

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2016

In today's reading from the Gospel of Luke we hear the proclamation of the baptism of Jesus with "all the people." Indeed, "heaven was opened," and the Father announced his special favor. Whenever we partake of the body and blood of Christ, heed his call in our daily lives, share his Good News, become instruments of his transforming justice and peace, heaven is opened to us, and through the Holy Spirit, the Lord announces his special favor on us as well. A good stewardship reflection this week might be this: How, or in what ways, have we personally experienced God's special favor in our lives?

Saturday, January 9, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Intention: Deceased Grandparents,
Aunts & Uncles †
Requested by: Joao Coelho

7:00 p.m. (St. Mary's)

Intention: For All Those Inscribed in
the St. Mary's Memorial Book.

Sunday, January 10, 2016

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

7:30 a.m.

Intention: Joseph Macklin †
Requested by: Wife
Intention: Jeff Younkin †
Requested by: Baptista Family

10:00 a.m.

Intention: People of the Parish

11:30 a.m. (Bilingual)

Intention: Isabel, Manuel, Pedro &
Samao Almada
Requested by: Maria Vieira

6:30 p.m. (Spanish/St. Mary's)

Intention: Emily Jones Florez †
Requested by: Stephan & Zilda
Brindeiro

Monday, January 11, 2016

NO 8:00 a.m. Mass

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

8 a.m. Mass

Intention: Zelia Azevedo †
Requested by: Armelim & Leonor Silveira

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

8 a.m. Mass

Intention: Antonio E. Cabral †
Requested by: Wife

Thursday, January 14, 2016

8 a.m. Mass

Intention: Louis N. Terra †
Requested by: Jorge & Bernandette Vieira

11:00 a.m. Senior Day

Intention: All Deceased Family
Members †
Requested by: Maria Martins

Friday, January 15, 2016

8 a.m. Mass

Intention: Michael Pires †
Requested by: Parents & Siblings

Saturday, January 16, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Intention: Joao M. Borba †
Requested by: Rafael & Natalia
Apolinario

7:00 p.m. (St. Mary's)

Intention: Frank Bailey †
Requested by: Mr. & Mrs. Tony
Walker

Sunday, January 17, 2016

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m.

Intention: People of the Parish †

10:00 a.m.

Intention: Bill R. Sousa †
Requested by: Wife

11:30 a.m. (Bilingual)

Intention: Cecilia Raposo †
Requested by: Bruno & Sara
Mendonca

6:30 p.m. (Spanish/St. Mary's)

Intention: Albert Dias †
Requested by: Natalie Sousa

Please Keep in Your Prayers: Deana Abraham, Priciliano Alejandre, Eliza Alves, Maria F. Amaral, Manuel Andrade, Bob Arieas, Angelica Avelar, Alex, Carroll, Sally and Scott Baggett, Joseph Belo, Jack Betschart, Donna & John Cardoza, Janet Correia, Adelina Costa, Shelly Cunha, Cynthia Dawson, Jose Deniz, Ann DePalma, Jordan Devires, Joyce Ebertowski, Manuel & Terry Espinola, Melissa Fitzgerald-Whalen, Elvira Freitas, Jared Germann, Alex Gonsalves, Ruby Hernandez, Jose Homen, Loraine Jones, Ricky Jorge, Fran Kowall, Deacon Ed Kull, Andrea Leal, Carrie Lourenco, Steven Lunde II, Antonio Machado, Gerald Martin, Ralph & Esther Martinez, Adam Mattos, Fatima Melo, Carmen Mora, Robert Mora Jr., Helen Morris, Jim Nichols, Maria Nunes, **Joey Pacheco**, Kaiden Pacheco, Maria Pires, Ray Piro, Riley Rhoads, Isabella Rodrigues, Rob Rosa, Jenao Sanchez, Patrick Shields, Theresa Sherman, Amaro Souza, Lily Sousa, Sylvia Souza, Judith Teixeira, Rosa Teixeira, John Verissimo, Dave Vieira, Khloe Ann Maria Vieira, **Matthew Watkins**, David Wood, and Carmen Zorra. *We pray for God's healing power and grace. Please remember if you have an ill family member or friend that you would like to include on our prayer list or even a visit by the priest call the parish office at 667-8961.*

Religious Education News+

Walk for Life West Coast will take place on **Saturday, January 23rd** in San Francisco. We are taking a bus for those who would like to participate. This event is open to all. Sign up with Dina by calling 632-7163. We will be attending Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral.

1st Year Confirmation Students

mark your calendars you and your sponsor have a retreat on **February 6th** at the parish.

1st Reconciliation will take place on **Feb. 9th** watch CCD news for more details.

Cave Quest coming June 6-10. With concluding Mass on June 12th at 10AM. Mark your calendars and plan now on attending.

Help is needed for the Feb. 6th Confirmation retreat. Small group leaders needed, kitchen help needed. If you are available to help please call Dina at 632-7163.

Miss Machado's 9th grade class will be in charge of the **10AM Liturgy on Sunday, Jan. 31st**. All students in her class are asked to attend.

Help needed on Tuesday Jan. 26th from 1:20-4:00pm to help watch the 1st to 5th graders they have an early release from school. This entails being in the parish hall and watching the students, helping with homework if possible. If you can help please call Dina 632-7163.

NEXT Weekend January 16& 17

Special Collection... will be for the support of our Seminaries and Seminarians of the diocese of Fresno. Please remember to pray each day that the Lord will call our people to priesthood and the religious life. For information about the priesthood or religious life contact Fr. Dan Avila at 559-488-7464.

Parish Epiphany Celebration

It was a wonderful time of celebrating our great heritage of culture and faith. Thanks to all those who contributed in many ways by going above and beyond for its success this year. We truly appreciate your time and talent for the sake of our parish. The celebration netted \$1,156.00.

Thank you for all of the good work and care you have taken of our church!

A big "thank you" to Team #5 Rose & Anne DePalma, Frank & Jill Mora, Maria Ouse, Maria Freitas & Maria Oliveira for making our church shine last week. We appreciate your generosity in sharing your time and talent working hard to make our church a place worthy of our worship.

Holy Year of Mercy

December 8, 2015- November 20, 2016

The HOLY YEAR OF MERCY began on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, December 8th, and continues to the Solemnity of Christ the King, November 20, 2016. It is Bishop Ochoa's desire that Our Lady of Mercy Church in Merced be available for people in the Merced/Mariposa Vicariate to visit during this holy year.

Our Lady of Mercy Church will be open in order to have daily Mass, Monday to Friday during the Lent/Easter season. Daily Mass will be a 12:10, noon time. The church will be open 11 a.m-2pm on those days for people to pilgrimage and receive the proper indulgence. *May this HOLY YEAR OF MERCY be filled with many blessings for all who open their hearts to receive God's Divine Mercy.*

News From Campaign Headquarters

Remember to Pick Up Some Hot Delicious Filhos This Sunday to help support the upcoming Fish Dinner for the New Church. We thank you in advance for your support. And, a huge thank you to all of our volunteers who work so hard towards fundraising for our new church!

Purchasing an Annual Memorial Candle in honor of a loved one or for a special intention is a wonderful way to remember your loved one while supporting the parish and beautifying the sacred space of our church. Your memorial candle by our Lady of the Rosary or St. Joseph's statue will "burn" for one full year in honor of your loved one or your special intention.

A small plaque displaying the name of your loved one or a special intention will be mounted in front of each candle. Plaques will remain on display for one full year and may be renewed or rededicated for additional 12 month periods.

The annual offering for each candle is \$250.00. For further information please pick up a form at the church entrance or call the parish at 667-8961.

Have You Checked Out the Brick Garden? It's almost complete. We thank all those who supported the *Brick project thus far. Memorial/Honorary Bricks may still be purchased.* For more information or questions, please call the parish office or you may also place your order on line:

www.engravedbricks.com/campaign/holyrosary

Our offering collection for Jan 2 & 3 \$5,725.00 (includes 185.00 from New Year's day) Last year Jan. 3 & 4 \$4,540.50

We take this opportunity to thank those parishioners who have re-evaluated their weekly contribution to the plate. It has made a difference. Thank you for your continued support to your CHURCH.

Thank You, Obrigado & Gracias!