



January 12th, 2025 Baptism of the Lord

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS -January 11th -January 19, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm George Nixon
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15am Deceased Members of the Boudreau Family
Tues. 6:30 pm Richard Moulaison
Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Pius and Cecilia Landry
Thurs: 9 am Linda Lusk
Fri. 9 am Marion Moody
Sat. 4 pm Beryl and Lawrence Melanson
Sun. 9am Anniv. Frank Joseph Muise
Sun. 11:15am Parishioners

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Jan. 12 Audrey Muise
Sun. 10 am Jan. 19 Liturgy of the Word

REFLECTION: "You are My Beloved Son" 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." The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes for us the Christmas Season and transitions us into the beginning of Ordinary Time.

From a Scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from His hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of His public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, it's important to ponder a simple question: Why was Jesus baptized? Recall that John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for His Baptism? First of all, we see in the quoted passage above that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through His humble act of baptism. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," spoke the voice of the Father in Heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a public declaration of Who He is. He is the Son of God, a divine Person Who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an "epiphany," a manifestation of His true identity for all to see as He prepares to begin His public ministry. Second, by His baptism, Jesus' incredible humility is made manifest. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, but He allows Himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through His action of baptism. He came to unite Himself with us sinners, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, He symbolically enters into death itself, which is the result of our sin, and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with Him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of Him "baptizing" the waters, so to speak, so that water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with His divine presence and could be communicated to all who are baptized after Him. Therefore, sinful humanity is now able to meet divinity through baptism. Lastly, when we share in this new baptism, through water that has now been sanctified by our divine Lord, we see in Jesus' baptism a revelation of who we become in Him. Just as the Father spoke and declared Him as His Son, and just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, so also in our baptism we become the adopted children of the Father and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Thus, Jesus' baptism gives clarity as to whom we become in Christian baptism. *Lord, I thank You for Your humble act of baptism by which You opened the Heavens to all who are sinners. May I open my*

heart to the unfathomable grace of my own baptism each and every day and more fully live with You as a child of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus, I trust in You. -My Catholic Life

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday, January 14th, all members invited. **Executive Meeting** at 5:30pm
Supper 6:30 General meeting at 7:30.

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE:



There will be an information session in the main church on Sunday January 19th following the 11:15 mass. This meeting is for youth going into high school in September and peer leaders ages 19 & 20 that would be interested in attending the Steubenville Atlantic High School Conference from July 11th-13th in Halifax this summer. This weekend conference is a chance to gather with your peers and experience your faith in a way you never have before. We hope to see you there! Please bring a \$50.00 down deposit if you are planning to attend.

COOFFEE SOCIALS:



Will be held after all the masses the weekend of January 18th & 19th in the Jubilee Room. Come join us for a cup.

ST. AMBROSE SKI TRIP:



The annual ski trip to Martock will be taking place February 15th. The cost is \$45.00 a person. We have a limited number of spots so it will be first come first served. The event is for youth and families ages 8 and up. We will have to be fully registered by January 24th in order to participate. For more information, please contact the parish office 902-742-7151.

YOUTH LED MINISTRIES HAPPENING AT THE 11:15

MASS: Once a month at St. Ambrose at the 11:15 am mass, the youth of our Parish will be doing the different mass ministries. There are 4 ministries which youth grades 3 and up can sign up for; Lector (reading), Usher, Altar Server, and Greeter. There will be a time to sign up immediately after the January 19th, 11:15 Mass, with Debbie Muise and Nikki Boudreau. Thank you for helping to serve in our Church.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:



Let us, therefore, have charity and humility and give alms because it washes the stains of or sins from our clothes. For, although people lose everything they leave behind in this world, they, nevertheless, carry with them the rewards of charity and the alms they have given for which they receive a reward and a fitting repayment from the Lord. -St. Francis of Assisi

DECREE OF NULLITY:

"The Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth invites people with questions or concerns about the application for nullity process to contact the Marriage Tribunal Office. The office is open and ready to assist anyone who seeks additional information or guidance in how to begin the process. We can be reached by phone at 902-429-9800 ext. 321 or please visit the "Marriage Tribunal" on the Archdiocesan website www.halifaxyarmouth.org under "Pastoral Services".

PARISH LIBRARY:



Did you know we have a parish library in the Parish Center? We have many good books to choose from. Books on saints, spirituality, biographies and many other topics. Come and check out what we have and borrow one!

ADORATION CHAPEL:



There is a very special place where Jesus actually resides where you can go and be alone with him. Quiet your soul in prayer or in silence with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He is literally waiting for you in our little Adoration Chapel. If interested, please call Debbie Murphy-Payie at 902-740-2005.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and Aurel Lucille Mooney
 Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.