

Sunday Connection

A Gospel Reflection by Loyola Press

Sunday, January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord (A)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

The Spirit of God comes upon Jesus as he is baptized by John.



Background on the Gospel

The baptism of Jesus is attested to in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The account that appears in Matthew is the only one to include the dialogue between Jesus and John, however. Another difference in Matthew's presentation of this event is the announcement made by the voice from heaven, which says, "This is my beloved son . . ." In Mark and Luke, this voice addresses itself to Jesus: "You are my beloved son . . ."

The baptisms that John performs prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptizes for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the Baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptizing you with water . . . He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).

The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

This Sunday marks a transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. In a way, today's feast is the high point of the Christmas season. Before Jesus' birth, angels announced to Mary and to Joseph who Jesus would be. At his birth, the shepherds and the Magi recognize Jesus as the Messiah. At his baptism, Jesus reveals that he is God's son and inaugurates that mission.



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

JANUARY 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord (A)

100 S. Main St. - PO Box 187 - Spearville, KS 67876 - www.stjohnspearville.com

Pastor

Fr. John Forkuoh, 385-2212

Parish Secretary/DRE

Jenny Schmidt, 385-2202

Bookkeeper

Tena Gleason, 385-0615

Parish Council-1st Thursdays @ 8PM

President: Stephanie Hornung

Parish Center Office Hours

Hours listed are approximate and change often.

Fr. John - frjohn47@yahoo.com:

T/W/F : 10 am-12 pm

(by appointment for sacramental needs)

Jenny - jschmidt@stjohnspearville.com:

M-F: 12 pm-3:30 pm (during the school year)

MASS SCHEDULE: JANUARY 12TH - 18TH

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	MASS INTENTION
M-1.12	No Mass on Mondays - Father's Day Off		
T-1.13	8:30am	Parkview	Elmer Schuette
"	9:30am	Southwind	Ron Hornung
W-1.14	8:30am	Parkview	Deacon Dwaine Lampe
Th-1.15	8:30am	Parkview	George Heskamp
F-1.16	8:30am	Parkview	Melvin Hines
Sat-1.17	6:30pm	Church	All Parishioners of St. John
Sun-1.18	8:00am	Church	Jeremy Stein
Confessions: Saturdays at 5:45 PM or by appointment.			

MASS MINISTERS - JANUARY 17TH & 18TH

Collection: Carson Konrade & Kevin Mages

MASS	SATURDAY - 6:30 PM	SUNDAY - 8:00 AM
Sacristan	Tonya Hubbell	LynAnn Bowman
Servers	AJ Herrmann Caleb Herrmann	Clare Bowman Elizabeth Bowman
Lector	Evan Martinez	Craig Bowman
EMHC	Lynnette Hessman Mike Hubbell Tonya Hubbell	LynAnn Bowman Philip Gleason Connie Heskamp
Music	Jenny Schmidt	Ross Ackerman
Ushers	Carson Konrade Louie Konrade	Jeff Heskamp Kevin Mages
Gifts	Carson Konrade Family	Riley Schmidt Family

Get Connected



1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our zip code and select our parish.
3. Enter your name & email.

Join the Email Prayer Chain
To join the list or to send a prayer request, email Ginny Werner (ginny_werner@yahoo.com) or Lynnette Hessman (nettemae1984@yahoo.com).



St. Leonard's Council #1539

K of C Meetings

1st Mondays

7:45 PM Rosary

Meeting Follows



The Daughters of Isabella
St. Vincent de Paul #211

D of I Meetings

2nd Mondays

7:00 PM

Oak Room

BIRTHDAYS: 1/12 - 1/18

1.12	Rosann Tasset Avery Stein
1.14	Judy Gleason
1.15	Kevin Stein
1.16	John Giessel
1.17	Mari Pianalto Tess Ackerman



Parish Announcements, News, and Events

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: Our Baptism, like the Lord's, is a consecration to service. The bishop's pastoral on stewardship reminds us that "... there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism that people place their gifts, their resources – their selves – at God's service, in and through the Church."

TITHING REPORT for JANUARY 3RD & 4TH:

Box Collection: \$ 16,664.00
Online Collection: \$ 10,760.00

MONTH-END TOTALS

DECEMBER 2025:

Income: \$ 37,913.27
Expenses: \$ 15,472.21
Net: \$ 22,441.06

2026 TITHING ENVELOPES

If you still tithe using weekly envelopes, please find your box on the entryway table!

If you'd like to switch to online giving, please scan this QR code to find our parish's online giving platform:



CALLING ALL YOUTH BASKETBALL PLAYERS:



FREE THROW COMPETITION

> SUNDAY
> JANUARY 18TH
> 2 PM

NEW HIGH SCHOOL GYM

GIRLS & BOYS AGES 9-14 (AS OF 1.1.26)
CONTESTANTS SEPARATED BY AGE & GENDER

St. John Parish's Annual PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Sunday, January 25th
@ St. John Parish Center
8:30 - 10:30 AM

Free-Will Donation
Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee, & Orange Juice



The Church & Community Affairs Committee welcomes any volunteers who would like to serve a shift for the Pancake Breakfast. If you'd like to help, please contact Stephanie Hornung at (620)385-0326, or Debbie Wood at (620)253-1297. Thank you!

PLEASE PAY DoFI 2026 DUES:

Members of Daughters of Isabella are reminded to pay their 2026 dues. Dues are \$20 for all members over 80, and \$25 for all other members. Bring them to the meeting on January 12th, or mail to Stephanie Hornung at 402 Sill Street, Spearville. Thank you!

VOCATION REFLECTION:

The Lord created us for a definite purpose, he calls men to be his priests:
"I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand;
I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people,
a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind." (Is 42:1-4; 6-7)

If you're discerning the priesthood, contact our Diocesan Director of Vocations:
Fr. John Stang @ 620-227-1500 or vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Check out these vocation discovery opportunities!

In addition to the events below, there is also a "Discernment Day" for all HS boys on March 7th in Great Bend. The day will entail team competitions, talks, prayer, lunch, and Eucharistic Adoration. We'd love to take a group! Please reach out to Jenny or Fr. John in the Parish Office if you have any interest in attending an Andrew or Maria Dinner, or the Discernment Day.

ANDREW DINNERS

Dinner, discussions on discernment with Bishop John & the Vocations Team, and Night Prayer.



SCHEDULE

DEC. 28	College & Post-college @ Wright
JAN. 25	High School Option 1 @ Garden City (St. Mary's)
FEB. 1	High School Option 2 @ Larned

To register, scan here or email:
vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org



MARIA DINNER

High school girls are invited to dinner, discussions on discernment with religious sisters, and Night Prayer.



SCHEDULE

FEB 15 | ST. ANDREW'S - WRIGHT
BEGINS AT 6PM
ENDS AT 8PM

To register, scan here or email:
vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org



ROSARY CHALLENGE:

As always, when you receive the statue, pray for increased vocations in our diocese, your own personal intentions, and the special intentions listed for the month below.

January Intention: That praying with the Word of God provides nourishment for our lives and helps us to build fraternity and greater mission for our Church.



January 11th-18th:
Justin & Chanda Schulte Family

PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE:

Please consider joining the Diocese in their Pilgrimage for Life on Saturday, January 31st beginning at 10 AM at the Cathedral. Listen to a representative of the Kansas Catholic Conference present on pro-life issues in Kansas legislation, go on the 2-mile prayer walk loop, and end back at the Cathedral for Mass and a luncheon. This is a free event, but participants are encouraged to bring non-food pantry items to donate to Catholic Charities.

Please register at
dcdiocese.org/offices/respect-life