



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Dear Saint Luke Parish family,

Today, we close our celebration of the Christmas Season by contemplating the meaning of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist.

If you ask most Christians to name the most spiritually meaningful event in their lives, I would guess that very few would say the day of their baptism, especially if they were baptized as a child and they have no memory of the sacrament. However, on the day of our baptism, we entered the door to all the other spiritual riches of our faith. Without baptism, we would not be able to receive any of the other sacraments.

At our baptism, we became a "new creation" in Christ. We were given a participation in the very life of Christ. We call this gift grace. The kingdom of God is within us. We can call upon the power of Christ's divine life within us whenever we share with Christ our prayers, work, desires, joys, fears, and sufferings. This Year of Mercy is a time to deepen our prayer life (the communication that nourishes the new life in Christ) and more closely model our behavior on Jesus' example.

We are living through the Jubilee Year of Mercy. This is a time to reconnect to our baptismal identity. To each of us, the Father says, "You are my beloved son/daughter; with you I am well pleased." Do we believe this? If so, what difference does the laying hold of this identity make in our lives?

Yes, we fall. Yes, we sin. No, we are not perfect. But our baptismal dignity does not rest on our being successful or perfect. It rests on the fact that God loves each one of us personally and has called us to communion with himself through the communion of the Church. When we live in this freedom of the children of God, all the false fronts and masks that we are tempted to wear to prove to the world (or even other members of the church) that we are worthy, lovable, successful, with-it, and perfect fall away, and we discover our true selves; broken, wounded, imperfect, but still good and lovable; in fact, already loved beyond all reason by a God who is Merciful Love. To paraphrase C.S. Lewis, we are each created ultimately to see God face-to-face and to be seen by him; but how can God see us face-to-face 'till we have faces (dropping our false fronts). This is the meaning and power of baptism.

Thankfully, we don't have to go it alone on this courageous journey. We have been baptized into a Church, a community of faith. We carry each other on the pilgrimage of this life's joys and sorrows, hopes and fears. That is why our *Lent Living the*

Eucharist process and upcoming parish mission on God's Gift of Mercy are so vital. These are ways we come closer together to God, to each other, and to our truest selves. It's a paradox of the spiritual life that the more we seek out opportunities (usually at our own inconvenience and discomfort) to know, love, and serve others better, the more we connect to our deepest personal truth. Conversely, the more we seek our spiritual fulfillment individualistically, the more disconnected we become from our own deepest heart.

This Lent, we have golden opportunities to experience God, our neighbors, and our very selves in a deeper and truer way. I pray that many take this opportunity. As we begin the *Living the Eucharist Prayer Campaign* this weekend, please pray with me that each person in our parish will open their hearts to God's mercy and love this year, so that when our earthly journey is completed, we each will hear God say to us face-to-face, "You are my beloved daughter/son."

God Bless,
John Graveline

Thank you!

Many thanks for Christmas gifts, cards, best wishes and your support of our ministry here at St. Luke University Parish.

~Fr. Chuck & Fr. Brad

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

is Jan. 18 - 25. The theme for 2016 is *Called to Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord* (cf. 1 Peter 2:9). The Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute website has a daily scripture and prayer guide that allows you to join with Christians around the world praying "that all may be one... that the world may believe" (John 17:21). There is a link on the front page of our website (www.lukespot.com).

Euchre & Dominoes are Back!

Jan. 16! Better late than never. Come one, come



all for fun and fellowship. Doors open at 6, play begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring a snack to pass. Beverages available for donation. Look forward to seeing everyone!

Altar flowers this Sunday:

Celebrate the Talbert Children's' Birthdays

Penny's 10th on Jan. 9

Lucy's 12th on Jan. 12

Harry's 7th on Jan. 15

**Food Pantry Needs**

Saint Luke's Food Pantry
appreciates your help!



Our current food pantry needs:

Canned Fruits & Vegetables

Next pantry date: January 14, 2016

Faith Formation

Faith Formation (K-3) meets at the
Parish Center at 9:15 a.m.

Young Disciples meets at Cook-Dewitt
Center **GVSU** at 2:15 p.m.

Youth Ministry meets at Kirkhof Center
Thornapple Room, GVSU, at 2 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Meets Jan. 13

SACRAMENTS AT SAINT LUKE

For sacramental information, contact John
Graveline or speak with one of the priests

Readings for the First Week of Ordinary Time

Sun., 01/10	The Baptism of the Lord Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Mon., 01/11	1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
Tue., 01/12	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Mk 1:21-28
Wed., 01/13	Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39
Thu., 01/14	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44: 10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
Fri., 01/15	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
Sat., 01/16	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17
Sun., 01/17	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

This Week...

Sun., Jan 10		Baptism of the Lord
8:00 a.m.	Mass	Linda Berri Parish Ctr
9:15	Faith Formation (K-3)	Parish Ctr
10:30	Mass + Mary Ann Taylor	Parish Ctr
2:00 p.m.	Baptism Preparation	Parish Ctr
2:00	Youth Ministry	Thornapple Rm
2:15	Young Disciples (4-5)	Cook-DeWitt
5:30	Mass For Our People	Cook-DeWitt

Mon., Jan 11	
7:00 p.m.	Exposition & Adoration Cook-DeWitt
7:00	Confession Cook-DeWitt Rm 120

Tues., Jan 12	
7:30 p.m.	K of C General Council Meeting Parish Ctr

Wed., Jan 13	
7:00 p.m.	Mass Ruth Hackney Parish Ctr
7:30	Adult Bible Study Parish Ctr

Thurs., Jan 14	
3:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Parish Ctr

Fri., Jan 15	
5:00 p.m.	Mass + Thomas Rockwell Parish Ctr

Sat., Jan 16	
7:00 a.m.	Men's Fellowship Parish Ctr
12:00 p.m.	Woman's Fellowship Brunch Parish Ctr
6:00	Euchre & Dominoes Party Parish Ctr

Sun., Jan 17		Second Sunday of Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	Mass	Parish Ctr
9:15	Faith Formation (K-3)	Parish Ctr
10:30	Mass	Parish Ctr
2:00 p.m.	Youth Ministry	Thornapple Rm
2:00	Confirmation Meeting	Thornapple Rm
2:15	Young Disciples (4-5)	Cook-DeWitt
5:30	Mass	Cook-DeWitt

Ministries for Jan 17**Lectors**

8:00 a.m.	Lillian Gray (Reader 1), AJ Sujkowski (Reader 2)
10:30	Val Lehti (Reader 1), Patricia Roslund (Reader 2), Robert Talbert (Intentions)

Altar Servers

8:00 a.m.	Connor Wagner, Molly Casha
10:30	Aaron Morgan, Simon Morgan

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

8:00 a.m.	Nanette Casha, Shirley Valentovich, Deb Buursta
10:30	Rod Morgan, Sabrina & Tom Van Wyk, Linda Mitchell, Cathy Talbert, Sally Forslund

Ushers

8:00 a.m.	Jerry Casha (Lead), Tim Rowland
10:30	Howard Lehti (Lead), Kevin Devos, Rich Conflitti

Saint Luke University Parish

January 10, 2016

The Baptism of the Lord

Volume 10, Number 7

Ministry of the Paulist Fathers

SCRIP

Thank you for using St. Luke's Scrip Program for your holiday shopping. The rebate earned in November was \$1187.56 and December was \$1,332.78. I invite everyone who used scrip, for the first time, during these months to continue to participate in the program by purchasing your weekly gas and/or grocery cards. You know how easy it is. You've met and talked to other parishioners using it weekly. What's stopping you?

Our rebate goal for the year (July 2015 – June 2016) is \$12,000. That's \$1,000.00 per month. As of December 31st, we are at \$6,935.78 so we are ahead of our goal but we need everyone's help to keep the momentum going. Please consider this great fundraiser. Don't know what it's all about. Stop by the scrip table and pick up a blue information folder.

Project Rachel

This Year of Mercy be open to receiving forgiveness. Join us for our next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat on the weekend of Feb. 5-7. Contact Project Rachel to find out how to move beyond the sorrow of abortion. Call 616-340-1824 or email mwalsh@ccwestmi.org. Project Rachel in the Diocese of Grand Rapids is a ministry of Catholic Charities West Michigan.

REFLECT Catholic Singles Retreat

Never-married, divorced, or widowed people in mid-life, REFLECT offers singles the chance to experience healing, a sense of belonging, and a renewed relationship with the Lord through planned talks, a reconciliation service, Mass, and fellowship. Join other mid-life singles Feb 19-21 at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI. For more information call 989-450-0993 or online at www.ReflectRetreat.com.

Retrouvaille of Grand Rapids

A Marriage Saving Weekend. Rediscover healing & love. Find hope by attending Retrouvaille. The next marriage saving weekend is Feb. 12-14, 2016 in Grand Rapids. For more information or to register contact 616-752-7004 or register online at www.retrouvaille.org

***** **Women's Fellowship Reminder** *****

Our Brunch Potluck/Membership Drive [bring a new member] and an optional, "Christmas gift - I - really - didn't - need - Swap", is Saturday, Jan. 16, at the Parish Center. Noon to 2 p.m. Bring ideas of what we can do in 2016, either monthly, or for a long term project. This is going to be an exciting year for St. Luke's, come join in the fun! Check out our suggestion box, in the back of Church. Paper and pens are attached.

Soup's On For All!

Held at the B.O.B (arena district, Grand Rapids) annually for the food and pantry programs of God's Kitchen. Guests can visit each of the building's five floors where they are able to sample soups, breads and desserts donated by area restaurants, while enjoying live entertainment. Volunteers hand paint soup bowls, which each guest selects as a souvenir from the evening. Contact Bethany Stowe (bstowe@ccwestmi.org) or by phone at 616-551-5663. Jan. 25 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$50/person in advance. Get tickets at Schuler Books & Music, Michigan Church Supply at Cathedral Square or online at soupsonforall.org or at the door the night of the event for \$60/person.

Walk for Warmth

Last year's walk raised over \$19,000 to keep families throughout Ottawa County warm. This year's walk starts at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13 at City On A Hill, located at 100 Pine St. in Zeeland. Registration is free, donations are encouraged. Maps and walking team information can be found at miottawa.org/w4w.

Sportsman's Banquet

Calling all hunters, anglers, and outdoor-enthusiasts: Saturday, Jan 16, from 3-6 p.m. at Second Church for a fun evening for a great cause with wildgame dinner, raffle prizes, games and guest speaker Danny Geurink. All funds raised go to *Love INC*. \$20 Tickets are available at *Love INC* of Allendale's office (6101 Lake Michigan Drive) Weekdays 9-1 p.m. or Tuesdays 9-3 p.m. Any questions call *Love INC* at 616-895-5683.



This **JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY** is a special time for us. Lent, the biggest celebration of mercy, begins on, Wednesday, Feb. 10. Easter is March 27.

Besides the regularly scheduled Lent celebrations: Soup Suppers; Masses; Stations of the Cross; St. Luke's is also presenting two special opportunities.

Join us for **LIVING THE EUCHARIST**. This will be the 3rd year of our popular Faith Sharing and Faith Growing program. Sign-ups begin soon. Get Ready.

Join us for a Parish Mission: **POPE FRANCIS and HIS WORDS OF MERCY**. Fr. Frank Desiderio, CSP who leads retreats and missions around the theme of Forgiveness, will be with us Feb. 20 - 24. Save the dates now.

Also - be prepared for other special events and activities as we celebrate this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.



Parish Center Located at:
 6163 Lake Michigan Avenue
 Allendale, MI 49401 616-895-2247
 LukeSpot.com
 GVSU Campus at:
 Cook-DeWitt Center Rm 120
 616-331-3131 GVSUCatholic.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Brad Schoeberle, CSP Pastor
 frbrad@lukespot.com 616-328-3382

Rev. Chuck Cunniff, CSP Associate Pastor
 frchuck@gvsucatholic.org 616-446-5742

Mr. John Graveline Faith Formation
 JohnG@lukespot.com 616-895-2248

Ms. Caitlin Cusack Music Ministry
 CaitlinC@lukespot.com 616-895-2248

Mrs. Kim Thomas Parish Secretary
 Secretary@lukespot.com 616-895-2247

Ms. Alyssa Freehafer Bulletin Editor
 Bulletin@lukespot.com 616-895-2248

Diocesan Mass Commemorating the Anniversary of Roe v Wade

On Friday, January 22, 2016 the nation will mark the 43rd Anniversary of the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, Roe v. Wade, legalizing abortions in the United States. The Diocese of Grand Rapids will observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on January 22. As Catholics, we are deeply committed and concerned about the need to protect human life from the time of conception to natural death. Many prayer resources and ways you can participate can be found on the diocesan webpage.

On Friday, January 22nd, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., Bishop Walkowiak will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew giving thanks to God for the gift of human life. A light reception will follow in the parish center of the Cathedral.

All are welcome!