

## *Greetings.*

*We are so glad that you chose to join us today to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
We hope that you will enjoy the service and be encouraged by your worship experience.*

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### **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. (Luke 3:16)**

When we think about the baptism of Jesus, three different baptisms come to mind: his baptism in the Jordan River, his baptism on the cross, and his desire to baptize us in his Holy Spirit.

First, when he was baptized by John, Jesus showed how deeply he wanted to be joined with all of us, sinners though we are. As St. Paul explained, Jesus became sin for us so that in him “we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). Through his baptism, he took on our sin and carried it with him until the day of his death on the cross.

Second, there is Jesus’ baptism on the cross. He once told his disciples, “There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!” (Luke 12:50). When James and John wanted Jesus to guarantee them a special place in heaven, he replied: “Can you ... be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” (Mark 10:38). He knew that his cross was the culmination of everything that his baptism in water began. All the sin that he accepted was put to death, and we were redeemed!

But it doesn’t end at the cross. Third, Scripture tells us that Jesus now wants to baptize all of us “with the Holy Spirit” (Luke 3:16). He wants to share the fruit of his baptism with us by immersing us in his Holy Spirit—just as he baptized the first apostles on Pentecost.

Today’s feast is an invitation for us to ask, “Do I know the freedom from sin that Jesus’ baptism won for me?” It’s also an invitation to ask, “How well do I know the Holy Spirit?” Just as the Spirit came upon him when he was baptized, this same Spirit wants to come upon us and empower us to live a godly life.

**“Thank you, Jesus, for being baptized for me. Now come and fill me with your Spirit!”**

*~Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### WHEN GOD COMES

My God, what joy is when you come to us in daily visitation; what peace is ours when by your coming we find life anew. Come, O come to live with us and reign within, now and forever. Amen.

<b>Sunday</b>	Is 42:1-4, 6-7, Ps 29:1-10, Lk 3:15-22
<b>Monday</b>	1 Sm 1:1-8 Mk 1:14-20
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Sm 1:9-20, Mk 1:21-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Sm3:1-20, Mk 1:29-39
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Sm 4:1-11, Mk 1:40-45
<b>Friday</b>	1 Sm 8:4-22a, Mk 2:1-12
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Sm 9:1-19, Mk 2:13-17
<b>Sunday</b>	Is 62:1-5, Ps 96:1-10 Jn 2:1-11

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday January 9

5:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

### Sunday January 10

8:00 AM Intention of Mr. Viagappan (Father of Fr. Bernard)  
10:00 AM Soul of Sam Richardson  
12:15 PM Soul of Barbara Starks



## WEEKLY OFFERING

January 3, 2016

\$11,187.25 Tithe and Offering  
208.00 Building Fund  
31.00 "We Care"

The family of **Barbara Starks** would like to thank you for the many acts of loving kindness shown during their bereavement. Thank you to the Bereavement Team and all those who donated food and monetary gifts. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:

*"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...'" (Luke 3:16)*

The Catholic Catechism states that *"Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will."* In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Once we surrender ourselves to God, we will know in our hearts what God calls us to do.

## Sacred Heart Retreat

Let 2016 be your year to take care of the Spiritual You! Ladies, it's almost time again for the spiritually rejuvenating retreat at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra. From Friday, April 8th until Sunday, April 10th you can come one or all three days to enjoy a little quiet time for yourself. For more information and/or to reserve your space, reach out to Evelyn Payne at 323.291.8325 or Sonya Robertson at 323.291.4846. We'd love to have you with us.

## Men, Mark your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 22, 23, and 24, 2016. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM. Friday. Our retreat opens at 6:15 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 1:00 PM. **A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this is reserved for you.**

This year's Retreat theme: **"No Greater Love"**

For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner your parish retreat Captain at 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214 or Maurice Simon at 323.296.1501.



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

*Hold my hand in weakness Lord God, you are my strength. Hold my hand in my weakness and teach my heart to fly. With you, there's nothing to fear, nothing to worry about. Hold me tight in your embrace, so that I can be stronger than the challenges in my life. Amen.*



Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Daniel Boone, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Harry Charles, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Nigel Dunn, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Sister Mary Michaeline Gahwolf, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Millard Goode, Jr., Nancy Goosby, Mary Hall, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Mary Jené, Aaron Jittu, Joan Johnson, Robert Jordan, Briana Katz, Leah Kelley, Walita Keyes, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vydred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Reanna Semien, George Simon, Sr., Jeremiah Skyes, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Tinkerbelle, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Patricia Williams, Peggy Wright and Ralph Wright.