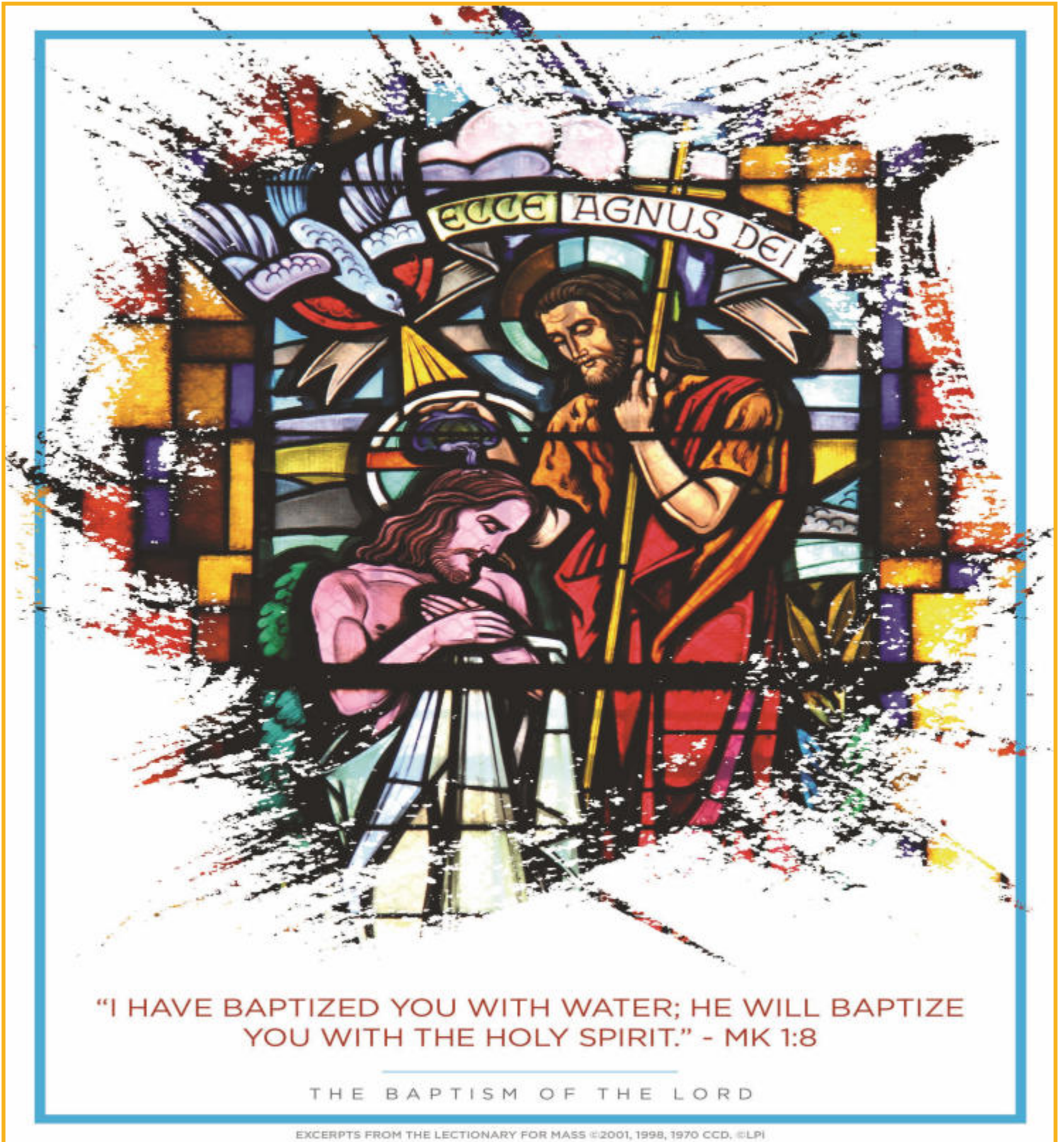




# *Saint Matthew Church* *The PULSE*

January 10, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



“I HAVE BAPTIZED YOU WITH WATER; HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.” - MK 1:8

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

## Readings for the Week of January 10, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/  
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

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

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10  
[8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

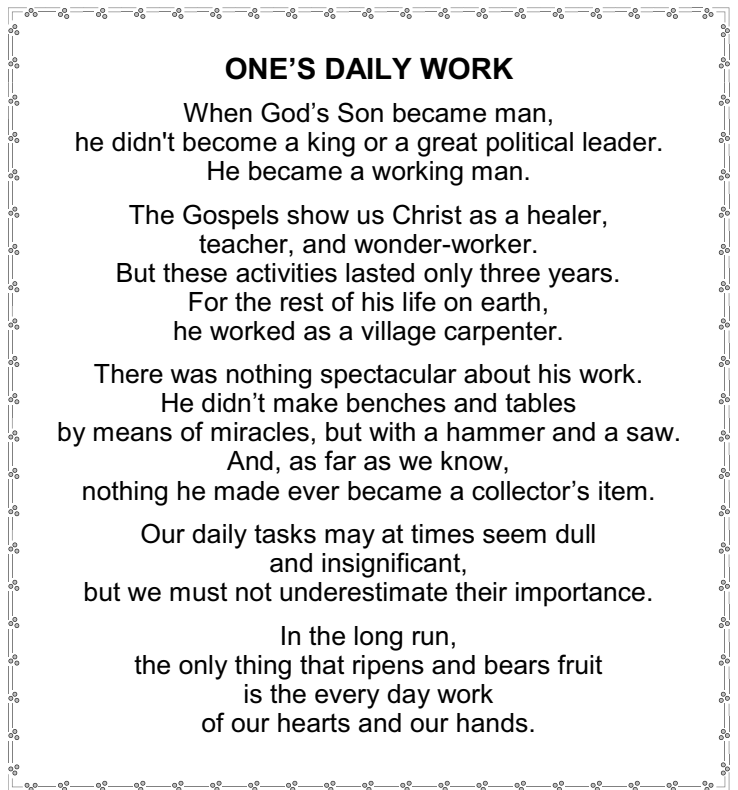
## The Baptism of the Lord

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?



## ONE'S DAILY WORK

When God's Son became man,  
he didn't become a king or a great political leader.  
He became a working man.

The Gospels show us Christ as a healer,  
teacher, and wonder-worker.  
But these activities lasted only three years.  
For the rest of his life on earth,  
he worked as a village carpenter.

There was nothing spectacular about his work.  
He didn't make benches and tables  
by means of miracles, but with a hammer and a saw.  
And, as far as we know,  
nothing he made ever became a collector's item.

Our daily tasks may at times seem dull  
and insignificant,  
but we must not underestimate their importance.

In the long run,  
the only thing that ripens and bears fruit  
is the every day work  
of our hearts and our hands.



## Bless the Lord!

*God is near, and God is close, and  
God is real, and God is love, and He is  
so full of love that He came to earth  
to be with us and make a way for us  
to come to Him across the bridge He  
built to bring us to His Eternal rest-  
ing place in Heaven with all those  
who love Him.*

*That is what this Nativity Season is all about. Since  
He came and became a man, a human being like us but  
without sin, we can be sanctified and become more like  
Him imbibing His Life, by His Grace and His Love, into  
our inmost being. It is this Life that we seek to fulfill  
every good thing that He has prepared for us.*

*In hard times, we need to remember this more than  
when things are easy, and, we indeed live in hard times,  
economically and with much uncertainty, even about  
those things that we so took for granted before, such as  
health and work and education and a secure future that  
seemed more normal then.*

*In these hard times, we need to turn more to Him,  
and also turn to those that we have an ongoing relation-  
ship with to pray and care for spiritually.*



## A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus was publicly AFFIRMED by his Father: "You are my beloved son, with you I am very pleased." As parents, we can become so focused on misbehaviors we can overlook the good behaviors. Jesus needed AFFIRMATION, and so do our children.

## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Tuesday, January 12, 6 pm - Parish Council Meeting, Church Auditorium - CANCELLED -**

**Wednesday, January 13, 8 pm - Father Novelly's Class for RCIA, St. Clare of Montefalco Church**

### **Wrapping up Christmas! 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 last month in response to our Giving Tree appeal. A total of eighty-six deserving boys and girls living with their 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 twenty-seven families in our service area here on the eastside of Detroit. 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 once again donated twenty five delicious hams and turkeys along with 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 very much!

And a much deserved thank you to the following parishioners and conference members that helped to organize, sort, package and deliver all the gifts and food boxes; Dana Dula-pa, Mike and Jane Ellis, Gerri Ann LaPratt-Perrault, Patricia Camazzola Godoshian, Bob Lavoy, Trevor Karty, Lee Rice, and Bryan Jones. We couldn't have done it without all of you! Your time and effort was very much appreciated!

And finally a huge acknowledgement and token of appreciation goes out to conference member, Dan McBride, who organized and directed Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner food baskets for one-hundred additional families in our eastside neighborhood. Dan put our conference in touch with Clark Elementary School and coordinated with the school to provide a very generous and nutritious holiday meal for low income families that otherwise might not have been so fortunate at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Thank you to all from Dennis Costello!**



## **CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ**



**Please remember** to respond to your invitation to pledge to the Catholic Services Appeal. Our parish benefits from your pledges and payments. Repeat the Success! Double the Participation! Thank you!

### **Wrapping up Christmas! Thanks to our Volunteers!**



Many thanks to our many volunteers who made this Christmas Season so beautiful by decorating the Church and by providing beautiful music for our liturgies.

The sanctuary and nave looked "in season" with colorful poinsettias and our Christmas tree in place as well as candles all about. Our appreciation goes to Mary Ann Bolone, Mary Jo and Keith Arcicovich, Vicki and Rob Funk, Jerry Mielke, Gerianne LaPratt, Scott Adams, Ed Comiskey, Dennis Herman, Jeff and Julie Smith, Bev Goll, Trevor Karty, Mary Adams, and Derek Smith who with the help of Barry placed the lights on the tree.

We are especially grateful to Theresa Zuerblis who coordinated the ordering and delivery of the wreaths, tree, and flowers. She followed up with many phone calls to assure that all went smoothly.

Thank you to Rick Cucchi, our Sunday music minister, and to his accompanist at the Christmas Eve Mass, John Hartwick. Rick made our liturgies so special for us all.

We cannot forget Marella Piazza, who with her lovely voice brought the heavenly song to earth. Thank you, Marella, you are a treasure!

### **Wrapping up Christmas! Christmas Flower Offerings Donated on Behalf of These Loved Ones**

*In Memory of:  
William and Cecilia Pilette*

*In Honor of:  
Tom Guilbault*

### **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637  
Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470  
Rectory Fax: (313) 884-4276  
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Rev. Duane R. Novelly ~ *Pastor*  
Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*  
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*  
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

### CLERICAL STAFF

Marilyn Lynn ~ *Secretary*  
Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

### PARISH COUNCIL

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Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*  
Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*  
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian,  
Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*  
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

### PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

BILL ZUERBLIS ~ *CHAIR*  
MARY ANN BOLONE, JOHN DUNSTONE, JEFF SMITH,  
GARY STARK ~ *MEMBERS*

### 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.*

Madeline O'Neill	Eloise Parker
Sebastiano Stellino	Herb and Jeanne Damman
Joe Petrylka	Doreen Redman
Roger Sharpe	Sarah Wagner
Anthony Mastronardi	Nenette Ferreria
Kathy Bush	Lolita Dorado
Glenda Johnson	Albert Fajardo
Stephanie Smith	Eduardo Fajardo
Janet Law	Aurora Guinto
Laura Alix	Patrick Foley
Betty Leone	Mary Spansky
Jo Marie Nardi	Marie Kane
David Beaupre	Mike Dulapa
Kenneth Beaupre	Mike and Linda Holster
Anthony Crimauo	Irene McCann
Rosemary Schoolcraft	Bill Barlage
Tiffany Gelle	Bing Ocampo
Robert Stark	
Pauline Williams	
Bill Solomon	

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

Saturday, January 16, 2021, 4:30 p.m.  
Bryan Jones

Sunday, January 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m.  
Mary Ann Pilette

## SERVERS

Cory Fullilove

Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, January 9 - Vigil: Baptism of the Lord**  
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

**Sunday, January 10 - Baptism of the Lord**  
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, The Zilinski Family

**Monday, January 11 -**

**Tuesday, January 12 - St. Marguerite Bourgeoys**  
9:00 a.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Wednesday, January 13 - St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**  
9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

**Thursday, January 14 -**

**Friday, January 15 -**  
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Saturday, January 16 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - Judy Stark (4th Anniv), Emma Langan (3rd Anniv)

**Sunday, January 17 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Glenn (Chuck) Schuster



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FUTURE  
STARTS  
TODAY,  
NOT  
TOMORROW.”

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