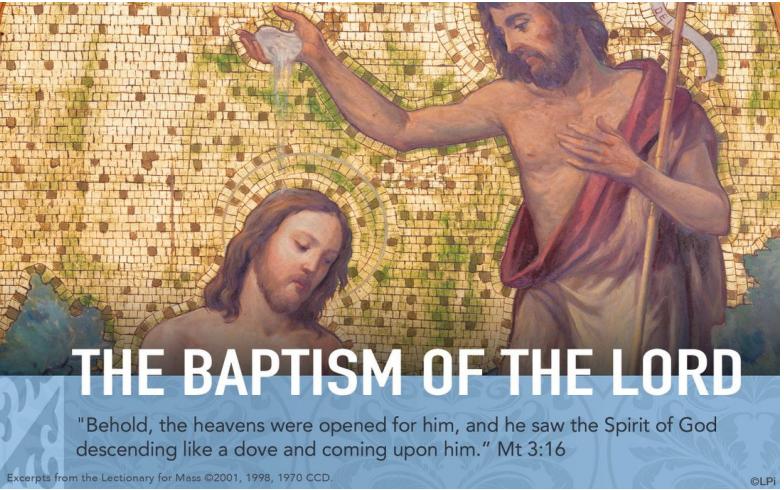


Rev. Jacek Kryn, S.A.C
Pastor

Liliana Haynes
Office Administrator



Sunday, January 11th, 2026



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"Behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." Mt 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. Jan 10	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions Baptism of the Lord
	5:00pm	† Marianne Myszczyszyn & Family (Gloria Egert & Family) Baptism of the Lord

Sun. Jan 11	10:00am	† Jake Voogt (Mary Ann Biggar) No Mass
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Mon. Jan 12		† Mattheo Gomez (Gloria Egert)
Tues. Jan 13	9:30am	† Luciano DiGiantomaso (Harrison Family) Jeanette & Ray Frangi (Adelaine Nohara) Kentyn Boyce-Blessings & Grace (Anne Marie & Dave Brown)

†	Matthew Owen (Catherine Sutton)
	HOLY HOUR & Confessions
†	Stanislaw Bialach (Teresa & Marek Kazmierski)
†	Jake Voogt (Ginny & Reg Green)
†	Gerald Iftody (Pat Vaillancourt)

†	Carmellino Arcaro (Ferrara Family)
†	Ebsen Scott-Blessings & Grace (Anne Marie & Dave Brown)
	No Mass
	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
	Special Intention Frank Trivieri & Mary Pos (Melissa Middleton)

†	Luciano DiGiantomaso
	Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.
	Offertory December 24th & 25th, 2025-\$5,162.50
	Offertory December 27th & 28th, 2025-\$3,430.25
	January 1st, 2026-\$1,185.00

	Initial Offering-\$330.00
	Offertory January 3rd & 4th, 2026- \$1,655.00

The Baptism of the Lord

Matthew 3:13-17

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac – Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Lessons from Baptizing a Frog

I used to lead an RCIA session on baptism, where I would bring in my Kermit the Frog toy from when I was a child and pretend to baptize it. It was a session I especially made sure I led when we had children preparing for Easter sacraments. You would think Kermit would have become super holy having been baptized so many times, year after year. But, if he had been real, he would not have been any holier due to multiple baptisms than he was after the first baptism. He couldn't be re-baptized. (Not to mention, of course, he is a FROG.)

When Jesus came to John for baptism, he transformed the baptism of repentance that John was practicing into a baptism of redemption. And although we are called to repentance over and over in our life, redemption comes to us only once. We cannot get baptized again in the Jordan or Sea of Galilee because of romantic notions, or come into the Catholic Church by a second baptism so we can start all over. Our baptism, whether we can remember it or not, is a one-time deal. But it is the real deal. Whether you feel it or not, you are sealed for Christ, and the stain of original sin has been washed away.

Too many of us take that moment for granted. Yes, you may have been baptized as an infant. But much time has passed since then, and you can work to understand the impact that it had on your life. We sometimes look for a good time to begin living a stewardship way of life. However, that time already passed, and God has been waiting. We are called to reflect on our baptism and respond to the call it has placed on our lives. We can respond and be disciples, or we can be like Kermit the Frog, always searching for a new start that never comes.

Youth Ministry resumes Wed. Jan 14th, 6:30-8:30pm. For children in Grades 4-6.

Sunday, January 18th, 2026



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."
- Jn 1:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Mon. Jan 19	9:30am	No Mass
Tues. Jan 20	9:30am	† Karolina Nupryjczyk (Teresa & Marek Kazmierski) Special Intention Brian, Emilio, Francesa, Ava, Katherine & Lorenzo Lostracco (Katherine Lostracco)
		† Joe DeRuiter (Nancy Horton)
		† Charlene Shannon (Liliana Haynes)
		HOLY HOUR & Confessions
Wed. Jan 21	7-8pm	† Stefan Hozjan (Maria Jerebic)
Thurs. Jan 22	9:30am	† Slawomir Bledowski (Friends) Intentions of Dave Harrison (Adelaine Nohara) For Gilbert/Marion Families (Carolle Gilbert) For Fr. Jacek & his Intentions (Parish)
		No Mass
Fri. Jan 23		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
Sat. Jan 24	4-4:45pm	Special Intention Angela Covatta (Katherine Lostracco)
	5:00pm	
Sun. Jan 25	10:00am	† Lorraine Juhasz (Liliana Haynes)

Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.

Week Of Prayer for Christian Unity

The CCCB recently launched a [National Ecumenical Strategy](#) that places particular stress upon "spiritual ecumenism," defined as "the heart of the ecumenical movement." This includes "praying for and with other Christians, promoting prayer for unity in local parishes, and participation in the planning and leadership of interdenominational prayer services for various intentions – especially that of Christian unity." An opportunity for such activities is the annual **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU)**, observed January 18-25. This year's theme is "There is one body and one Spirit" (Ephesians 4:4).

"Jesus Christ, you have brought us together in all our diversity as your family and church. In the face so many situations on earth where hope has given way to despair and wounded hearts, renew our hope in the Holy Spirit's work of changing the world. Move us to spread this hope to everyone everywhere. You are the true Light, who casts out the darkness of sin, and shines into our hearts the joy and hope of your eternal love. Amen."

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 1:29-34

It's common to hear belief in Jesus and the Church mocked as blind faith and credulity. But in reality, it is deeply human and rational. Think about it: we rely on the testimony of others constantly. I trust chemists who certify the safety of toothpaste and cleaning products. I trust engineers when I use a microwave or drive over a bridge. Why? Because they have studied and seen what I have not, and their testimony proves itself in daily life. That kind of trust is not irrational; it is how human knowledge works.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist declares: "Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God" (John 1:34). That is the language of an eyewitness. It invites us into a very human act: trusting someone who has directly encountered something — or Someone — we have not yet fully seen ourselves.

The Church's faith is built on this kind of reliable sight-based testimony. The Apostles did not make abstract claims. They saw, followed, suffered for, and proclaimed Jesus Christ. Over centuries, their witness — carried in Scripture, in the lives of the saints, and in the sacramental life of the Church —

has proven dependable. We come to know its truth by assenting to it, by living and studying it, praying with it, trusting it.

Faith in Christ is not a childish leap into the dark. It is a step into the light of testimony that proves it- self over time.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Play That One Again

How many times have you sung the church song, "Here I Am, Lord"? If you grew up Catholic and are around my age (still 50!), the answer is more than you can count. The song that quotes various verses of Scripture is sung using guitar, piano, or organ, by cantors and choirs, in traditional and modern churches. It is truly a Catholic greatest hit of the modern Church. The question is how many times when singing the refrain have you really taken to heart what you were singing.

"Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." Like the biblical figure Samuel, we are responding to the call of God by asking for clarification that we are indeed the one being called. We then follow up the question with a profound statement: "I will go if You lead me." It is profound because we are pledging to our God that we are willing to go wherever He wants. We are accepting the challenge put forth in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," to become mature disciples who respond to the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We have sung this pledge repeatedly for many years.

We never have any idea what God will call us to do and where to go. Sometimes the request can ask us for quite a lot. Hopefully, we respond like a mature disciple. If not, maybe we should reflect more the next time this song is played. The melody will not allow for the words, "I will see if I am busy and then decide to go if you lead me." Then again, I don't want to sing that to God, the source of all life anyway. Do you?

Mass Intentions: Beginning January 2026, we have designated [Tuesday and Thursday](#) as days when we can have collective intentions and will allow 4 intentions for those days.

World Day of Marriage: Sunday, February 8, 2026, 3:00pm Annual Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Gerard Bergie, Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Corner of Church and Lyman Streets, St. Catharines, ON. Celebrating All Married Couples especially those with significant 2026 Anniversaries. Reception to Follow. No registration needed. All are welcome.

