

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2015



All you who are  
thirsty, come to  
the water!

-Isaiah 55:1

## MASS INTENTIONS

|                |                             |   |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>MON.,</b>   | <b>Jan. 12<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>First Week in Ordinary Time</b>                        |
| 7:00           | A.M.                        | Salvatore LaMicela r/o Tripoli Family                     |
| <b>TUES.,</b>  | <b>Jan. 13<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Saint Hilary, Bishop</b>                               |
| 12:00          | P.M.                        | Francesco Renda r/o Wife & Family                         |
| <b>WED.,</b>   | <b>Jan. 14<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Weekday</b>  |
| 7:00           | A.M.                        | Michael Verrico r/o Bruce Deroma                          |
| <b>THURS.,</b> | <b>Jan. 15<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Weekday</b>  |
| 12:00          | P.M.                        | John Galle r/o Enzo & Susan Ragucci                       |
| <b>FRI.,</b>   | <b>Jan. 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Weekday</b>  |
| 7:00           | A.M.                        | Madelyn Keselicka & Sister Joan Cherasaro r/o Podlasecka  |
| <b>SAT.,</b>   | <b>Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Saint Anthony, Abbot</b>                               |
| 8:00           | A.M.                        | Mario Donadio r/o Enzo & Susan Ragucci                    |
| 5:00           | P.M.                        | Frank C. Natale Sr., r/o Daughter & Son, Debbie & Frankie |
| <b>SUN.,</b>   | <b>Jan. 18<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                     |
| 8:00           | A.M.                        | Maley & Mooney Family r/o Simmons Family                  |
| 10:00          | A.M.                        | Richard & Richie Zakashefski r/o Family                   |
| 11:30          | A.M.                        | Felice D'Alessandro r/o Wife, Angelina & Daughter Rita    |
| 1:30           | P.M.                        | Comunidad Hispana   |



### IMMEDIATE OPENING - CATECHIST NEEDED!

Communion Preparation Catechist Needed on Tuesdays (during March/April ONLY) from 6:15-7PM for one student. Please contact Mrs. Zmigrodski in the Religious Education Office to volunteer or request more information.

### FIRST PENANCE

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (7:00 P.M.)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK...**In your charity please pray for the sick of our parish, the sick who remain in our intentions and those whose names are kept on our prayer list in the sacristy. Prayers are requested for the recent deceased: Emily Fabiano & Catherine D. Nodes.

## TODAY'S READING'S:

**First Reading** — Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations. (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)

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

**Second Reading** — God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38)

**Gospel** — You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11)

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 17-18

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 5:00 pm—  | Kevin Meier<br>Joe Meier                          |
| 8:00 am—  | Amelia Casale<br>Mikaehla Pineda<br>Rhiana Pineda |
| 10:00 am— | Katie Schlip<br>Mary Schilp<br>Lorenzo Troia      |
| 11:30 am— | Hayley Logue<br>Madison Logue<br>Hunter Logue     |



## FINANCIAL REPORT

Please find information about donations to our Parish during the month of December as well as our Christmas Collection and the Special Collections for the Holy Days of Immaculate Conception and the Solemnity of Mary. Special Gifts in the amount of \$10,000.00 and \$7,500.00 are also listed. These gifts have been placed in the Major Renovations Fund. The Regular Collections are noted beginning with January 4, 2015.

As always, thank you to our parishioners who continue to support Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish as true stewards, generously sharing time, talent and treasure.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2014</b> ..... | \$38,800.00 |
| ACH Banking.....                          | \$2,012.50  |
| Hispanic Mass.....                        | \$1,671.00  |
| Immaculate Conception.....                | \$2,388.00  |
| Major Renovations.....                    | \$4,729.00  |

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Christmas 2014 (to date)</b> .....               | \$46,234.00 |
| <b>Special Gifts (Major Renovations Acct)</b> ..... | \$17,500.00 |

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>January 3—4, 2015</b> ..... | \$13,044.00 |
| Hispanic Mass.....             | \$341.00    |
| Major Renovations.....         | \$2,115.00  |
| Solemnity of Mary.....         | \$4,059.00  |

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!!**

**ADULT CONFIRMATION SESSIONS are about to begin! Join this interested group who gather to deepen their understanding and commitment to Jesus and to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you are over 18 years of age and have celebrated Baptism and Communion, but not Confirmation, you are welcome to our FIRST MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM in Petra House. Please call Sister James to register or for further information (732-609-1091).**

**LAZARUS MINISTRY:**

**General Meeting on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM**

in Petra House. COME AND LEARN how just a little of your time can mean a great deal to those who have lost a loved one. With so many aspects to the ministry you are sure to find one that will enable your gifts to be used for the good of others at their time of grief! We specially invite members of the MARTHA'S TABLE MINISTRY to join us for this annual meeting. Please call Sr. James (732-609-1091) if you have any questions or speak to a member of our Ministry.

**FORMING INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES**

Catholics in the pew must make a conscious choice to know and follow Jesus before they can draw others to him. This is the work of discipleship. The book, "*Forming Intentional Disciples*" by Sherry Weddell of the Siena Institute is a must read for those in faith formation, pastoral councils, evangelization committees, RCIA teams, and all Catholics! Join us as we explore the gradual growth process to becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ.

***Facilitator: Fr. Greg Uhrig***

***Where: St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ***

***When: Tuesdays, January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17, 2015; 7***

***to 9 p.m. For more information and to register:***

***catechesis@diometuchen.org or 732 562-1990 x1310.***

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
DONATION TO OLMV***

**CHARLOTTE PARELLO  
MARK MCBRIDE  
ELIZABETH BARONE  
MR. & MRS. M. SYLVESTER  
MS. PHYLLIS M. CRISPO  
NEW JERSEY CATHOLIC  
CHINESE APOSTOLATE**

**IN MEMORY OF MARGARET SEBASTIAN**

**MR. & MRS. R. DOBIES  
RON & KIM STEPIEN  
PATTI GALLINA  
MR. & MRS. D. ZAYLE**

**IN MEMORY OF CATHERINE M. MULROONEY**

**CATHERINE MURPHY**



**A NOTE  
FROM  
FATHER  
PAT**

**My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

We celebrate the Baptism of the Lord today and become aware of how quickly we transition from the beautiful and warm season of Christmas to the reality of ordinary time. We are in the process of re-packaging the decorations and special dinnerware that is reserved for our Christmas celebrations. Here in our beautiful church we notice that both our inside and outside crèche scenes have been put away for another year, the brightly lit trees and the stately wreaths have been removed and while the church is still awash with the beautiful poinsettias, they seem to be many fewer than just a week ago. In another week, even the white banners and the elegant white altar cover will be replaced with the more sedate green to indicate the ordinary days of our liturgical year. We really don't mind the end of the excitement and the hustle and bustle of Christmas, but there is a part of us--deep in our souls--that wishes we could keep the good feelings, the hope and the joy that is also so much a part of the true spirit of Christmas.

Today's Gospel is from the first chapter of Mark. Jesus steps forward and enters into John's baptism of water, his baptism of repentance. Jesus' baptism is a sign of his identification with the people with whom he will share the Good News of salvation. He certainly is in no need of repentance, but he offers this sign as a sign of the baptism that he will offer: Baptism by water and the Spirit! As Jesus rises from the waters of the Jordan River, the Spirit of God hovers above and the voice of God proclaims His pleasure in His "beloved Son."

God is clearly present. Jesus is now ready to enter into his public ministry.

Today, as we consider the Baptism of the Lord, it would be good to take a step back and consider our own baptism. It is interesting that while we celebrate the baptism of Jesus as a major feast each year, most of us really never celebrate our own baptism. Sadly, with the exception of adults who are baptized at the Easter Vigil, most of us don't know the date when we were baptized. It is surprising that we pay so much attention to the date of our birth but so little attention to the date when we became a "child of God."

Over the next several weeks, the Sunday Gospels will concern themselves with the words and actions of Our Lord as he enters into his public ministry. Jesus will actively share his presence with the people who hear him. Today we are reminded that when we were baptized, we entered into life with the Lord--we were permanently "marked" on our souls as one for the Lord! And, like Jesus, we are called to also share His presence in the world. We are called to love God and to love one another! We might now be in the ordinary days of our lives, but there is nothing ordinary about our "baptismal call!"

In peace and prayer,

**Father Pat**

***The Flowers in front of the AMBO are giving in loving memory of Antonietta Natale by the Tripoli family.***



## **THE DEANERY SCHOOL: HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY**

Holy Savior Academy is the Catholic School for the Middlebrook Deanery. Located at 149 South Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, it serves children in Pre-K through grade 8. After school programs are available as well as a year-round pre-kindergarten program. Please review the school web-site: [holysavioracademy.com](http://holysavioracademy.com), or contact the principal, Mrs. Kristen Kiernan, at 908-822-5890 to find out additional information or to request a tour of the school.

### **OLMV PARISH CALENDAR...**

#### ***Altar Rosary Society:***

**Please plan ahead...Super Bowl Bake Sale, weekend of January 31–February 1.**

**Winter Blood Drive – January 11, 2015. 8:00am – 1:00pm.** Please mark your calendars for the date. As always, blood is in serious demand. New Jersey Blood Services is very grateful to our generous and caring donors. They have stated in previous letters of gratitude that “There is no substitute for caring people who take time to donate blood so that others may live.” For more information regarding Medical Eligibility for blood donation please call 1-800-688-0900 or visit their website at [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).

**Next Children’s Liturgy:** January 18, 2015, 10:00 A.M. Mass.

### **CAN YOU SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE?**

#### ***Retrouvaille - a lifeline for troubled marriages***

If your marriage has become unloving and uncaring, or if your relationship has grown cold and distant, if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or if you are already separated or divorced, but (both of you) wish to try again – then the RETROUVAILLE program may help you.

**RETROUVAILLE** (Rediscovery) sponsored by the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The next program begins the weekend of February 6 – February 8, 2015. All inquiries are confidential.

For further information please call Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague 732-583-4468.

***Another Night on Broadway*** will be presented on **Sunday January 25th**, 4pm. at Sacred Heart Church, 149 South Plainfield, Ave. South Plainfield, *featuring the Sacred Heart Adult Choir, Middle Choir, Children's Choir and Youth Hand-bells. Music from some of the most beloved musicals including My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music, Annie, Jekyll and Hyde, Beauty and the Beast and Aladdin will be preformed. Free will offering at the door.*



### **OLMV ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY “HELP LINE”**

**732-356-2149 option 6**

**All calls for assistance are confidential**

#### **VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM:**

**donate a running or non-running vehicle to help the less fortunate.**

**To do so please call the help line at 732-356-2149 option 6**

### **2014 Bishop’s Annual Appeal *Life-Changing Faith***

The *Maria Regina Residence* provides a suitable home for our retired priests in recognition of faithful service to God and His Church.

***Your gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal is another way to thank these men who have dedicated their lives to the people of God.***

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** begins after the 7:00 A.M. Mass on this **Friday, January 16**. Adoration ends right at 12:00 noon.

**FISH, Inc. Food Collection.** Our monthly collection of non-perishable food is the weekend of **Jan. 17 - 18**. We are grateful to all who contribute hearty foods during the winter months.

**Congratulations** to Nathan & Roseanne Johnson who won the December “Rebuild Our Church” 50/50 Raffle. their prize was \$4,170.00.

### **Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen**

Please consider supporting our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen. Clearly marked donation boxes are available in more than 30 locations throughout our four-county diocese.

For a complete list of drop-off locations, visit <http://www.ccdom.org/how-you-can-help/clothing-donation-drop-boxes>.

If you have an item that is too big to fit in a donation box, call 877-343-3651 to arrange for a free pick up at your home.

### **Bishop Bootkoski to be Honored at Catholic School Education Dinner**

The Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, will be presented the *St. John Neumann Award* at the 2015 Catholic School Education Dinner being held on April 14th at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. The award, which is named for the “Father of the Parochial School System,” is given to an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership, commitment and dedication to promoting Catholic school education in the Diocese of Metuchen.

“Bishop Bootkoski has made Catholic schools a priority in the diocese and continues to be a strong proponent,” said Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Corona, PA, KCHS, executive director of the diocesan Department of Education. “Our bishop is deserving of this honor which is also an expression of our gratitude for his ongoing support for the teachers, administrators, and most importantly the children attending our Catholic schools.”

The proceeds from the Catholic School Education Dinner benefits the Foundation for Catholic Education Scholarship Fund which provides tuition assistance for low-income families whose children attend our diocesan Catholic schools. For dinner tickets, sponsorship opportunities and information about the basket auction and raffle, go to our website at <http://tinyurl.com/2015EdDinner>, or call 732.562.2452.