

The Baptism of the Lord
January 10, 2016
LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 9

5:00 p.m. – Olumbe J. Bryan req. by Janet Maulbeck & family

Sunday, January 10

8:30 a.m. – Bill Lenahan req. by his wife, Eleanor

10:00 a.m. – Joseph Petruzzello req. by the Sacred Heart Woman's Society

Monday, January 11

12:00 p.m. – Elizabeth Carroll req. by the Verikios family

Tuesday, January 12

12:00 p.m. – Thelma Grizzle req. by Donna & Mike Lucas & family

Wednesday, January 13

12:00 p.m. – Connor Cummings

Thursday, January 14

12:00 p.m. – Tom Haynes

Friday, January 15

8:00 a.m. – Jean Weber req. by Sacred Heart Faculty & Staff

Saturday, January 16

5:00 p.m. – Howard B. Pratt Jr. req. by Irene Shucavage

Sunday, January 17

8:30 a.m. – Loretta Ann Joyce req. by the Wagner family

10:00 a.m. – Peter Chipko req. by Joanne Gula



Bill Lenahan
Requested By: his wife, Eleanor

Collection for December 26&27: \$2417.00

Collection for January 2&3: \$3598.00

Christmas Collection: \$11,402.09

Parish Pay Electronic Giving: \$ 2493.24(December)

Collection from last year: \$ 2413.00

Ongoing Renovation "Jug" Money: \$10,007.55

PARISH PAY: Have you thought about automating your giving? No more writing checks! You decide the amount and the frequency. Sign up today for automatic contributions to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Go to the Parish Pay link at www.sacredheartrockaway.org or call 866-727-4741.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

IN THE MILITARY

Major Mike Cherry

LCpl. Aleksandr Killeen, SSgt. Zhenya Killeen

Airman 1st Cl. Andrew Mistkowski,

1st Lt. Nicholas DelCore, Air Force

1st Lt. Jessica L. Rotile Rudo

Kenneth Rudo, Warrant Officer, 1

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: M.J. Simon, Irene Schreiber, Rosemary Woodring, Doug Bansch, Kevin McGuire, Maria Acevedo, TJ Schoude, Capt. Adam Cowan, USA, Julio Soto, Ellen Forbes, Ben Marvilla, Frances Murphy, Michelle Monslave, Theodora Maulbeck, Enid Osorno Patricia Martinelli, Amelia Marie Cayea, Mary Therese Loftus, Sharon Bauer, Mary Davenport, Jose Prado, Jean Hageny, Eugene Walsh, Arlene Berlin, Emil Fahrman, Jim Goliat, Robert Nielsen, Betty Dixon, Marge Vogel, Dan Koettters, Efrain Gonzalez, Amanda Villarubia, Mary

Skelly, Carol McMahon, Peggy Jankowski, John Skutka, William McBurney.

PARISH POLICY – PLEASE NOTE - All Catholic families living within the parish boundaries are encouraged to register as members. Registration as a parish member has many benefits, and in particular, facilitates any arrangements for baptisms, marriages, sponsors, etc. **Please contact the Parish Office at 973-627-0422**

First Friday Communion Calls: A priest will be making "First Friday" visits to those who are homebound. These visits will be made by one of our priests who will distribute Holy Communion. He will also be available for the sacraments of penance and anointing of the sick. Please call the rectory at 972-627-0422 to register your name for this monthly visit by one of our priests.

Want to be more involved?

If you are wondering "how can I become more involved in my church community", we happen to be looking for a few good people!! If you would like more information on how to become a Lector, Minister of Communion or an Altar Server, please contact Fr. Marcin at 973-627-0313 ext: 15 or martmich1983@gmail.com

Christmas Decorations – I would like to thank Monica Profit and Ann Marie Hopler for assisting with the decoration of the church for Christmas and in particular for the new banners and other work. Special thanks to my priests, Father Marcin and Father Mateusz (assisted by Deacon Slawek) for the wonderful job they did with the decorations. My priests are the best! – Fr. Zig

Thank You – My sincere thanks to all those who helped make our Christmas liturgies uplifting and beautiful: the choir, lectors, extra ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, and altar servers. ALSO, I thank all those who were generous to the church for the Christmas celebration. Your financial offerings are signs of your love for Him who was born in the flesh, Christ our True God! – Fr. Zig

WELCOME: We wish to extend a warm welcome to John & Diana Filipski who recently registered as parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they grow with us within the life of our parish community.

	Lector	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers
January 16 @ 5:00 pm	DJ Farrelly	Bridget Wilson Jeff Meudt	Maggie Farrelly Liam Orr
January 17 @ 8:30 am	John Sautter	Paul Iapalucci Mark Howarth	Danielle Berlin Ella Di Scala
January 17@10:00 am	Jack Zayac	Dennis Corbisiero VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Jessica Waskas Sofia Nunez

ALL MINISTERS: Copies of the schedule are available in the sacristy. Any questions/concerns please contact the appropriate group leader.

My dear parishioners,

As we gather to celebrate the Lord's Day we commemorate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus in the Jordan. As I wrote in my article last Sunday, today's commemoration is one of the mysteries we celebrate in the feast of the Epiphany. The Gospels tell us that the Lord Jesus left His home in Nazareth and traveled to the Jordan River where He encountered His cousin and precursor John the Baptist. When the Prophet John sees Jesus He acknowledges Him as the Holy One sent by God to bring salvation. The Lord Jesus asks to be baptized by John, not for the forgiveness of sins because He has none, but to show us the way in which we must follow. Jesus' baptism becomes an inauguration ceremony from which He now begins His very active three years of ministry before being put to death. Baptism becomes the starting point for service in God's realm.

Today at the liturgy we will bless water to recall the Lord's baptism and our own. We will be sprinkled with this blessed water mindful of our call to service in God's Kingdom. You are invited to take home with you some of the blessed water for your devotion at home. Today can be the day in which you gather as a family for the home blessing as I also wrote in last Sunday's article. The blessed water can be sprinkled in every room of the home asking for the Lord's blessing. Such practices draw the family close together and unite the family to Christ.

The bath of baptism is the rite which has configured us to Christ and which has endowed us with the Holy Spirit who empowers us for service in the works of mercy. In this Jubilee Year of Mercy we will be continually reminded of the CORPORAL and SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY which we should be performing on a regular basis. Such work readies us for eternal life as we emulate the works which Jesus performed during His ministry. In today's Mass we have a beautiful reading from the Apostle Paul to Titus which says: "When the kindness and generous love of God our Savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of His mercy, He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life."

Baptism does many things for us including making us members of Christ's mystical body, the Church. The Church is His presence in the world which He established until He returns in glory. Our support of the Church and its up-building are signs of our love for Christ Jesus. I am so proud of you, my parishioners, for the generosity you have shown to the BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL. I was recently informed by the diocese that our goal was \$15,645 and that \$25,392 has been pledged. You know that the majority of the funds from the appeal go directly to Catholic Charities which help the poor, the disabled and those in need. Our seminarians, retired priests and inner city school children also benefit from your generosity. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF CHRIST'S CHURCH THROUGH THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL. The Lord Jesus calls us to be promoters of LIFE. He said that "He came to bring life and bring it to the fullest." I invite you to join with me and make this year's ROCKAWAY MARCH FOR LIFE the biggest ever. We begin with the 8 o'clock Mass on Saturday at Saint Cecilia Church followed by a light breakfast in Hayes Hall and then our walk around Parks Lake as we pray the Rosary for the unborn and all those vulnerable ones whose life is threatened in our "culture of death." Let's show Rockaway the Church on the march for the sanctity of human life!

God Bless You!

Fr. Zig

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY – The Saint Monica Guild of Saint Cecilia Church is sponsoring a pilgrimage May 17-18 (Wednesday-Thursday), to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, New York. The pilgrimage is open to all parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. The cost of the pilgrimage is approximately \$200 per person. Details regarding departure, schedule of devotions, hotel information, etc. will be forthcoming. We anticipate a full bus for this religious journey during the Holy Year of Mercy. Please call St. Cecilia Parish office for information 973.627.0313.

School News:

The School's Annual Calendar Raffle ticket sale is in process! Tickets cost \$10.00 and are sold after the Masses, by our parents and in the school office. There will be a total of 51 chances to win \$8,100 in prizes. Drawings will be held Wednesday mornings in the school office beginning January 27th and end on April 27th!

Interested in Music: If you are interested in serving as a choir member (adult or children), cantor, or instrumentalist, please contact Derek Nelson at derekt.nelson@gmail.com

Christians of the Middle East – Christians in the Middle East face persecutions simply for their belief in the One who taught us to love one another. Despite the genocidal persecution against them, they continue to be an inspiration as they remain true to their faith and bear witness to the love of God and neighbor. Yet, regardless of their great witness, they need solidarity and support. One way we are helping is through the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund, which has contributed more than \$4.5 million. These contributions have provided food, clothing, shelter and medical care for refugees. Individuals can contribute to this fund by visiting christiansatrisk.org and making a direct contribution.