

**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor
Readings / Lecturas: Missal Page 86 / 87**

*I saw the snares that the enemy spreads out over the world and I said groaning,
"What can get through from such snares?"
Then I heard a voice saying to me, "Humility."
- St. Anthony of Egypt (251-356), Desert Father, Feast Day January 17*



A drunk stumbles along a baptismal service on Sunday afternoon down by the river. He proceeds to walk down into the water and stand next to the Preacher.

The minister turns and notices the old drunk and says, "Mister, are you ready to find Jesus?"

The drunk looks back and says, "Yes, Preacher..I sure am."

The minister then dunks the fellow under the water and pulls him right back up. "Have you found Jesus?" the preacher asked.

"Nooo, I didn't!" said the drunk.

The preacher then dunks him under for quite a bit longer, brings him up and says, "Now, brother, have you found Jesus?"

"Noooo, I did not Reverend."

The preacher in disgust holds the man under for at least 30 seconds this time, brings him out of the water and says in a harsh tone, "My Good man, have you found Jesus yet?"

The ole drunk wipes his eyes and says to the preacher... "Are you sure this is where he fell in?"

Bulletin Info: Please contact Becky Elders with any bulletin information
Comuníquese con Becky Elders con cualquier información del boletín.

Home: 864-445-9906 Leave message if no answer	Email: belders@charlestondiocese.org
Cell: 864-993-1446 Text messages accepted	

NOTE: Information should be received by Tuesday PM prior to the Sunday that it should appear in the bulletin.

NOTA: La información debe recibirse el martes por la tarde antes del domingo.



*St. William Catholic Church
Parroquia de San William*

116 St. William's Church Road
Ward, SC 29166

www.stwilliamsward.org

Rev. Vincent H. Finnerty, CM – Pastor
Cell: 803-480-2134

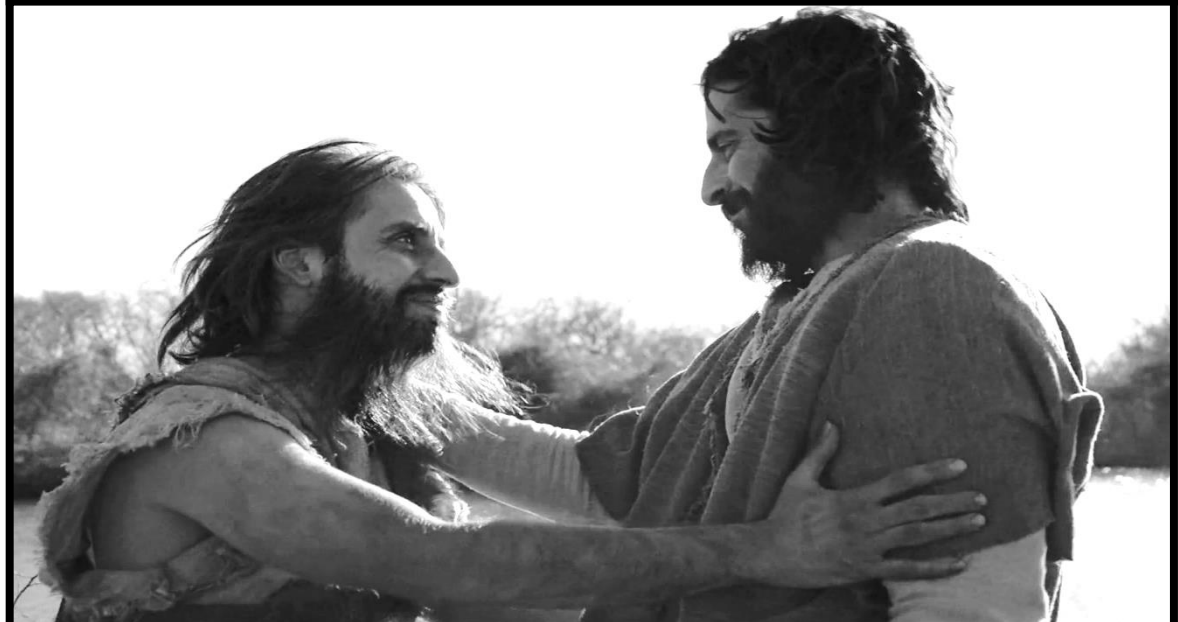
Mass Schedule / Horario de la Misa

Saturday 6:00 PM (Spanish)

Sunday 8:30 AM (Spanish)
10:00 AM (English)

Confessions / Confesiones

5PM
Saturdays



*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2025 / 12 de Enero de 2025*

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Courtesy of catholic-daily-reflections.com

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes for us the Christmas Season and transitions us into the beginning of Ordinary Time. From a Scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from His hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of His public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, it's important to ponder a simple question: Why was Jesus baptized? Recall that John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for His Baptism?

First of all, we see in the quoted passage above that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through His humble act of baptism. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," spoke the voice of the Father in Heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a public declaration of Who He is. He is the Son of God, a divine Person Who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an "epiphany," a manifestation of His true identity for all to see as He prepares to begin His public ministry.

Second, by His baptism, Jesus' incredible humility is made manifest. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, but He allows Himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through His action of baptism. He came to unite Himself with us sinners, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, He symbolically enters into death itself, which is the result of our sin, and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with Him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of Him "baptizing" the waters, so to speak, so that water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with His divine presence and could be communicated to all who are baptized after Him. Therefore, sinful humanity is now able to meet divinity through baptism.

Lastly, when we share in this new baptism, through water that has now been sanctified by our divine Lord, we see in Jesus' baptism a revelation of who we become in Him.

Just as the Father spoke and declared Him as His Son, and just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, so also in our baptism we become the adopted children of the Father and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Thus, Jesus' baptism gives clarity as to whom we become in Christian baptism.

Parish News / Noticias

Maintenance Fund Collection Cobro del Fondo de Mantenimiento

There will be a second collection TODAY following Communion for our Maintenance Fund.

Habr  una segunda colecta HOY para nuestro Fondo de Mantenimiento.

Happy Birthday Feliz cumplea os

Veronica Contreras – January 13th

Maria Lopez – January 13th

Juana Gallegos Alvarez – January 14th

Donna McCormick – January 16th

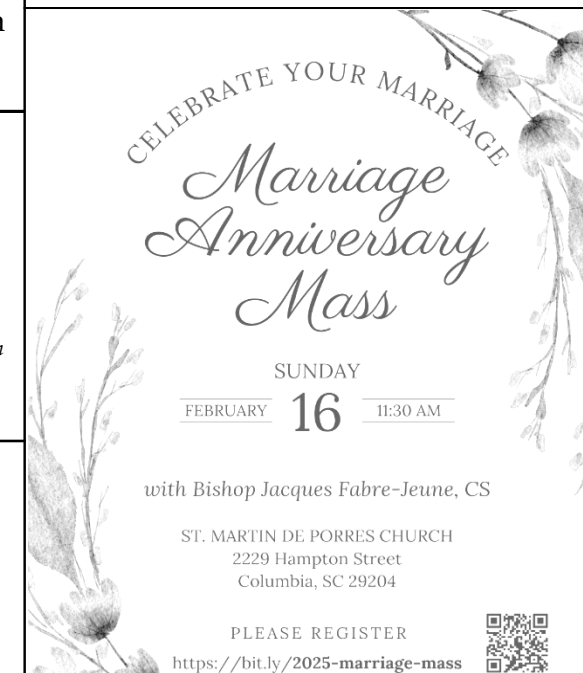
Happy Anniversary Feliz aniversario

Mark & Josie Rodgers

January 15th

Women's Reflection Group

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16th at 10:00 AM. For more details, please contact Sister Julie at 314-825-2969.



CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE


Marriage Anniversary Mass

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 16 11:30 AM

with Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH
2229 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204

PLEASE REGISTER
<https://bit.ly/2025-marriage-mass>



15th Annual Catholic Men's Conference of the Carolinas

QUEM SERVIS? (Who do you serve?)

Saturday, February 8, 2025

A Day of Faith and Fellowship including keynote speakers, Mass, Rosary, Confession, and Adoration. Lunch is included. For more information and to buy tickets, visit

<https://www.catholicmenofthecarolinas.org/>

Location: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church - 1400 Suther Road - Charlotte NC
\$40 General Admission - \$35 Specials and Students - \$25 Virtual

Welcome / ¡Bienvenidos!

Sunday, January 12th, 2025 – Baptism of the Lord

Domingo 12 de Enero de 2025 – Bautismo del Señor

United in Christ



Unidos en Cristo

Lord, I thank You for Your humble act of baptism by which You opened the Heavens to all who are sinners. May I open my heart to the unfathomable grace of my own baptism each and every day and more fully live with You as a child of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus, I trust in You.

~*~*~*~*~

Señor, te doy gracias por tu humilde acto de bautismo, por el cual abriste los Cielos a todos los pecadores. Haz que yo abra mi corazón a la gracia insondable de mi propio bautismo todos los días y viva más plenamente contigo como hijo del Padre, lleno del Espíritu Santo. Jesús, en Ti confío.

Collection / Ofertorio

January 4 th & 5 th	\$2426.00
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Second Collection Schedule

Segundo cronograma de recolección

January 11 / 12	Maintenance Fund
January 25 / 26	Church in Latin America
February	Catholic Appeal of South Carolina
February 8 / 9	Maintenance Fund
March 5	CCEE
March 8 / 9	Maintenance Fund
March 15 / 16	Black & Indian Missions
March 29 / 30	CRS

Dates to Remember

Sunday, Jan. 12 th	BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Monday, Jan. 20 th	MLK DAY
Sunday, Feb. 2 nd	PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
Friday, Feb. 14 th	VALENTINES DAY
Monday, Feb. 17 th	PRESIDENTS DAY
Wed. March 5 th	ASH WEDNESDAY
Sunday, March 9 th	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

God's Housekeeper Schedule

01/19	Lang & Brandie Rodgers
01/26	Linda Rodgers

Prayer List / Lista de Oración

Fr. Vince	Sr. Paula	Don Able	Corine Bailey
George Barton	Emma Susie Black	Linda Clubb	Adalyn Cochran
Kathy Galloy	Marcel Galloy	Beth Huff	Donna McCormick
Betty Jean Miller	Larry Moore	Rebekah Robeson	Dale Rodgers
Gena Turner	Jane Vagnoni	Joy Waters	Judy Wootton

Let us also pray for our servicemen and women, for the unemployed and the homeless, for our nation, and for all the deceased members of St. William's.

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Oremos también por nuestros hombres y mujeres militares, para los desempleados y las personas sin hogar, por nuestra nación y por todos los miembros fallecidos de San William.

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Please contact Sister Paula if there is anyone who is sick or homebound who would like to receive Communion, or simply a friendly visit. Sr. Paula: 315-272-7227

Offertory Envelopes

If you would like to begin receiving offertory envelopes by mail, or need to make any changes to your address, please contact Becky Elders (contact information on back of bulletin).

Sobres de Ofertorio

Si desea comenzar a recibir sobres de ofrenda por correo o necesita realizar algún cambio en su dirección, comuníquese con Becky Elders (información de contacto al dorso del boletín).

Only God Can Change Hearts

Courtesy of Minute Meditations/Franciscan Media

When we come to a moment in life of desiring fuller conversion, we are in effect becoming aware that God is asking for more. One's heart might sense this tug, feel the call to respond with more of whatever it might be. Not more legalism or more mortification, but more interior holiness, more development into the likeness of God. This is what is meant by a summons to penance, a summons to a turning of one's heart. This summons is a grace, a gift freely given. We do not achieve it or make it happen. Rather, God converts us and empowers us to respond with more of our hearts. Francis himself realized that prayer or fasting cannot change one's heart.

Only God can.

— from the book *In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare* by Roch Niemer, OFM