

Baptism of the Lord

◆ January 11, 2015 ◆

A lay-minister acquaintance of mine keeps a framed copy of his baptismal certificate on his office wall. He says, “My diplomas show that I’ve learned a lot of things about theology, liturgy, and Scripture. That’s great, but my experience of Christ and my call to ministry come out of my baptism, and I need to remind myself of that every now and then.”

I was intrigued by his words. Baptism is the initiation into a community whose sole purpose is to worship and serve the Lord using the gifts God has given us. Most of us were baptized as infants, and we rarely take the time to reflect on what we’re called to do by God.

In baptism, we’re given the grace to live a transformed life following the commandments to love God and neighbor. How many times have we

fallen short and needed to reconcile with God?

Mark’s story of Jesus’ baptism is a scant four verses. Jesus is baptized and hears God tell him, “You are my beloved Son.” After that, Jesus prevails against temptation and sets about his own mission without looking back. Our baptism gives us the grace to do the same, whatever mission we are called to.

Two good spiritual exercises for this week would be to ask God whether we’re doing what he has asked of us and to reflect on the ways in which our lives have brought us closer to God or taken us away from him.

Then it’s up to us to continue to serve God in the grace of baptism and in the company of the people who share this faith with us.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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Today’s Readings

Is 42:1–4, 6–7
or
Is 55:1–11

Acts 10:34–38
or
1 Jn 5:1–9

Mk 1:7–11



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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BAPTISM OF THE LORD - JANUARY 11, 2015

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	ENID & RAY KEITH	THU	No MASS
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	No MASS
	9:00 AM	WILLIAM & ELAINE BORZILLO	SAT	5:15 PM CHARLES WAGNER – 4 TH ANNIVERSARY
	11:00 AM	NICOLINA KENNEDY – 1 ST ANNIVERSARY	SUN	7:30 AM HENRY MAMMARELLA
MON		No MASS		9:00 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
TUE		No MASS		11:00 AM AGNES BERNET
WED		No MASS		

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Cynthia Schickram
 And also In Memory of Frank Janiszewski*

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Lukes 5:15pm Costanzo 7:30am Kasperowicz 9:00am Carvalho 11:00am DeFalco

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Shirley Wheeler	Joe Bailey	John and NicholasDinnocenti, Nicholas Donnelly
SUN	7:30am	Toni Kaucher	Jim Kaucher	Lilia and Simon Crew, Aiden Reber
	9:00am	Brian Hannon	Josephine Hohl	Kelly Eichenberg, Marissa and Steven Tepper
	11:00am	Steve Lukes	Susan DiGuglielmo	Adam and Carlina Davis, Gina Galm

The second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

The March for Life in Washington, D.C., began as a small demonstration on January 22, 1974, the first anniversary of the now-infamous Supreme Court decisions in Roe v Wade and Doe v Bolton and rapidly grew to be the largest pro-life event in the world. The peaceful demonstration that has followed on this somber anniversary every year since is a witness to the truth concerning the greatest human rights violation of our time, legalized abortion on demand. Our parish Church of the Immaculate Conception is sponsoring a coach bus to the March for Life scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2015. The bus will depart the ICC parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and return at approximately 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for youth. For additional information or to reserve a seat, please contact Mrs. Angela Peterson at 610-582-6993 or by e-mail at arpeterson@windsteam.net. We pray that as a nation and as a people we might always affirm the sanctity of human life from the first moment of conception until natural death.
 Join us for the 2015 March for Life!

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:
 Joe & Betty Cuccaro, Cecelia Potts, Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John Kakas, William Kuehler, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Andrew Martin, Alice Smyk, Barbara Pease, Yolanda Marino, Robert Mariani, Marie Snyder, Irene Wade, Patricia Reigel, Patricia Winkel, Ann Kretzman, Ann Schlott, Patricia McDermott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Linda D'Alessandro, Mary Pender, Geri Barth, Jo Ann Hofer, Paul Milshaw, Roger Villano, John Glacken Sr., Jacob Lovera, Ronald Readinger, Linda Ritchie, Robert Muldowney, Duane Madrzykowski and Tom Hafer

Please pray for the recently departed: Loretta Kozlowski

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon 01/12 7:30pm RCIA
Sat 01/17 4-5pm Confessions

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass Monday, January 12, 2015 through Friday, January 16, 2015. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK STARTS JANUARY 25TH

Love. Learning. Leadership.

Catholic Schools – Faith, Academics, Service

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 25

9am Opening Mass (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

10am-12pm Science Fair Setup/Open House for Science Fair

2pm Candy Bar BINGO (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

(Bring candy bar for admission-ICC Social Hall)

Monday, January 26

Science Fair judging throughout the day (Gym)

1:30pm 4th Grade Wax Museum (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

Tuesday, January 27

Brain Show Mania (12:00 grades 4-8) / (1:30 grades K-3)

6:15pm - Science Fair Awards

6:30pm Brain Show Mania (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

Wednesday, January 28

Make your own Sundaes at Lunch

Thursday, January 29

Sports dress down day and Prayer Partner activities

Teacher Luncheon (11:30-1:00 Homeroom Moms cover lunch)

Afternoon at the Movies

Friday, January 30

9am Mass (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

Special Person Reception in the Social Hall

1:15 – Early Dismissal

Please mark your calendars for all of the fun events we have scheduled for the week. We hope you can join us!

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For registration information, please contact Shannon Villa at 610-404-8645 or shannon.villa@icaknights.org.

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/15 and 1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/15.

TRANSFER GRANTS: Any public, private, or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy, grades 1 through 7, will receive a Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant of \$1,500 over two school years (\$1,000 for the first year; \$500 for the second). Call Shannon Villa at 610-404-8645.

ICA TUITION REMINDER – Semi-annual and cash payments are now being accepted. Please remember to deduct the re-registration fee of \$50 that was collected in the spring. If you are unsure of the amount or have any questions, email Sue at susan.guadagno@icaknights.org.

Given that the incidence of influenza is becoming prevalent, the Sign of Peace offered during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be temporarily suspended. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

Save the Date:

**Berks Catholic H.S. Open House/Registration
Sunday, January 25, 2014 2pm-4pm**

2:00 to 2:30 – Welcome address in the Franco Post Auditorium

2:30 to 4:00 – Activity Fair, open registration for new students, tours, meet and greet with Faculty and Administration

Please join us and feel the energy in our community!

For info, call Nicole Smith, Director of Admissions, at 610-374-8361, x244 or nsmith@berkscatholic.org. Financial Aid and Transfer Grants are available.

Bereavement Support Group will meet on January 19th, 7-8:30pm in the Church (use side door, first office on right). For information call Pat 610-775-1892 or Toni 610-404-1389.

SCRIP is a great church fundraiser and you can benefit too! Basically you are buying gift certificates. There is no additional cost and a percentage of what we spend at specific stores comes back to our church and to you in the form of Tuition Credit for School and CCD. Stop by the SCRIP table after Mass and check it out. SCRIP is also available at our Parish Office. SCRIP that is currently available: Boscovs, Kohls, Redners, Applebees, Giant, Red Lobster/Olive Garden/Bahama Breeze/LongHorn Steakhouse/Season 52 and Flynn & O'Hara.

Attention ADULT musicians and singers: At this time we are looking for adult musicians and singers to assist with the music ministry at the 9am Sunday Mass. We are looking for musicians who are willing to be musically flexible and open to the Holy Spirit. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Mr. Kasperowicz at 215-499-1641.

Attention YOUTH singers and musicians: At this time the youth choir will be accepting new members in grades three and up. There will be a special practice and meeting for new members interested in joining the choir and their parents on Thursday, January 15th, 4-5pm in the choir loft. If you are interested please call Mr. Kasperowicz at 215-499-1641.

World Meeting of Families-Philadelphia 2015 — **Registration Open!** Mark your family calendar for the 8th World Meeting of Families! Philadelphia is proud to welcome families from around the world to this event on September 22-27, 2015. Registration is now open. Families can look forward to speakers, celebrations, activities for kids, and prayer, all of which will bring renewal and transformation for you, your loved ones, and the world. Visit the official World Meeting of Families website at: WorldMeeting2015.org to learn more.

Please help us keep our database up-to-date! If you move, change your number, get married, change an email address or any other contact change, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411 so we can update our records. Thanks!

CELL PHONE RECYCLING: Have you recently purchased or received a new cell phone? If so, please remember that ICA earns money through our cell phone recycling program for **both working and nonworking phones**. Cell phone collection boxes are located in the church vestibule and the ICA school office.



January 11, 2015

dear Padre

Monday

JANUARY 12

Weekday

Heb 1:1–6

Mk 1:14–20

Tuesday

JANUARY 13

Weekday

Heb 2:5–12

Mk 1:21–28

Wednesday

JANUARY 14

Weekday

Heb 2:14–18

Mk 1:29–39

Thursday

JANUARY 15

Weekday

Heb 3:7–14

Mk 1:40–45

Friday

JANUARY 16

Weekday

Heb 4:1–5, 11

Mk 2:1–12

Saturday

JANUARY 17

St. Anthony,
Abbot

Heb 4:12–16

Mk 2:13–17

Sunday

JANUARY 18

Second Sunday in

Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b–10, 19

1 Cor 6:13c–15a,

17–20

Jn 1:35–42

Is baptism by immersion better?



Why do some churches baptize by pouring water on the forehead and others by immersion? Is one way better than the other?

In terms of what baptism means and accomplishes—escape from sin and death into the life of the Risen Jesus—immersion is no better than pouring. But in the dramatic power of the symbol of the water, immersion is better.

The power of the sacrament of baptism lies not in the method of bringing the water into play, but from the direction given to the pouring or the immersion by the words of Jesus, who commanded us to baptize “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).

St. Paul said, “Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his

death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life” (Romans 6:3–4). Down into the death of Jesus, and up again into a new life.

Even on the level of symbol and drama, a trickle of water is still water. It still means and symbolizes life, as in drinking and cooling. It also symbolizes death, as in a hurricane or a drowning.

This union of words and water in the Church makes this action the sacrament of baptism.

FR. JOHN HAMROGUE, CSSR
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Experience the Holy Land from your kitchen!

Cook up a savory experience of food and faith with free recipes from *Around the Table With the Catholic Foodie: Middle Eastern Cuisine*. Visit Liguori.org/Catholicfoodie by February 28 to get your free recipes and a coupon for 30% off this full-color book of recipes and stories from the author’s Holy Land pilgrimage. Enjoy!