

15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484

P:561.496.2480

F:561.496.5755



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:17



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**IT'S POST TIME 2025  
Blessed Mother Council  
Presents**

**KNIGHT AT THE RACES  
FRIDAY JANUARY 17, 2025  
6:30 p.m. Columbus Hall  
Food/Fun/Racing (B.Y.O.B.)  
ONLY \$12.00**

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW !!  
(AVAILABLE AT CHURCH OFFICE)**

TICKETS NOT SOLD AT DOOR



Join Us for a  
Communion Breakfast...

### Meditations on the Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Saturday, January 18, 2025**

Join us at the 8:30AM Mass followed by a breakfast of eggs, sausage, hash browns, assorted danish and more in Columbus Hall. Fr. Timothy Canaan will offer a meditation on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. There is no charge. Please sign up at the church office or the back of church. — **All Are Welcome!**

Sponsored by Emmanuel Church and  
The Knights of Columbus

# PARISH INFORMATION

02 | PARISH FAMILY | GOD IS WITH US



## OUR MISSION

**Emmanuel Catholic Church which means, God is with us**, is a faithful community of believers dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Roman Catholic Church through word, sacrament, and service. As a parish family of God, we live by faith, truth, and love as we value the sanctity of life in all its stages and make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the consultation with our parish ministries, we desire to be witnesses of God's presence as we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with God's Family.

## CLERGY

### Pastor

Rev. Fr. Gaudioso Zamora

### Parish Vicar

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ihedoro

### In Residence

Rev. Fr. Joseph Papes

### Weekday/Weekend Associates

Rev. Fr. Timothy Canaan

Rev. Fr. David Carr

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

## PARISH MINISTRIES

### OCIA & Sacramental Preparation

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

### Religious Education

Jean Krokus | Ext. 1005

religiouseducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Sandra Gallegos [Sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:Sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Lectors

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Hospitality / Ushers

Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

### Music

Linda Coz, Ree Joy Baldonado, Men's Choir

### Altar Flowers

Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

### Altar & Clergy Vestments

Carol Chapman, Nancy McDonald,

### Homebound / Hospital Ministry

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Gift Shop

## PARISH STAFF

### Director of Finance

Tanya Kuppamala Ext. 1001 [tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Secretary

Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 [secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Property Manager

Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 [maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Receptionist

Rose Marie Baldonado Ext. 1000 [receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church)

Josephine Joan | Ext. 1009

### Blood Drive

Patti Gomez | 561-293-9761

### Finance Council

### Parish Council

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

### Ladies Guild

President Nancy McDonald

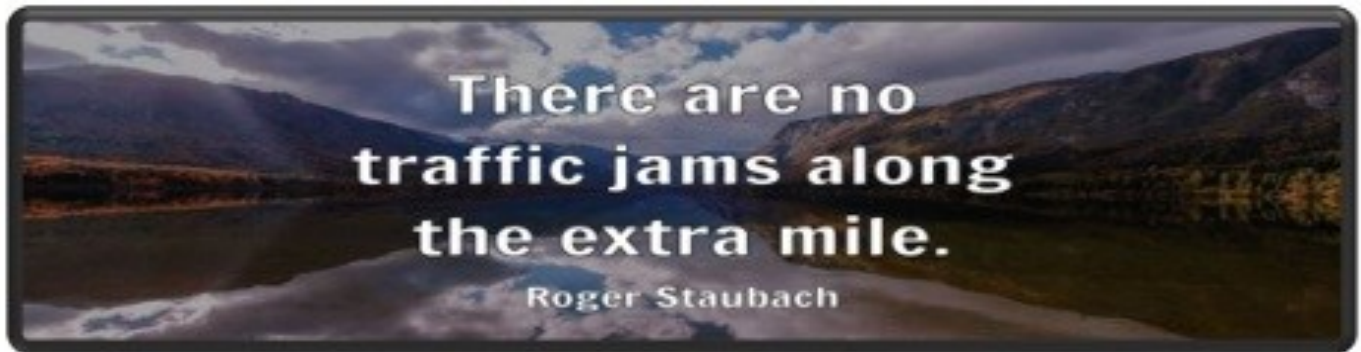
### Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight Bob Budd

### Legion of Mary

President Maude Cassagnol





Our Rosary path is a great place for us to pray, and with the passing of time comes the need to Refresh or replace the elements that have become tired or end of life.

With your donations We are going to Refresh the fading images of the stations of cross with Brass images that will stand up to the brutal Florida sun

**Donation \$1,000.00 Per station  
(14 Available)**

**\*Includes a Leaf on our Tree**

Our existing Wooden Benches have served us well , but are now so deteriorated they must be replaced.

We will be installing **6' Aluminium Benches**. Constructed entirely with lightweight, corrosion resistant aluminum materials and protected in a resilient powder-coating finish, these popular imported benches are long lasting and tough as nails



Sometimes when things are falling apart, they may actually be falling into place. Stay positive.

**Donation \$2,000.00 Per Bench  
(18 Available)**

**\*Includes a Leaf on our Tree**

**Get both the Bench & Station of the cross for a \$2,500.00 Donation.**  
Donations received before the new year will enable work to be complete for Lent 2025

Contact Jerome Plummer 561-247-5448 or email at [jp@bcs1.net](mailto:jp@bcs1.net)

PARISH REGULAR SCHEDULE

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Every Friday at 6:30pm–7:30pm (after 6:00pm Mass) except for First Fridays.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Every Thursday after the 8:30am mass or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 1:00pm. Schedule one month in advance. Contact Parish Office.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday 8am-1:00pm

Tuesday Closed

Thursday & Friday 8am-1pm

Saturday Closed

4th Sunday of the Month 10:00AM- 1:30PM

NOTE: Gift shop will be closed when the parish office is closed

ROSARY GROUP

Monday–Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after the 8:30am Mass

SCHEDULE CHANGES?

Do you want to make sure there have been no sudden time changes to any event or activity you want to join this week? Call the parish office during business hours.

561.496.2480



PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 12

9:00A.....Ladies Guild Mass
1:00P..... OCIA Class
1:00P.....Pre-Baptism Class

Monday, Jan. 13

6:30A..... Adoration
1:00P.....Movie Mondays
6:00P..... Legion of Mary Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 14

6:30A.....Adoration
10:00A.....Faith Sharing
12:00P.....Ladies Guild- Chinese Auction/Lunch
7:00P.....KoC Officers Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 15

6:30A.....Adoration
2:00P.....School of Christian Formation
4:00P.....SoulCore

Thursday, Jan. 16

6:30A..... Adoration
9:00A.....Anointing of the Sick
3:00P.....Holy Hour
6:30P.....AA Meeting

Friday, Jan. 17

6:30A.....Adoration
6:30P.....Taize
6:30P.....Knight at the Races

Saturday, Jan. 18

8:30A.....Good Shepherd Retreat
9:00A..... Confession
8:30A. Meditations on the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Sunday, Jan. 19

1:00P..... OCIA Class

## HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR 2025

Today is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and is the last day of the season of Christmas. Tomorrow we will start the Ordinary Season.

I would like to use this opportunity to express my personal THANKS and APPRECIATION for all your support to our Parish Family. It was a great year. I'm so grateful for your generosity and kindness that made our church a beautiful place to worship and to show our love with one another.

A special Thank You to our Pastoral Council - members of the different ministries: OCIA, Religious Education, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the church, Hospital, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities and Homebound; the Lectors, the Ministry of Hospitality, Music, Altar

Flowers, Altar and Clergy Vestments and Altar Servers.

Thank you to the members of our Finance Council, Knights of Columbus and Ladies Guild. To our Clergy and Staff, Thank you for the great job.

Lastly, a Big Thank You for all your Christmas and New Year's messages and Greetings. As we celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025, a time of grace and renewal, let us remember its theme: PILGRIMS OF HOPE. This Holy Year invites us to deepen our Faith, rediscover Hope, and recommit to a life centered on Christ as we journey together as one Parish Family.

Vivat Jesus, - Fr. Zamora

## Saint of the Week - Saint Anthony, Abbot (251-356)

The life of Anthony will remind many people of Saint Francis of Assisi. At 20, Anthony was so moved by the Gospel message, "Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor" (Mark 10:21b), that he actually did just that with his large inheritance. He is different from Francis in that most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude. He saw the world completely covered with snares, and gave the Church and the world the witness of solitary asceticism, great personal mortification and prayer. But no saint is antisocial, and Anthony drew many people to himself for spiritual healing and guidance.

### Asceticism and prayer

His life was marked by solitude, fasting and work. Orphaned at 20, as a young man he gave all his goods to the poor and retired to the desert, where he also fought against the temptations of the devil, choosing the path of asceticism and prayer. Anthony was responsible for the establishment of families of monks who, under the guidance of a spiritual father, consecrated themselves to the service of God.

### Saint Anthony and the blessing of animals

St. Anthony is often depicted next to a pig with a bell around its neck. This iconographic representation is linked to the fact that the ancient hospitaller order of the "Antonines" raised pigs because the fat of these animals was used to anoint the sick affected by ergotism. This disease was then called "the fire of Sant 'Antonio". On his feast day, the stalls are blessed, as are any domestic animals brought for blessing. In the iconography is associated with St. Anthony figures also the hermit's staff in the form of T, the tau, the last letter of the

Hebrew alphabet.

### A gift from God

In the biography Vita Antonii, St. Athanasius wrote these words referring to St. Anthony: "That he was everywhere known, admired and desired by everyone, even those who had not seen him, is a sign of his virtue and God-friendly soul. In fact, neither for writings nor for a profane wisdom nor for any capacity is Anthony known, but only for his piety towards God - and no one could deny that this is a gift from God. As indeed we would not have heard in Spain and in Gaul, in Rome and in Africa of this man, who lived withdrawn in the mountains, if God Himself had not made him known to all, as He does with those who belong to Him, and as He had announced to Anthony since the beginning? Even if Anthony acted in secret and desired to remain hidden, the Lord shows him and those like him to everyone, as a lamp, that those who hear about them know that it is possible to follow the commandments and take courage in following the path of virtue."

### Reflection

In an age that smiles at the notion of devils and angels, a person known for having power over evil spirits must at least make us pause. And in a day when people speak of life as a "rat race," one who devotes a whole life to solitude and prayer points to an essential of the Christian life in all ages. Anthony's hermit life reminds us of the absoluteness of our break with sin and the totality of our commitment to Christ. Even in God's good world, there is another world whose false values constantly tempt us.

## CLERGY & MASS SCHEDULE

### Sunday, Jan. 12

7:30A Fr. Carr    9:00A Fr. Carr  
10:00A Fr. Zamora    10:30A Fr. Leone  
12:00P Fr. Theo    6:00P Fr. Theo

### Monday, Jan. 13

7:30A Fr. Zamora    8:30A Fr. Carr

### Tuesday, Jan. 14

7:30A Fr. Theo    8:30A Fr. Timothy

### Wednesday, Jan. 15

7:30A Fr. Carr    8:30A Fr. Leone

### Thursday, Jan. 16

7:30A Fr. Theo    8:30A Fr. Timothy

### Friday, Jan. 17

7:30A Fr. Carr    8:30A Fr. Theo  
6:00P Fr. Zamora

### Saturday, Jan. 18

8:30A Fr. Timothy  
4:00P Fr. Zamora    5:30P Fr. Zamora

### Sunday, Jan. 19

7:30A Fr. Theo    9:00A Fr. Timothy  
10:00A Fr. Timothy    10:30A Fr. Theo  
12:00P Fr. Carr    6:00P Fr. Leone



## DSA UPDATE - Jan 06, 2024

Goal Amount ..... \$ 169,000.00

Current Don Total... **\$136,571.98**

Balance Rem..... **\$ 32,428.02**

## CHURCH OFFERINGS

### December 24-25, 2024

Collection    \$ 28,610.00

### December 28-29, 2024

First Collection    \$12,035.00

Second Collection    \$ 2,267.00

Subtotal    \$14,302.00

Online (12/28)    \$ 1,356.85

### Dec 31, 2024-Jan 01, 2025

Collection    \$ 7,119.00

### January 05, 2025

First Collection    \$15,517.00

Second Collection    \$ 2,981.00

Subtotal    \$18,498.00

Online (01/04)    \$ 2,897.52

## PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

Almighty God We stand before you in supplication, Asking Your Divine mercy and protection, To envelop with Your invincible armor, Our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them courage and strength Against all enemies, Both spiritual and physical, And hasten their safe journey, Back to their homes and families.

If it be Your Holy Will That they be gathered to Your bosom, With the eternal vanguard of the saints, Let their journey to Your everlasting arms Be swift and painless, Where they may stand in honor and glory, Praising You for all eternity.

Amen

# WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 12--JANUARY 19, 2025 | 07

## SCHEDULED INTENTIONS

### Monday, Jan. 13

7:30am †Frank Femiano Sr. by Frank & Donna Femiano †Jorge Saenz by Cannon Family  
8:30am †Victor & Angelina Pacienza by Christine & John †Dennis Clark by Audrey & Albert Krapf

### Tuesday, Jan. 14

7:30am †Colette Corish by Family †Jorge Saenz by Cannon Family  
8:30am †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Christine & John \*Thanksgiving by Christine & John

### Wednesday, Jan. 15

7:30am \*Richmond Family by Alex Lee †Jorge Saenz by Cannon Family  
8:30am †Rose Buerkert by Carol †Pelligrino Vingo by Amelia Vingo

### Thursday, Jan. 16

7:30am †Ben Paone by Jerome Plummer & Family †Martin Cabada by Cannon Family  
8:30am †Jack Williams by Patricia King \*Francis & Heather Martin by Marie Guzman & Family

### Friday, Jan. 17

7:30am †Martin Cabada by Cannon Family †Baby Azra by Alexander by Sherin Alexander  
8:30am †Irma Toscano Parker by Mr. & Mrs. Toscano †Lillian Angus by Sister Doris  
6:00pm **FOR PRIESTS** †Mackie Pensergera by Wife Wife Marilyn **FOR PRIESTS**

### Saturday, Jan. 18

8:30am †Joann Alsgaard by Husband, Dennis †Martin Cabada by Cannon Family  
4:00pm **BOOK OF THE DEAD** **BOOK OF THE DEAD**  
5:30pm †Fr. Richard Messina by Family †Eleonora Pace by Mario Pace

### Sunday, Jan. 19

7:30am †Mary & Bill Walsh by Children †Lillian & Jim Angus by Doris Fiorenza  
9:00am †Marie Larch by Carol Schwab †Anacoreta Baldonado by Dorothy Deedy  
10:30am **PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS** **PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS**  
12:00pm †Phyllis A. Lomitola by Kate Gilroy †Rev. Robert Milanya by Bozidar & Berta Pesa  
6:00pm †Rae Baldino by Granddaughter †Ann Koppie by Daughter & Son

## UNSCHEDULED

†Belgica Rocha by Herb †Belgica Rocha by Herb †Belgica Rocha by Herb †Manuel Diego Buriel by Herb  
†Manuel Diego Buriel by Herb †Manuel Diego Buriel by Herb †Manuel Diego Buriel by Herb  
\*Eva Dubreuil \*Eda Rene †Alain Dubreuil \*Kadia Pierre \*Thomas Fioto by Rose  
†Albert Giazzarelli by Lucille & Anthony Boscia  
\* Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Persin/50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Ronald Persin  
†C. O. Mathew by Sherin George †John G. Dalton Jr. by Bob

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**VIGIL LIGHTS**

**SHRINE FLOWERS**

**Please take some time this week to remember the following in your prayers: For all in our parish family who are suffering serious or terminal illness:**

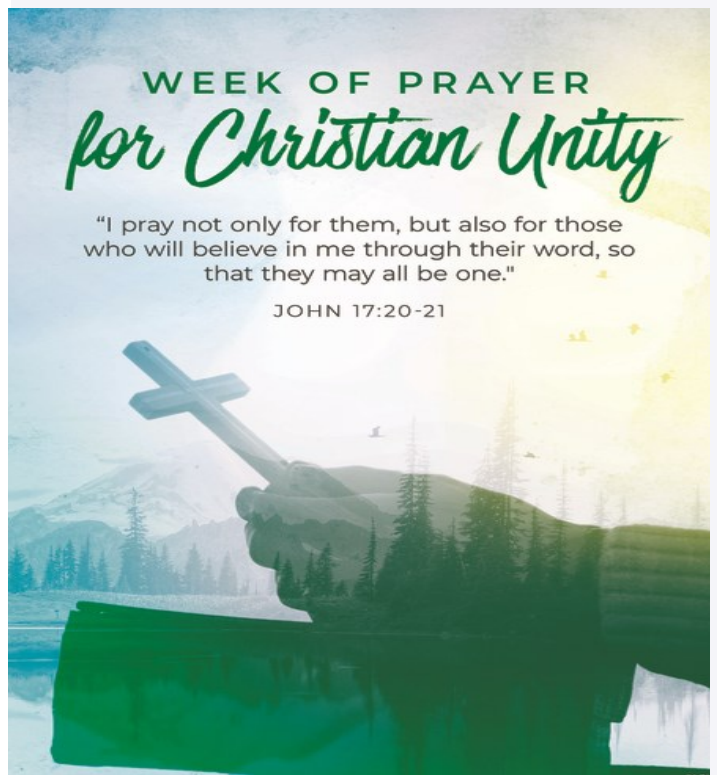
**For men and women in the Armed Forces, and their families: AND FOR ALL LISTED BELOW**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| David & John<br>Helen Cruz<br>Lenore Curatolo<br>Marilyn Boyle<br>Andrea Anastasi<br>Shelly Fiorini<br>Ed Bush<br>Bob Oberholzer<br>John Wilkens<br>Scott Ellison<br><i>Evangeline Ezeilo</i><br>Michael Gehres<br>Karen Sullivan<br>Sean Zahul<br>Darren Guzman<br>Mary Lou<br><i>Connie Panepinto</i><br>Amalia Mazzolin<br>Leon Martin<br>Joe Delagami<br><i>Rose Marie Regner</i><br>Michael Manuele<br>Carla Ruiz<br>Benjamin Robelo<br>Karen McCarty<br>T.J. Genzale<br>Dave Ruiz<br>Victoria Robelo<br>Ms. S.<br>Rose Borsella<br>Lexie Helgerson<br>David Smeraldo<br>Janette Cole<br><i>Steven Martin Sikes</i><br>Gianna Pagan<br>Suzanne Puleo<br><i>Sr. Frances Vass OSC</i><br>Mary Loveland<br>Sam Falcone<br>Patricia Golstein<br>Taylor Dosh<br>Marilyn Martino<br>Gulshan Modena<br>Maggie Dolan<br><i>Amelita Coz-Zarraga</i><br>Heather Martin<br>Tailor McGee<br>Ronald Griffiths<br>Margie Giaquinto<br>Maria Fernandez<br>Raphael Roman<br>James Ezeilo | Brenda Ezeilo<br>Cynthia Martin<br>Francis Martin<br>Hermoine D'Cruz<br>Brigitte Knops<br>Toni Kreamer<br>Gerry Gerhard<br>Euclides Cerutti<br>Grace Cassagnol<br>Samuel Gonzales<br>Victorio<br>Ray Wolff<br><i>Patricia Tripi Giraldo</i><br>Ida Giannettina<br>Tom Hickey<br>Josette Weber<br>Vincent Rizzo<br>Louis Perticone<br>Ann Cavaseno<br>Charles C. Tufano<br>Angela Discepola<br>Anna Halford<br>Sal Yanello<br>Victor Rivera<br>William Lindner<br>Lisa Della<br>Femina<br><i>Maria E. Quiñones-Mercado</i><br>Diane Daniels<br>Carmen Jones<br>Bill Hamilton<br>Ralph Senese<br>Ramona<br>Ash Gaballah<br>Karen Ramey<br>Tom Tripi<br>Mary Ann<br>Lisa Payne<br>Marilyn Green<br><i>Joseph Salamone</i><br>Phyllis Lomitola<br>Maria Amaro<br>Aniela Ignaczak<br>Lillian Campayno<br>Terry Schwinge<br>Tom D'Amico<br>Gabriel Zamora<br>Vincent Blum<br>Ricardo Blum<br><i>Gina Marie B. Cohen</i><br>David Strompf<br>Sal Hanono<br>Chris Angotti | Heather Smith<br>Jason Smith<br>Ronald Merhige<br>Roshan<br>Karen Jensen<br>Cynthia Martin<br>Garry Solomon<br>Ilda Sosa Botero<br>Carlos Tobon<br>Jill Forshey<br>Gerry Santilli<br>Gail Hill<br>Chrissie Budrick<br>Frank Dazzo<br>Dina Quelch<br>Stewart Librizzi<br>Thomas Land<br>Agatha Saccio<br>Robert Albertson<br>Rafael Botero<br>Albert Fernandes<br>Doreen Romano<br>Britney Closson<br>Jeanette Gallegos<br>Adriana Elejalde<br><i>Oswaldo Cesar Monasterio</i><br>Michael Cecere<br>Jahaziel Roldan<br>Abigail Chin-Lenn<br><i>Gertrudis Rivera Martinez</i><br>Merrill Tucker<br>Debra Tucker<br>Maggie Dazzo<br>Nicholas Cerino<br>Daisey Gutzman<br>Noah Altherios<br>Debra Serritella<br>Harvey Shackman<br>Joseph Reategui<br>Anthony Spiritio<br>Rhea<br>Raecher<br>Doug Rodgers<br>Doris Vourinen<br><i>Sister Veronique DCSO</i><br>Danny Berciles<br><i>Elizabeth Lanza-Hajko</i><br>Eleanor Hemmer<br>Joseph Lauria<br>Judy Lew |
|---|---|--|

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION .** Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God. May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL** St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.** Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send your workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together;  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

### Psalm:

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

### Second Reading:

He saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

### Gospel:

After all the people had been baptized  
and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying,  
heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him  
in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

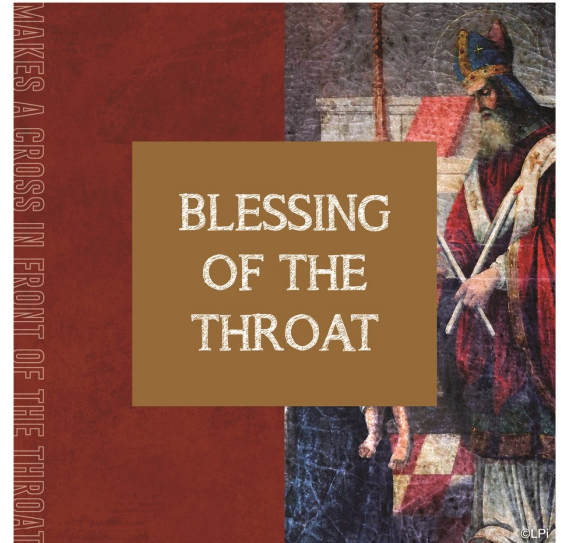
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

“The people were filled with expectation,” writes Luke. And so we find ourselves, two thousand years later, filled with expectation, with longing. Who can give us what we seek? Only the one upon whom the dove descended. Follow him.

## Observances for the week of January 12, 2025

- Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord  
**Monday:** St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Tuesday:**  
**Wednesday:**  
**Thursday:**  
**Friday:** St. Anthony, Abbot  
**Saturday:** January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Devotions, Explained!

Catholics traditionally receive a blessing of the throat on the feast day of St. Blaise (Feb. 3), who was a bishop and martyr of fourth-century Armenia. During the blessing, a cross is formed from two blessed candles that are held over the throat.

## Prayer for Baptism

Oh God,  
You desire each of us to  
be a part of Your sacred  
family, called and invited into  
relationship with You. May  
the grace of our Baptisms  
surround us anew, who are  
beloved and chosen by You.

Amen.

# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** It makes perfect sense that everyone thought John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was the guy pouring the water. But the Messiah was the man who came to be baptized. He was the one who descended into the waters, submerging himself in our experience of death and pain and sorrow.

### Beneath the Surface

When I was seventeen, I wasn't sure that I wanted to be confirmed. It was a rough period in my life, and I was having some intense questions and doubts. It upset my mother, understandably. She knew that, at such a pivotal and difficult moment, I needed the grace of the sacrament more than ever. So, she called our priest and asked him to talk to me.

After that meeting, I made the decision to be confirmed.

To be honest, I can't remember anything he said to me. All I remember is that he sat with me. He listened to me. He let me talk and talk and talk (and cry). And when he said whatever he said, whatever it is that I cannot remember, it was obvious that he had listened to me.

Reading today's Gospel, it makes perfect sense that everyone thought John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was the guy pouring the water. Of course it seemed natural that he would be "the one." The one they were all waiting for.

But instead, the Messiah was the man who came to be baptized. He was the one who descended into the waters, submerging himself in our experience of death and pain and sorrow — and in doing so, he sanctified it. He made it a means of redemption.

Jesus is our Savior, yes. When we dig ourselves a hole of sin and confusion and we can't climb out, he is the one who brings us back to the surface. But he doesn't pull us out; he lifts us. He jumps down into the pit. He looks around. He offers his hand, gives us a leg up, and by his strength and not our own, we are brought back into the light.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

#### Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers and this is symbolized by the white garment.

## Worship & Meditation

### Readings for the week of January 12, 2025

#### Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

#### Monday:

Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/  
Mk 1:14-20

#### Tuesday:

Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/  
Mk 1:21-28

#### Wednesday:

Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/  
Mk 1:29-39

#### Thursday:

Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/  
Mk 1:40-45

#### Friday:

Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/  
Mk 2:1-12

#### Saturday:

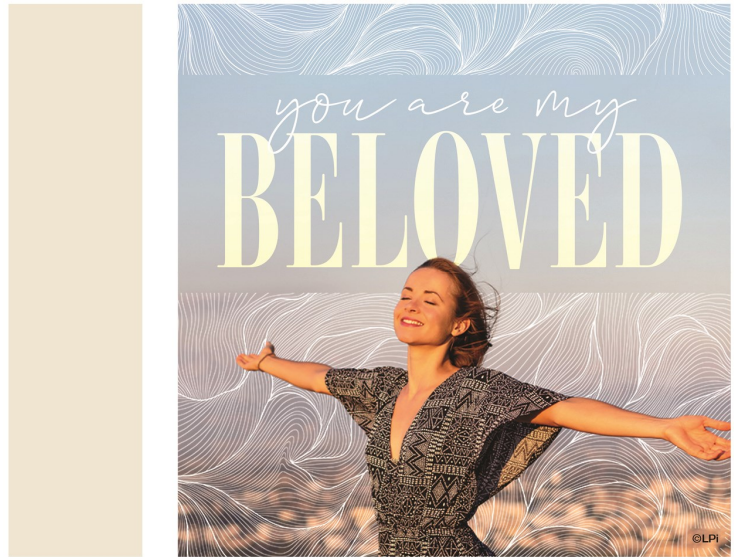
Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17

#### Next Sunday:

Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/  
1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11



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### Gospel Meditation

#### Seek a deeper understanding of Scripture

In my second year of theology studies, I went to confession to a priest visiting the seminary for a three-day retreat. My heart wasn't in it. I was going through the motions. I confessed my sins and waited for his response. The priest said, "For your penance, I'd like you to go into the chapel and repeat the words **'You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased'** (Luke 3:22) until they mean something to you." Easy penance, I thought.

But to my surprise, I struggled to say those words. I sensed a strong interior resistance blocking them. How could God be well-pleased with me? He couldn't be, I thought. A battle within me ensued. Two hours later, the resistance vanished, and I found myself able to speak, and claim as my own, those marvelous words. I emerged from the chapel with a new, deep, peaceful conviction that I was indeed God's beloved son.

Those words are a precious gift from heaven to all of us. Jesus' baptism, which we celebrate this week, offers them to us. Are we willing to receive these words anew? Many things can block this deepening of our baptismal identity: failings, sins, disappointments, traumas, problems, and so on. Yet God's love is always greater. This week I challenge you to prayerfully repeat these words over yourself — or perhaps over someone you're struggling to love — until those words find a home in your heart.

— *Father John Muir*

# PRACTICING CHRISTIAN

## FIND GOD IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

### I HOPE I AM LIKE HIM

“Who is this Christ? Is he like you?”

Perhaps you’ve heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

“He is nothing like me,” the saint is said to have answered. “But I hope I am like him.”

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. “One worthier than I is coming,” he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God’s will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let’s examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God’s plan?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



REGISTER FOR THE EMMANUEL

# OCIA PROGRAM

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a year-long process of prayer, learning, and reflection designed for those seeking to become Catholic, those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, and for those simply exploring the Catholic faith. It is open to all adults ages 18+.

**Classes are held on Sunday afternoons and starts at 1:00 PM**

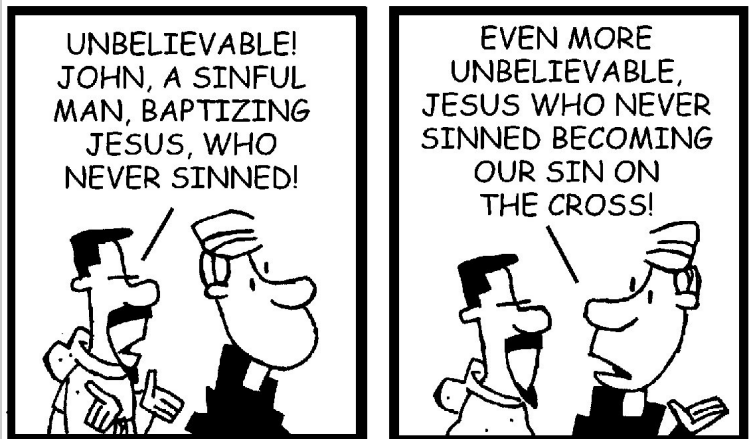
Registration information will be provided through the parish office: P561.496.2480

Answers to specific questions will be given once we have your contact info.

Deacon Anthony Cuseo is the OCIA Program Director - P561.496.2480.

Emmanuel Catholic Church  
15700 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33484  
P561.496.2480 F561.496.5755

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## Youth GROUP



We're thrilled to share that our youth group is growing and thriving! We'd like to invite all middle and high school students who haven't yet joined to become part of our vibrant community. Youth group meets on Sundays from 10:30 to 11:30 AM, following the 6-12th grade CCD schedule. Our upcoming meetings are on 1/12, 2/9, and 2/16.

This is a great opportunity for students to connect with the church and earn community service hours just by attending! We hope to see you there!



Avery Kessler  
David Perez-Rulfo  
Elisa Rosillo Seijas  
Gianna Maniglia  
Heather Santos Montalvo  
Johan A. Ramirez  
Lillian Colon  
Logan Johnson  
Yadira Cardenas

This month we celebrate our January students birthdays because God created them all incredibly special!



As we step into the new year, many of us are reflecting on resolutions for the months ahead. It's a time for fresh starts and renewed intentions, but as we set our goals, we must remember to keep Christ at the center of everything we do. A good question to ask ourselves is, *Will this resolution draw me closer to Christ or lead me further away from Him?*

At times, our goals can become more about self-promotion or personal gain, rather than serving God's purpose for our lives. To avoid this, consider keeping a holy card or crucifix with you as a reminder to keep your focus on Christ. When making a resolution, ask yourself, *Does this choice help me grow in my walk with the Lord and bring glory to His name, or is it motivated by vanity or pride?*

For example, striving for physical fitness is a noble goal, but if the motivation behind it is simply to gain attention or admiration, we risk missing the mark. Instead, aim to become healthier not just for personal benefit, but so you can be a better witness for Christ, with strength and energy to serve others and glorify God.

May this year's resolutions reflect our commitment to grow in faith and follow Christ more closely in all that we do.



## What is a Jubilee Year?

- A Holy Year of the forgiveness of sin, conversion and joyful celebration.
- The word “jubilee” comes from the Hebrew word *yobel*, which refers to the ram’s horn used to announce a jubilee in the Old Testament.

## Old Testament origins

God told Moses that every fiftieth year was to be set aside for the return of absent members to their households, the restoration of land to its owners, the release of Hebrew slaves and the forgiveness of debts.

*This fiftieth year you shall make sacred by proclaiming liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when every one of you shall return to his own property, every one to his own family estate. (Lev. 25:10)*

Like the sabbath, which took place on the seventh day of each week, the jubilee was a time for the Israelites to re-establish a proper relationship with God and with one another.

## THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

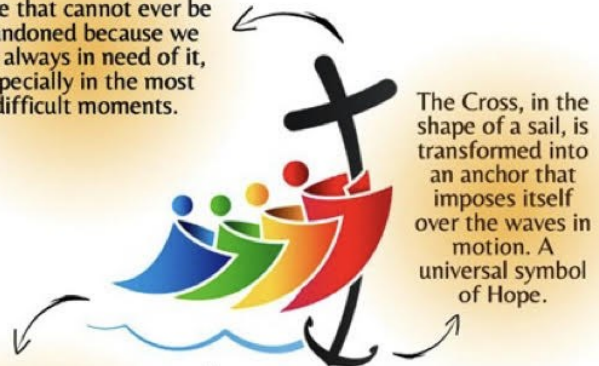
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

*Franciscus*

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.



The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.