



The Most Refreshing Waters

Can you remember having a breath-taking experience that involved water? Maybe a fantastic day at the ocean, jumping up and down in the waves... water-skiing... snorkelling or diving? Well, "breath-taking" is exactly the response that John the Baptist had today when Jesus came up to be baptized by in the Jordan River. John's type of baptism was about seeking cleansing and forgiveness for sins. So he's awestruck: "What are you doing coming to me--shouldn't I be coming to you for baptism?" Jesus responds, "Give in for now, so we can fulfill what God asks us to do." And when John does do as God asks, he and everyone present see something truly amazing--they actually see and hear all three Persons of the Blessed Trinity. The Holy Spirit of God descends as a dove over the head of Jesus, filling and strengthening him. The voice of the Father claims Jesus, "This is my beloved Son." So they witness three Persons of the Trinity expressing their unity and their intimate community of love—and commissioning Jesus for his work on this earth as the Saviour of the world. Can we see in this anointing of Jesus for his life's work a "call to action" for our own lives? Jesus' baptism is a foreshadowing of what our own anointing at baptism means. We may not have a clear idea of what our baptism is supposed to mean—Fr. Richard Rohr says, "It takes the rest of our life to understand it, to suffer it, and to (make it our own)...The Christian life is a matter of becoming who we already are." Like Jesus, the waters of baptism anoint us to live as a community of compassion and love for the world. Isn't that refreshing? This way we fulfill Jesus' prayer: "May they all be one...as we are one, with me in them and you in me."

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Jan. 11	9:00 am	RIP Flora Fleury	Russell & Joan Lawrence
	9:00 am	Special Intention	Rick & Patti Anderson
Wed. Jan. 12	7:30 am	RIP Flora Fleury	Pat O'Sullivan
	9:00 am	Richard & Chris Dubois	Michael Dubois Family
Thurs. Jan. 13	9:00 am	Phil & Shannon Vickers	Ken, Karen & Steven
Fairview Home	10:30 am	Curtis & Jody Kehler	Kehler Family
Fri. Jan. 14	9:00 am	RIP Gordon Phillips	Judy Cancade
	12:15 pm	RIP Bob Sali	Deacon John & Carol MacKenzie
	12:15 pm	Horace Forbes	Kay & Eric De Pass
Sat. Jan. 15	10:00 am	RIP Lori Boileau	Vince & Family
	4:00 pm	RIP Elsie Panchuk	Anne Malazdrewich
	4:00 pm	RIP Verlie Davison	Joan Britton
Sun. Jan. 16	9:00 am	RIP Guy Goulet	Mom & Dad
	9:00 am	Brian Golding	Pat & Family
	10:30 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. James
	12:30 pm	RIP Dale Holmstrom	Sherry & family
	12:30 pm	RIP Myron Berg	Ken, Karen & Steven

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Noreen Bicknell, Irene Copet, Jules Declercq, Ann Delgaty, Ron Ediger, Justin Enns, Rosaline Fedorkie, Mervin Fleury, Connie Gudz, Matthew Hrankowski, Brett Lawrence, Kathleen MacDougall, Paul Malabar, Millicent Mychasiw, Alisa Moran, Tony Petrucci, Minnie Plaseski, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Irene Toma, Ashely Kostecki Truax, Marian Vorspel, Rosa Weiss, Rebecca Weitzman, Debbie Williams and all our shut-ins.

Save the Dates: The Brandon and Area League for Life will be selling tickets to their 4th annual fundraising banquet after all masses on the weekends of January 8th and 9th and January 15th and 16th. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. The banquet date is January 22, 2011. The guest speaker is Michael Coren, Toronto journalist for life.

Parish Face to Face Retreat/Mission:

Where: St. Joseph the Worker R.C. Parish, Russell, Mb. When: Saturday, January 15, and Sunday, January 16, 2011 For: Ages 4 years old and up! Come for Talks, music, Mass, Sharing, Games, Discussion! Come for only one day, one hour or for the whole retreat! For more information or to register contact Glenda Stasiuk @204-773-2652 or the parish office @204-773-2924.

Baptism of the Lord

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1217-1228: Baptism in the economy of salvation

Mon. (Hebrews 1.1-6)
(Mark 1.14-20)

Tues. (Hebrews 2.5-12)
(Mark 1.21-28)

Wed. St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
(Hebrews 2.14-18)
(Mark 1.29-39)

Thurs. St. Hilary
(Hebrews 3.7-14)
(Mark 1.40-45)

Fri. (Hebrews 4.1-5, 11)
(Mark 2.1-12)

Sat. Our Lady's Saturday
(Hebrews 4.12-16)
(Mark 2.13-17)

Sun. 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Isaiah 49.3, 5-6)
(1 Corinthians 1.1-3)
(John 1.29-34)



VOCATION VIEW: Baptism is the starting point; union with God is our goal. How we serve others in between is our Vocation.

St. Augustine's Community Voices Choir will begin rehearsals for the new year on Sunday, Jan. 9 at 7:00 PM in the church. All are welcome to attend.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon.	10	Prayer Group	7:00 pm
Tues.	11	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 pm
	11	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
	11	Confirmation Classes	7:00 pm
Wed.	12	Catechism Classes	4:00 pm
	12	RCIA	7:00 pm
	12	12:30 Choir Practice	7:00 pm
	12	Into the Deep	7:00 pm
	12	Knights of Columbus Mtg.	7:30 pm
Thurs.	13	Serra Meeting	11:30 am
	13	Catechism Classes	6:30 pm
	13	League for Life Meeting	7:00 pm
	13	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Fri.	14	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	14	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	14	Benediction	5:00 pm
Sun.	16	St. Augustine Community Choir	7:00 pm

FINANCES:

Collection for Dec.24, 25, 26, & 31 2010

Offertory Collection	\$ 22961.31
School Fund Collection	\$ 20.00
Restoration Collection	\$ 6650.00
Collection for Jan. 1, 2	\$ 9268.00
School Fund Collection	\$ 20.00
Restoration Collection	\$ 290.00

RECEIPTS:**Stewardship- Faith on Fire, Hearts & Minds Transformed**

We all share in the baptismal priesthood. The 2nd Vatican Council... "The laity derive the right and duty to the apostolate from their union with Christ the head; incorporated into Christ's Mystical Body through **Baptism** and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation, they are assigned to the apostolate by the Lord Himself. They are consecrated for the royal priesthood and the holy people (cf. 1 Peter 2:4-10) not only that they may offer spiritual sacrifices in everything they do but also that they may witness to Christ throughout the world" DEGREE ON THE APOSTOLATE OF THE LAITY (3). Stewardship is rooted in our baptism. How are you using your gifts in response to your baptismal call? Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPT UPDATE: As per Revenue Canada information please be informed that donations received after DECEMBER 31, 2010 CANNOT be added to the year 2010 receipts. This information was received from Revenue Canada.

Donation Envelopes: Donation envelopes for 2011 are in the east vestibule ready for pick up. Please do not use these until 2011.

Notice to all who purchased an angel Christmas tree decoration from the Brandon Area League for Life: The in memoriam mass for Mary's Angels will be February 6, 2011 at 12:30 pm.

From Father Dominic's Desk:

Summer Endeavour in a Redemptorist Volunteer Experience April 30 – June 4, 2011 (5 weeks) **Toronto, Ontario**

SERVE is an opportunity for 6 young men and women (age 18-30) to deepen their Christian Faith through fostering a sense of mission, service, prayer and spirituality in a Christian Community rooted in the Spirituality of St. Alphonsus Liguori and the Redemptorist Charism. Through common prayer, community living, spiritual formation, opportunities for service in social agencies in Toronto, Eucharist, discussion and social activities, participants will discover Christ in themselves and learn how to bring Christ to others. Bursary available upon completion of the program. Applications and information can be found online at www.plugintochrist.ca. Deadline for Applications and References to be received is MARCH 1, 2011.

Holiday for Father James Ahaneke -

Fr. James will be leaving on a one month holiday to his native Nigeria. He will return on February 10. We wish Fr. James an enjoyable and restful holiday with family and friends.

League for Life Banquet:

As mentioned in the bulletin last week the Brandon Area League for Life invited Michael Coren as guest speaker on Saturday, January 22, 2011. Michael Coren is a columnist for several newspapers and magazines. He also hosts a television talk show out of Toronto. Michael has published 12 books. Michael is a practicing Catholic. He will be speaking during the banquet which is being held at the Bethel Christian Assembly beginning with refreshments at 5 p.m. Phone Gerry Kennedy for tickets or the parish office.

Come and attend Brandon Men's Ecumenical Fellowship Potluck Supper at St. Georges Anglican Church, on Friday, January 14.

The **Knights of Columbus** will be hosting their 10th Annual Valentine Social which will be held at the Ukrainian Reading Hall. This year it will be held in conjunction with "Celebrate Marriage Week". Tickets can be purchased at the Parish Office.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Four Elements of Unity

The 2011 prayers for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by Palestinian Christians, who chose as a theme Acts 2.42, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." This theme is a call back to the origins of the first church in Jerusalem; it is a call for inspiration and renewal, a return to the essentials of faith; it is a call to remember the time when the Church was still one. Within this theme, four elements are presented. These elements, which were marks of the early Christian community, are essential to the life of the Christian community wherever it exists. First, the Word was passed on by the Apostles. Second, fellowship or sharing was an important mark of the early believers whenever they met together. A third mark of the early Church was the celebration of the Eucharist (the "breaking of the bread"), remembering the New Covenant, which Jesus has enacted in his suffering, death and resurrection. The fourth aspect is the offering of constant prayer. These four elements are the pillars of the life of the Church, and of its unity. The Christian community in the Holy Land wishes to give prominence to these basic essentials as it raises its prayers to God for the unity and vitality of the Church throughout the world. The Christians of Jerusalem invite their brothers and sisters around the world to join them in prayer as they struggle for justice, peace and prosperity for all people of the land. -Canadian Council of Churches.