



## **SPIRITUAL GROWTH RESOURCE PACKET**

### **The Baptism of the Lord**

#### **Gospel**

**Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan  
to be baptized by him.**

**John tried to prevent him, saying,**

**“I need to be baptized by you,  
and yet you are coming to me?”**

**Jesus said to him in reply,**

**“Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for  
us**

**to fulfill all righteousness.”**

**Then he allowed him.**

**After Jesus was baptized,**

**he came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,  
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove  
and coming upon him.**

**And a voice came from the heavens, saying,**

**“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”**

**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

**Matthew 3:13-17**



**CLEMENT MANOR CHAPEL**  
*All are welcome*

**RESPECT • COLLABORATION • QUALITY SERVICE**

## The Baptism of the Lord

*Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?” Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. Matthew 3:13–15*

John the Baptist was the last of the Old Testament prophets, entrusted with the mission to immediately prepare the way for the Messiah. Today's feast marks a pivotal transition from the Old Law to the New. Prior to Jesus' baptism, John's mission was in full motion. With Jesus' baptism, the mission of the Old Testament prophets is fulfilled, and the New Law of grace begins.

Why did Jesus enter the waters of baptism? He was sinless and had no need of repentance. Yet, in His divine wisdom, Jesus chose to be baptized to sanctify the waters, opening the gateway of grace for all who would follow. By entering the waters of baptism, Jesus set a precedent. Every Christian who enters the waters of baptism meets our Lord there, sharing in His life of grace.

As we reflect on Christ's baptism today, we are invited to consider our own. Most of us were baptized as infants and have no memory of the event. Others came to baptism later in life, fully aware of the grace they were receiving. Regardless of when it occurred, baptism's effects are profound and enduring. That singular moment of sanctification forever changed us, and its transformative power remains active within us.

Through baptism, Jesus meets us under the waters. When baptism is performed by full immersion, it powerfully symbolizes the reality of this encounter. We enter the waters of repentance, as John offered, but we emerge united with Christ. Just as the Father's voice declared at Jesus' baptism, “You are my beloved Son...,” so too does the Father continually speak to us after our baptism, affirming our identity as His beloved children. The Holy Spirit descends upon us, and we are offered every gift of the Spirit, provided our hearts remain open.

Baptism occurs only once in our lives and imprints on our souls an “indelible spiritual mark (character)” (see Catechism of the Catholic Church #1272 and 1274). This mark configures us to Christ and signifies our permanent belonging to Him and His Church. It cannot be lost or removed, even by mortal sin. However, while this character endures forever, the state of sanctifying grace



within our souls can be lost through mortal sin. In such cases, the grace of baptism is restored through the Sacrament of Reconciliation in which our souls are once again cleansed and brought back into full communion with God. Marked as members of Christ's Body, we are continually disposed to receive sanctifying grace through the other sacraments, as long as we remain in a state of grace. Baptism accomplishes this disposition, enabling us to participate fully in the life of grace that flows from Christ.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, reflect today on your own baptism. You are forever marked as a child of God. You encountered our Lord under the waters of baptism, were cleansed of all sin, and were filled with sanctifying grace. Though sin diminishes or even extinguishes that grace when it is mortal, the Sacrament of Reconciliation restores it, and the Eucharist and other sacraments increase it. Always return to your baptismal grace, seeking to live out your identity as God's son or daughter, as this sacred mark intends.

My sanctifying Lord, through the waters of baptism, I encountered You and received the abundant grace You bestowed upon me. Please help me to keep my soul free from sin and to live with the true dignity of a child of God.

Thank You for meeting me under those waters. May I remain with You, growing ever closer to You by the ongoing gift of all the Sacraments. Jesus, I trust in You.



## A Blessing for Caregivers

**May you see with tender eyes The wounds of those before you.**

**May you hear with well-tuned ears**

**The unspoken needs of those whose voices are muted.**

**May you hold with gentle hands**

**The bodies and the spirits of those you care for.**

**May the beauty of soul, The strength of spirit,**

**The wholeness of being Lead you, inspire you**

**And let you know your own Beauty of soul,**

**Strength of spirit, Wholeness of being.**

**May you know that, As you care for others,**

**God cares for you, sees you, Holds you tenderly.**

**Amen.**

~chausa.org



## A Blessing for Nurses

**May rest find you,**

**In the peaceful moments when all is still,**

**In the quiet times when you pause**

**And breathe.**

**May rest find you**

**In the chaos of the moment**

**In the sorrow you seek to heal.**

**May rest strengthen and bless you.**

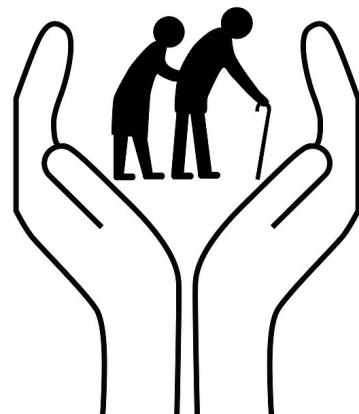
**May it fill your spirit**

**And give you unearned joy.**

**May you find rest in the care of others,**

**In the knowledge of your worth,**

**In the value of your service.**



**May the One who gives rest**

**Bless you and hold you close.**

**And may you, in your very being,**

**Be a place of rest for others.**

**Amen.**

If you have any personal intentions you would like to add they will be added to our list, contact Tom 546-7980 or [tbrefka@clementmanor.org](mailto:tbrefka@clementmanor.org):

**Prayer Intentions:**

- For those residents who are sick: May they feel the healing presence of God
- For the Church, baptized in Christ and sent on mission, that we may faithfully proclaim the Gospel by our words and lives
- For all who are preparing for Baptism, and for those renewing their baptismal promises, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit
- For parents and godparents, that they may be faithful witnesses of faith and guide their children to grow in the love of Christ
- For those who struggle to recognize their dignity, that they may know they are beloved sons and daughters of God
- For our community, that renewed by the waters of Baptism, we may live as instruments of justice, peace, and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.



**Join us on Clement Manor**

**Channel 3.1**

**Word & Communion Service  
Monday & Tuesday—9:30am**

**Mass**

**Wednesday—Friday & Sunday  
9:30am  
Saturday — 4:00pm**

**Individual Reconciliation  
Available upon request call  
Fr. Bob 546-7383**

**Loving Father,**

**at the Jordan you revealed your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit rested upon Him like a dove.**

**As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, renew in us the grace of our own baptism.**

**Wash away all that separates us from you, and clothe us again in Christ.**

**Help us to listen to your voice, to walk in humility and trust, and to live as your sons and daughters.**

**Strengthen us to be light in the world, faithful witnesses of your mercy and love, until we share fully in the life you promise.**

**Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Holy Father's Monthly Intention January 2026**

**For prayer with the Word of God**

**Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.**



**Holy Angels, West Bend**

**Gracious and loving God,**

**You speak to us through Your living Word, a lamp for our feet and a light for our path. We ask that prayer with Sacred Scripture may nourish our hearts and minds, drawing us ever closer to You. May Your Word strengthen us in times of trial, awaken hope where there is weariness, and guide our daily choices. Form us as a fraternal community, attentive to Your voice and compassionate toward one another. Send us forth as missionary disciples, shaped by the Gospel we pray and proclaim, so that our lives may witness to Your love in the world. Amen.**

**January 11**

**Baptism of the Lord**

**Blest are You, God of all inspiration,**

**Your Son, Jesus, accepted the waters of baptism and called us to be a holy people.**

**May we daily remember our baptism and remain faithful to Your Word.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**AMEN**



**January 13**

**St. Hillary**

**Father, keep us from vain strife of words.  
Grant to us constant profession of the Truth!  
Preserve us in a true and undefiled faith  
so that we may hold fast to that  
which we professed when we were baptized  
in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
that we may have Thee for our Father,  
that we may abide in Thy Son  
and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.  
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**Saint Hillary, PRAY FOR US**



**January 17**

**St. Anthony**

**O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and Charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me (request). O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours.**

**AMEN**

**Saint Anthony, PRAY FOR US.**

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS:

Daily Reading for

**Sunday January 11, 2026**

Reading 1, Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 29:1-2,  
3-4, 3, 9-10

Gospel, Matthew 3:13-17

Reading 2, Acts 10:34-38

Daily Reading for

**Monday January 12, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 1:1-8

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 116:12-13,  
14-17, 18-19

Gospel, Mark 1:14-20

Daily Reading for

**Tuesday January 13, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 1:9-20

Responsorial Psalm, Samuel 2:1,  
4-5, 6-7, 8

Gospel, Mark 1:21-28

Daily Reading for

**Wednesday January 14, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 40:2-5, 7-8, 8-  
9, 10

Gospel, Mark 1:29-39

Daily Reading for

**Thursday January 15, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 4:1-11

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 44:10-11,  
14-15, 25-26

Gospel, Mark 1:40-45



Daily Reading for

**Friday January 16, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 89:16-17,  
18-19

Gospel, Mark 2:1-12

Daily Reading for

**Saturday January 17, 2026**

Reading 1, Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 21:2-3,  
4-5, 6-7

Gospel, Mark 2:13-17

Daily Reading for

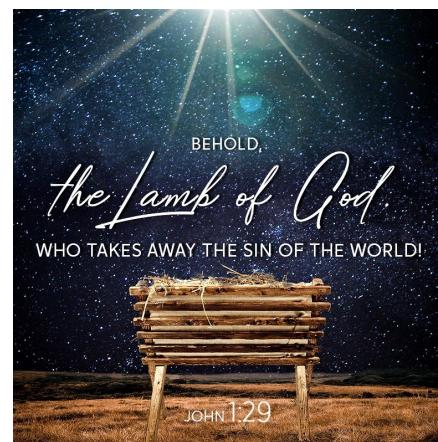
**Sunday January 18, 2026**

Reading 1, Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-  
9, 10

Gospel, John 1:29-34

Reading 2, Corinthians 1:1-3



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