

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 10

4:30pm Kerri Bessette

*Requested by Mom, Dad and Scott*

### Sunday, January 11

8:00am Joseph and Mary Costanza

*Requested by family*

10:00am George Almeida, Jr.

*Third Anniversary Mass*

12:00nn Theresa H. Newton

*Third Anniversary Mass*

### Monday, January 12

7:00am Francis J. Mellon

*Requested by Caroline Salvatore*

### Tuesday, January 13

7:00am William, Celeste & Patricia Krul

*Requested by family*

### Wednesday, January 14

7:00am Mass for the People

### Thursday, January 15

7:00am Sam Lombardo

*Requested by Caroline Salvatore*

### Friday, January 16

7:00am Alvin O'Donnell

*Requested by Karen and Peter O'Rourke*

### Saturday, January 17

4:30pm Branden J. DeLuca

*Requested by family*

### Sunday, January 18

8:00am Gloria Timothy

*Requested by friends*

10:00am June Kelly

*Requested by family*

12:00NN Patricia Mello

*Requested by family*



## St. Romuald Chapel

### Sunday, January 11

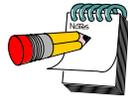
10:00am Joseph Cabral

*Requested by Corcoran family*

### Sunday, January 18

10:00am Mary Marchand

*Requested by Gerri and Al Marsocci*



## For Your Information

### PARISH SUPPORT

Parish support for December 21st—\$9,477; Ongoing Maintenance—\$2,855.50; Christmas—\$23,033.50; December 28th—\$8,287; January 4th was—\$9,635; Monthly—\$2,828.50; Mary, Mother of God—\$2,425. This weekend's second offering is the Ongoing Maintenance fund offering. Next weekend's second offering will be the annual Catholic University fund offering. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

### SANCTUARY LAMPS

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Nancy Caswell. The sanctuary lamp at St. Romuald Chapel burns in memory of John and Margaret Cavanagh.

### CEMETERY IN NEED OF GATEKEEPERS

St. Francis Cemetery is looking for volunteers to open and close the cemetery gate during the week. The gate opens at 8:00am and closes at 4:00pm during the winter and at 7:00pm during the summer months. If you or someone you know is interested, please call Laurie at 782-2711. Thank you.

### MOUNT 2000 RETREAT ATTENDEES

A meeting for teens and their parents (at least one of them) is scheduled for Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Helen Bouchard Hall. We will discuss the details of the trip. Please call the religious education office (792-8684) if you are unable to attend.

## The Baptism of the Lord

... Immediately after coming out of the water, the Spirit descends upon him in the form of a dove. Now another sacrament is instituted by Christ, the sacrament of Confirmation or, as the Eastern churches call it, *Chrismation*. ...

Notice that as the Spirit descends upon Jesus, the Father announces from heaven that this is His beloved Son. Here we have a majestic revelation of the Most Holy Trinity, one God in three persons. Then notice that Peter, speaking of this event in Acts 10:37, calls it Jesus' "anointing."

Some wonder why we need the sacrament of Confirmation. To some it appears to be an afterthought, as anticlimactic. After all, we receive the Spirit in baptism and receive Christ bodily in the Eucharist. So what else do we get when we are confirmed?

Simple. We receive our mission and the power to carry it out. For being a "Christian" is not about just "getting saved." It's about sharing in Christ's anointing to transform the world. The mission is an essential part of the package, not an option.

That's why we are called "Christians" or anointed ones. It is not just priests and religious who are supposed to make it happen. Every single one of us is called and anointed. And that's why confirmation is one of the essential sacraments of initiation. Without it, one is not fully incorporated into the Church, which is a missionary community.

The question for those of us who have received this power-packed sacrament is this—what are we doing with it?

*From the Pastor*

As this weekend's feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas season, I'd like once again to thank all who helped to make the liturgical rites run so smoothly. Also, I know I speak for Fr. Joe as well as for myself when I say a sincere thanks to all who remembered us at Christmas. Many sent cards and gifts, for which we are most grateful. And the rectory kitchen was filled with comestibles of every description, which explains our added girth!

The Baptism of the Lord, of course, reminds us of his gift of baptism by which he incorporated each of us into his Body, his holy Church, thus uniting us with one another in himself. We are free from the bondage of sin as long as we preserve our communion with Christ as members of his body. Our natural destiny of death is superseded by the possibility of eternal life because we are members of him who conquered death by his resurrection. And since we are all one in Christ, we cannot forget our responsibility to care for one another, especially those most in need. Let's pray that the generosity and kindly feelings of Christmastide remain with us as we reluctantly take leave of that season of good will.

*Fr. Bodah*

*There will be a meeting of the finance council members, with Father Bodah, the parish trustees and parish accountant on Tuesday, January 13th at 7:45am in the rectory.*

**BAPTIZED INTO GOD'S FAMILY**

Congratulations to the proud parents and godparents of Henry Jame Decoteaux, Mia Elizabeth Thompson and Olivia Grace Thompson who were baptized at St. Francis Church last weekend. Your parish family rejoices with you!



Food for Month of January - pasta & tomato sauce, soup, beans (dry, canned). Thank you for your ongoing generosity.



**Religious Education**

**Religious Education**

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

8:50-9:50am Grades 1 & 2 (FGC)  
Grade 7 (FGC)  
10:50-11:50am Grades 3-6 (FGC)  
Grade 8 (FGC)

**Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

7-8:30pm Confirmation I

**Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

4-5:00pm Grades 3-6 (FGC)  
7-8:15pm Grades 7 & 8 (FGC)



**This Week**

**Sunday, January 11**

Classes—see schedule above  
10:00am Family Liturgy—Listening to God's Word  
5:30pm Praise rehearsal (FGC)  
7:00pm AA (HBH)

**Monday, January 12**

7-12nn Adoration (SF)  
7-8:30pm Confirmation I Class (FGC)

**Tuesday, January 13**

7:45am Finance Council Mtg. (MCCR)  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)  
7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

**Wednesday, January 14**

4-5pm Classes Gr. 3-6 (FGC)  
7-8:15pm Grade 7/8 Class (FGC)  
7-8:30pm RCIA (MCCR)

**Thursday, January 15**

8am-2pm Prout Grade 11 Retreat  
7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (FGC-↓)  
7pm SF Women's Club Mtg. (FGC-↓)  
7:00pm Mount 2000 Mtg. (HBH)

*"...my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it."*

*~ Isaiah 55:11*

## SERVANT OF GOD, ELIZABETH PROUT

Most people who drive by the entrance to The Prout School don't know where the school's name comes from. Elizabeth Prout was a nineteenth-century convert to the Catholic faith. Having been raised an Anglican, she was received into the Church by Blessed Dominic Barbieri, who also received John Henry Newman (now Blessed) into the Catholic faith. She was the "Mother Teresa" of her own day. She exemplified a great love for the poor, and strove to provide adequate education for young people. Elizabeth Prout took vows and became Mother Mary Joseph, gathering like-minded women together with a special devotion to the Passion of Jesus. This community would eventually become the Sisters of the Cross and Passion, who ministered in our parish community and founded The Prout School here in Wakefield. The 151st anniversary of the death of Elizabeth Prout is commemorated today, January 11th. Her cause for canonization has been opened, permitting use of the title, "Servant of God." Please remember the Sisters of the Cross and Passion—the spiritual daughters of Elizabeth Prout—in your prayers throughout the week.



### Challenge someone to hear the call ...

When was the last time you prayed for an increase of vocations from our own parish community? At the present time, we have several women-religious either from or connected to our parish (some are Sisters of the Cross and Passion, some are Sisters of Divine Providence, and one is a Capuchin Sister of Nazareth). We are blessed to be one of the parishes in a diocese of 150 churches which has two seminarians: Stephen Battey, who is studying at Boston's St. John Seminary and Dan Mahoney who is currently enrolled in his first year of studies at Our Lady of Providence Seminary. When was the last time you encouraged a young man or woman to consider sacrificing their own plans and ambitions to serve Christ and his Church in a special way? **When was the last time you asked God what his plan is for you?** Vocations do not happen by accident. They are the result of communities of faith that foster and encourage young people to lay down their lives for Christ. Take a moment to encourage our religious sisters and our candidates for Holy Orders. And challenge someone to hear the call. A vocation is not so much about figuring out some mystery, as it is willingness to accept the challenge of the Lord to follow him! The harvest is great; but the laborers are few!

## *Listening to God's Word*

At this morning's 10AM Mass we welcome our First Communion students who will reflect during the homily on the importance of listening to God's Word in Holy Scripture. The Church teaches that before Christ can be received in the Eucharist, he must be encountered in the Bible! God is always speaking to us, but sometimes we can't hear him! All are welcome to this special liturgy as we hone our listening skills for God!



*March for Life*

Washington D.C.

### **"2015 MARCH FOR LIFE & Diocesan Pilgrimage to DC":**

The Office of Life and Family Ministry will be sponsoring a bus trip to Washington DC for the Annual March for Life on the 42nd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade on Thursday, January 22, 2015. The cost for the overnight ride is \$75.00 per person and will leave R.I. on Wednesday, January 21. This year's trip will take us to the Verizon Center for the Youth Rally and Mass. There will be confession, Rosary, popular Catholic recording artists, presentations and a Mass for Life. For more information and to register, call Carol Owens at 421-7833 x 218.

### **Prayer Vigil for Peace**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence in conjunction with local faith leaders, RI State Council of Churches, RI Council for Muslim Advancement, the RI State Police, Providence Police and the RI Police Chiefs Association announce a Prayer Vigil for Peace at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

We have all been concerned by the recent acts of violence across the nation and recognize that the most sincere efforts of reconciliation must be inspired by God's presence and grace. With that desire, we will gather for community prayer, sober reflection and renewed hope for the peace only God can give. We will pray for all members of the law enforcement community, the community at large and all who long for and work for peace, justice and harmony in our beloved state.

The public is invited to attend this special event.