

January 9, 2022 The Baptism of the Lord

Stewardship is a Way of Life. Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for December 26, 2021	\$2,105.00
Votive Donations:	\$41.00
Christmas Donations:	\$1,695.00
Christmas Flower Donation:	\$20.00

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
The Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022

"The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their heart whether John might be the Christ... After all the people were baptized and Jesus 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.'"

The scene is familiar, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, and the affirming voice of the Father. John hesitated, but Jesus insisted, showing His total identity with the people He came to save. Our baptism initiated our Christian journey, as we accepted our mission sharing with Jesus as priest, prophet, and king. As we live our baptismal commission, can we hear the same affirming voice of the Father approving our lives and witness to Jesus Christ? Yes, we are beloved, is He pleased, or can we do more?

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Isaiah tells of the Lord's Servant, who will be inconspicuous, but will not rest until justice is established. The Lord then tells his servant that he was formed to be "a light for the nations."

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Peter speaks to a group of pagans for the first time. He explains to them that any person who follows God's will is acceptable to God, regardless of nationality.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

John the Baptist had claimed one would come far more powerful than himself, one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit rather than water. When Jesus came to John and was baptized, the Spirit descended on him and a voice said, "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests."



LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the
Intentions  for the
Week



And Weekly Readings

Saturday, January 8: Christmas Weekday

1 John 5:14-21; Psalm 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b;
John 3:22-30

5:30 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, January 9: The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (21C); Psalm 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

9:15 AM Jose Luis Garcia

1:00 PM People of the Parish

Monday, January 10

1 Samuel 1:1-8; Psalm 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19;
Mark 1:14-20

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, January 11

1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 12

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Psalm 40:2 & 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 13

1 Samuel 4:1-11; Psalm 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;
Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 14

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Psalm 89:16-17, 18-19;
Mark 2:1-12

Saturday, January 15

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Psalm 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;
Mark 2:13-17

5:30 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, January 16: Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10;
1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11

9:15 AM People of the Parish

1:00 PM People of the Parish

YOUTH GROUP MEETS SUNDAY NIGHT!

St. Jude's Youth Group will meet Sunday, January 9, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Social Hall.

A HUGE WOMEN'S GUILD THANK YOU!

Our 2021 COOKIE WALK was a success. The St. Jude Women's Guild would like to thank everyone who helped in any way towards the Cookie Walk. Everyone who helped with baking cookies, candy, giving white elephant items and the thoughtful donations helped the Guild. We hope to continue this event next year. Starting at 8:30 we quickly sold out with the prepackaged cookies by 10:30. Our profit was over \$1,800.00 which will go towards projects for our Parish and needy causes. Thank you again and Happy New Year!

Please continue to pray for the repose of the souls of:

Genevieve Gregos	John T. Kromel
Steven Graham	William Nash
Nicholas Spak	Roseanne Spak
Mary Ann Truitt	Mary Tonge

WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS DINNER:

The Women's Guild Christmas dinner at the Wilson House is rescheduled to **Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex with the cost of the meal and the menu.

Year-End Tax Statements

Please contact the Parish Office at 717-436-6722 or email the rectory at rectory@stjudemifflintown.org if you are in need of a year-end tax statement. In addition, the Office of Stewardship and Development at the Diocese will be happy to send, via email, a donor's record of giving if it is requested. The Diocese will no longer automatically send statements and their preference is to send statements electronically via email if requested. If you need a statement, please call the Office of Stewardship and Development at (717) 657-4804 ext. 245.

ATTENTION YOUTH AND ADULTS: JOIN THE MARCH FOR LIFE ON JANUARY 21, 2022:

Please join us and thousands of other pro-life youth and adults for a one-day trip to the annual March for Life on the National Mall in Washington D.C., Friday, January 21, 2022. Yoder Tourways will load passengers at both Sacred Heart and St. Jude parishes early in the morning of the March. On the way, we will make an interesting side trip to one of three possible locations. We are in the beginning stages of planning for this event, so more details will follow in coming bulletins.

If you are Interested, youth and adults can register by signing up on the sheet available in the social hall or by emailing Karen Thome, kkthome@centurylink.net, as soon as possible so that we can finalize plans.

Once we know approximately how many will attend, we can estimate the cost/person. We try to keep it as low as possible by asking for donations. If you cannot attend but

would like to sponsor a youth or make a donation to sponsor the trip, we would be most grateful.

More details to come, but, in the meantime, **please sign-up on the sheet in the social hall as soon as possible.**

Any questions or to make a donation contact Karen Thome, kkthome@centurylink.net, 717-348-8051.



Saturday, January 8, 2022 5:30 PM

Lector: C. Fitzgerald
Cantor: M. Kerchusky
Altar Server: J. Zarnowski
Usher: A. Kerchusky

Sunday, January 9, 2022 9:15AM

Lector: T. Kromel
Cantor: Y. Melara
Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard
Ushers: D. Ames, P. Ames

Saturday, January 15, 2022 5:30 PM

Lector: M. Tonge
Cantor: M. Kerchusky
Altar Server: J. Zarnowski
Usher: T. Kerchusky

Sunday, January 16, 2022 9:15 AM

Lector: T. Ober
Cantor: R. Perez
Altar Servers: C. Schall, D. Miller
Ushers: S. Arnold, L. Bastian

ST. JUDE'S COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE!

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a blood drive on **Thursday, January 27, 2022 from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.** in the multi-purpose room of the Church.

UPDATED COVID PREVENTION PRACTICES

With the current surge in COVID-19 positive cases and hospitalizations in our area, the following practices are suggested by the Diocese of Harrisburg for parishes as we enter the Christmas season and the month of January.

- Parishioners are encouraged to wear masks.
- All liturgical ministers (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters and Ushers should wear masks, except when proclaiming the Scripture readings and when receiving Holy Communion.
- Choirs and groups of singers should consider wearing masks when singing.
- The communal invitation to the Sign of Peace is suspended at this time.
- Sanitization of pews and other common spaces is strongly encouraged after large gatherings.

- Ventilation of spaces with fresh air is encouraged whenever possible.

We are further tweaking our Coronavirus prevention measures by having priests sanitize their hands, but only if they inadvertently touch someone's tongue when giving out communion. We hope this measure further advances the health and wellbeing of our congregation members. **Thank you for your patience during these difficult times. With much prayer and mutual charity, we will persevere and eventually prevail, but only through God's grace.**



FAITH MATTERS

With Fr. Peter Rettig

“Where did you go to Christ-mas?...”

Fr. Peter, don't you mean, "Where did you celebrate Christmas?" No, I meant to ask, "Where did you go to Christmas?..." Breaking it down, "Christ-mas" literally means Christ's Mass. I find it interesting that some people who are indifferent or hostile towards the faith still embrace the word Christmas. Do they know that they're unintentionally acknowledging Christ's birth? Moreover, they're embracing the Catholic Faith because they say the word "Mass." Do you know anybody who doesn't consider themselves Christian but still reaps all the benefits of Christmas? Personally, I'm conflicted. On one hand I see it as an abuse that many of my non-Christian family members reap the benefits of Christmas (presents, cookies and decorations). I believe they're confusing the means with the ends. They focus all their energy on the *how* of Christmas, that is, how they celebrate Christmas, which decorations to use, and which set of grandparents they're going to visit. Many have lost touch with the *what* of Christmas – Christ's birth. Christ is the reason for the season! One episode of Saturday Night Live I remember the host saying, "Christmas is all about friends and giving!" Actually, it's about Jesus Christ! Spending time with friends and giving presents is how we celebrate Christ's birth, but we must never confuse the means with the ends, the *how* with the *what*. On the other hand, I'm thankful that at least my non-Christian family members are open to saying the phrase "Merry Christmas." This gives me comfort that they may someday come back to the Faith simply by embracing the phrase. On a more hostile level, some people try to ignore the Christian element of Christmas altogether by instead saying, "Happy Holidays." Guess what, there's no escape; that's a Catholic phrase too! "Holidays" stems from "Holy-Days," which were Catholic days of obligatory worship all throughout European history. Let's face it, Christ is the winner in every situation, even when it doesn't seem like people are giving him enough credit. Do we have any family members that celebrate Christmas while ignoring its source? If so, consider

reminding them that the word Christmas is actually a profession of faith. May the Infant Jesus watch over you this Christmas season.

Fr. Peter Rettig

Happy New Year to all. As we enter the new year we count our blessings. At the present time we are helping three families who were displaced in the fire at Kish Apartment Fire and the recent flooding. We have been working with other churches to help with needed items that were lost, as well as helping with food, gas cards and other donations to help defray the costs of these families until they can be back into their homes. We thank those who have already sent help. You can place the donations in the collection basket or mail to us at 3 W Monument Square, Suite 203, Lewistown in the words of St Vincent . . . *Extend mercy toward others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping .*



We have been presented the opportunity to hold a **NET Ministries** day retreat for youth on **Sunday, February 27** at the St. Jude Parish Hall in Mifflintown. **ALL middle schoolers and high schoolers from St. Jude and Sacred Heart Parishes are invited!** The NET retreat challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church. The retreat is led by fully qualified college-aged volunteers. They will provide a day of spiritual nourishment for our youth. This year's retreat theme will be **One Church (The Catholic Church)**. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule of the church. Please mark your calendars. Look for additional information in upcoming bulletins.



SCHOOL NEWS

SHS Gala, **RAISE THE STAKES**, will be held on Saturday, **Feb. 5, 2022** at the **Lewistown Country Club**. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office; prices are **\$60** per person through Jan. 28th and **\$70** Jan. 29th thru Feb. 3st.

