



Mass Intentions

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2016

Saturday – Jan 9th – St Adrian of Canterbury

4:00PM – Edward J Ferenchak
by Carole Houghton and Choir
7:00PM – Bob Spengler and Bernadine Wehr
by Ann and Dale

Sunday – Jan 10th – The Baptism of the Lord

8:30AM – Homer Collis (A)
by Wife, Agnes and Family
10:30AM – Harold Bryan (A)
by Family

Monday – Jan 11th – St Theodosius

8:00AM – Joseph Mahon (B)
by Daughter, Barbara Knarr

Tuesday – Jan 12th – St Bernard of Corleone

8:00AM – John J Mikula
by Georgia Brown and Family
Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Jan 13th – St Hilary

6:00PM – Mamie Dougherty
by The Renew Group

Thursday – Jan 14th – St Sava

8:00AM – Angelo Vomero (A)
by Irene Vomero

Friday – Jan 15th – St Ita

8:00AM – Jack McCarty
by Kathleen and Peggy

Saturday – Jan 16th – St Berard of Carbio

8:00AM – All St John Fisher Parishioners
4:00PM – John A Faryna (A)
by Wife, Connie
7:00PM – George Molchany
by The McCarty Family

Sunday – Jan 17th – 2nd Sunday / Ordinary Time

8:30AM – Martha E Garber
by Dottie and Hank Wolfe
10:30AM – Richard J Lloyd
by The McCloskey Family



Pray the Rosary each Sunday:

8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

“The Catholic Thing”

[excerpts from Fr. Robert Barron's,
Catholicism]

What is the Catholic thing? What makes Catholicism, among all of the competing philosophies, ideologies, and religions of the world, distinctive? I stand with Blessed John Henry Newman who said that *the* great principle of Catholicism is the Incarnation, the enfleshment of God. What do I mean by this? I mean, the Word of God – the mind by which the whole universe came to be – did not remain sequestered in heaven but rather entered into this ordinary world of bodies, this grubby arena of history, this compromised and tear-stained human condition of ours. “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” (Jn1:14): that is the Catholic thing.

The Incarnation tells central truths concerning both God and us. If God became human without ceasing to be God and without compromising the integrity of the creature that he became, God must not be a competitor with his creation. In many of the ancient myths and legends, divine figures such as Zeus or Dionysus enter into human affairs only through aggression, destroying or wounding that which they invade. And in many of the philosophies of modernity God is construed as a threat to human well-being. In their own ways, Marx, Freud, Feuerbach, and Sartre all maintain that God must be eliminated if humans are to be fully themselves. But there is none of this in the Christian doctrine of the Incarnation. The Word does indeed become human, but nothing of the human is destroyed in the process; God does indeed enter into his creation, but the world is thereby enhanced and elevated. The God capable of incarnation is not a competitive supreme being but rather, in the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas, the sheer act of being itself, that which grounds and sustains all of creation, the way a singer sustains a song.

And the Incarnation tells us the most important truth about ourselves: we are destined for divinization. The church fathers never tired of repeating this phrase as a sort of summary of Christian belief: *Deus fit homo ut homo fieret Deus* (God became human so that humans might become

God). God condescended to enter into flesh so that our flesh might partake of the divine life, that we might participate in the love that holds the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in communion. And this is why Christianity is the greatest humanism that has ever appeared, indeed that *could* ever appear. No philosophical or political or religious program in history – neither Greek nor Renaissance nor Marxist humanism – has ever made a claim about human destiny as extravagant as Christianity’s.

...Essential to the Catholic mind is what I would characterize as a keen sense of the prolongation of the Incarnation throughout space and time, an extension that is made possible through the mystery of the church. [...to be continued...]

Wowed by God’s humility, and hoping to imitate that humility, Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection	\$ 4,546.00
Solemnity of Mary Collection	\$ 1,801.00



NEXT WEEK’S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	J.Shaul D.Sullivan	J.Englert	J.McAllister
7:00PM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	J.Yanek	P.McCarty
8:30AM	M.Popovic S.Popovic	J.Strohl	Deacon Jack
10:30AM	J.Drummer H.Heffner	M.Ottinger	Deacon Jack



The **ALTAR FLOWER LIST FOR 2016** is now at the parking lot entrance of church. Honor a loved one by placing flowers on the altar. Simply sign up on the list, and then call your florist for delivery.

Save the Date

Saturday, March 12, 2016, will be St. John Fisher’s first annual Parish Retreat. This retreat is for anyone 18 years and older. More information will follow.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit, Giver of Life



Come Holy Spirit, Creator of all things...You who breathed over the waters at the dawn of creation and brought forth all living beings...You who filled the apostles when the Risen Lord breathed on them on the first Easter night, giving them the power to restore life to those dead in sin...You who, on the last day, will

breathe again over all the dead and raise them from the grave--Come! Come and breathe on our world again, immersed as it is in the Culture of Death! Come, O Lord and Giver of Life! Defeat the works of death in our midst, that abortion may no longer stain our land.

We worship You, O Holy Spirit, and we rejoice in You. We know that no matter how strong the forces of death may be, we can still find in You the endless source of life. Renew that life in each of us, and make us worthy apostles of the Culture of Life in our day! Amen.



TAKE NOTE!

In case of bad weather or last minute cancelations, please check our Parish Website at www.stjohnfisherparish.com.

SLOVAK FOUNDATION

It is our privilege to continue to offer St. John Fisher parishioners of Slovak ethnic backgrounds the opportunity to give to the Slovak Federation. It had been the annual custom to hold a collection at St. Andrew’s on the feasts of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in February, and this year the envelopes for this collection -- benefitting the unifying and promotion of Slovak ethnic identity for second, third, fourth generations and beyond, -- can be picked up at the doors of the Church and deposited in any Sunday collection of January or February.

Young at Heart

The next meeting of St John Fisher’s Young at Heart will be held on **Wednesday, January 27th**, at **1:00pm** in the Parish Hall.

The next Casino trip to the Mohegan Sun will be on **Friday, January 29th**. The bus leaves the Church Parking Lot at 10:00am. The price is \$22.00 per person.

For more information, call Bill Molchany, 610-264-0920.

Thank You

We wish to thank the **Slovak Ladies Foundation** for their Christmas donation of **\$400.00**, and to the **Young at Heart Senior’s Club** for their donation of **\$1,500.00**.

2015 CONTRIBUTION FORMS

Please fill out this tear-off form to request your 2015 contribution form and place in the collection basket. All forms will be mailed out by the end of January.

NAME _____ ENV # _____

ADDRESS _____

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Institute for Catechesis and Formation Course Offering – ICF 101 – Christian Anthropology. This course will examine who God is as the One who seeks to share Himself with His creation. A brief survey of Salvation History will be traced to Jesus Christ, the Redeemer who saves humanity, and teaches us what it means to be a human person. One great course; four weeks; with three local locations to choose! To register: www.allentowndiocese.org/icf. **ICF Courses are for any adult Catholic looking to grow deeper and learn more about the Faith. Prerequisites not required.**

City Lights 2016 - The 5th on FIVE will be held on **Saturday, January 30th, from 7:30pm to 11:00pm** at the FIVE Lounge at Allentown Brew Works (812 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown). Young adults (college age to age 35) are invited to gather for an evening of food, fun, music and dancing with guest DJ, Wesley Works, and an opportunity to meet Bishop Barres, clergy, seminarians and religious. The event is \$10.00 per person which includes appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages (cash bar available for those 21+; valid ID required). Pre-registration is required: www.allentowndiocese.org/citylights.

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Now enrolling new students for the 2016 – 2017 school year. New Students Welcome! Full day Kindergarten through Grade 8, as well as, Preschool and Pre-K programs for 3 and 4 year old children are offered. Extended care is available. Call 610.262.9171 to schedule your family tour or email mrspoccia@ptd.net today.

Shepherd Gift Cards can be purchased on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and Wednesday evenings from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention all 8th grade students: If you are considering going to one of the Catholic High Schools, the Diocese of Allentown is offering scholarships to help defray the cost. Please call the rectory to receive the packet.



DONUT SUNDAY

The new list for the **2016 Donut Sundays** is now at the parking lot entrance of church. Donut Sunday is held on the **third Sunday of each month**. Due to the success of our Donut Sundays, the price for each month has been increased to \$75.00. If you, or a group of friends, would like to sponsor a month, just pick a month on the signup sheet, and place the \$75.00 in the collection basket prior to your date. Our Social Committee takes care of the rest.

OFFERTORY GIFTS



Our parishioner, Robyn Berner, has volunteered her time to coordinate people for the offertory gifts for all Sunday masses. If you are having a mass said for someone and would like to take up the gifts, please call Robyn at 610-799-3297. If you do not wish to be contacted for masses you are offering, please inform the rectory by calling, 610-264-1972.

In the words of...

"What years of Purgatory will there be for those Christians who have no difficulty at all in deferring their prayers to another time on the excuse of having to do some pressing work! If we really desired the happiness of possessing God, we should avoid the little faults as well as the big ones, since separation from God is so frightful a torment to all these poor souls!"
~ St John Vianney