

# BAPTISM of the LORD

# JANUARY 10, 2010



**Baptism of the Lord, January 10, 2010**

**By Father Greg Friedman, O.F.M**

It's a cliché, but true, that to finish well depends on making a "good beginning." A month or so ago we heard "the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God," proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Advent. Those words sound like a title—and, in a way, they are Mark's "title" for his Gospel. All that will follow—from Christ's Baptism to the announcement that he is risen—is, for Mark, the "beginning" of the Good News about Jesus. The continuation of the story is up to us who have received this Good News. As the liturgical season of Christmas ends today, we begin to reflect on a weekly basis on what it means to live the Good News that Jesus Christ has been revealed as Son of God. Much of our reflection will come from Mark's Gospel. Today he presents the dramatic scene in the waters of the Jordan River, as Jesus is baptized by John. The Spirit descends on Jesus, and a heavenly voice claims him: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." From the Jordan, Jesus will begin a mission of healing and exorcism. Just as the Spirit hovered over the primeval waters at the dawn of Creation described in the Book of Genesis, so now the Spirit is at work in Jesus—and in each of us, become new creations in Christ through our own Baptisms. .

### SCHEDULE of MASSES

Monday, Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Susan Morris ++++++ Glenn & Betty Morris
Tuesday, Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	NO MASS	PASTOR AWAY
Wednesday, Jan. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	NO ADORATION - PASTOR AWAY	
	Prescott	NO MASS	PASTOR AWAY
Thursday, Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	NO MASS	PASTOR AWAY
Friday, Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Lou & Eva Filion ++++++ Jack & Sue Bradley
Saturday, Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	5:15 P.M.	Tom, Lorne, Adrienne Byrne ++++++ Margaret Byrne
Sunday, Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Intentions of all St. Mark & Sacred Heart Parishioners
	Prescott	11:00 A.M.	Gerry Jansman (3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniv.) ++++++ His Wife, Toni

Sunday Offertory : JANUARY 03 - 10  
Mary, Mother of God:

St. Mark - \$1404.15  
St. Mark - \$1349.47

Sacred Heart - \$ 407.00  
Sacred Heart - \$ 306.00

Thank you for your Generosity



### PARISH MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR MASSES ON JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)

MASS	USHERS	READERS	EUCCHARISTIC	GIFT BEARERS
Sat. 5:15 - Jan. 16 St. Mark	Josh Whelan, Colleen Dixon, John McAuley	Emily Allard	Bev Currier, Wayne Dove	Beth Gallagher Jean Farlinger
Sun. 9:00 -Jan. 17 Cardinal	"To be determined"	June Simpson	Christina Edge Joan Toupin (C)	"To be determined"
Sun. 11:00- Jan. 17 St. Mark	Gerry Devaney, Rene Villeneuve, Albert Laporte	Ashley Martin	Betty Warren, Larry Sauve, Tom O'Keefe (C)	Mike & Sharon Crozier & Family
CHILDREN'S LITURGY - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			SUNDAY JANUARY 17 <sup>th</sup> - DEBRA CURRIER	

**ENVELOPE USERS** - Since envelope numbers may change from year to year, you are kindly asked not to use envelopes from previous years. If old envelopes are used, there is a risk that your donation will be credited to the wrong account if it goes unnoticed. Also, please check the information on the label and report any required changes to **Brent Laton, Financial Administrator** at 613-925-3313. Necessary changes will be reflected on your 2009 income tax receipts.

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**USHERS NEEDED:** St. Mark is in need of Volunteers for ushering especially on **Sunday** at **11:00 AM**. Please spare 5 minutes of your time in service to the Lord by calling **925-4060**

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** Cardinal, Ontario. January 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010. "You are witnesses of these things..." Luke 24:48 -

Each day beginning at noon worship followed by a light lunch at St. John's United Church, Cardinal. All are invited and encouraged to join together with our sister churches in Cardinal to celebrate the unity we have in Jesus Christ.

**Sacred Heart's day will be Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.**

A warm invitation is extended to all from the churches of Cardinal. Please join us for a time of worship and fellowship in Jesus' name - the Cardinal Ministerial - A free will offering is usually made by the participants.

**ST. MARK CHURCH HEATING SYSTEM** - As was mentioned last weekend, the new heating system is running quite nicely. The new boilers are much more efficient than the previous ones. Since they are properly sized to the building, they also operate without strain and the reliability of the system is excellent. We received the invoice for natural gas for the month of November recently. We used **1,900 m<sup>3</sup> less fuel this year than last**, even though the average daily temperature during the month was 5° Celsius colder. As you can tell, the Church was much more comfortable than it was this time last year. With the reduction in the cost of natural gas and this less consumption, the **savings for the month of November** over last year amounted to approximately **\$1,200.00**. The **average monthly cost** of natural gas for **St. Mark Church** during **last year's heating season** was approximately **\$3,200.00**.

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**NOTES FROM FR. APPELMAN:**

**GREAT MAN OF OUR PAST:** We may not know or remember that January 10<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the Death of our Great Pastor: **Msgr. John Masterson**. When he arrived in Prescott in 1881 he was Pastor not just of Prescott, but of the whole neighborhood including Cardinal and Throoptown, (soon to become Spencerville). He was the one who built our present beautiful Church dedicated to St. Mark the Evangelist, opened in 1888. He was not only Pastor but because of his great talents and pastoral work he was chosen to be the Dean of the Eastern part of the Kingston Archdiocese and also made a Monsignor, which has always been a sign of great confidence on the part of the Bishop in some of his senior priests. And apart from his faithful pastoral work, he preached the word of God in this beautiful church for forty years, until 1921 when he retired. When he died in 1928, he was buried under the tower of the Church, where his grave can still be found. Much on the life of this great man can be found in the Diocesan Archives and in the written history of the parish. We like to thank and honour this great man. I presume that some of our very old people may still remember him or were present at his funeral. May he look with kindness from Heaven upon our parish even in our own day.

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**SHORT ABSENCE:** This coming week from Monday morning till Thursday evening I will take my annual after-Christmas break. I am going to Toronto and hope of course that the roads will be good.

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**MILL HILL FATHERS:** As a member of the Mill Hill Fathers and being the only one in Canada, I am also responsible for some financial activity for the good of our Order. This past week I made the annual balance; it takes a few hours to get all the figures figured out. And you may know that over the years (**35 now**) I have been able to send great amounts of funds: mass stipends, donations, my part of the stole-fees and part of my salary, to our missions and mission projects. My Mill Hill Boss always says: Thank you.

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**An Angel Says.... "there is a big difference between good, sound reasons and reasons that sound good."**

First of all a word of thanks to all the people who came to the annual Levee on January 1. It was as always very pleasant and we all enjoyed the many goodies. A special thank to the good ladies who prepared the punch and all others good edibles too. This levee has been a good tradition for many years now. It is also a great opportunity to relax and enjoy pleasant conversation. I don't have a Christmas tree but the dining room is decorated with Christmas cards almost from top to bottom. Some are still coming in this week mainly from abroad. I am always impressed by the many religious cards and the little personal messages inside. No the time has come to begin putting away all our decorations, at the rectory but in our churches too.

Now we are going to make a big jump; from all the loveliness of the Nativity and the joy of the new-born Child and in the presence of the lovely parents, Mary and Joseph, we proceed from the infant life of Jesus to the beginning of his public life, some 30 years later. Up to that time, after the short stay in Egypt and the quiet years in Nazareth (on which we must reflect some other week), we see the last and greatest of all the Prophets, namely John the Baptist pointing out to all the people the man who is the expected of the ages: "See here the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world". Was that clear language to the people? Why did John call Jesus the Lamb of God. By now we know much better, because John was already referring to the final end of the life of Jesus when he became the true Lamb of God, offering his life on the Altar of the Cross.

And where did John make this prophetic announcement? Yes, at the River Jordan. We may know that the Jordan is, today too, the life-line for the people in the Holy Land; the river coming down from Mount Hermon through the Sea of Galilee and ending in the Dead Sea.. In was in the River Jordan that together with great crowds of people Jesus was baptized by John. The River Jordan is not a mighty river like the St. Lawrence, but the water has given and continues to give life to all people in the area. Why was Jesus baptized? Not to have sins forgiven, but to make a public profession of answering the call from his Father in Heaven. From this day on Jesus begins to preach and teach and heal and call disciples too. And as we know the public life of Jesus was not only preaching and receiving the applause of the people, but also accepting the hardships and contradictions and sufferings of a "life for God". Jesus did not end his life in retirement after a few years of successful preaching and healing, but it ended on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

The lesson for us is clear, we too have been baptized and received our vocation and mission be witnessed for God and to be apostles of God's way of living: with joy and thanksgiving and trust and acceptance of the ups and downs of life and our sufferings. God's plan for Jesus may be hard to fathom, and so it is for us too. In other words being baptized is serious business. Thank you God and help me to live up to my part of the covenant that is started on the day of my baptism.

*Father J. Appelman, M. F. M., Your Pastor*



## The Knots Prayer

Dear God:  
 Please untie the knots  
 that are in my mind,  
 my heart and my life.  
 Remove the have nots,  
 the can nots and the do nots  
 that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots,  
 may nots,  
 might nots that may find  
 a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots,  
 would nots and  
 should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all,  
 Dear God,  
 I ask that you remove from my mind,  
 my heart and my life all of the 'am nots'  
 that I have allowed to hold me back,  
 especially the thought  
 that I am not good enough.  
 Amen

Author Known To God

### Train of Life

Some folks ride the train of life looking out the rear,  
 Watching miles of life roll by, and marking every year.  
 They sit in sad remembrance, of wasted days gone by,  
 And curse their life for what it was, and hang their head and  
 cry.

But I don't concern myself with that, I took a different vent,  
 I look forward to what life holds, and not what has been  
 spent.  
 So strap me to the engine, as securely as I can be,  
 I want to be out on the front, to see what I can see.

I want to feel the winds of change, blowing in my face,  
 I want to see what life unfolds, as I move from place to  
 place.  
 I want to see what's coming up, not looking at the past,  
 Life's too short for yesterdays, it moves along too fast.

So if the ride gets bumpy, while you are looking back,  
 Go up front, and you may find, your life has jumped the  
 track.  
 It's all right to remember, that's part of history,  
 But up front's where it's happening, there's so much  
 mystery.

The enjoyment of living, is not where we have been,  
 It's looking ever forward, to another year and ten.  
 It's searching all the byways, never should you refrain,  
 For if you want to live your life, ***You gotta drive the train!***

~author unknown~

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**" A FEW RULES/LAWS TO ACCEPT HASSLES."**

1. **MURPHY'S LAW:** If anything can go wrong, it will.
2. **MOSER'S LAW:** Exciting plays happen only while you  
 are watching the scoreboard or out buying  
 refreshments.
3. **BEDFELLOW'S LAW:** The one who snores, always  
 falls asleep first.
4. **KOVAC'S CONUNDRUM:** When you dial a wrong  
 number, you never get a busy signal.
5. **LAW of LIFE'S HIGHWAY:** If everything is coming  
 your way, you're in the wrong lane.
6. **GOLD'S LAW:** If the shoe fits, it's ugly or out of style.
7. **LAWREY'S LAW:** If it jams - force it. If it breaks it  
 needed replacing anyway.
8. **CORREY'S LAW:** Paper is always strongest at the  
 perforation.
9. **CRANE'S LAW:** There are three ways to get  
 something done: Do it yourself - Hire someone to do it.  
 - or Forbid your kids to do it. \_\_\_\_\_

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**WISE WORDS FROM ST. PAUL:** "For we brought  
 nothing into the world, and it is certain we can carry  
 nothing out. And having food and raiment, let us be  
 therewith content."

**"Whereas our basic needs are quite a few in number -  
 our desires or wants are staggering."\_**