

Baptism of The Lord



SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1~5, 9~11

Psalm 104: O bless the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: Titus 2: 11~14, 3.4~7

Gospel: Luke 3: 15~16, 21~22

REFLECTION

If John's baptism symbolized repentance, what need could Jesus have had for it? This question troubled many in the first centuries of Christianity. All the synoptic writers use an account of this event to introduce the major themes of their Gospels. The fourth Gospel, meanwhile, leaves it out entirely, recording the encounter between Jesus and John the Baptist but omitting any mention of Jesus' baptism.

Luke understood the baptism that John offered to be about more than repentance. It was about making a public declaration of citizenship in God's coming kingdom. A conversion of heart was simply the necessary first step. Life under God's reign required a new heart and a new spirit, and such a life required a clean break with the past. In Jesus' case, no conversion was necessary for this public declaration. Baptism revealed instead his true nature as God's beloved Son.

The baptism of Jesus is one such "small beginning." It is the first demonstration of the loving relationship that all believers will come to share with God. The divine love revealed at Jesus' baptism grows clearer at his transfiguration, and its fullness appears in his resurrection. God extended the same divine love at Pentecost to any who took up the Son's mission, and through sacramental baptism to any who have dedicated themselves to the Son in subsequent ages. Jesus wants to transform us. . . will we let him?

ARCHDIOCESE

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

You are invited to register your child for Kindergarten at one of the Durham or York Catholic schools across the regions. Your child must be turning 4 years of age by December 31, 2019 in order to enroll. Online registration will take place from January 14~19, 2019. Visit dcdsb.ca to register and for York visit ycdsb.ca.

PARISH

IMPORTANT REMINDER

During Fr. Oswin's absence for the month of January, there will be;

NO weekday Mass

NO Saturday Mass

In Father's absence, we welcome back : Rev. Bob Ouellette. Fr. Bob will be celebrating both Sunday Masses throughout the month and any funerals required.

LADIES OF THE PARISH

The Ladies meeting will take place next Tuesday January 15th @ 2 pm in the parish hall. All ladies are encouraged and we always welcome new members!

2019 ENVELOPES

The boxed sets of 2019 envelopes are still available for your use. Please choose any box (they are not pre-assigned by name or number) they are available at the back of the church. Please record your name and complete address on the first few for January, so we have your correct tax receipt information in the database for this year.

This is a great time for any new parishioners and anyone not using envelopes to pick them up and start using them.

2018 TAX RECEIPTS

Thank you to our parishioners and visitors for your support and generosity over the last year. You should be receiving your 2018 tax receipt in early February 2019. Father Oswin likes to personally sign each one. If the information you originally provided has changed, please send an email to st.joseph.church@rogers.com with your full name and full updated address.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

At times, determining how we can play a more active role in our parish can be a difficult exercise. We each have gifts that sometimes lay undiscovered. During our time of questioning, we turn to the Holy Spirit to motivate, direct, and inspire us so that we can harmoniously join together to do the Church's work effectively. Here at St. Joseph's, we have a number of ministries that could be strengthened by your involvement. If you feel that you have a gift to offer, please contact Sheila in the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS

We join in prayer with those who have requested that Masses be offered for their loved ones, * living or + deceased.

Jan. ~ Feb.	Time	Mass for
Sunday 13 th	9 am	Pro Populo
	11 am	+ Norma Orbiso
Sunday 20 th	9 am	Pro Populo
	11 am	+ Bessie Brogan~Schroeder
Sunday 27 th	9 am	* Nori Leynes
	11 am	Pro Populo
Saturday 2 nd	5 pm	+ Maria Hoa &+Anne Tai
Sunday 3 rd	9 am	Pro Populo
Tuesday 5 th	6 pm	* Alice Pao Luk
Wed. 6 th	6 pm	+ Sek-Chuen Tam
Thurs. 7 th	9:15am	* Linda Ward
Friday 8 th	9:15am	+ Joseph Thomas

PLEASE PRAY FOR : Alcide Babineau, Pam Bassett, Bob Bernier, Candice Boccocio, Dr. Jim Brown, Nicola DeLuca, Dr. George Emery, Herman & Louise Evertman, Jean LeBlanc, Pat Mallen, Penny Muston, Lillian O'Neill, Margaret Quinn, Margaret Reilly, Joan Ried, Rosa Maria Santos, Jim Smith, Linda Ward, Kathryn Werden, and Doug White.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Initial Offering	\$ 35.00
Maintenance	106.65
Offertory	1,257.15

Thank you to all who donate so generously to your parish!