# January 9, 2022

## **Baptism of the Lord**

Collection January 2, 2022		
Collection	\$ 803.00	
Flowers	\$ 40.00	
Christmas	\$ 10.00	
Catholic Charities	\$ 10.00	
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 30.00	
Catholic Virginian	\$ 39.00	
Attendance	30	

#### January 16, 2022

Lector: Rebecca Harriman Commentator: Gaby Stanley Ushers: Hathaway/Stanley

#### Readings for January 16, 2022

Reading 1: Isaiah 62:1-5 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Gospel: John 2:1-11

<u>Information about St. Edwards</u>- Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at: https://stedwardpulaski.org

**Donations-**, please mail your regular donations to St. Edward's Catholic Church, PO Box 1670, Pulaski, VA 24301, if you are not attending Mass.

<u>Prayer List</u> - Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Joan Jennings, Jody Riffey, Stephen Petrowski, Christine Scarpinato, Michael Linkous, Megan Talbert, Bob Huttick, Rosanna Vallo, Mikey Malloy, Jerry Dalton, Gary Gibson, Scott Armentrout, Dan Hood, and Father Bernie. (Please contact Stan Stanley if you have additions or deletions)

**Reception-** Today after Mass we will be having a reception in honor of Richard Richardson. Richard is retiring after many years of service here at St. Edward's keeping everything clean and in order. To follow COVID guidelines we will be serving only cupcakes, punch, nuts and mints, and everyone is asked to wear a mask. Plan to stay as we honor a very special individual.

<u>New Schedules</u> – New schedules for Lectors, Ushers, and Commentators will be made up in the next couple of weeks. Anyone who would like to be added or taken off the schedules please let Stan Stanley know as soon as possible.

**<u>Pastoral Council Meeting</u>**- The Pastoral Council will be meeting after Mass next Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup>. If you are on the Council or a Committee Chairman, please plan to stay. The meeting should be no more than one hour.

### January Birthdays

Brenda Lessard	Jan. 1
Larry Riffey	Jan. 3
Jessi Williams	Jan. 8
Cora Wojciechouski	Jan. 18
Pam Choroco-Crowder	Jan. 20

#### January Anniversaries

Alex & Fely Fernandez Jan. 4 Bill & Jean Jennings Jan. 13 "Taken from the Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer of Creighton University's Online Ministries web site:www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html. Used with Permission."

# **Daily Prayer This Week**

In this first week of Ordinary Time, we might find ourselves feeling a little let-down after the Christmas season, especially in parts of the world where it seems cold and dark most days. This is where we can ask for the grace to let the stories of the gospels come alive in our hearts.

The vivid narratives of this week's gospel are packed with stories of Jesus' entering into the lives of real people and touching them in extraordinary ways. These are not far away stories, but ones that have a real meaning for us. This is a week of invitation from Jesus to us, with two invitations for us to ponder in our hearts this week.

Jesus encounters Levi, a Jewish tax collector. Because of his profession, he was probably wealthy but he had humiliated his family and made himself a pariah to most of those around him. Jesus' response to this "outcast" was to invite him to be one of his closest disciples - and to dine at his house.

In our own lives we may find a loneliness or separation from people in our family or others in our lives. We have parts of our lives that are dark and embarrassing and seem unchangeable. It is into this very darkness and discomfort that Jesus extends the same invitation to us: "Follow me." This clear and personal call to us is from Jesus who already knows us and our failings and yet asks us to be with him. We can hear this invitation more clearly if we can be touched with awareness of our own failings and understand more deeply how much we need a savior in our lives. It is then that our hearts open to accept this invitation.

This week Jesus invites us to follow him, as friends and disciples. This is a good week for us to contemplate with Jesus, what we are looking for and how much we want to turn and follow him. We can pray to Jesus for the strength to leave the patterns and habits of our lives that so often turn us away from him and ask for the grace to make a new beginning in our lives. If we can sit with our hands open in humility, we can accept that we can't do this on our own, but know in our hearts that with the help of God, nothing is impossible.

## The liturgical year

The liturgical year begins with the First Sunday of Advent - about four weeks before Christmas. The Christmas season follows Advent. Ordinary Time counts the weeks between the end of the Christmas season and Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent.

The date for Easter is moveable because it is related to the celebration of Passover on the Jewish calendar, which is connected to the vernal equinox - actually on the first full moon after it. (The vernal, or Spring, equinox, is the date when the length of days and nights are the same. This is when spring begins, as the daylight, which was shorter all winter, now begins to grow



longer.) The Council of Niceas (in 325) decided that Easter would be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon, which follows the vernal equinox. This means that Easter will be celebrated from about the third week of March to about the third week of April.

So, Ordinary Time counts the time between the end of the Christmas season and whenever Lent begins. Usually there are between four to nine weeks of Ordinary Time before Lent begins.

The last Sunday of the Christmas Season is the feast of the Baptism of the Lord - the Sunday following January 6th. Therefore, the next day becomes, "Monday of the First Week of Ordinary Time. The following Sunday is the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.

When Ash Wednesday appears, Ordinary Time ends until after the Easter Season. Ordinary Time begins to be counted again, from where the season left off, beginning with the week after Pentecost. There are a total of thirty-three or thirty-four weeks of Ordinary Time which are laid out. (If necessary, sometimes one of the weeks is skipped so that the final weeks are able to be fit in.)