



Holy Spirit

OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord

12 January 2025

www.HolySpiritOCC.org

727.754.9758

Welcome!

Are you seeking...

To belong to a community of faith

to provide you with something deeper?

A place to be oneself, warts and all?

A place to taste diversity?

A place to weep? A place to sing?

A place to weep while singing?

A place to feel the depth of life?

A place to know God?

We now welcome you home.

Christ's peace be with you!



Celebrating Life and Love...

Please, be sure to stop in the parish center

to sign and send your love in our Greeting Cards!

Happy Birthday to: Bob A. 01/24, Corey S. 01/27, Rosalia M. 01/28, Bob L. 02/03, Bonnie B. 02/04, Eric B. 02/13, Mike H. 02/17, Dick D. 02/18.

Happy Anniversary to: Mary Jo and Mark G. 02/05.

**Different faiths help us realize
the immensity of God!**

When We Gather Next...

19 January 2025, 10:30am

Feast of the Wedding Feast at Cana



Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

Presider: **Bp. Steven**

Homilist: **Bp. Steven**

Greeters: **Debbie and Brian R.**

Welcome: **Mary Jo G.**

Acolyte: **Terry Z.**

Intercessions: **Wayne C.**

Lectors: (1) **Bro. Walt** (2) **Wayne C.** Altar Bread Baker: **Bp. Steven**

Ministers of the Cup: **Mthr. Sharon, Bro. Will & Bro. David**

Wedding Foods Nosh Hosts: **Parishioner Last Names S-W**

Thank YOU for your faithful and loving service at the altar of the Lord in community. You bless us!

Lord, Hear Our Prayer!

“Always pray in the Spirit, with all your prayers and petitions.

Pray constantly and attentively for all God’s holy people.” (Ephesians 6:18)

•For the victims of severe winter weather and the fires in southern California •For deepened faith, love for the Eucharist, and active charity in our living. •Harold H., health •Dave, brother of Terry Z., cancer treatment •Jack, treatment for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma •Lucy, advancing dementia, Diane P.’s mother. •Greg, lung cancer, friend of Bro. David. •Greg B. myeloma/bone marrow cancer •John S. Various complications related to cancer •Valerie, 3rd cancer episode, Diane P.’s friend. •For peace in Palestine, Ukraine and throughout our world •For our parish community: our growth and faith •Ken S., cancer healing •Rich J., his health and wellness •For those deeply impacted by severe weather •For vocations to ministry and consecrated life from among us. ✠All victims of war. ✠For our deceased clergy and parishioners.

The Road Ahead Together...

Twelve Step Meeting: -Alcoholics Anonymous, Thursdays, 7pm, social hall.

Music Ministry Practice -Thursdays, 7pm, chapel.

Baptism of the Lord – Today, January 12th

The second manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world. Blessing of Water and Renewal of Baptismal Commitment

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 15th, 7pm, conference room.

Wedding Feast at Cana – Next Sunday, January 19th

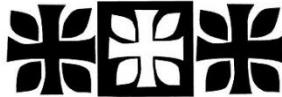
We celebrate this third manifestation of Jesus Christ with a “Wedding Foods” Potluck following our liturgy. We will follow with a “Wedding Foods” Potluck Nosh after Mass.

Ordinary Time begins! Monday, January 20th

Diocesan Synod and Chrism Mass RESCHEDULED – Saturday, March 1st, 9am-3pm

Ash Wednesday, March 5th *The Season of Lent begins!*

Daylight Savings Time begins! Sunday, March 9th



Pastoral Perpenderings

to **perpender**, verb. *“to weigh carefully in the mind.”*

Good Sunday morning, dearest Community and Friends!

The opening words in today’s Gospel are striking: “The people were filled with expectation and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.” The Israelites had been waiting for centuries for “the Christ:” the One who would come and save them. To some of the people, John may have been a likely candidate for the Christ who was to come. He was a mesmerizing and ascetical man. He was an engaging speaker and he was a prophet.

However, John clarified his role for the people. He told them: “I am baptizing you with water, but one who is mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.” Then John added, “He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.” John is speaking of Jesus whom he had just baptized.

After Jesus was baptized, he went off to pray. While he was in prayer, the heavens opened up and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove. And then a voice from heaven said: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Wouldn’t have been wonderful to live when Jesus walked this earth? If we had lived then, we also may have been entranced by this man, Jesus. However, Jesus does walk the earth today. He baptizes with the Spirit and He is at our sides constantly. He walks with you and with me. Do we truly appreciate the gift of baptism?

Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life. It is the gateway to life in the Spirit. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God. We become members of Christ's Body, the Church. Thus, as members of Christ's Body, we are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in Church's mission. "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

Most likely many of us were baptized as infants. Thus we likely do not have a memory of receiving this sacrament. Yet Baptism is the keystone for the other sacraments. Today sit quietly for five to ten minutes and reflect on the following questions: What gifts have I received from the Sacrament of Baptism? Am I grateful for this sacrament? Do I truly appreciate the Sacraments of the Catholic Church or do I take them for granted?

If you choose to do this, you may find a new appreciation for the gift of your Baptism, and it may strengthen your appreciation for your parents, your faith, and for the love God has for you. You are a child of God. What more do you need or want?

The **annual donor letters** for your knowledge and tax preparation are ready for you to pick up. The community is indeed very grateful for your faithful generosity to Holy Spirit OCC allowing us to continue our ministry of welcome and inclusion of all.

Check your email for the **new cycle for liturgical ministries** through Palm Sunday, April 13th. Your loving and joyful service during the Liturgy helps us to worship the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and soul.

A peaceful and beautiful Sunday for you and yours, in Christ,

Blessing of Water

℣ Let us pray, dear friends, that the Lord our God may bless this gift of water, which will be sprinkled upon us to remind us of our Baptism. May God help us to remain faithful to the Holy Spirit we have received.

The Spirit led God's people through the waters of the Jordan River into a promised land. And when the time was ripe, God's Spirit brought forth Jesus of Nazareth, protected and nurtured in the compassionate waters of a mother's womb.

Baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan, this Judean peasant, Jesus, went forth, proclaiming God's present and imminent kingdom of love. This Teacher called forth children, women and men to share and celebrate a new spirituality of love, a spiritual discipleship that embraced the praxis of equality for all people. And they baptized one another with the waters of life as a sign of a new and everlasting covenant of love with their God.

The presbyter extends hands over the water, saying:

℣ We join them today,
celebrating that same covenant of love with our God.
We ask you, loving and compassionate God,
to bless ✠ this sacred gift of water.
May water's life nurturing gifts
connect us with your creation,
your loving grace, and your kingdom of peace
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

℟ Amen.

Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

The presbyter then invites the assembly to renew their baptismal covenant through the following questions and responses.

℣ Do you embrace the God of unconditional love, who created life to be enjoyed and celebrated as a gift and blessing, and do you promise to be co-creators of God's reign of love?

℟ I do!

℣ Do you renounce all in the world that opposes: the ethics of compassion, justice, and love as taught by Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ?

℟ I do!

℣ Do you accept the responsibility as a disciple in the world to proclaim love, to work for justice, and to live a life of compassion for all peoples of the world and God's creation?

℟ I do!

℣ This is the faith we celebrate, our faith in Christ Jesus!

℟ Amen. Thanks be to God!

*The presbyter then sprinkles the assembly with the blessed water and to we sing: **Baptized in Water, GC2 797.***

The Mass continues then with the Intercessions.



This Morning's Sacred Liturgy

Today's Intention: *For Believers Everywhere*

Prelude: We Shall Gather at the River	GC2 761
Welcome and Announcements	Michael H.
Gathering Song: A Voice Cries Out	GC2 343
Introduction and Penitential Litany	
Gloria: Mass of Creation	GC2 138
Collect	Mthr. Sharon
Reading I: <i>Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11</i>	Steve M.
Response: Psalm 104: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit	GC2 60
Reading II: <i>Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7</i>	Julie E.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Give the Glory	GC2 733, v. 4
Holy Gospel: <i>Luke 3:15-16, 21-22</i>	Dcn. Jan
Homily	Mthr. Sharon
Blessing of Water & Renewal of Our Baptismal Covenant (<i>Please refer to inside back of the Bulletin.</i>)	Mthr. Sharon
Rite of Sprinkling: Baptized in Water	GC2 797
Intercessions: R̄ Lord, renew us in Your light!	Dcn. Jan
Kiss of Peace	
Preparation of the Gifts: Come to the Water	GC2 502
Eucharistic Prayer: Mass of Creation	GC2 147-149
Lord's Prayer: Our Father	GC2 15
Lamb of God Litany: Mass of Creation	GC2 152
Invitation to Holy Communion	
<i>Cup Ministers: Bp. Steven, Bro. David; Dcn. Jan</i>	
Communion: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart	GC2 816
Song of Praise: We Come to Your Feast	GC2 814
Prayer after Communion	Mthr. Sharon
Solemn Blessing and Sending	
Sending Song: Wade in the Water	GC2 793
Coffee Social Hosts:	<i>Parishioner Last Names M-R</i>