

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

- 8:00AM Taciana Agbayani (*Joaquim & Melanie Bravo*)
- 9:30AM Victoria Witt (*Basia & Krystyna*)
- 11:00AM Lucy DeCrescenzo (*Louis DeCrescenzo*)
- 12:30PM Robert Brady (*Patricia McGinley*)
- Anthony Busa (*Haddock Family*)
- For the intentions of Howard Bush (*Robert Heedles*)
- Giovanni Escobar-Londono (*Loving Mother*)
- Adriana Laccona (*Joseph Giannetti*)
- Pasquale Novara (*Julie Dimler*)
- Joseph Ra (*Maria & Paul Brigandi*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

### MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022

- 9:00AM Keith Dasaro (*Anthony & Rosemary Matteo*)

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022

- 9:00AM Louis Leist (*Leist-Murphy Family*)

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022

- 9:00AM Richard E. Dimler (*Julie Dimler*)

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022 *St. Hilary*

- 9:00AM Peter Colantuoni (*Loving Wife & Daughter*)

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022

- 9:00AM Christine Piotrowski (*Loving Family*)

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022

- 9:00AM Charles Monastero (*Vita Monastero*)
- 5:00PM Karl R. Albrecht (*Josephine Messino*)
- Paul Caruso (*Mistretta Family*)
- Carmela Foti (*Phyllis Digristina*)
- Lillian Hopkins (*M/M John Calcagnile*)
- Laura Kuclinca (*Eileen Marzo*)
- Patricia Lopacki (*Patricia & Joseph Kelly*)
- Pasquale J. Novara (*Vita & Fred*)
- Jaime Martinez Ocampo (*Steven Giusto*)
- Henry Pellegrino (*Rosemarie Salas*)
- Joseph Ra (*Theresa & Ken Johnson*)

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022

- 8:00AM Fr. Wladyslaw Ciaglo (*Teresa & Alicja*)
- 9:30AM Michal Bodziony (*Loving Family*)
- 11:00AM Vittorio Auber (*Loving Family*)
- 12:30PM Karl R. Albrecht (*Annette & Marty Gould*)
- Daniel Bisono (*Asencio Family*)
- Raymond D'Auria (*Loving Mother-in-law Ann*)
- Mary Faello (*Rachele Sannino*)
- Paul Vincent Fillippazzo (*Rachele Sannino*)
- Carmela Foti (*Juana Erice*)
- In Thanksgiving to St. Pio (*Margaret Butler*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

 **THE ALTAR BREAD & WINE** for this week are donated in memory of **Pasquale J. Novara**, requested by his beloved friends.

 **Giuseppa Burriesci—Vito Giovanniello**  
**Theresa Goldkranz—Sr. Patricia Morrison**

 For the month of January, 2022, **St. Helen's Food Pantry** has once again been selected to receive a **\$1 donation** for every **\$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet** (with the red circle sticker as shown) sold at the store located at 92-10 Atlantic Avenue, Ozone Park, NY. Your participation in this endeavor will greatly help those in need in our community!

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Intentions for the next monthly Purgatorial Society Mass will be offered **Friday, January 28, 2022.**

 Amado Araneta, Joe Barreca, Anthony Barresi, Stella Barresi, Mary Battista, Barbara Bitetto, Mike Cabral, Connie Camelliri, Daniel Campion, Sally Capozziello, Kathleen Cassata, Shang Cheng, Mary Chiarello, Zena Cipolla, Lucille Claps, Rose Curti, Patrick Delaney, Domenica DeVito, Toni Ann Diaz, Virginia DiGangi, Mary Divers, Colin F., Jennie Federici, Clementine Gagliardi, Dennis Giammalvo, Tony Giampietro, John Joseph Gleeson, John Pierce Gleeson, Patty Grimes, Rosemarie & Joseph Guagenti, Frank Guerra, Gertrude Gwardjak, Christine Healy, Maria Hernandez, Henry J. Hinton, Steven Igllo, Marilyn Krajcik, Keri & Baby Tristan, Elaine Lazzeri, Susan Leone, James Leung, Patricia Lipari, William J. Litt, Tom Mercatante, Barbara Miller, John Myers, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Mary Palermo, Frank Palmenteri, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Doris Pecchillo, Nino Pedone, Amelia Pepe, Rosemarie Perl, Josephine Profera, Vivian Puglissi, Joseph Questore, Recupero Family, Joseph Russo, John Secreti, Remington Stafford, Rubie Anna Torall, Lynn Torres, Chrissie Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters.

 Don't forget to drop your 50-50 envelope in the collection basket! **Please, only \$1 per envelope! Good Luck To All!**



**Below are the responses from question #4, from those who participated in the Diocesan Synod here at Saint Helen on December 1<sup>st</sup>:**

**Results from question #4:**

**How can the Church and its people be more inviting to those not celebrating the Mass and Holy Eucharist with us?**

- Overwhelmingly, the concern that was expressed was that the children and young people of the parish are not attending Mass. We have over one thousand children of school age. Are they visible at our Masses? Not many!
- The Church needs to engage the youth.
  - a. Bring back the children's Mass. It was widely agreed that family involvement in necessary. Families were in attendance when the children were involved during the Mass. Each week a different family was chosen to bring up the banner and gifts. Youth of all ages were greeters and the older were ushers. Seventh and Eighth graders were readers. They practiced and were taught the importance of reading the Word. The children were invited up to the altar to listen to homilies geared to their ages. The children's choir sung at this Mass. Families looked forward to going to Church together as a family.
  - b. A Mass geared towards young adults and teens is needed. Previously, we had this Mass on Sunday at 5:00PM.
  - c. Families lit the Advent candles on the Advent wreath on the Altar. This custom should be brought back.
  - d. Parishes should request Mass attendance for CYO teams. Also, priests should visit at CYO games. Get to know the children and adults. Interaction brings a positive message.
- Again, it was stressed to advertise the streaming of the Mass on Face Book live. Increase social media presence. This will invite people of all faiths.
- A camera is needed in the Church permanently. God Bless Jim Gillespie for bringing Jesus into our homes!!!! He can't be everywhere.
- Liturgical instruction on the Mass should occur periodically at the pulpit.

**Father Colamaria's Comments:**

I found the responses to this question most provocative. Yes, it's true, the children of the parish have recently not been in attendance at Mass. But to whom should such a statement be addressed? Prior to Covid, one parishioner noted that the parish was "experiencing a renaissance". Yes, Mass attendance was at an all-time high, the children's choir maxed at 50 members, and altar servers were at an all-time high in membership. Covid has put a monkey wrench into much of what used to take place here. I was tempted in the early autumn to write letters to our parents, reminding them that Mass is not an option, and to reinstate the signing of Bulletins. Yet, in the midst of my writing of that letter, major outbreaks of Covid were occurring in local public schools (causing quarantine of entire grades)! Could you imagine if I had sent that letter at that time? How tone deaf such a letter would have sounded! That being said, I think children readers, and even children ushers are a great idea! As for families lighting the Advent wreath, I have had personal experience of this, and it ended in disaster; i.e. igniting the entire wreath on fire (no thanks).

As for the comment about bringing children into the Sanctuary for a homily; last time I saw this was the 1970's and early 80's. If you haven't come to realize it, I'm not a big fan of such. I believe when liturgy is celebrated sacredly and solemnly, it brings young people to a greater understanding of what is truly taking place; and prior to Covid we were doing so, and the numbers of younger families was increasing. I believe guitars, felt banners, and children sitting on the floor during homilies is a dated expression of worship that, in essence, did not end in results! Ask any seminarian what drew him to priesthood, it wasn't a guitar Mass or a felt banner! The same is true with those who convert or revert back to the faith! We have much work to do in the upcoming future!

## SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### Reading I

*Is 42:1-4, 6-7*

Thus says the LORD: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

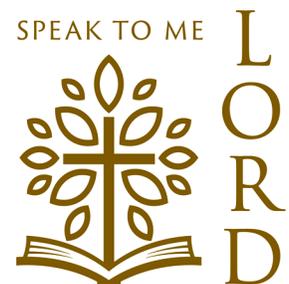
### Responsorial Psalm

***R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.***

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,  
     give to the LORD glory and praise,  
 Give to the LORD the glory due his name;  
     adore the LORD in holy attire. **R.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,  
     the LORD, over vast waters.  
 The voice of the LORD is mighty;  
     the voice of the LORD is majestic. **R.**

The God of glory thunders,  
     and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
 The LORD is enthroned above the flood;  
     the LORD is enthroned as king forever. **R.**

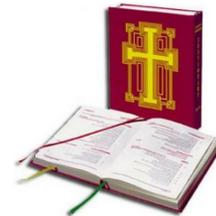


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## SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### **Reading II**    *Acts 10:34-38*

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: “In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached; how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”



### **Alleluia**

**R.**    *Alleluia, alleluia.*

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:  
This is my beloved Son, listen to him.    **R.**

### **Gospel**    *Lk 3:15-16, 21-22*

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

## St. Helen Religious Education Program Christian of the Month — November 2021



These students regularly attended and actively participated in religion classes seeking knowledge of God. In addition, these students gave witness by treating others with the kindness and compassion of Jesus.

### Kindergarten

Sandro Norfo

### First Grade

Dominic Cirabisi  
Gia Cucchiara  
Christian Faron  
Julianna Keogh  
Sophia Lawrance

### Second Grade

Alexandra Carrion  
Gabriel Fortunato  
Giuliana Iavarone  
Alessandra Macaluso  
Charles Snider

### Third Grade

Nicoletta Corozzo  
Sofia Salazar  
Jacob Zych

### Fourth Grade

Connor Schreiner  
Robert Pavis  
P. J. Sassone  
Elias Rodriguez

### Fifth Grade

Joseph Albright  
Gabiella Cirabisi  
Ariana Gomez  
Lily Ann Russo

### Sixth Grade

Angelina Caputo  
Thomas Peppas  
Madison Sassone

### Seventh Grade

Enrique Rodriguez  
Nicholas Scarpa  
Antonio Tocco

The following students from St. Helen Parish have merited recognition for commendable academic performance during the first quarter of the current school year at St. Francis Preparatory School. These students have received an average of 90% or above to achieve Honor Roll status. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Gianna Abatemarco  
Alexis Agliodoro  
Rosanna Amato  
Domenico Ameruoso  
Kayla Backa  
Sofia Borg  
William Dagostino  
James Defillippo  
Brianna Ferrerosa

Dina Fontana  
Maria Fontana  
Angelina Gradzki  
Isabella Guido  
Hayden Marin  
Enza Perna  
Gabrielle Queijo  
John Rodriguez  
Michelle Rojas

Alyssa Rufrano  
Michael Rufrano  
Morgan Russo  
Marco Sabbatino  
Paul Shala  
Alexa Siavichay  
Julianna Troia  
Julia Vicari



**Parents seeking Baptism for their children** *who live within the territory of St. Helen Parish* are asked to register as members of the parish before requesting an initial interview for Baptism. Registration is easily done at the parish office anytime during business hours.

Parents seeking Baptism for their children *who live outside the territory of St. Helen Parish* are asked to obtain a letter from the parish in which they live authorizing the Baptism to take place at St. Helen.

Initial meetings with parents seeking Baptism for their children **who have already been born** will normally take place **on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00–9:00PM and on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10:00AM–12:00PM.**

### Upcoming Mornings of Preparation (Required Before a Baptism)

(All begin at the 11:00AM Mass and continue in the Msgr. McGinness Room): **January 23 & February 13 & 27**

### Upcoming Schedule for Baptisms (All begin at 2:00PM): January 23 & February 13 & 27

Dates for the Morning of Preparation and Baptisms are the same for the convenience of the Celebrant. It is **strongly suggested** you plan on taking the Baptism class **prior** to the date of your child's baptism.

**Please call 718-738-1616 for more information and/or to schedule an appointment.**