

January 11: The Baptism of the Lord

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." - Mk 1:9-11



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

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, January 11, *The Baptism of the Lord* (Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/1 Jn 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11)

8:00 am- Parish Family

10:30 am- Julius & Mary Mikulenska, Louis & Julia Brosch, Ben & Timothy Brosch

Monday, January 12, *Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)* (Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20)

7:00 am- Arthur Voelkel

10:00 am- Dominic Konvicka (Hallettsville Rehab)

Tuesday, January 13, *Weekday, Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church* (Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28)

7:00 am- David Bludau

Wednesday, January 14, *Weekday* (Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39)

7:00 am- Sedra Gutierrez

8:05 am- Frank Jares

Thursday, January 15, *Weekday* (Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45)

7:00 am- Anna & Tom Pastucha.

10:00 am- Bill Gohlke (Stevens)

Friday, January 16, *Weekday* (Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12)

7:00 am- Ben Huser, John & Lucille Jalufka

8:05 am- Albert, Annie & Jerry Kalisek

Saturday, January 17, *Saint Anthony, Abbot* (Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17)

5:30 pm- For Our Parish Family

Sunday, January 18, *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time* (1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42)

8:00 am- Victor Steffek

10:30 am- Lucille & Carlwin Werner

Bulletin Sponsor: Allan & Evelyn Lanik

Vigil Light: Special Intention

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Catholic Life Insurance Union Branch #22

Pray for the repose of the soul of Irene Jurica-Palmer, sister of Melvin Jurica and Jeanette Chudej.

Our Gift to God (New Year's Day): Envelopes-\$3,332; Loose-\$890; Children-\$30

Our Gift to God (January 4, 2015): Envelopes-\$9,367.50; Loose-\$1,533; Children-\$110

Pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

-Czech Heritage, Family Center, 1:00 p.m.
-KJZT Society 2, Mary's House, 3:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

-Finance Council, Mary's House, 6:00 p.m.
-Pastoral Council, Mary's House, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m.
-JCDA, Sacred Heart Family Center, 3:15—5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

-CCD Classes – K-12th
-Novena- 7:00-8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

-RCIA Classes – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
-God's Embrace & Novena – Church, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

-Novena- 7:00-8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

-Novena- 6:45-7:45 p.m.

Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Josephine Muniz, Wilbert Kalinec, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Amanda Gutierrez, Becky Pekar, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Georgie Meyer, Doris Anders, Jack Crandall, Gary Trojcek, Brian Wisnoski, Jeanne McClain, Frances Kutach, Henry Konvicka, Sweet Hrcncir, Clorisa Hartensteiner, Betsy Brown, Marcella Henke, Mark Henneke, Kirk Remmers, Leo Haas, Jr., Richard Grahmann, Margie Becker, Anita Pesek, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Happy Anniversary!

Paul & Theresa Voelkel	54 years	Jan 15
Delbert & Emilie Henry	45 years	Jan. 17

Catholic Daughters dues of \$20 are now due for 2015. Mail to Monica Foyt, 11014 U.S. Hwy. 90 A East, Hallettsville, TX 77964

KJZT Society 2 Meeting, Sunday, January 11, 2015, 3:00 p.m. at Mary's House.

Youth Night: Our upcoming events include: Youth Night on Sunday Jan 18, from 5-7:30 pm. (plus monthly youth nights); The Annual Rally for Life in Austin, TX on Sat Jan 24; Annual Youth Spectacular in Victoria TX TBA. (usually February); Summer Youth Conference Steubenville on the Bayou in Louisiana. June 26-28, 2015. *More information on each event in upcoming bulletins. God bless*

Holy Family Victoria Men's ACTS Retreat—The next Men's ACTS Retreat is January 22 through January 25, 2015. For more information, please contact, Director, Andrew Vasquez 361-575-2804, cell 361-571-6715, Co-Director, Michael Hanes 361-648-5589, or Eddie Longoria 361-648-2602.

JCDA Meeting, Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 3:15-5:00 p.m., at the Sacred Heart Family Center. Each girl is asked to bring a new or gently used baby item to be donated to the Gabriel Project.



From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today, in wonder, we give witness to a great mystery: The Baptism of the Lord. The Holy Spirit descends like a dove. The heavens rend apart, and the Father thunders forth His approval. "This is my beloved Son!" Rejoice this day, that by our baptismal adoption we, too, are the beloved children of God. We, too, rise from the waters and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Today, we officially end the Christmas Season.

Father Barnabas will be on the annual priest retreat, with some of the other priests of the diocese from this Sunday evening until Thursday evening.

I will then be on retreat with the rest of the priests the following week.

School News

Early Dismissal, Friday, January 16, Grs. K-4 12:30 p.m.; Grs. 5-12 1:00 p.m. Diocesan Math Teacher Curriculum Workshop

CATHOLIC SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES RAFFLE

Once again, Catholic Life Insurance is sponsoring the Catholic School Sweepstakes Raffle that will benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School (SHCS). Tickets are only \$5.00 each and all money collected stays at SHCS.

Tickets are available at the school, the rectory, or any SHCS student. Drawing will be held on January 30, 2015.

SHCS 2015 Extravaganza, "The Orient at Nightfall," Saturday, February 7, 6:00

p.m. to 12:00 a.m., K.C. Hall. Tickets \$125 per couple (includes socials with hors d'oeuvres, refreshments all evening, steak dinner and dance live music by Southern Express. Purchase tickets at School Office, Sacred Heart Credit Union or the Rectory.



SACRED HEART ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FORMED

Sacred Heart Catholic School is pleased to announce the formation of the Sacred Heart Alumni Association (SHAA). The mission of the SHAA is to promote Sacred Heart Catholic School and to form a partnership of former students and other supporters in order to provide financial assistance to its' students through scholarships and tuition assistance.

The Association is open to all Sacred Heart graduates, former students, and others in the community interested in supporting local students.

Membership dues are \$20 per year or \$500 for a Lifetime Membership. The SHAA is a 501c3 organization and therefore membership dues and donations are tax deductible.

The Officers of the SHAA are Jim Bujnoch—President; Charlie Neumeyer—Vice-President; Dennis Matula—Treasurer; Maureen Schott—Secretary; Theresa Voelkel—Database Administrator; & David Smolik—Executive Director.

For additional information concerning membership in the Sacred Heart Alumni Association, please contact the school principal, David Smolik, at 361-798-4251 or one of the Officers.

The Baptism of the Lord

"I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." That was a lowly job. Removing someone's sandals back in the days when everyone walked everywhere on dusty, sandy desert ground was a dirty task. So when John the Baptist said he wasn't even worthy for that humble duty, he was emphasizing an important point.

John understood Jesus' real identity. He knew that this was not just another good man, not just a wise teacher or a gifted leader. John realized that Jesus was truly God-made-man. And because of this, the prophet also comprehended how perfect Jesus was. In relation to this perfection, John honestly acknowledged his own sinfulness with this analogy about the sandals. But look what happened: even though John proclaimed that "one mightier than I is coming after me," Jesus showed up at the Jordan River and asked John to baptize him! Jesus humbled himself by going through this ritual of cleansing and purification, even though he didn't need to. John may have thought himself unworthy, but that didn't stop Jesus from coming to him.

Jesus wants to come to us too. Not because we have "earned" his love or because we are "worthy" of some great honor, but simply because he loves us. God sent his Son to us to be one of us, to walk among us, to care for us and guide us. When we were baptized, he counted us among his beloved children in a special way, but that joyful bond is not a thing of the past. By our baptism we are always his children, even when we may be disobedient or belligerent ones. His love is not calculated or quantified; it is a free gift. May we appreciate this gift enough to show our gratitude by a life well lived.



God's Embrace Renewal Centers and their Music Ministry will host a Night of Prayer and Worship for Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the surrounding parishes at Sacred Heart Church Thursday, January 15, 2015. The evening will begin at 7:00pm and conclude at 8:30pm. This evening will give the community a glimpse into the ministry of God's Embrace and a sampling of the life-changing call to discipleship through Ignatian spirituality. One of the hopes of offering this evening is to spur interest in the community to take part in "Lead Me into the Deep, Lord"; a twelve week spiritual formation program which will begin in the parish on January 29, 2015. It is a wonderful journey to embark on to renew your Catholic Faith and deepen your relationship with God! For more information contact the parish office or Sandy Reese @ 979-541-6881 or sandy.reese@godsembrace.org.

Novena for Life

Join us at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hallettsville** for a Novena (nine days) of Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in reparation for the sin of abortion and to pray for the protection of all human life from the moment of conception. **The Novena will begin on:** Wednesday, January 14 and conclude on Thursday, January 22 with a special Pro-Life Mass.

Wednesday, January 14 through Friday, January 16—

Holy Hour – 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 17—Holy Hour—6:45-7:45 p.m.

(immediately after Mass)

Sunday, January 18—Holy Hour with Eucharistic

Procession around the Courthouse and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament—2:00 p.m.

Monday, January 19 through Wednesday, January 21—

Holy Hour—7:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 22—Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life—7:00 p.m.