

Spirit-Trained

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The Spirit that descended upon Jesus is the same Spirit with which we have been baptized. In one way or another, it calls us out into the world, into the lives of others. At times, that call is a passionate desire that burns like fire "eager to do what is good," as Paul wrote to Titus (Titus 2:14). It shows itself as a call to the work we do in life—perhaps parenting, teaching, medical work, or creating jobs through business. The Spirit beckons us into making the world a better place in which to live.

Sometimes, however, the Spirit's voice echoes with calls made to us by others. Teachers are urged to become principals. Employees are recognized as potential managers and supervisors. People receive requests to volunteer in community or school projects. At other times, the Spirit calls us through the needs of life. A child may need to care for an aged parent. A family may have a child with special needs. One-sided relationships may call for a listening ear that saps our patience.

Saint Paul wrote to Titus that, in all of this, we are being trained by God's Spirit to live life as follows: temperately, with a sense of balance, perhaps between giving and receiving; justly, because life is not all about us; and devoutly, for there is a power greater than ourselves (Titus 2:12). It may help to realize that those in training do not always perform their work perfectly. It is the nature of being trained. Trust the Spirit to train you well. ●

Reflect

How is the Spirit training you to make the world a better place?



St. Thomas More

302 Chestnut Street

Dalzell IL 61320

Phone 815-663-6201

Email: thomasmore32@gmail.com

Adoration Room at STM

Open Daily from 9 am - 6 pm

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

212 S Main Street

PO Box 159

Cherry IL 61317

Phone 815-894-2006

Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com



Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger

Parish Secretary: Melissa Pasillas Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com

Office Hours at HT: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Confession Info

Confessions: Saturday morning, alternating between STM & HT 10:30 am-11:15 am

Upcoming/Ongoing Church Events

Fundraiser: STM Rav/Tort | call 815-252-2215 (leave name/phone number/order) | \$9.00/bag

CCD Classes



Sunday, January 12th - K thru 5th Grade

Children's Mass at HT

Sunday, January 19th - 6th & 7th Grade

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of January 13, 2025

Monday	1/13			† No Mass
Tuesday	1/14	9:00 am	STM	† Special Intention.
Wednesday	1/15	5:30 pm	HT	† Wes & Rita Hoscheid
Thursday	1/16	9:00 am	HT	† Clifford Sondgeroth
Friday	1/17	9:00 am	STM	† Phil Maggio

Mass Intentions for the weekend of January 18 - 19, 2025

Saturday	1/18	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	† Liz Olivero
Sunday	1/19	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	† For the Parishioners

Jesus Was Sinless, Then Why Did He Need To Be Baptized?

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry.

Jesus begins His ministry through an act of deep solidarity with the fallen human race. John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance. John's baptism was not the same as our baptism today. Instead, it was only a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, had nothing to repent of. He was sinless in every way. But that didn't stop Him from freely choosing to receive the baptism of repentance. Why would He do that?

Simply put, Jesus chose to unite Himself with fallen humanity, taking upon Himself our own sins and suffering their consequences. He humbly allowed Himself to be identified as a sinner in need of repentance. This was done out of love for us and out of His longing to become one with us so that we could become one with Him.

By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. When we repent, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance.

As we commemorate Jesus' baptism liturgically, we celebrate the fact that our Christian baptism was the beginning of this new unity with the Holy Trinity. But we also celebrate our oneness with God, which is renewed every time we make an interior act of repentance for our sins. If we fully understood what happens every time we acknowledge our sins and repent of them, we would never grow tired of repenting. *(Excerpted from: mycatholic.life)*



FREE POINSETTIAS

Now that the Christmas season is over, please feel free to bring as many poinsettias home as you like. Again thank you for your donation towards the purchase of the poinsettias.

Winter Weather Advisory

As the winter weather is getting frigidly cold, combining with very unpredictable amounts of snow and ice during the foreseeable future, your personal safety is most important to the church. Hence, please be extra careful as you come to Mass or any other church-related activity. In light of all the above, there may be certain days when the weather is worse and the road conditions become hazardous, please consider to stay home and watch Mass online or TV instead.

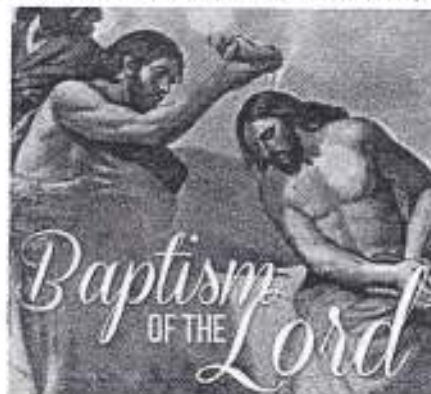
SP Parishioners: In compliance with liability please call the church office well in advance if you need access to SP Church building or the hall. Your personal safety is very important to the Church.

Latest Offering's: January 5th Weekend

STM - \$1,077.00

HT - \$1,717.00

SP - \$ 20.00



Confessions:

Sat. January 18th
10:30 am - 11:15 am
St. Thomas More
in the hall

Dear Padre,

We are told that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and that baptism is necessary for our salvation. But why was Jesus baptized?

Jesus was baptized, not because he needed saving, but so that others might be saved. By accepting baptism, he established this act as the normative path for salvation. Saint John Chrysostom addressed this question: "Though [Christ] needed not baptism for his own sake, yet carnal nature in others had need thereof." Or as St. Gregory

Nazianzen said more poetically: "Christ was baptized that he might plunge the old Adam entirely in the water."

Another reason Jesus accepted baptism is suggested by St. Augustine. He said our Lord was baptized "because he wished to do what he had commanded all to do." This is true servant leadership—not asking of others what one is not willing to do oneself. Or as St. Ambrose said, "This is justice, to do first thyself that which thou wishest another to do, and so encourage others by thy example."

Perhaps as we launch into a new year, we might try to remember our baptismal promise to "put on Christ" and imitate Jesus in this way: to not ask of anyone—our children or parents; employers or employees; teachers or students; principals or pastors; or even presidents—what we do not ask of ourselves, especially when it comes to honesty, dedication, civility, and charity.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 13	January 14	January 15	January 16	January 17	January 18	January 19
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Anthony, Abbot	Weekday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Heb 1:1–6	Heb 2:5–12	Heb 2:14–18	Heb 3:7–14	Heb 4:1–5, 11	Heb 4:12–16	Is 62:1–5
Mk 1:14–20	Mk 1:21–28	Mk 1:29–39	Mk 1:40–45	Mk 2:1–12	Mk 2:13–17	1 Cor 12:4–11
						In 2:1–11



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us thank the Lord for baptism. Let us also thank him for the parents who brought us to the font, for those who administered the sacrament...for the community in which we received him.... Do I acknowledge, in my life, the light of the presence of God, who sees me as his beloved son, his beloved daughter?

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 7, 2024