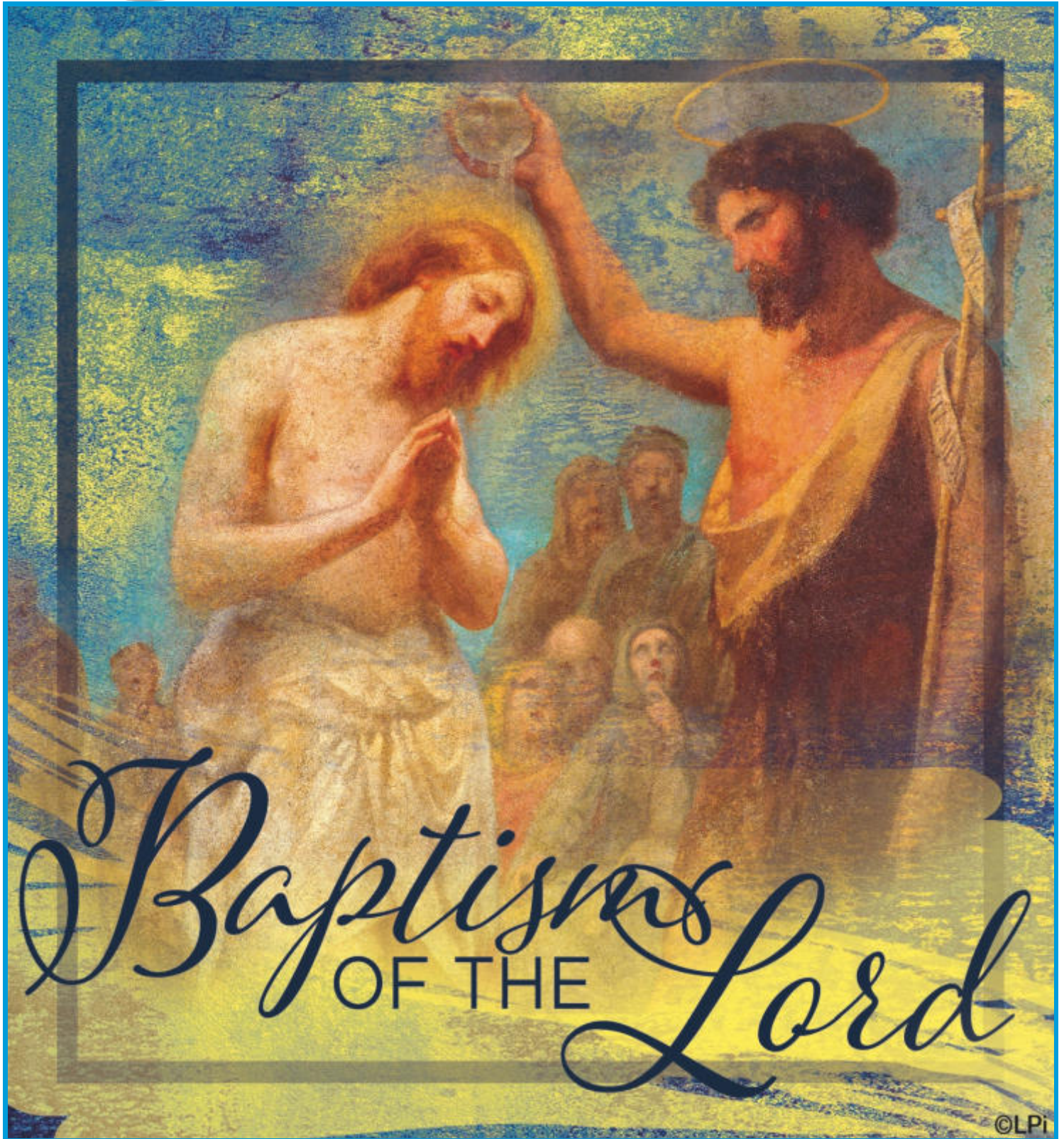




*Saint Matthew Church*  
**The PULSE**

January 13, 2019

Detroit, Michigan



*Baptism*  
OF THE  
*Lord*

## Readings for the week of January 13, 2019

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22  
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17

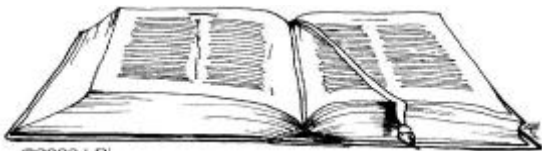


### The Baptism of the Lord

Think of what it's like to wait a long time. Can you imagine what it would be like to wait for centuries? No one person lives that long, of course. But for the Israelites, they had heard the stories from generation to generation. They had been conquered time and time again, and now "the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ." They had been waiting for a Messiah, one who did miraculous deeds and said profound things; someone aglow with the glory of God. We all know what it's like to hope and be disappointed. But what if your hopes were fulfilled?

That day at the Jordan River, an audience had gathered. Among the crowd for baptism was an unknown man. Perhaps he was dirty from weeks in the desert. His hands had the calloused palms of a tradesman, a carpenter. He and John the Baptist may have embraced with the familiarity of the cousins they were. This man wades into the Jordan for a good, solid dunking. As he rises from the water, the One who breathed life into Adam gasps for air like any other man.

But then "heaven was opened." The clouds in the sky part miles above. "And the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove." An apparition with substance sails through the sky. It exudes gentleness and power all at once. "And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Can you imagine the sight? For the crowd, there is no doubting what they have seen, who they have seen. Can you imagine this encounter with our God who keeps His promises? What are you waiting for?



### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Jesus was a young man, and his Father affirmed him in front of a huge crowd, saying, "You are my beloved son; with you I am very pleased." Our children are never too old to appreciate our praise.

## As the Christmas Season Comes to a Close Remember "The Best Christmas Gift Ever!!"

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss your spouse.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust ... But giving the gift of love will endure. (*Christmas Version of 1st Corinthians 13*)

**Merry Christmas!**



### Abundant Life

What did the Lord Jesus Christ bring to us when He came to earth 2,000 years ago? Was it to fulfill the promise of the prophets that lived before Him? Yes, but more than that! Was it to heal the great illness of disobedience and death wrought by Adam and Eve, our fore-parents, Yes, but more than

that! Was it to open again the gates of Paradise to make Heaven and all of its blessings available to the human race now? Yes, and more than that! The Lord brought far more than fulfilling promises, healing, and making blessings more available. He brought Life which is more, far more, than all of life as we know here or can even imagine in our limited human experience.

He brought Life which is more, far more, than life in our breath, in our minds, and in our hearts. He brought Life which is more, far more, than our relatives and friends, our work and efforts, and our civilization and progress in all the things of this world. He brought Life filled with abundance of a Heavenly heart, with eyes that can see clearly what is Truth, what is Love, with a resurrected mind that yearns to be united with Him and the Holy Trinity, coming so close that our earthly thoughts turn back. This Life, impossible for men to just find and hold, is freely given to all those who reach out in their poverty and humility and ask for the greatest gift of this Nativity Season. This Life is God Himself come inside of us to transform us from earthly men and women into Heavenly ones. May we open our hearts to receive this Life and Love today. Amen!

## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Wednesday, January 16, 6 pm -**  
Father Duane, RCIA Sacramental Class, St. Clare of Montefalco Education Room

**SAVE THE DATE! - Saturday, April 6, 2019, St. Matthew's 2019 Jazz Nite Event**

### *The Giving Tree*

*Thank You*

**St. Matthew Parishioners!**

Our St. Matthew Conference of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank all parishioners who so generously gave gifts in response to our Giving Tree appeal last month. A total of 76 boys and girls living with their struggling families in our eastside neighborhood were delighted at Christmas time to receive all the toys and clothing purchased and given as gifts by St. Matthew parishioners.

Along with additional food and clothing donations from others to our SVdP Conference, we were able to help a total of 29 families in our service area. Very many warm sweatshirts and numerous toys were given to us by St. Rene' Goupil Parish in Sterling Heights. And St. Matthew parishioner Bill Zuerblis and his colleagues at Visteon Corporation donated 25 delicious turkeys and boxes brimming with fresh healthy and nutritious food all of which was given to families in our area who face challenges to meet their individual and family basic needs. Thank you so much, Bill, for initiating and coordinating this effort which makes a huge impact on the many families our conference serves.

We're very grateful for the abundance of gifts that parishioners gave to the many, many children whose Christmas was made that much brighter because of your care and compassion. Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference with your tremendous help has been able to make a very positive impact on the lives of many in our eastside Detroit community in their time of need. Thank you so much!

And a much deserved thank you to the following parishioners and conference members that helped to handle, sort, package and deliver all the gifts and food boxes; Mike, Dana, and Darcy Dulapa, Mike and Jane Ellis and their family, Judy Redman, Joan Nardi, Bryan Jones, Bill Ridella, Gerianne LaPratt-Perrault and her son Connor, Bob Lavoy, Lee Rice, and Bruce and Ann Marie Campbell. We couldn't have done it without all of you! Your time and effort was very much appreciated! Thank you to all!



## **CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ**



**Unleash the Gospel** - *Unleash the Gospel* is now on social media, making it easier for you to join the movement to renew our world, our region, and our Church. Remember, you have a vital role to play in the missionary transformation of our Church!

Follow @UTGDetroit on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter for stories, inspiration, and encouragement as we work to *Unleash the Gospel* in bold and creative ways. A new logo for *Unleash the Gospel* features an open door — a symbol of our call to imitate Blessed Solanus Casey and live out radical hospitality in our parishes and families.

Your CSA gifts support the innovative initiatives for Archbishop Allen Vigneron's pastoral letter, *Unleash the Gospel*.

### **Faith Formation at St. Clare of Montefalco**

St. Clare of Montefalco is conducting a series of lectures by Max Lucado, author of "Anxious about Nothing," as part of their Faith Formation program. Below are the next sessions that will take place in their Social Hall starting at 6:30 pm with fellowship and refreshments. Prayers are at 7 pm, the lecture at 7:15 pm, discussion at 8 pm, and prayer and closing at 8:30 pm. All are welcome!

January 17, Session 1:  
Rejoice in the Lord Always

January 24, Session 2:  
Let Your Gentleness Be Evident to All

January 31, Session 3;  
Present Your Requests to God

Brochures are available in the back vestibule of the church for further information. You can also contact Sr. Kathy Avery at [skavery@stclarem.org](mailto:skavery@stclarem.org).

### **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637  
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### PARISH ORGANIZATION

Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*  
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

*In your prayers...*

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Chuck Schuster  
Bienvenido Fajardo  
Lolita Dorado  
Rita Moroni  
Albert Fajardo  
Virginia Fajardo  
Madeline O'Neill  
Kurt Beghuyn  
Laura Bush-Terry  
Sebastiano Stellino  
Allen McKee  
Teresita Covacha  
Richard Gargulinski  
Joe Petrylka  
Roger Sharpe  
Nenette Ferreria  
Dorothy Kurrie  
Anthony Mastronardi  
Eduardo Fajardo  
Kathy Bush

Peggy Bates  
Glenda Johnson  
Daniel Adams  
Robert Stark  
Stephanie Smith  
Alice Mocer  
Janice Lafferty  
Janet Law  
Dan Lusch  
Michelle DeLeauw  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mike Holster  
Tim Fitzgerald  
Larry Hamel  
Jim Dubay  
Jerry Legge

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 19, 2019, 4:30 p.m.  
Janet Bielman  
Mary Bielman

## LECTORS

Bruce Campbell

## SERVERS

Ian Campbell

Sunday, January 20, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn  
Keith Arcicovich  
Dorothy Brooks  
Beverly Goll  
Linda Holster  
Veronica Obianwu  
Marie Vortkamp

Bryan Jones

Lauren Gross  
Mary Pocius  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, January 12 - Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord**  
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

**Sunday, January 13 - The Baptism of the Lord**

10:00 a.m. - The Zilinsky Family, Lucia and Gaetano Cottone, Stella and Pat Urso, Florence and Tony Manfre, Mary Lou and Jerry Malinowski, Antoinette and Salvatore Urso, Ginger Cottone, Lucy Zelenak, Dominic D'Anna (1st Anniv), Phyllis Nolan

**Monday, January 14 -**

**Tuesday, January 15 -**

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

**Wednesday, January 16 -**

9:00 a.m. - Judy Stark (2nd Anniv)

**Thursday, January 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot**

**Friday, January 18 -**

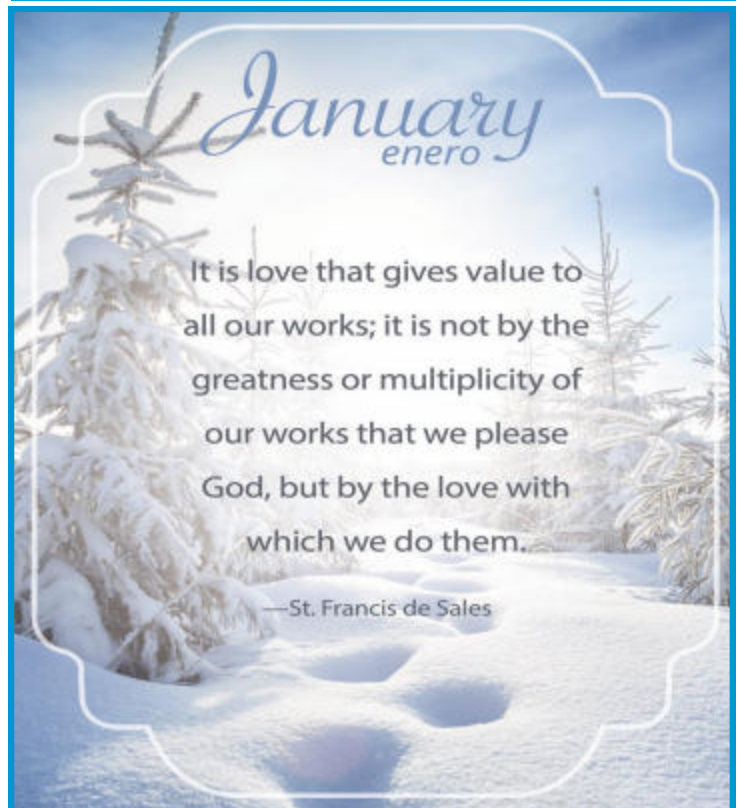
9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering and Dying

**Saturday, January 19 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:30 p.m. - Emma Langan (1st Anniv)

**Sunday, January 20 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Norma Gould



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