

**The Baptism of the Lord
January 13, 2019**

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

— Titus 3:5

CALLED TO SERVE

For many weeks now, we have been celebrating the appearance of the divine presence in human form. As a child, he came to Mary and Joseph, was seen by the shepherds, and then by some wandering magi from the East. Today we celebrate another showing, later in time, to a group gathered at the Jordan River.

John hesitated to baptize Jesus, whom he recognized as “one mightier than I.” But he did as Jesus asked, and the “Holy Spirit descended” and heaven’s voice spoke to Jesus, “You are my beloved Son.” Jesus was beginning his public life of teaching and service. Soon he would start calling others to join him.

Peter was one of the first to be called by Jesus. In today’s second reading, he announces the heart of the message, “peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.” Peter was called, and you and I are called to spread that message and to serve God’s word.

-- © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. They may wonder if you have had any Elvis sightings lately, attended Star Trek conventions, or were Cleopatra in a previous lifetime. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John’s Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since “today there is a blessing on the water.” At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time. Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday:	Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

Pope Francis Quote

“The Church grows in silence, in prayer, and with the good works that give witness.”

Finance Corner:

Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

Weekly Offering



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

For the month of **January** offerings:

1/1: Mary, Mother of God: \$542.

1/6: 1st Collection: \$4457. Operating Expenses: \$1141.

1/13: Church in Latin Amer/Central-East Europe. 1/20: Capital Expenditures.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council: Fri., 1/25/19, at 10AM in Hall

Finance Council: Wed., 2/13/19, at 11AM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: Fri., 2/22/19, at 9:30AM in Hall

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Susan, 829-1189

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip

Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and Wednesday/Friday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tuesday of month)



✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., Jan. 12, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

Sun., Jan. 13, 8am Mass ✠ Dick Archer

Sun., Jan. 13, 9:30am Mass ✠ Holly & Sean White

Sun., Jan. 13, 11:15am Mass ✠ Nancy Trucker

(Mon., Jan. 14, No 9am Mass)

Mon., Jan. 14, 11am Memorial Service for Kathy Higgins at St. P

Tues., Jan. 15, 9am Mass

Wed., Jan. 16, 9am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo

Thurs., Jan. 17, 9am Mass ✠ Maria Saguatti

Fri., Jan. 18, 9am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer

Sat., Jan. 19, 5pm Mass for the conversion & just punishment of the perpetrators & concealers of sexual abuse

Sun., Jan. 20, 8am Mass Mary & Tony Wallace

Sun., Jan. 20, 9:30am Mass ✠ Holly & Sean White

Sun., Jan. 20, 11:15am Mass for the People

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins

Thursday: St. Anthony

Friday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayer Requests: Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Jamie Silva, Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Marilyn Vitali, Fred Pisani, Theresa Spiteri, Sara, Mary Anne Parque, Sr. Marjorie, Barbara, Fr. Logan, Dave Creeth, Jim P., William, Parson Pfsorich, Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally Tillsbury, Mary K., Columbina A., Michael Dan, Richard Macche, Kathleen, Lisa, Rosa S., Susan Bonomine, Zeidan family, Joyce Doughty, Pineda family

SELF-DISCIPLINE

The greatest of all warriors in the siege of Troy had not the preeminence because nature had given him strength and he carried the largest bow, but because self-discipline had taught him how to bend it. —Daniel Webster

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for DECEMBER 2018

On December 11, we welcomed 112 families representing 155 adults, 72 children and 37 seniors for a total of 264 people receiving nutritional support. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations and the generous support of our volunteers.

During this season of Christmas, all of us who volunteer each month to offer nutritious groceries and produce to our clients give special thanks for the incredible generosity of our parish and other donors. We also give thanks for the many examples of faith, hope and love expressed in the lives of those we serve each month. Together we witness God's love in action.

Please continue to collect paper grocery bags, especially with handles, and egg cartons. We are looking into biodegradable produce bags and recyclable grocery bags for our clients.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, January 5, from 9-10:00am repackaging -- Parish Hall Monday, January 7, from 12:30 – 2:30pm to set up the Parish Hall Tuesday, January 8, from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and assist clients. We need more volunteers on Monday and Tuesday to help with set up and help our clients and their loaded grocery carts to their vehicles. Thank YOU!

CELEBRATE 2019

SUNDAY - JANUARY 27, 2019

4-8PM AT THE UNION HOTEL

Tickets are \$45 for our CELEBRATE event on Jan 27, and are available after Sat/Sun Masses and weekday mornings at the parish office.

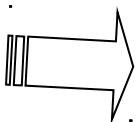
Raffle tickets will be sold at the event for some wonderful items:

>For a \$5 ticket you can win a pack of hand crafted bowls, hand crafted knives, hand crafted cutting/cheese boards, hand made local jams, a dessert a month for an entire year, fine wines, local art, photography Giants tickets, a hand made quilt, afghan, guitar, and so much more.....

>For a \$50 ticket you can win week end vacation packages, wonderful dinners for 8 or 20 or the change to own a most interesting train print with a story behind it donated by a recently retired priest of our parish.

See you at CELEBRATE at the Union Hotel, Occidental!

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a donation of \$175. Please contact a restoration committee member for your own limited print: Peg 707-867-6073 or Bob 707-875-9148.



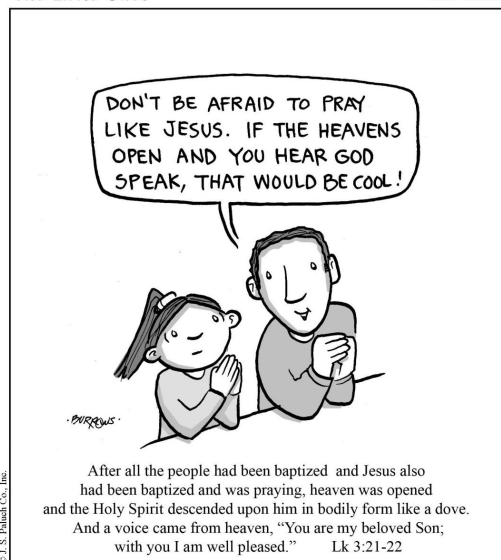
Featured Parish Bulletin Advertisers:

Adobe Creek Funeral Home
Petaluma 707-789-9000

Pleasant Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary
Sebastopol 707-823-5042

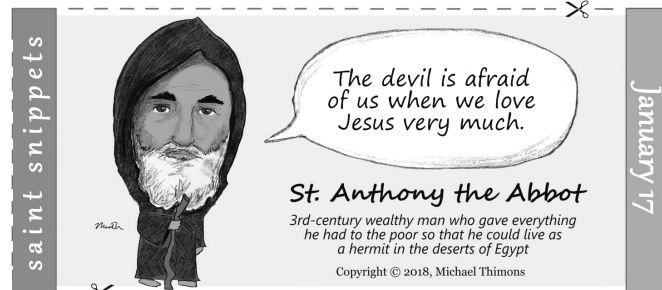
The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Endowment Challenge Goal Reached

Many thanks to all who contributed to our Parish Endowment Fund by 12/31/18. Through your generosity, we reached the goal of \$10,000, and this means that we will receive a matching amount. Many thanks also to the Anonymous Donor who gave the matching donation.



Caregiver needed for senior with dementia, about 3-4 days per week, at home on Occidental Road. For more information, call Vicky at 707-478-8607.

Parish Ombudsman Team

The Ombudsman Team may be contacted by any parishioner with a concern or question they would like to relay to the Pastor, but would rather not do so directly. Team members can meet with parishioners to discuss their concerns and then bring them to the Pastor (anonymously, if preferred by the concerned person).

The Ombudsman Team members are:

Rodney DeMartini
roddemar@comcast.net
707-799-7466

Ella Rozett
ella@interfaithmary.net
707-874-3397

Bill Merget
willmerget@comcast.net
707-292-9706

Judi Goodin
jlgoodin@hotmail.com
707-823-0705 (please leave message)