

# Church of the Holy Spirit

## The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021



### Mass Schedule

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

**Daily Mass (Monday Through Saturday):**

8:30 a.m.

**Holy Days:** As announced

### Confessions

**Saturday:** 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.

### Rectory Hours

**Monday:** 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday - Thursday:** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

*Closed on Fridays and Sundays*

Due to the pandemic, only one parishioner will be allowed into the Rectory at a time.

**16 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, New Hyde Park, NY 11040**

**Rectory Phone: (516) 354-0359**

**Website: [www.HolySpiritNHP.com](http://www.HolySpiritNHP.com)**

# Pastor's Page

## A few more thanks are in order...

This week it is very important to me to thank all those who have been so generous this Christmas. We are only down \$2,000 (two thousand dollars) from last Christmas and, considering we are still in the midst of a pandemic, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Our Christmas collection is just over \$36,000 (thirty-six thousand dollars). I also include many of our parishioners who, because of the pandemic, were not able to make it to Church and mailed in their envelopes. In fact, this was the majority of our collection. I hope you are safe at home and I thank you all for your generosity. We all look forward to seeing you back in Church, and hopefully, soon.

## One Solitary Life

Seven years ago, we started this wonderful tradition of having Frank McLarney read "One Solitary Life", with soft background music, at all of our Christmas Masses. This is a tradition that so many of our parishioners look forward to and love. I thank Frank for making himself available at every Christmas Mass and for giving us a professional reading of this poem about the life of Jesus.

## Ash Wednesday is February 17<sup>th</sup>

- 1) We will have our Mass and service schedule for Ash Wednesday in next week's bulletin. Please consider doing a reading and/or helping us distribute ashes at one of our Masses or services.
- 2) If you have palm from a previous year, please hold onto it for now. We will be having a palm burning ceremony outdoors sometime before Ash Wednesday.
- 3) As a heads up, we will be asking **soon** to sign up for Holy week liturgies; this would include Palm Sunday through, and including, Easter.

## The Baptism of our Lord

The baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist is a major event in the life of Jesus, and the Church. It is described in three of the Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke. It took place in the Jordan River and is a historical event. Jesus did not need to be baptized. He did it as an example for us to follow. Jesus' baptism was also an opportunity to show his authority as God confirmed he was his Son.

# The Baptism of the Lord

By Deacon Lachlan Cameron

If someone were to ask us the date of our birthday, we would have no problem in answering. It's something we never forget. For various reasons, it's an important date for each of us to remember. But what if you were asked the date of your baptism? How many of us could answer that one correctly? Over the years I have baptized many babies....and often I would ask the parents and godparents if they knew the date of their own baptism. Over these many years, only one person.....a godfather.... knew his own baptism date. He always remembered it because he was baptized on July 4th.....and his mother always reminded him of the fact. So if you don't know when you were baptized...find out. It is a very important date for every one of us. It is the beginning of our journey as followers of Jesus Christ.....our initiation into the Christian life.

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and bring to an end our celebration of the Christmas Season....and we do so with another major revelation in today's Scriptures. Another showing, or epiphany.....another huge

event in the revelation of God to man. Revelations which will change the world. The first of these was the Birth of Christ at Christmas, which revealed Jesus Christ to Israel. The second revelation was when Christ was shown to the Gentiles in the visit of the Wise Men.....and the third of these epiphanies or revelations...which we hear today.... took place at the Baptism of the Lord, when the Trinity was revealed to us. (The other revelation came at the Marriage Feast at Cana...which we can talk about another time.)



So today as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord....we celebrate a milestone event in the life of Jesus. Jesus did not need John's baptism. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance, which drew many to repent of their sins. Jesus had no sins to repent. Rather, all John's preaching and teaching was now being realized....here was the culmination of John's work. We hear John's words in today's Gospel..... 'One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of His sandals. I have baptized you with water....He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit'. That moment had come! This was a very different baptism.....this was a baptism of initiation.

Jesus, who was like us in all things but sin, having taken on himself the weight of human sin, had humbled Himself to be baptized. In doing so He sanctified the waters and....as the Fathers of the Church teach us....He instituted the Sacrament of Baptism by His actions. He did not need to do this....but as with everything with Jesus.... it was done out of love for us and for the Father.

John had foretold that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Today we are introduced to the Trinity. We hear the voice of the Father telling us that He is pleased with His Son...and then the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus in the form of a dove so that all might see. The Father and the Holy Spirit give witness to Jesus as an equal...as the Second Person of the Trinity. Our Heavenly reward....Paradise....which had been closed to us for so long....is being prepared to be reopened... by this selfless Gift of the Son. How blessed we are if we recognize this Gift....and accept it.

May Almighty God bless us, protect us from all evil, and lead us into everlasting life. Amen

# Lector Schedules

## 9:30 AM Family Mass Lectors: January 10 - 17, 2021

If you are unable to make a Mass, please call/text Marie Scandura at 516-279-8381. If you are scheduled to lector, please be at the Church no later than 9:15 a.m.

### January 10, 2021

Intro	Selena Jones
First Reading	Sean Jones
Second Reading	Isis Rojas
Petitions	Vallerya Rojas

### January 17, 2021

Intro	Shyler Fernandes
First Reading	Jasmine Garnica
Second Reading	Sherwin Fernandes
Petitions	Linda Cheung

## Adult Lector Schedule January 9 - 17, 2021

### January 9 - 10, 2021

1/9 at 5:00 p.m.	Howie Ammerman
1/10 at 8:00 a.m.	Florence Scarinci
1/10 at 11:30 a.m.	Frank McLarney

### January 16 - 17, 2021

1/16 at 5:00 p.m.	Nancy Margro
1/17 at 8:00 a.m.	Phyllis & John Thomas
1/17 at 11:30 a.m.	Jim McHugh

# Reflection

## Sunday, January 10, 2021

(Lec. 21)

- 1) Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
- 2) Acts 10:34-38
- 3) Mark 1:7-11

FOCUS: May our lives always reflect the powerful grace of our baptism.

God reveals the sacrament of baptism with dynamic power. The heavens are torn. The Spirit descends; the Father's voice is heard. Two brief verses paint a vivid picture depicting the unity of the Holy Trinity. Through our baptism, we are joined to the family of God and welcomed into the intimacy of the trinity. Take hold of this gift.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah presents the Suffering Servant, sent to save God's people. In the Book of Acts, Peter declares salvation is available to all people, and is not restricted to the Israelites. In today's Gospel, Jesus is baptized by John. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, while God the Father calls Jesus his *beloved Son*.

# Announcements

## Thank You for Helping Those in Need

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Parish Social Ministry would like to thank the parishioners of Holy Spirit for your generosity during 2020. Your donations, contributions to the Poor Boxes and the Walk for the Poor helped us provide \$35,000 worth of assistance to our neighbors in need. Your donations of food helped those in need put food on their tables.

Parish Social Ministry provided aid in the form of food, supermarket gift cards, metro cards, and furniture to 3,461 people in 1,058 households. A total of \$19,350 in gift cards were distributed and \$1,636 was spent to buy furniture for those in need from the St. Vincent to Paul store.

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul made 139 home visits to determine the financial needs of 162 people and assist with rent, mortgage, and utility payments. In addition, this year we made 2,133 visits and phone calls to deliver food and provide transportation and companionship to 3,663 people.

If you know someone in need of assistance or would like to learn more about our ministry, please email us at [SVdPHolySpiritNHP@gmail.com](mailto:SVdPHolySpiritNHP@gmail.com) or call us at 516-584-4060. Any information which we receive will be kept confidential.

Thank you again, and may God bless you and your families in this new year.

## Home Heating Assistance

If you have fallen behind on paying your home heating bills, you may be eligible for assistance through United Way's Project Warmth. There are no income limits for this program, and it applies to any type of heating (gas, oil, electric, propane). For information, please contact Holy Spirit's Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 516-584-4060 or email at [SVdPHolySpiritNHP@gmail.com](mailto:SVdPHolySpiritNHP@gmail.com).

## Holy Spirit Social Ministry

If you would like to support the Food Pantry, the items most needed are oatmeal, canned meats (corned beef hash, chicken, etc.) jelly, pancake mix and pancake syrup. Drug store and supermarket gift cards are always welcome. Food donations can be dropped off inside the church entrance on Saturday or Sunday during Mass times.

Your support is greatly appreciated!  
We also thank Dominick's Deli on Herricks Road for their support!

**The Food Pantry is open on  
Mondays, Wednesdays and  
Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



## Mass Guideline Reminder

Thank you all for continuing to follow the guidelines in place during Mass to ensure the safety of all parishioners.

As a reminder:

1. If you wish to receive Holy Communion on your tongue, please **wait until Mass ends** and receive Communion after Mass.
2. Face coverings must be worn throughout the Mass and cover your mouth and nose.

### **REMINDER**

As per NY State and local regulations, and by Diocesan directives, the wearing of a face mask is mandated, while in the Church during Mass.

# Background Screening Update

## ***Background Screening Update***

### ***The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People:***

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Charter) promulgated by the Bishops of the United States in 2002 outlines specific practices and guidelines providing standards of safety in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. As directed in The Charter, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees, clergy, and volunteers to complete three requirements within thirty days of employment or volunteering:

1. Attend **Protecting God's Children Program (Virtus)**
2. Sign the Codes of Conduct;
3. Complete a background screen application. The Diocese requires all those who remain in active ministry be rescreened at 5 yr. intervals. volunteers/employees.

### **A Word on Background Screening of Volunteers:**

The Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OFPCYP) has streamlined the volunteer application process enabling volunteers to complete the three safe environment requirements in one step. Individuals wishing to volunteer in a parish or school:

1. Register to attend a Protecting God's Children class and create a Virtus account on the Virtus website: [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org)
2. Electronically acknowledge the Diocesan Code of Conduct provided during the Virtus registration process.
3. Follow the instructions to complete the Sterling Volunteers background screening application background offered during the Virtus registration process.

### **Active Volunteers:**

If you are active in a parish ministry, have already attended Virtus and have been background screened you may be at – or beyond - the **5yr. rescreening requirement**. If this is the case, you will receive an email from **Sterling Volunteers** asking you to complete the background screening application on-line. You may access the background screening application by following the prompt in the email or logging into your Virtus account. **Please be aware - this is not a scam nor has your e-mail been hacked.** The OFPCYP has been working with your parish to update the Safe Environment records and noted it is time for you to be rescreened. You may also be prompted to electronically resign the Code of Conduct when you log into your Virtus account.

### **Edit Your Virtus Account:**

To access your Virtus account: [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org) You will need your Username and Password. If you need assistance, please contact Virtus: 1-888-847-8870 or [helpdesk@virtus.org](mailto:helpdesk@virtus.org). Once in your account, review your account information-particularly your e-mail address. If your account requires updating, please hit the TOOLBOX tab at the top of the screen. On the left side of your screen in the green column click "Update My Account" You will be able to make the necessary changes-please remember to hit the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen.

Questions or concerns: [mmcmahon@drvc.org](mailto:mmcmahon@drvc.org); [amendoza-cantos@drvc.org](mailto:amendoza-cantos@drvc.org); [jwinter@drvc.org](mailto:jwinter@drvc.org); [pditomasso@drvc.org](mailto:pditomasso@drvc.org)

Thank you to all who continue to serve in a ministry during these extremely challenging days.

# Respect Life

## Closed Minds and Hardened Hearts: The Tragedy of Abortion

By John Scarinci

One main fact about the tragedy of abortion is that there has been so much written about its practice for so long from so many different perspectives, and yet on so many levels, none of these have come close to really capturing the true nature of this issue. The lawyers and the judges can speak of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and the right to privacy and the meaning of personhood; the feminist can speak about a woman's right over her own body, the environmentalist can argue that more babies mean more CO2 released into the atmosphere; the politician can watch the poll numbers on this issue and make policy based solely on that. But in the end the essence of this issue is simpler than that. It is an issue of mind and emotion, more precisely of imagination and empathy.

In the short story "Hills Like White Elephants" by Ernest Hemingway, a young woman and her lover are on their way to get an abortion. While waiting for a train the young woman looks towards the horizon and sees the distant hills that remind her of white elephants. Her lover sees only hills. And this difference represents the different ways to see the abortion issue. The woman knows she has a life growing within her, she can feel it, and now her imagination can see it. Similarly, when it is killed she will also see it and feel it. Not so for her lover for whom it is only a medical procedure that leaves a residue of biological issue that is discarded along with other medical debris. For him hills are only hills and do not remind him of a swollen womb brimming with life.

Today we don't have to use our imaginations to know this, science in the form of ultrasound lets us *see* this.

But the fact that a baby is not medical waste to be discarded as such can be demonstrated if we just use our imaginations and open our hearts. I do not call as my witness a constitutional lawyer to argue legal fine points, but instead the image of five tiny perfectly formed fingers wrapped around one of mine. I do not summon an environmentalist to document the effects of climate change, but call to the stand the image of perfectly made toes. I do not call the feminist with her demand for autonomy over her own body, instead I call to the stand the sound of a child's laughter, the infectious giggling that makes you smile regardless of how bad a day you have just had. I also call to the stand the wonder in the eyes of a child wandering through an amusement park, or seeing the green expanse of a baseball field, or immersing arms up to the elbows in finger paint and creating another masterpiece for the refrigerator. I know these things. I have grandchildren you see and I don't have to imagine them. I marvel at their appreciation of life. I am awed by the joy they take in simple things. They do by their very nature open one's heart and mind to all the wonders of life.

I used to argue with my friends about abortion. But I no longer appeal to facts, reasons, statistics, or logic legal or otherwise. A blind mind cannot see; a marble heart cannot feel. That is what the abortion issue comes down to. Abortion is a tragedy of closed minds and hardened hearts and only the opening of minds and the melting of hearts can change that.

# Photos from Christmas Masses



**The Cooney Family**



**The Smith Family**



**Marilyn McClean, Frank McLarney  
and Teresa McClean**



**Michaela Cooney, Alexa Rago,  
Holly Gannon and Julia Esposito**



**Sherwin Fernandes**



**Shyler Fernandes**



**Deana D'Urso**



**Miranda Toro**



**Mia Alana**



**Selena Jones**



**Sean Jones**



**Gregory Marzano**

# Mass Intentions & Prayers



*Prayer requests will appear for four weeks. Please notify the rectory if a prayer request needs to be extended.*

## Prayer Requests

Elaine Bruno  
 Michael Donnelly  
 Pam Gallagher  
 Dennis O'Hagan  
 John Ricciardi  
 Janet Rossano  
 Marisa Sequino  
 James and JoAnn Vita  
 and for those serving  
 in our military.

**Saturday, January 9 Christmas Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Richard A. Sipperley  
 5:00 PM Parishioners of Holy Spirit

**Sunday, January 10 Baptism of the Lord**  
 8:00 AM Adolf Wachswender  
 9:30 AM Elvira Grosso  
 11:30 AM Joseph Kusk

**Monday, Jan. 11 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Purgatorial Society

**Tuesday, Jan. 12 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Aaron Bleeker

**Wednesday, Jan. 13 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Joey Romano

**Thursday, Jan. 14 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Martha Castro

**Friday, January 15 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Alyssa Vargas

**Saturday, Jan. 16 Weekday**  
 8:30 AM Dolores and Tony Santangelo  
 Roberta Powell  
 5:00 PM Nora Fox

**Sunday, January 17 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 AM Parishioners of Holy Spirit  
 9:30 AM James Fazio  
 11:30 AM Aaron Bleeker



## Please pray for the recently deceased members of our parish, especially for:

Alfonsina Bayer  
 Antoinette Borzell

## MASS INTENTION BOOK

To request a Mass Intention, stop by the rectory during office hours.

For all Mass Intentions the requested donation is \$20.

The requested donation for The Bread and Wine or Candle offerings are \$25.



## Bulletin Deadline

Please note the deadline for submitting requests for the January 24, 2021 bulletin is **Wednesday, January 13, 2021.**

Requests should be sent to both [mgannon@holyspiritli.org](mailto:mgannon@holyspiritli.org) and [frgrieco@yahoo.com](mailto:frgrieco@yahoo.com)

## BAPTISMS

Please contact Deacon John Hogan at [jhoganhs@gmail.com](mailto:jhoganhs@gmail.com) to arrange for your child's baptism.

Baptisms are held on the first Saturday of each month at 2:00 p.m.



## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY



Arrangements must be made at least one year prior to the ceremony and before arrangements are made for the reception.

Please contact Fr. Grieco at [frgrieco@yahoo.com](mailto:frgrieco@yahoo.com).

# Pastoral Staff

**Rev. Frank Grieco, Pastor** Ext. 116  
E-mail: [frgrieco@yahoo.com](mailto:frgrieco@yahoo.com)

### Rectory Office Staff:

**Phone:** 516-354-0359 / **Fax:** 516-354-2611  
**Lauren Petricca** Ext. 111  
**Office Manager**  
E-mail: [lpetricca@holyspiritli.org](mailto:lpetricca@holyspiritli.org)

**Monica Gannon** Ext. 147  
**Bulletin and Website Coordinator**  
E-mail: [mgannon@holyspiritli.org](mailto:mgannon@holyspiritli.org)

### Parish Social Ministry

**Tom Friel, Director** Ext. 137  
E-mail: [tfriel@holyspiritli.org](mailto:tfriel@holyspiritli.org)

**Food Pantry / Parish Social Ministry Hours:**  
Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### Deacons

**Deacon John Hogan**  
E-mail: [jhoganhs@gmail.com](mailto:jhoganhs@gmail.com)  
**Deacon Douglas Ferreiro**  
E-mail: [douglas.ferreiro@gmail.com](mailto:douglas.ferreiro@gmail.com)

### Music Director

**Mary Bolan**  
E-mail: [mmbolan@aol.com](mailto:mmbolan@aol.com)

**Religious Education Office** Ext. 132  
**During class times:** Ext. 133

**Mr. Bob Hodgson**  
E-mail: [MrBobDRE@aol.com](mailto:MrBobDRE@aol.com)  
**Office Hours:**  
Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



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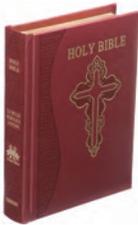


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