

JOHN THE BAPTIST PROCLAIMED:  
“ONE MIGHTIER THAN I  
IS COMING AFTER ME ...  
I HAVE BAPTIZED YOU WITH WATER;  
HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU  
WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

MARK 1:7, 8

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# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



JANUARY 10, 2021

## WATER

It may seem obvious that the theme for the Baptism of the Lord is “water,” but when one spends time with the readings today, one can see many different connotations for that water and its power. Isaiah calls the poor who are thirsty and tired to come to the water and take the spiritual food and drink that will be provided if we but seek the Lord. Here, God is both destination and consolation. The responsorial psalm follows suit with the image of drawing water from the springs of salvation. 1 John takes us to the reality of Christ as eucharist: not only Jesus’ birth and baptism, but his death, as we hear that Jesus came “by water and by blood.” The Gospel depicts John baptizing Jesus with water, and the Spirit baptizing Jesus. We experience both the humanity and the divinity of Christ. Indeed, water has much power to save us.

## BEING THE MESSENGER

When we go to a pop music concert, there is often an opening act. Usually they are a young group on their way up, or older musicians who are past their prime and still hanging on in the business. This is indeed a hard job. In the comedy world it is the same thing. You have to warm up the crowd. You are not who they are coming to see, and audiences may be unresponsive, come in late, or not pay a lot of attention. Yet John had no problem being the opening act, the messenger, the harbinger of faith for Jesus. He was very devout in his faith and knew what his role was. Many Jews were actively seeking a messiah, and he was quick to let them know that he was not the one for whom they were waiting. “I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Yet he conducted his ministry with faith and hope.

## BEING THE MESSAGE

As John humbly carried out his mission and Jesus accepted this simple baptism by John, the Holy Spirit indeed came down upon Jesus, and God proclaimed for the first time, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Thus Jesus began his formal ministry. There must have been much that he already knew, but also much that he uncovered each day in his encounters with the disciples and the crowds. As he responded “yes” to the Father over and over, his thirst was quenched and his spirit strengthened.

How many times do we witness baptisms in the parish? The priest ministers with simple elements of water and oil, but the Spirit is called down each time. Every time we participate, we are experiencing the message, experiencing the call again. How many times have we blessed ourselves with holy water, or participated in a sprinkling rite? Yet in these days, when church fonts are empty due to safety precautions, we need to remember those other times, trust in God, and sing the prayer of Isaiah in our hearts about drawing the water joyfully. We must trust in the message. We must become the message of God’s saving action through our baptism and our lives.

## TODAY’S READINGS

Isaiah 55:1–11  
Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6  
1 John 5:1–9  
Mark 1:7–11

# ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

REV. DAVID J. FARRELL, PASTOR

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## WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Spanish Mass 2:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: See Mass Schedule & Intentions section of bulletin

CONFESSIONS: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

### BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS see bulletin cover.

### SCRIPTURE 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 & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (1/11-1/17)**

**Monday-Wednesday:** NO MASSES

**Thursday 5:30 PM:** Richard Greenwell, Elizabeth Nolan Hays

**Friday 8:30 AM (School Mass Only):** Melvin Graves, JoAnn Cambron

**Saturday 8:30 AM:** Susan Jaeschke, C.H. Haydon

**Saturday 4:30 PM:** Kyle & Danny Logsdon

**Sunday 8:30 AM:** For the Parish

**10:30 AM:** Emily Coulter

**2:00 PM (Spanish Mass):** Presider's Intention

## **LITURGICAL ROLES**

**Weekday Lectors:** (Mon.-Wed.) NO MASSES, (Thurs.) Hamilton Simms, (Fri.) School, (Sat.) Belle Sutton

**Weekday Sacristans:** (Mon.-Wed.) NO MASSES, (Thurs.) Julee Jones, (Fri.) School, (Sat.) Jerry Mudd

**Weekend Liturgical Roles** for the month have been sent/will be sent via email.

**St. D Prayer List:** Coronavirus Pandemic, Healthcare Workers, U.S. Military, Bill Smith, David Smith, Perry Carrico, Betty Boone, Paul "Pat" Mudd, Fabian Cambron, Lauraetta Smith, Tommy Bartley, Johnathan Bradshaw, Kenny Peterson, Doris Purdom, Megan O'Bryan, Stephanie Bueschel Warner, Kim Pinkston Spalding, Ted McNeal, Edwin Thompson, Jim Smith, Steve Smith, Beth Hellman, Dennis Rust, Margaret Faye Martin, Corbin Noel, Cassie Robinson, Olivia Montgomery, Audrey Edelen, Marilyn Watkins, Sueanna Graves, Helen Parrot, Christy Caldwell & Nancy Hardin. *Our church always prays for and cares for our sick sisters and brothers at home, in hospitals, and in nursing homes. You are always in our hearts, minds and prayers as we celebrate the Eucharist at St. Dominic. If any who are sick want to ask in faith for the church's prayers, please do not hesitate to contact our parish office at 336-3569.*

**Tithing Contributions** for this past week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): \$30,591.18

## **MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS**

**Special Thanks:** Thank you for the prayers, cards, and gifts during my recent accident. Being a part of the St. Dominic family is a true blessing. Prayers to each and every one of you. ~Vicki Lawson

**Thank you for your thoughtfulness!** There have been many kind gestures sent our way during the Christmas Season. Many thanks, we have appreciated each and every act of thoughtfulness. ~ Fr. David, Jodi, Angela & Sonya

**Masses:** Call ahead (**Monday through Thursday**) if you plan to attend Mass this coming weekend, space is limited due to social distancing requirements. Please contact us in one of two ways, by calling 859-336-3569 or by email at stdom@bellsouth.net. Seating charts are finalized at 2 p.m. on Thursdays.

**2021 Collection for Opportunities for Life:** The four Kentucky dioceses will take up a collection on, **January 16-17**, the Sunday in the week of the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade (January 22), as part of the Kentucky bishops' unified message advocating for a pro-life culture in our Commonwealth. In the Archdiocese of Louisville, funds from this collection will provide resources to pregnant women and new families in crisis, including material assistance and grant support for programming at Catholic Charities and other organizations providing support to pregnant women and families. Please use one of the white envelopes found in the pews or any envelope marked Opportunities for Life, if you plan to make a donation.

**Martin Luther King Day,** Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, is a holiday for parish office staff, the office will be closed.

**Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction:** Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. (after the 5:30 p.m. Mass) & on Sundays from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (Adoration at 4:00 p.m., Vespers at 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Music &/or Liturgical Prayer at 6:00 p.m., Closing with Benediction at 7:00 p.m.)

**Possibly interested in joining the Catholic Church?** Contact Fr. David at 336-3569.

**IGA Receipts, BOXTOPS for Educations & Campbell's labels** are all fundraisers for our school. We ask that you continually save them and drop them in the wooden boxes in the back of church.

**Catholic Charities of Louisville** is the social ministry of the Archdiocese, and are eager for you to know about their work, how they may minister to you, and how you may minister to others. Save the date for Catholic Charities' festive fundraiser, Rouler! It's Fat Tuesday, New Orleans style: February 16, preshow starts at 6:15 p.m. from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Facebook Live - cclou.org/rouler. Let the good times roll!

**Did You Know?** 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.

**2021 Black and Indian Mission Collection:** The weekend of Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, we will take up the annual Black and Indian Mission Collection. This Collection exists to help diocesan communities preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaskan Native people of God. Your donations help fund parish-based catechetical programs, support teacher and catechist professional development, encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and create diocesan structures, such as our own archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry, that support ministry and evangelization in these diverse cultural communities. Please be generous.