

## Background on the Gospel Readings



Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate.

John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

-Taken from [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

## First School Raffle Winner



Congratulations to  
Mary Stewart, the winner and seller of \$350  
for the January 4<sup>th</sup> drawing.

## Stewardship Report: Revenue

December 27 <sup>th</sup> :	7,885.00
Faith Direct:	2,702.00
Total Offertory:	10,587.00
Last Year:	10,648.00

Flowers Collection for 2015:	3,495.00
Flowers Collection for 2014:	3,150.00

Christmas Collection for 2015:	32,127.00
Christmas Collection for 2014:	37,984.00

January 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	12,417.00
Faith Direct:	2,702.00
Total Offertory:	15,119.00
Last Year:	13,838.00
Poor Box :	210.00
Every Penny Counts Box:	195.00

**Church Missions within the United States:** Our second collection next weekend is for the Church Missions within the United States. This is a combined collection for the Black and Indian Missions and the Catholic Home Missions. Your contributions make a difference to these Catholic faith communities.

**End of Year Contribution Statements:** Within the next two weeks, our office will mail contribution statements for the year 2015. Faith Direct also sends statements for parishioners who contribute electronically. Thank you to everyone who uses offertory envelopes or Faith Direct and for your weekly sacrifice of treasure to our Lord.

## Looking Ahead

**The St. Matthias Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group** meets every Sunday in the Church after the 10:30 am Mass. All are welcome.

**Hosting An Event?** Friendship Hall is available for rent. For information, please contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 or email [tereme@stmatthias.org](mailto:tereme@stmatthias.org).

**Youth Rally & Mass for Life:** The Youth Rally and Mass for Life will be held on Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016. Each year on the morning of the National March for Life, thousands gather from around the nation to participate. Tickets are required for entry. For more information and to register for free tickets, please visit <http://YouthRallyandMassforLife.org>.



**Altar Server Training Classes (4<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> Grades):** If you are interested in becoming an altar server, training classes commence January 30 – February 27, 2016 – Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 in the Church. Any questions, please call/email Cynthia Faust – 301-464-1799 or [cfaust@atelierarchitects.com](mailto:cfaust@atelierarchitects.com).

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### Items of Note

**2016 Offertory Envelopes:** Offertory envelopes are available in the back of church. Please note that the addresses are printed incorrectly. There is no need to contact the office about the misprinting. The parish office has your correct address in our database. If you are unable to locate your box of envelopes, please call Pat at the parish office 301-459-4814 x 201.

**Missals for Sale:** Saint Joseph Missals for 2016 are available for sale in the church vestibule and at the Hughes Center parish office. The cost is \$4.00.

**Calling all Teens!** The Saint Matthias Teen Youth Group will hold its next meeting this Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Hughes Center. Refreshments will be provided. Parish teens in grades 9 through 12 are welcome. For more information, contact Le-Marie Thompson at 301-452-2258 or Arlene Taylor at 301-459-5549.



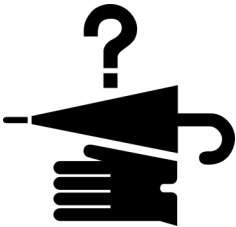
**Knights of Columbus Scholarships:** The Maryland State Council and Insurance Advisors of the Knights of Columbus sponsor several Catholic high school scholarships. Saint Matthias teens are encouraged to apply. You may obtain specific information and applications by visiting <http://www.kofc-md.org/>. Applicants will be judged on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. The application deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Women's Day of Reflection** will be held at St. Andrew Apostle Church in Silver Spring, MD, on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. Cost is \$20. Visit <http://standrewapostle.org/day-of-reflection-2016> for more information and registration.

**Holy Water Bottles** are available for purchase in the vestibule of the church and at the parish office. The cost is \$3.00.

**'Lost and Found' Clean-Out:** Have you lost your reading glasses? How about a hat or gloves? Lost items found in the church are placed in the ushers' closet. Please ask an usher to assist you in locating your missing items. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity after January 17<sup>th</sup>.



### Celebrant Mass Schedule for the Weekend of January 16/17



5:00 pm	Father Milt
8:00 am	Msgr. Bilbago
10:30 am	Father Canice
6:00 pm	Father Canice

### Mass Intentions

#### First Week in Ordinary Time

##### Monday, January 11:

8:30 am Charles Moore  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Confessions  
8:00 pm Benediction

##### Tuesday, January 12: Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

8:30 am Jack O'Leary

##### Wednesday, January 13: Saint Hilary, Bishop

8:30 am Amanyeiwe Family (Living)

##### Thursday, January 14:

8:30 am Dorothy Johnson

##### Friday, January 15:

8:00 am Teresa Hahne

#### Second Week in Ordinary Time

##### Saturday, January 16:

5:00 pm Henry Zamorski

##### Sunday, January 17:

8:00 am Jack O'Leary  
10:30 am James Wills  
6:00 pm Joan Jackson

Readings for the Second Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1 - 5

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4 - 11

Gospel: John 2:1 - 11

**Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends:**

Ronnie Davis; Jack Jordan; Kay Kaderabek; John and Joan Kodak; Joe Makowski; Rocco Martino; Dick O'Connor; Tim O'Leary; Marion Prout; Madeline White, Eugene Zehner

*-For our military, protect them from all harm.*

*-For all the faithful departed, may they rest in peace.*

Names will be placed on our prayer list for 4 weeks. To place a name on the list, please contact Pat Ford at 301-459-4814 x 201 or email [pford@stmatthias.org](mailto:pford@stmatthias.org)

**Fourth Archdiocesan Women's Conference:** On Saturday, February 27, 2016, the Fourth Archdiocesan Women's Conference, "Divine Mercy in Prayer and Action," will be held at Elizabeth Seton High School in Bladensburg, MD, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be an English and Spanish track. The day will also include Mass, Confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, a fabulous lunch, and many workshops to choose from. The day will end with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Adoration. For more information, contact Maria Suarez Hamm in the Office of Family Life at 301-853-4499 or at [mhamm@adw.org](mailto:mhamm@adw.org), or visit [www.adw.org/womensconference](http://www.adw.org/womensconference).