



Saint Gertrude Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

303 Franklin Ave • Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

January 13, 2019

The Baptism of the Lord

Fr. James Loew, O.S.B. *Pastor*,
(724) 568-2331 Fax: (724) 568-2030

Sr. Mercy Francis, S.M.I.,
Pastoral Minister

Katie Tylinski (724) 212-6740
Regional Director of Faith Formation
ktylinski@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. James Peterman
Assistant to the Regional Director of Faith Formation
(724) 568-2331 or (724) 845-8191.

Cardinal Maida Academy
Mrs. Patricia Visnick, *Principal*
School Phone (724) 568-3304
School Fax (724) 567-1900

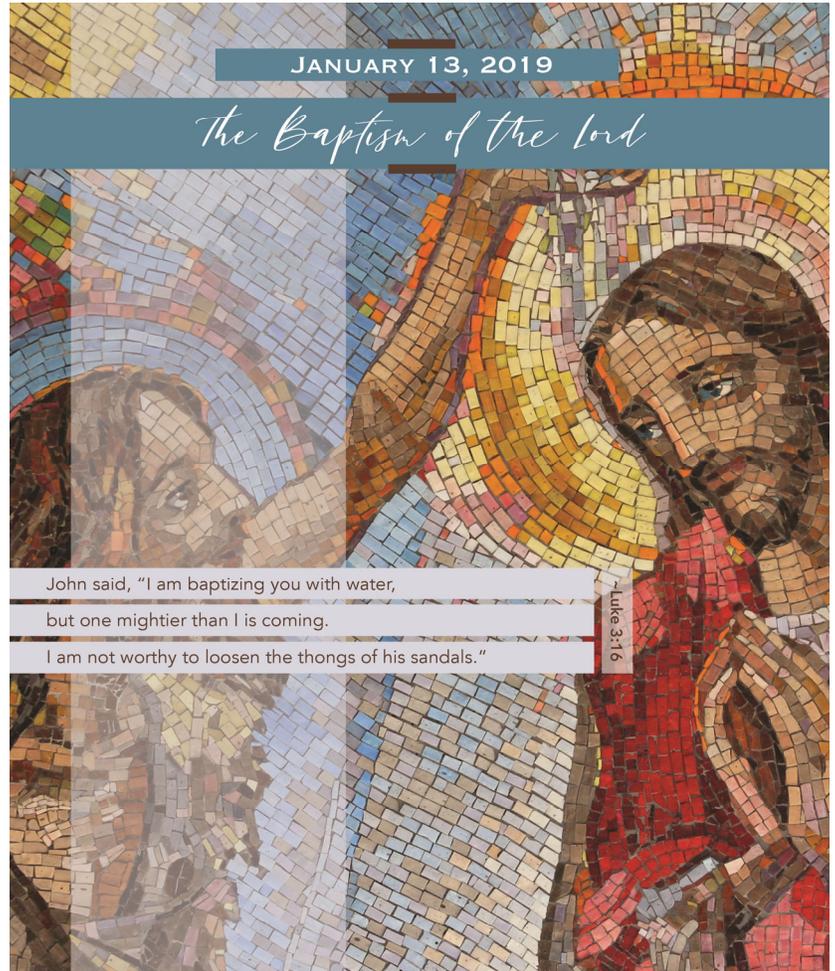
Baptisms
By appointment. Baptismal preparation is necessary. Call for classes

Marriage Arrangements must be made at least 8 months in advance. No marriage dates will be given until meeting with the priest and all preparation is ready.

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. During School Year
Holy Day Mass Schedule
Holy Day ~ 9:00 am, 6:00 pm

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00
Friday- Closed
Confessions Saturday ~ 3:15-3:45pm or by appointment



JANUARY 13, 2019

The Baptism of the Lord

John said, "I am baptizing you with water,

but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals."

~ Luke 3:16

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Pastoral Council Mission Statement

We, the partnered parish communities of St. Gertrude and Christ the King, are faith-filled Catholics who have been called by our Baptism and empowered by the Good News of Jesus Christ to be Stewardship for all. Although made up of multi-cultural faith communities we are ever united by our common faith.

We are committed to "building up the Body of Christ" through Word, Worship, Evangelization, Leadership, Service, Stewardship, and Fellowship. Dedicated to deepening our love of Christ and one another, together we strive to become a living reflection of Christ for our region.

We willingly accept our obligation to be the "Light of the World" for others and in that spirit we promise to use our resources to practice gospel justice, to heal divisive wounds among God's People and to join with all people of good will in addressing the spiritual and physical needs of all.

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

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 Trekkie 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.

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

Today's Readings

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.

Psalms -- 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).

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.

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

January 19th & 20th

4:00p.m. ~ Derek & Zachary
Hald

8:00a.m. ~ Joey & Nicholas
DiFilippio

10:30a.m. ~ Lauren Poullet
Ashley Scanga

Collection Solemnity of Mary

Envelope ~ \$1,761.00

Loose ~ \$182.00

Collection January 5th & 6th

Envelopes ~ \$4,637.00

Children's ~ \$5.00

Loose ~ \$413.01

Church Restoration ~ \$128.00

Utilities ~ \$24.00

Year-end charitable giving

As the end of the year approaches, there are ways you can make a gift to support your parish and the church and receive a tax benefit, even if you don't itemize deductions. If you are 70 ½ or older and required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA by the end of the year, present law allows use of an IRA charitable rollover without having to pay tax on the withdrawal for gifts to specific charities. For information, contact your IRA administrator or The Catholic Foundation at 724-552-2504 or jdimar-io@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Catholic Daughters of America

The CD of A has five cookbooks left from the second order of them. Please help the CD of A to raise some extra funds for a charity by buying a cookbook at a reduced price of \$12.00. Valentine's Day is around the corner; how about a cookbook for a loved one? Or buy one to tuck away and when you need a gift you don't have to go shopping you, already have it. This cookbook also would make a great gift for a college student away from home. Help us to sell all 5 cookbooks- call Michele at 724-567-3325 or Kathy Policicchio at 724-777-1220.

Cardinal Maida Academy

Cardinal Maida Academy will be selling soup following mass on January 19th and 20th. Chicken Noodle & wedding soup will be available for \$6 a quart. Thank you for your support.

Cardinal Maida Academy is hosting a pancake breakfast to kick-off Catholic schools week on January 27th from 9 to 12:00 at St Gertrude's Hall. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children 4-12 and children under 3 are free.

Natural Family Planning

Natural Family Planning CM-BBT instruction will be Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Please call at least one week prior to the instruction date to preregister. Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 724-837-

1840, ext. 1658 for additional information or to register for this or an upcoming class. For more information about Natural Family Planning and the CM-BBT method, visit www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services."

Christ the King Parish

Christ the King Parish, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, will be holding a "*King of Hearts*" **COSMIC BINGO on February 10, 2019** in the parish hall. Jackpot is \$1,000! Minimum \$200 Bingo wins! Donation is \$30/card; extra cards are \$5 each - includes Bingo supplies, buffet and beverages. Doors open at 5:30 PM; Bingo starts at 7 PM. "Minute to Win It" Games, 50/50's, Instant and DJ Russ "*Wild Man*" Walker! Tickets are limited! Call Franci at 724-845-7360 or the parish office at 724-845-8191. *Must be 21 or older.*

Angel Tree

Thank you for helping to brighten Christmas for local adults and children. With your kindness and generosity with our parish's Angel Giving Tree we have given 134 gifts to the Alle-Kiski Hope Center, Seton Hill Child Care Center, West-N-Arms and Kiski Valley Opportunities Unlimited. All of you are true "angels". Thank you!

Calendar of Faith Formation Session for December 2018/Spring

2019 (6:00-7:30 PM)

December 30th—No class

January 13th & 20th

February 10th & 17th

March 10th—Mardi Gras Pancake breakfast before Faith Formation (includes 6th-12th) & 17th

April 7th & April 14th—Seder Dinner (includes 6th-12th)

*This does not include event dates

**Occurs on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays except for April

You were e-mailed a calendar with these upcoming dates for the next semester.

Be sure to check KDKATV for snow cancellations.

FUSED 4 ~ December & January LIFETEEN/EDGE CALENDAR

(EDGE: Grades 6th-8th/LIFETEEN: grades 9th-12th ~ St. James Parish Underground/Upper Rooms ~ 6:00-7:30 PM)

December: ~ 30th—NO SESSION

January: 6th—No Session ~ 13—Session ~ 20—Session ~ 27—Youth

Mass

You were e-mailed a calendar with upcoming dates for the next semester.

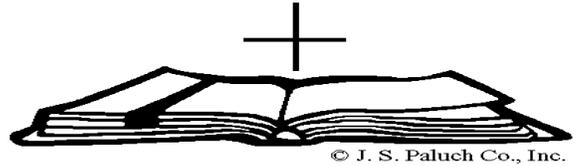
6th-12th graders: Please make sure that you are subscribing to our specific "LIFETEEN" or "EDGE" and "LIFETEEN AND EDGE" classes on remind.com. Not sure? Text Katie Tylinski at 724-212-6740 to find out. This is how we will let you know about snow cancellations. Be sure to check KDKATV for snow cancellations as well.

Update: You can apply for Francis Funds for BOTH the Winter Retreat & NCYC. Francis Fund Application Deadlines: Winter Retreat 1/1 & NCYC-6/15. If applying for both you'll need to wait until June to apply for the NCYC Francis Funds. Winter Retreat \$30 & NCYC \$100 deposit due 1/20.

WINTER RETREAT

All youth of the Diocese in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for the Diocesan High School Winter Retreat, *Fully Known*, sponsored by the Diocese of Greensburg. Come pray, share, learn, and take time to be with God. Join us March 1-3, 2019 at Laurelville Retreat Center in Mt. Pleasant. Register now at the FUSED 4 Youth Ministry Office. The cost of the retreat is \$120. You may apply for Francis Funds in the amount of \$60. For more info about Francis Funds visit: <https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/formation/Pages/franciscfund.aspx>. Applications must be submitted by **January 1, 2019**. Even if you are attending NCYC please apply for Francis Funds for the retreat. After \$60 from Francis Funds and \$30 from FUSED 4 Youth Ministry subsidization; your cost for the retreat is \$30. The cost includes all lodging, meals and supplies for the weekend. If you do not apply for Francis Funds you will be responsible for paying \$90. In order to register for the retreat, you must turn in your check payable to St. James. Please register for the retreat by Sunday, January 20th. No refunds.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, January 12, Vigil The Baptism of the Lord
4:00p.m. †Rudolph & Lucy Raschiatore

Sunday, January 13, The Baptism of the Lord
8:00a.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish
10:30a.m. †Mitchell and Caroline Abraham

Monday, January 14, Weekday
8:30a.m. †James & Helen Loew

Tuesday, January 15, Weekday
8:30a.m. Mass At Christ the King

Wednesday, January 16, Weekday
9:00a.m. †Frank & Kathy Bruno

Thursday, January 17, St. Anthony
8:30a.m. †Mass at Christ the King

Friday, January 18, Weekday
8:30a.m. †Fr. Arnel Esterella

Saturday, January 19, Weekday
8:30a.m. †Mass at Christ the King

**Saturday, January 19, Vigil, Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time**
4:00p.m. †Stephen & Emma Dudzik

Sunday January 20, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00a.m. †Virginia Loperfito
10:30a.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish