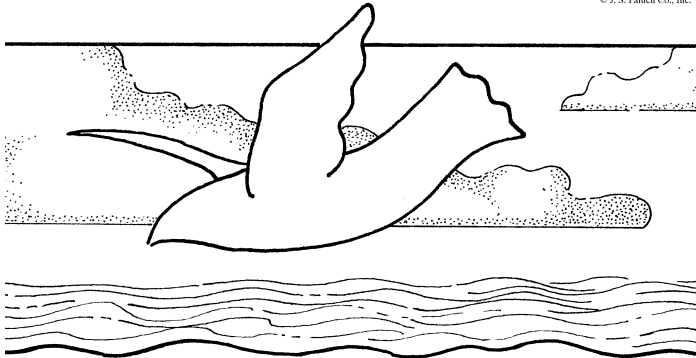


The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2010

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He saved us through the bath of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
— *Titus 3:5*

MANIFESTING THE SPIRIT

The Christmas season closes this Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a sister to last week's feast of the Epiphany. Each of them celebrates an "epiphany," or a manifestation of the Spirit of God in Jesus—first in his birth, and now at his baptism.

The divine Spirit is manifested in all of the scriptures for this feast. Psalm 104 highlights the Spirit of God creating and renewing the earth, while the reading from Isaiah describes God restoring Israel. In Luke's account of the baptism of the Lord the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus. And the letter from Titus reminds us that the Holy Spirit was "richly poured out" on us also, through the "bath of rebirth" (Titus 3:5, 6).

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TODAY'S READING

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.*

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* *Psalm 104.*

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) *or* *Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.*

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 <i>or</i> Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29 <i>or</i> Ps 104; Acts 10:34-38 <i>or</i> Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

HURTFUL SIN

Sin is not hurtful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.

—Benjamin Franklin

Rosary Dedication: January:

For the courage to turn away from sin and make a new beginning in the new year.

This Week at Our Lady of Sorrows

Sunday, Jan 10th

Rosary, 7:35 am
Mass – 8 am
K of C Breakfast after 8 am Mass
PRE Class, 9 am
Mass – 10:30 am
Spanish Mass – 5:00 pm
Bible Study Class, 6:30 pm

Mon, Jan 11th

Mass, 8:15 am

Tuesday, Jan 12th

Mass – 8:15 am
Student Mass KN- 4th grade
K of C meeting, 7:30 pm KH

Wednesday, Jan 13th

Legion of Mary, 4:30 pm LH
RCIA, 7 pm KH
Youth Group, 7 pm
Mass – 6:30 pm

Thurs., Jan 14th

Mass 8:15 am
Student Mass 5-8 grade
Bible Study Class, 9:30 -11:30 KH

Friday, Jan 15th

Communion Service, 8:15 am

Saturday, Jan 16th

Mass, 8:15 am
Confessions, 3:00 – 3:30 pm
Mass – 4:00 pm
Youth Group Dinner after Mass

Sunday, Jan 17th

K of C Rosary, 7:35 am
Mass - 8 am
PRE Class, 9 am
Mass – 10:30 am
Spanish Mass- 5 pm
Bible Study Class, 6:30 pm



Baptism of the Lord

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Baptism of the Lord; National Vocation Awareness Week
Wednesday:	St. Hilary
Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary

TURNING THE TIDE

When everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn.

—Harriet Beecher Stowe

Twenty- and Thirty-Somethings – Vincentian Opportunities for Young Adults (VOYA) will be offering two service trips in 2010 - northern Louisiana in February and Arizona in August. To find out more about these opportunities to serve the needy with other young adults, please visit www.voya.us.

Ravioli Roll -- The ladies of OLS Altar Guild are having their first cheese Ravioli Roll of 2010 on January 22 & 23. Please come join us on Friday January 22 at 2:30pm and Saturday January 23 at 8:00am. We work hard and have a lot of fun. Come see what fun you can have and meet a new friend.

***Ministers & Altar Server
Schedule for Jan 9 & 10***

	<u>4:00 PM</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>	<u>5:00 PM</u>
Communion	Mary Kissell Eileen Monroe	Deacon Henry Theresa Acklen	Deacon Don L. O'Donnell	Estaban Roque Nick Vinturella
Reader:	Bill Roth	Bonnie Williams	Mary Standridge	C. & R Roque
Altar Servers:	Alisha Younger Warren Durbin	Cody Bailey Dalton Bailey	Shelby Gilbreath Will Solomon	Sarahi Roque Javier Roque Jose Roque

***Ministers & Altar Server
Schedule for Jan 16 & 17***

	<u>4:00 PM</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>	<u>5:00 PM</u>
Communion	Nick Vinturella Gina Pannell	Deacon Henry Pat Stavrum	Deacon Don Janet DeStefano	Estaban Roque Nick Vinturella
Reader:	Rick Pannell	Brenda Plessinger	Bob Bustos	C. & R Roque
Altar Servers:	L.Carter Analisa Bower Manuel Najera	Kellie Owens Antonio Lopez	Christian Sawicki John Witcher	Juan Rivera Abigail Roque

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Barbara Allard, Grace Aspinall, Theresa Baker, Rachel Beaty, June Bennis, Rebecca Bethune, Deanna Bolgeo, Johnny Boletta, Carole Brunner, Keith Carpenter, Trudi Collier, Abrahan Delgado, Tony Drewitz, Margaret Dries, Rena Frazier, John Paul Fields, Rosa Fox, Carolyn Fracchia, Alice Fricks, Theresa Greco, Eileen Haklitch, Amanda Hall, Shelby Henricks, Peggy Hooten, Michael & Donna Jackson, Margaret Jones, Brad Kitts, Robert Kuehner, Butsy Lanigan, Anthony Lobianco, Ericka Lopez, Robert Lutts, Jerry Lynn, Sadie Claire Lynn, Louise Macdonald, Joseph Mangold, Alex Mosby, Tama Numera, Bill Nutt, Rita McKenzie, Tony Oliviera, Frances O'Toole, Jackie Perfetti, Waldyr Poilis, Nancy Pope, Dr. Cheryl Pearson, Kenneth Rainey, Bea Remmert, James & Maureen Spain, Mona Stringfellow, Fr. Bryan Timby, Keith Trenham, Henry NanNess, Helene Weiss, Lewis Wilkinson, and Angie Wright.

Names will be taken off after being on for 4 weeks. If you want to keep name on after 4 weeks, please call the office at 353-1530.

Stewardship of the Altar – Flowers can be put on the Altar in memory of a loved one; a deceased couple of the departed of an entire family or in honor of someone's special anniversary, birthdays or other happy occasions or just to honor someone you think is special. Please contact Frances Bursi at 357-5874 or 634-1168.



Monthly Bus Trip will be Sunday, January 24th after 10:30 Mass. If you are interested in going, please call Martha Hensley at 357-2459 or 268-2849, we will be going to The Road House.

Parish Pastoral Council Installation – The installation of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on Sunday, January 24, at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All elected and appointed members and all organizational designated representatives should attend this Mass in preparation for the first meeting of the term on Tuesday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Richard Gonzales was elected to a three –year term in September, but no one has heard from him since he went to visit his daughter in October; Mr. Don Gohman has volunteered to full that vacancy for the time being.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Jan 9th 4:00 pm

Angelo Bursi +

Sunday, Jan 10th 8:00 am

People of Parish

Sunday, Jan 10th 10:30 am

Ed Roberts+

Sunday, Jan 10th 5:00 pm

Charlena LoBianco +

Monday Jan. 11th 8:15 am

Fr. Patrick Heenan+

Tuesday, Jan 12th 8:15 am

Int. of Genevieve Leal

Wednesday, Jan 13th 6:30 pm

Betsy Murray+

Thursday, Jan 14th 8:15 am

Carolyn Walsh+

Friday Jan 15th 8:15 am

Communion Service

Saturday, Jan 16th 4:00 pm

Langston/Bray Families & Rachel

Renee Hooten+

Sunday, Jan 17th 8:00 am

Deceased Members of STVDP

Sunday, Jan 17th 10:30 am

People of Parish

Sunday, Jan 17th 5:00 pm

Anna Kyle+

PARISHONERS IN NURSING HOME:

**Carolyn Fracchia
St. Peter Villa, 331-A
141 North McLean
Memphis, TN 38104**

**Jackie Perfetti
St. Francis Nursing Home
5959 Park Ave, room 328
Memphis, TN 38119**

**Helene Weiss
St. Francis Nursing Home
5959 Park Ave, room 328
Memphis, TN 38119**

**Ginger Shemwell
Luther Tower
274 S. Highland apt. 106
Memphis, TN 38111**

**Dolores Bair
Ava Maria Home
St. Lukes
2805 Charles Bryan Road, 38134**

**Henry Van Ness
Trezevant Manor Assisted Living
177 North Highland, room 124
Memphis, TN 38111**

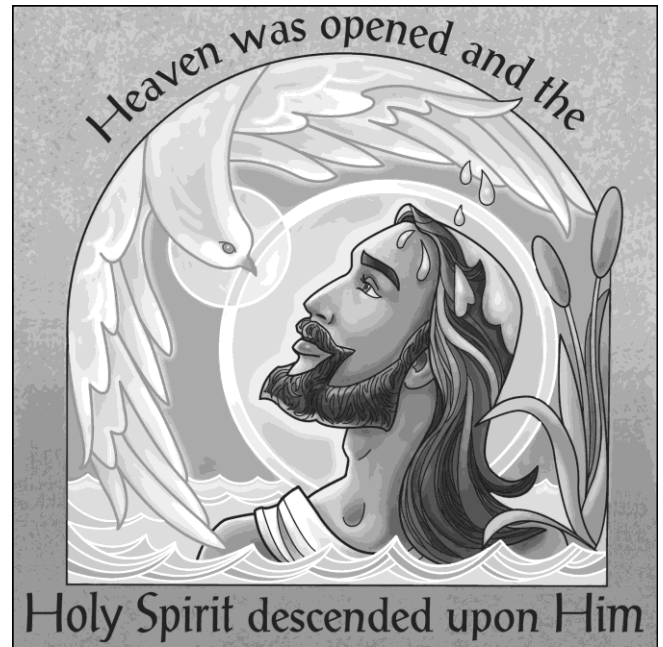
**Amanda Hall
Signature Healthcare
1150 Dovecrest Rd, room 108
Bartlett, TN 38134**

**Moira Kavanagh
Mid South Rehab Center
2380 James Rd, room 102
Memphis, TN 38127**



Financial Report
Weekend of 01/03/2010

Envelopes	\$3,920.00
Loose Checks	355.00
Loose Currency/Coin	121.10
Retirement	5.00
Initial Offering	303.00
Debt	2,131.50
Improvement	205.00
Total Collection	\$7,040.60
Church Budget for the week	- 4,387.00
Collection Diff for the week	+2,653.60
Collections Revenues Y-T-D	\$117,195.18
Church Budget Y-T-D	<u>114,062.00</u>
Collections Deficit Y-T-D	\$ 3,133.18
New Year's Day	\$ 732.50



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Resolutions for the New Year – Many people make resolutions at the beginning of each calendar year to improve their lives. Perhaps you have made such a resolution yourself. To stop smoking? To stop using foul language? To become more involved in the community? To be more generous with your time and talent? Fr. Timby has made a resolution to lose 60 pounds this year and invites us to help make him accountable to his resolution. On January 1, he weighed 263. His weight will be published in the bulletin on the first Sunday of each month. Please keep people struggling with their weight when preparing foods for potluck dinners and receptions by preparing fewer dishes that are high in carbohydrates and fats and more dishes with fresh vegetables. If you would like us to help you to be accountable to your New Year's resolution just let us know what it is and we will publish it in the bulletin so we can monitor your progress.

Bring It – To The World – Fr. Leo is a priest with a cooking ministry who encourage families to cook and eat together as a way to strengthen faith and family life. Last year he accepted a “throw-down” from chef Bobby Flay to compete at making the best fajitas—and Fr. Leo won!

The Baptism of Jesus is actually the first definitive showing forth of Jesus to the world. Fr. Leo might call it God's biggest “throw down” of all time. Because on this day, the God of us all opened up the skies and claimed Jesus as the Beloved One, the true Son of God.

But God was not only affirming Jesus. God was also personally commissioning him. Jesus didn't spend his life in an ivory tower, writing commentaries for Biblical scholars. He was sent out into the difficult terrain of human life.

Going underwater for his baptism in the Jordan was symbolic of his “total immersion” in the pain, joy, fear, and sin experienced by every creature in God's creation. Jesus stood shoulder to shoulder in the muddy water with all the sinners that day.

In so doing, Jesus held nothing back—no comfort, no shred of dignity, nothing. In less formal words: if ever anyone were being told to “bring it” in a huge way, it was Jesus being claimed and commissioned at his Baptism. I think we can safely say Jesus brought it, big time. He is the “throw-down” King of us all.

Jesus' baptism is similar to graduation day for millions of high school and college students. After “growing in grace and wisdom” for 30 years, Jesus now has his “commencement” ceremony. But we too are “commencing” our mission. God's throw-down to us is to bring it as Jesus did. Our success will be measured by how closely we come to imitate our brother, Jesus, who has gone on ahead of us.

Go rejoicing to love and serve our God!

Let's Pat Ourselves on the Back – Our Lady of Sorrows was recently honored by the United States Commerce Associations as it was named the “Best Religious Organization” in Shelby County. The criteria used was the percentage of participation by parishioners and students in outreach programs, volunteer hours, and the incorporation of prayer and worship into its evangelical activities. Although we are not a parish that seeks after recognition for what we are called to do as Catholic members of the Body of Christ, it is nice to know that someone notices that we live our faith both joyfully and take our responsibility seriously. The person who nominated OLS will not be made public. Let us rejoice in our faith and continue to turn our faith in Christ into works of good will for the community.

Diocesan Quinceañera Preparation will take place on Saturdays, January 9 and 16, 2010 from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm at St. Joseph's church, 3825 Neely Road. Candidates must have received the sacrament of confirmation. If the candidates celebrate their Quinceañera on February, March, April or May, they must take these sessions. Please register at St. Joseph's church office, 3825 Neely Road; office hours are from 8:00am to 4:00pm. For more information, please call Lupe Balderas (901) 722-4759.

Marriage Preparation in Spanish will be held on Fridays, January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 6, 2010 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Catholic Charities, 1325 Jefferson Ave., across the street from (Sacred Heart church). The sessions are especially for couples, children are not allowed. For more information, please call Lupe Balderas at (901) 722-4759.

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON (1774-1821)

January 4

Though her liturgical designation is “religious,” Elizabeth Seton, her feast-day prayer reminds us, was also “wife, mother, educator, foundress.” Born into a wealthy Episcopalian family, Elizabeth married William Seton, whose untimely death in Italy where the young family sought healing for William's tuberculosis, left her, at twenty-nine, a widow with five children. Inspired by the faith and charity of the Italian family with whom they stayed, Elizabeth embraced Catholicism despite her family's disowning her and ceasing financial support. This woman of many firsts (and several vocations!) opened the first free Catholic school, beginning the American Catholic educational system, and founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. The tuberculosis that claimed her husband took also her oldest and youngest daughters and, finally, at just forty-seven, Elizabeth herself. Another first: in 1975 she was canonized the first native-born American saint. Once asked to summarize her spirituality, she replied: “Faith lifts the staggering soul on one side, hope supports it on the other, experience says it must be, and love says let it be!”

—Peter Scagnelli, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Walk for Life – The 34th annual Walk for Life, sponsored by Tennessee Citizens Concerned for Life and Shelby County Right to Life, will be held on Sunday, January 17, at 1:30 pm, at Central High School, 306 S. Bellevue. The Walk commemorates the 37th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, legalizing abortion-on-demand. The featured speaker is David Bereit who is the National Director of 40 Days for Life. The Walk is free of charge and a family event. It is especially open to teenagers and young adults.

Our Lady of Altagracia

In 1502, on the island of Hispaniola, the Blessed Virgin Mary was honored under the title of *Nuestra Señora de la Altagracia*. Her image had been brought from Spain by Alfonso and Antonio Trejo, brothers who were among the first European settlers of the island. She is now patroness of the Dominican Republic.

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Thank You -- The OLS Parish Family wants to thank Matthew Ford, a Navy man and father of two OLS school students, for the wonderful job he did stripping and varnishing the OLS Gym floor over the Christmas vacation. There is still some work to do around the perimeter, but it will all be done soon. Rumor has it that Mr. Ford would be willing to do a complete stripping and waxing of the floors in the school during the summer if he can get some help. Any takers?

Social Action Committee – Fr. Timby seeks parishioners with a social conscience to form a committee that will offer assistance that is beyond the scope of the St. Vincent de Paul Society to the Frayser area. There are many needs beyond emergency food and assistance with rent and utilities that need to be addressed. The committee will work with Mrs. Mona Hector of the Parish Health Ministry in establishing services other than equipment exchange, i.e., dental care, health screenings, etc. It will work with Catholic Charities in making OLS a satellite location for counseling services. It will work with the school administration in the establishment of outreach programs to neighborhood children through summer camps, parents' days out, etc., and offering adult education opportunities, e.g., ESL, computer training, GED classes, etc. If you would be interested in volunteering or learning more, please call the Parish Office and leave your name and number with Carolyn Roberts.



Lent Is Just Around The Corner – The Advent-Christmas Season is upon us, but Lent Easter will be here before we know it. Plans are being made to have a lectionary-based Bible Study in homes throughout the parish Lent. It will be based on the Sunday readings of the season hosted by parishioners and conducted by parishioners. It will be available in both English and Spanish. Please pray during this holy season about your level of participation in this Bible study as a gift from you to the People of God. Will you participate? Will you open your home to a group of

10-12 each week for 7 weeks? Do you have the heart necessary to lead the sessions with the help of a guide? Can you provide refreshments one week? The group leader does not host the meetings, and the host does not provide the refreshments. Sign-up sheets will be in the vestibule of the church in a few weeks. Pray. Pray always. Pray hard!

APOSTLES OF THE GOOD NEWS

The baptism of Jesus by his cousin, John, may seem odd to us. Here are all the people lining up who have responded to John's call to repent and be baptized and who are then urged by him to go and live good lives. Here also is Jesus, quietly waiting his turn, and we wonder: Why does the Savior of the world need baptism? This, as we might expect, is not to be a simple baptism of water. As John the Baptist had foretold, the heavens open and power pours down upon Jesus from the Holy Spirit. He is revealed as the Beloved Son, the one Saint Paul later described as the one "who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good" (Titus 2:14). After he was raised from the dead and before his ascension into heaven, Jesus appeared to his *disciples*, or followers. He reminded them that John had baptized with water, but that they "in a few days . . . will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). At Pentecost the power of the Holy Spirit fills his followers. They become his *apostles*, the ones sent forth, and begin to take the Good News of the Savior out into the world—healing, forgiving, binding up wounds, teaching, and preaching—all in his name. We too are disciples, always learning more about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but we are also his apostles in the world today. In the words of the great Saint Teresa of Ávila: Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours, yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world, yours are the feet with which he walks to do good, yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

