

# The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2010

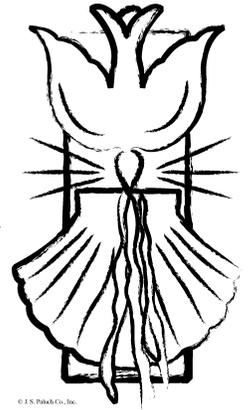
He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

~Titus 3:5

## MANIFESTING THE SPIRIT

The Christmas season closes this Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a sister to last week's feast of the Epiphany. Each of them celebrates an "epiphany," or a manifestation of the Spirit of God in Jesus—first in his birth, and now at his baptism.

The divine Spirit is manifested in all of the scriptures for this feast. Psalm 104 highlights the Spirit of God creating and renewing the earth, while the reading from Isaiah describes God restoring Israel. In Luke's account of the baptism of the Lord the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus. And the letter from Titus reminds us that the Holy Spirit was "richly poured out" on us also, through the "bath of rebirth" (Titus 3:5, 6). © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



## We are His Hands

*Submitted by Greg De Cristofaro*

We are called as Jesus commanded, "go forth and serve one another as I have served you" with our God given gifts of time, talents and treasures. Each week one or more parish ministries will host the coffee and donuts after the 8 am and 10:30 am masses. This



would be an opportunity for you to investigate if that particular ministry is a way for you to serve our parish community with your God given gifts.

Next week, Next week, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the **Knights of Columbus** will be hosting the coffee and donuts in conjunction with the parish blood drive. This would be an excellent opportunity to embrace the Christmas Spirit by giving the **Gift of Life**. The **Knights of Columbus** is dedicated to the ideals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. This Catholic men's organization provides for the spiritual enrichment of its members and through its' programs serves the parish, the poor, the suffering, the aged and the disadvantaged.

If you are interested in learning more about the **Knights of Columbus** and feel called to serve in this ministry, please contact Greg DeCristofaro at 873-4132.

## Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7; 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Mk 2:13-17  
Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

## Table Reserved

**New and returning Catholics have a table reserved in the Main Hall for coffee and donuts after the 8am and 10:30am Masses each Sunday.**

**There will be information provided for the upcoming series of Catholics Come Home and answers for any questions you might have.**



**Jan 16<sup>th</sup> is a parish cleanup day.**

**Join Greg Kidder and the STM Parish Gardeners from 9am - 12pm to help beautify our church property.**



Missal reading for January 10th is located on page 61.

**Lunch will be provided.**

# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, January 10

Baptism of the Lord  
National Vocations Awareness Week  
Coffee & Donuts: Ladies Guild  
6:00pm Family Faith Formation Christmas Quarter Feast of the Holy Family Potluck, main hall

## Monday, January 11

Noon Hot Lunch Provided by Methodist Church, main hall  
7:00pm RCIA Inquiry, church conf. room

## Tuesday, January 12

9:15am Legion of Mary, church conf. room  
1:00pm Ladies Guild Meeting, main hall

## Wednesday, January 13

St. Hilary  
9:30am Mothers and Others, small hall  
11:00am Catholics Come Home Ministry Meeting, church conf. room~**all are welcome!**  
Noon Wednesday Hot Lunch, main hall  
1:00pm 50+ Singles, main hall  
1:00pm St. Vincent de Paul meeting, church conf. room  
2:00pm Shawl Ministry, church conf. room  
5:30pm K.O.C. Officers Meeting, small hall  
6:30pm K.O.C. Rosary, small hall  
7:00pm K.O.C. Business Meeting, small hall  
7:00pm Breath of the Spirit Prayer Group, church conf. room

## Thursday, January 14

7:00pm Adult Faith Formation, small hall

## Friday, January 15

10:30am Table of Plenty Food Distribution, garage

## Saturday, January 16

Blessed Virgin Mary  
9:00am Parish Work Day, lunch provided  
3:00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation, church  
5:00pm Vigil Mass

## Sunday, January 17

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Coffee & Donuts: KOC

**Catholics Come Home Ministry invites all Ministry Leaders and Parishioners to a special meeting this Wednesday at 11:00am in the Church Conference Room.**

## The Baptism of the Lord

### Ending Christmas & Beginning Ordinary Time

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and mark the last day of the Christmas season. The poinsettia tree will come down, the wreath will be put away, the nativity will be dismantled and white will be replaced with the green of Ordinary Time. Tomorrow, Monday, marks the first day of the Ordinary Time season.

Ordinary Time will continue through February 16th. After that, the Ordinary season will be interrupted as Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent on February 17th. The seven weeks of Lent will be followed by the 50 days of Easter before we return once again to Ordinary time.

The Liturgical Year of the Church is meant to transmit to us the miracle of God's intervention and salvation. The Liturgical year begins with Advent, the anticipation of the birth of Christ and His return. Christmas is the celebration of God being born as man to lead us to our salvation. Ordinary Time, broken into two parts, brings us the ministry of Jesus Christ as He teaches His apostles, gains disciples and demonstrates God's love for us.

Lent brings us into the passion of the Lord, reminding us that God was born as man so as to pay the price for our sins and that only by this sacrifice of the sinless Son of God, have we been saved. Lent turns us towards the suffering of Christ so that we may understand what God has done for us.

Easter is the greatest celebration of the Church and is thus the longest season. It lasts for a full 50 days, until Pentecost. This is the time to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord which is proof of His divinity and a precursor to our own resurrection. Christ has broken the bonds of death so that we may be freed to enter into the heavenly kingdom and be in the presence of God.

The Church environment, music, and prayers will reflect the mood of each of these seasons. In this way the life of Christ comes alive in our worship and in our hearts. We are able to experience the anticipation of our salvation, His being born into the world, His intervention via His ministry and teachings, His suffering and finally His victory over sin and death. We are able to experience God's salvation as it happened in history and as it continues to happen in our own lives.

We hope that you will note the changes that take place in the Church and in our liturgy and that this will help you to experience the message of each of these seasons. God is active here in our parish and in our lives. By our active participation in the Mass we are able to allow Him to affect us and make us into the Children of God we are meant to be. How blessed we are.

*Father Steven Foppiano*

## A Message from Bishop Jaime Soto, Bishop of Sacramento

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I invite all Catholic men and women in the Diocese of Sacramento as well as all people of good will to join together for a day of fasting, abstinence, prayer and works of charity in observance of Friday, January 22, 2010, as a day of reparation for the sinful national scourge of abortion. We mark the day in this manner because it is the lamentable anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade.

There will be a Mass celebrated at the Cathedral on that day at 12:10pm. All are invited to attend.

As a guide to those who are able to fast on that day, it is recommended that those fasting limit themselves to one full meal. Those choosing to abstain may refrain from eating meat that day or from anything that is normally consumed as part of one's daily routine. Works of charity are particularly encouraged, helping at a food distribution center, visiting the sick or imprisoned, assisting at shelters for women-in-need and families.

Through our acts of penance and works of charity on this day, we will express our desire to restore a culture of life and a civilization of love in this country so marred by the court decision of Roe v. Wade as well as other acts of violence against the innocent.

May the prayers as well as the practices of penance and charity bring us into fuller communion with the life-giving work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Respectfully,  


## Sacrificial Donations

For the week of January 2-3, 2009

*Our Regular Collection Weekly Goal is \$6,000.00*

Regular Collection	\$	4,747.50
Table of Plenty	\$	195.00
Youth Ministry	\$	550.00
Christmas Offering	\$	337.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	716.00

**Total Collections \$ 6,545.00**

**Thank You for your generosity!**

## Thank You All!

As we complete this Christmas season I want to thank all of you for making it so very special. Beginning with Advent, I believe we have a very heartfelt and spiritual experience of Jesus Christ being born into the world. It was made possible by the many people who make this parish work. Many parishioners worked together to make it all happen.

Ushers, Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of the Communion, Altar Servers, the workers of the Ladies Guild and Linen ministry, Youth ministry and all those who participated in the poinsettia tree, the Walkers and Haseks and all involved with the beautiful new Advent/Christmas wreath, our hard worker music ministers, Mass Coordinators and those who cleaned the Church, decorated the parish, dressed Mary and did all the little special things that transform our parish each of these seasons. Thank you all!

Thank you as well to St. Vincent de Paul, Mothers and Others, Table of Plenty and the Hot Lunch program for helping us to outreach to others and make sure this Christmas season was special for those in need as well. The office volunteers and especially staff also put forth their best efforts in what can be a very busy and demanding time. And of course, thank you to all parishioners for your participation and financial support to make all of this possible. God bless you all for making St. Thomas More so special and helping to bring forth the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

In the love of Christ,

*Father Steven Foppiano*

*A final Merry Christmas to all!*

## Colleen is STILL seeking some special angels to assist a very poor parish in Soledad!

Their connection to us? Their adult minister (now a diocesan seminarian) was Colleen's old supervisor and taught her much of what we use here at STM today!

This is our chance to pay it forward! If you want to make a financial difference for some young people training to be leaders — and please don't choose away from the needs here at STM — contact Colleen! [colleen@stmparadise.com](mailto:colleen@stmparadise.com)



## “Table of Plenty” Food Ministry Celebrates Five Years of Giving

*Submitted by Terri Anderson*

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink...I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my brothers, you did it for me.”*

Matthew 25:35, 40

Currently, we are serving a total of 183 Ridge families. As a result, approximately 450 people are receiving food from our parish during an average month. With the downturn of the economy leading to a record number of unemployed and the raising price of food, fuel, and utilities; the number of applications to Table of Plenty continues to grow. We have been able to assist more families with food this past year due to an increase in support from parishioners who voluntarily donate to this ministry, providing food for their brothers and sisters in need. Your generosity allows us to help others and share the love of Christ in a very practical way. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need, especially during these hard economic times.

Parishioners sometimes ask about the recipients of food from the Table of Plenty. They are all individuals and families who are dealing with a difficult time in their lives. Some of these people are currently unable to work due to illness, pregnancy, disability, or unemployment. Others, mostly seniors, are living on a very limited income and need help supplementing their food supply. Table of Plenty is currently providing food for individuals ranging in age from infancy to mid-eighties. These families live in Paradise, Magalia, and Stirling City, and come to pick up food only on the weeks they are in need. The recipients are all very deserving and grateful for help our parish provides. Thank you for your donations that help our parish reach out to show the Ridge community God’s love and compassion!

As you can imagine, it takes a great deal of food to serve 183 families. The last food distribution cleared out our shelves and used up most of our reserves, therefore Table of Plenty is in need of **all types of non-perishable food**. We can use anything and everything that you’d like to leave in the baskets in the vestibule. Please consider bringing a donation with you to Mass next week.

***Thank you, parishioners, for your generous support during the past five years! You are doing much more than providing food for those in need. You are sharing the love of Christ in a very practical way.***

## Mass Intentions

~January 9-17, 2010 ~

Sat.	8:30am	Charles Foley †
	5:00pm	Dennis Sequin†
Sun.	8:00am	Intentions of Elva and Earl Whatcott
	10:30am	People of STM
	5:00pm	Bob Wagner †
Mon.	8:30am	Open
Tue.	8:30am	Living and Deceased Members of STM Ladies Guild
Wed	8:30am	Open
Thur.	8:30am	Open
Fri.	8:30am	Intentions of Wally Schauer
Sat.	8:30am	Open
	5:00pm	Intentions of Elva and Earl Whatcott
Sun.	8:00am	People of STM
	10:30am	Tom Durant†
	5:00pm	Bob Wagner†

† Denotes deceased

## CATHOLICS COME HOME

~An invitation to ALL Catholics~  
Practicing and Non-Practicing

Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to church anymore?

Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the church ?

Would you like to know more about the Catholic church as it is today ?

Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic church again ?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic church.

Please join us for informational listening sessions and an update of the Catholic faith.

These sessions are held at Saint Thomas Moore Catholic Church, starting Wednesday evening February 3rd, 2010 at 7pm and continues for 6 weeks.



For more information please call 530-877-4501, leave your name and phone number and a parish coordinator will return your call.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**Baptism of the Lord**  
**Week of January 10, 2010**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7  
**Second Reading:** Acts 10: 34-38  
**Gospel:** Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22



**Theme:** "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

**Question for Children:** What are some things you can do to please God?

**Question for Young People:** "With you I am well pleased." What are you doing right now that is pleasing to God? How does it feel to live that way?

**Question for Adults:** Name a time when you felt your actions were pleasing to God.

**Adult Faith Formation takes place each Thursday at 7pm in the small hall.**

### Please offer your prayers for our brothers & sisters in Christ

David J. Brown	Lorraine Reynolds
Ruth Collins	Peter Schrader
Darren Elliott	Chuck Schuster
Dee Farina	Bill Smith
Mark Ferguson	Mary Sparks
Mark & Diena Finn	Margarite Speegle
Ritta and Matt Gerspacher	Bonnie Thibault
Lou Gervais	Gertrude Valentine
Cindy Hogman	Marilyn Van Niel
Isabella Huckins	Margaret Vandergrift
Helen Huddleston	Sarah Watson
Phil Kelly	Taylor Watson
Wayne King	Debbie Wilson
Debbie Miley	Satrina Wohlau
Rose Mittag	Quiroz Family
Kaleb Newhoff	
Grace & Bob Nute	
Betty Pompermayer	

## Men's Weekend Retreat

The men of the parish are invited to our annual retreat at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center on the weekend of February 5-7, 2010.

Don't miss out on this great experience of rest and spiritual renewal.

Space is limited, so make your reservations early.

Phone Albert Penna 872.0460 or Frank Salas at 877.7162 to make your reservations.

Relatives and friends are welcome to attend the weekend together.

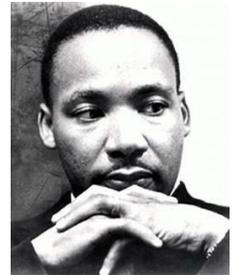
You may view the Center at:

[www.passionist.org/retreats/christtheking](http://www.passionist.org/retreats/christtheking)



## Martin Luther King Day Commemoration

On Monday, January 18, 2010, a program of music, song and spoken word commemorating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrating his dream of peace and equality will be presented at the Paradise United Methodist Church. The community is invited to this free event, an annual presentation sponsored by the Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence (PCTN). The program begins at 7:00 pm, preceded by a candlelight walk at 6:30 pm.



The musical program promises to uplift and entertain, with performances by the Paradise United Methodist Church Choir, the Do In' It Justice Choir, and "Lazy Lester" Johnson.

**Martin Luther King Day Commemoration**  
**Monday, Jan. 18, 2010**  
**Program at 7:00pm, Candlelight Walk at 6:30pm**  
**At Paradise United Methodist Church**  
**A program of song & spoken word**  
**Sponsored by Paradise Center for Tolerance & Nonviolence**  
**530-877-1856**

Temper is what gets most of us into trouble.  
Pride is what keeps us there.

—Anonymous

