
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

January 12, 2014
The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 11th

4:00 – Angelina & Antonio Chaves -- Memorial

Sunday, January 12th

8:00 -- James Clancy – 2nd Anniversary

9:30 – Gene Biagia – 31st Anniversary

Friday, January 17th

9:00 - Frances Swinamer – 26th Anniversary

Sunday, January 19th

8:00 – Chet Shalginewicz – 5th Anniversary

9:30 – John E. Sylvia Sr. – Memorial

11:30 – Col. George & Dorothy Jackson – 71st
Wedding Anniversary

Important Dates

Sun. 1/12 – Prayer Shawl Mtg. 3 pm Riddell Road Hall

Fri. – Mon. 1/17-1/20 – Ski Trip

Wed. 1/22 – Holy Hour for Life – 7pm

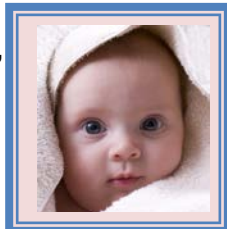
Sun. 1/26 – TEEN MASS -6pm

Please keep the following in your prayers:

*Pam Adornato, Mei Connelly, Dottie & Eddie
Younis, Lillian Wedge, Richard Cerci, Alison
LaLond, Michael MacDonald, Susan Lynch, Roy
Conrad, Mark DeLuca, Michael Terry, Karen
Villa, Harvey Day, Audrey Ribero, Sharon
Farrell, Toni McGrail, Scott Zabrek, Bill
Maloney, Louise Armstrong.*

The Pro-Life Committee will host the annual parish
Baby Shower from Tuesday, January 1st through
Sunday, January 23rd. All donations will assist
mothers in need within the Archdiocese who have
chosen life for their babies. Items needed are listed
below:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Disposable diapers | Diaper bags |
| Crib Sheets | Baby towels |
| Sleep n Play sleepers | Nightgowns |
| Baby Bottles | Blanket Sleepers |
| Receiving Blankets | |
| Rattles, Pacifiers, Teethers | |
| Toiletries ex...Wipes, rash ointment, | |
| <u>Baby shampoo</u> | |
| Baby soap, baby lotion, powder, | |
| Baby nail clippers, | |
| Baby thermometers. | |



Our Shared Treasure

January 5, 2014

\$5437.00

Grand Annual: \$13,290

Weekly Collection Budgeted: \$5882.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

***There is a second collection next weekend
for the Archdiocese of Boston.***

Saint Bridget School

455 Plymouth, St. Abington, MA 02351

781-878-8482

www.stbridgetschool.us

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 26, 2014

8:30 – 11:00 am

3 Yr Old Pre-School

4 Yr Old Pre-Kindergarten

Grades K - 8

Registration and Tours

NEASC Accredited

Come see what makes us different!



St. John's Peer Ministry-- Move-Us-A-Mile

Our Peer Ministers are joining with Catholic Heart
Work Camps on a mission trip to serve the needy in
Nashville, TN this summer, and we need your help to
move us along. This weekend, we are beginning a
fundraising campaign called "Move-Us-A-Mile"....
Please consider sponsoring a portion of our trip (\$5.00
per mile) to help offset our travel costs. Envelopes and
donation boxes will be available at the doors to the
church. Your generosity is deeply appreciated!
*"Whatsoever you do to the least of these, my brethren,
that you do unto me." Mt 25:40*

Anyone interested in delivering the Eucharist to people who are home-bound, please contact the Rectory at 508-378-4207. If you have not been trained to be a Eucharist Minister, we will train you.

SAVE THE DATE
October 6 – 17, 2014
A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND
WITH
FR. JOE RAEKE
AS OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

2 nights in Bethlehem
4 nights in Tiberis,
4 nights in Jerusalem

\$2799 per person, based on double occupancy
Single Room Supplement: \$450. (Limited # available)

Additional info Contact: Deacon Jim Greer 617-746-5842

Anyone on the envelope or on-line giving systems, please contact the Rectory if you need your 2013 contribution statement for taxes.

***Holy Hour for Life,
Forgiveness and Healing***

With Exposition and Adoration
of the Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, January 22nd at 7:00pm

Come join Deacon Joe for an hour of prayer,
readings and reflections on forgiveness and healing.

December Winners of the 300 Club

Mary Ann Rogers
Meredythe Salvucci
Michael Campbell
Steve Tousignant



My Dear Friends in Christ,

I dare say that most of us don't remember our Baptism (save for those baptized as adults through the RCIA), as we were a bit young at the time. When I was entering the seminary, one of the documents I needed was a copy of my baptismal certificate. When I looked at the date (8/9/64), it dawned on me that I was baptized on my brother's (Tom's) fifth birthday. Perhaps that's why, growing up, he and I had a bit of an antagonistic relationship (e.g. he "taught" me how to ride a bike by taking me up the steepest hill in South Boston with the sole instruction to "hold on tight to the handlebars" and then proceeded to hurl me down the hill, headlong! Hmm...). In any event, we've overcome those differences and have become good friends!

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus, to the protestation of John, is baptized in the Jordan so that he can "solemnize" what has been, up until this point, a ritual of purification rather than salvation. In our Sacraments which we celebrate in the Church, Jesus is at the center; Baptism is no different. In being baptized by John, Jesus "raises" the celebration of Baptism to the sacramental level, thus making it the "gateway" to other Sacraments. Throughout the centuries, the Church has wrestled with the question of baptism. The ("when" of Baptism has been debated for centuries, with the question centering on the readiness of the child to receive such a gift. In our Church, it is the parents who answer for the child in infant baptism; many wonder if this doesn't alter, if not negate, the power of the sacrament. I tend to think not, as we have other opportunities (such as First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation) throughout our lives to validate our faith.

In any event, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord gives us, as a Church, an opportunity to reflect on the gift that Baptism is for us. One of the great joys I have, as you might imagine, is to celebrate a baptism. It is made even more special when it can be celebrated at Mass, with the full support of the people. It highlights the importance of the community in the life of faith of the individual Catholic. While we, and we alone, receive the Sacraments of the Church, they are a sign and symbol of a larger reality. That reality is that it is in and through the community that we live our faith and it is in and through the community that this faith is sustained, nourished and strengthened. May we realize the gift that Baptism (and all Sacraments) is for the Church, the People of God. May we know God's love through the Sacraments, and may we share that love with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul