

Bless the Lord my soul.

The first reading for the Baptism of the Lord is from the portion of Isaiah called Second Isaiah. It was written shortly before the decisive events in which Cyrus of Persia would defeat the Babylonians and allow the Jewish people in exile in Babylon to return home. Although the first reading speaks of how God is acting through Cyrus, Luke's use of part of this reading shows that he sees God also acting through Jesus in a somewhat analogous way.

The Isaian reading speaks of God putting the divine spirit upon the servant, something that Matthew, Mark, and Luke say happens at Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22). The effect of this Spirit-infusion will be justice for peoples (Isaiah 42:1, 4, 6). This justice is immediately defined, however, in terms of mercy: To open the eyes of the blind, / to bring out prisoners from confinement, / and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness" (42:7). This is also the way that Luke speaks, in both his Gospel and in his Acts of the Apostles, about the effects of Jesus' baptism. In Acts these effects are summarized neatly. After writing about Jesus' being "anointed with the holy Spirit and power" at baptism, Luke describes this spiritual power being expressed by Jesus "doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil" (Acts 10:38).

What is instructive is that the ultimate effect of the actualization of this power is a restoration of the relationship with God through forgiveness of sins (Acts 10:43). Thus, the purpose of Jesus' baptism is to bring about justice through mercy. This mercy has concrete effects in our daily lives. Certain healing comes through the divine mercy of Jesus. The final goal of Jesus' baptism and the mercy to us that come through it is, however, the restoration of the relationship between all human life and God.

Commentaries by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R

Readings for the Week of January 10, 2010

Sunday:	The Baptism of the Lord Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday:	First Week in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Saint Hilary, bishop, doctor 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44; Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday:	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

Baptism and Life "Whoever is moved by love begins to perceive what "life" really is. He begins to perceive the meaning of the word of hope that we encountered in the Baptismal Rite: from faith I await "eternal life" - the true life which, whole and unthreatened, in all its fullness, is simply life. Jesus, who said that he had come so that we might have life and have it in its fullness, in abundance (cf. Jn 10:10), has also explained to us what "life" means: "this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent" (Jn 17:3). Life in its true sense is not something we have exclusively in or from ourselves: it is a relationship. And life in its totality is a relationship with him who is the source of life. If we are in relation with him who does not die, who is Life itself and Love itself, then we are in life. Then we "live" - *Pope Benedict XVI, Encyclical on Hope, November 30, 2007.*

Priests for Life Liturgical resources

VOCATION NIGHT AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

On January 27, 2010, Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati hosts their annual 'Vocation Night' for men, college age and older, who are interested in pursuing the priesthood at the post-graduate level. The evening begins at 5:15 p.m. with Mass, and is followed by dinner and a short presentation on life in the seminary. Please register online at <http://cincinnati vocations.org/frm012710.php> or call the Vocation Office at 513.431.3131 x2890.

Check out the Vatican's special Web site for young people -- www.pope2you.net --it has been doing a brisk business since it was launched last May.

Eucharistic Adoration Eucharistic Adoration is the adoration of Jesus Christ present in the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist is displayed in the monstrance and people come to pray and worship Jesus continually throughout the time offered. Christ's great love for us was shown when he was crucified on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and give us eternal life. He loves us without limit, and offers Himself to us in the Holy sacrament of the Eucharist. Can we not give Jesus a few minutes of love and adoration in return? St. Ann Parish community provides parishioners and friends the ability to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament on **Wednesday's from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.** The exposition of the Eucharist in a monstrance offers adorers a special way to pray and reflect in His presence in a quiet, peaceful, and appropriate setting. Join us **Wednesday's from 8 a.m. -6:30 p.m.**

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Christopher Cross, KHS is planning a 10 day pilgrimage to the Holy Land for March 14-25, 2010. These trips include round trip air from JFK, hotel, breakfast, lunch, dinner and entrance fees. We get a chance to celebrate early morning Mass in the Tomb of Christ, and also on Calvary each morning. Call Christopher Cross, KHS at 888-727-5881 for a registration form or visit the web site www.catholicholyland.com for a detailed itinerary and/or a registration form.

2010 FIESTA Chair persons are still needed. Planning should begin this month for a successful St. Ann Festival. Please call Fr. Mondiek if you would like to volunteer!

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, January 10th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

Wednesday, January 13th

8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction
 7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A.
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul

Thursday, January 14th

6-8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Saturday, January 16th

3:30-4:30 p.m. Confessions
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass

Sunday, January 17th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

MAX & ERMA'S FUNDRAISER: A date has been set, so mark your calendars. St. Ann's day at Max & Erma's will be Wednesday, January 13th for lunch, dinner & carryout sales. We receive a check for 20% of your total bill when you present the flyer we will be inserting in the bulletin the Sunday before. Please make copies and pass them on the family and friends. If you have a St. Ann Kroger Card, you can purchase Max & Erma's Certificates at Kroger using your St. Ann's Kroger card and St. Ann's will make another 4%. Last year we did very well with this fundraiser. Hope to see you there!

Attention: All Teenagers - All Single Men/Women!

Have you ever considered a religious vocation? Join us for our 3rd Annual Vocation Panel on Sunday evening, January 10, 2010 from 7-9pm. Come hear the vocation stories of Tom Fr. McCarthy, Deacon Tim Ralston (to be ordained in May 2010), 1st year seminary Chris Geiger from St. Susanna Parish, along with 2 nuns from the Dominicans and the Little Sisters of the Poor, and 2 lay consecrated women. We will also have refreshments and a Q & A session.

The sympto-thermal method of Natural Family Planning is being taught at St. Susanna in the small conference room of the Undercroft of the church, beginning Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. This monthly course teaches a natural method of family planning that is safe, effective, and morally acceptable. To register, visit www.ccli.org. Contact Tom & Colleen O'Rourke at 398-3116 if you have any questions.

RUMPKE RECYCLING Don't forget to use our blue Rumpke CAN Recycling Container in the parking lot. This is for **aluminum cans only**. Proceeds benefit the St. Ann Roots and Wings (formerly Grant in Aid) School Tuition Assistance program. Rumpke is partnering with Busch Gardens / Sea World and this is free to our School / Parish.

FOOD and FAITH Series...Soup & Saints with S. Miriam Kaeser: Tuesday, January 12 from 7-8:30 p.m. Cost \$15.00. *Oldenburg Franciscan Center*. For more information call 812-933-6437 or email: center@oldenburgosf.com.



Saturday, January 9th The Baptism of the Lord

5:00 p.m. Tom Pottenger (Family)

Sunday, January 10th The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Baby Goldschmidt (Grandma & Grandpa Goldschmidt)

Monday, January 11th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Mollie Minelli (Janey Sherlock)

Tuesday, January 12th Weekday

7:15 a.m. For the Intentions of Paul & Lou Alline (Carol Gibbemeyer)

Wednesday, January 13th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Majorie Tann (Lois Baumann)

Thursday, January 14th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Communion Service
 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton

Friday, January 15th Weekday

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of the Deroussel Family

Saturday, January 16th Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Tess Fontaine (St. Ann Rosary Society)
 5:00 p.m. For the Intentions of Sister Mary Kuhl

Sunday, January 17th Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Marjorie Tann (Tom Schmidt)

St. Ann Financial Stewardship		<i>Thank you!</i>
Budgeted Weekly Offering		\$ 12,072.00
12/25/2009	Christmas	\$ 11,943.00
12/27/2009		\$ 7,168.00
01/01/2010	Mary, Mother of God	\$ 2,520.75
01/03/2010		\$ 7,058.40
Year to Date Budgeted Offering		\$ 313,872.00
Year to Date Actual Offering		\$ 266,243.23

NOTE: End of year giving statements available by email request to slmcabee@gmail.com or by dropping a self addressed envelope in the collection basket.

Join us...Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. for the next Great Music in a Great Space Concert in the cathedral honoring Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk for his 50 years of dedication and service to our community, with members of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, featuring the music of J.S. BACH, Paavo Jarvi, conducting.

YEAR OF EVENTS DEVOTED TO THOMAS MERTON

St. Monica-St. George Parish Newman Center in Cincinnati (328 W. McMillan St., Cincinnati, OH 45219, 513.381.6400) is sponsoring a year of events devoted to writer, activist, and Trappist monk Thomas Merton. The parish community hopes that this immersion into Merton's spiritual journey will encourage participants to enlarge their relationships with God, themselves, others, and all of creation. For more information and a schedule of events, please see <http://www.smsparishonline.com/Home/merton> or contact the good folks at St. Monica-St. George Parish Newman Center. Thank you.