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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



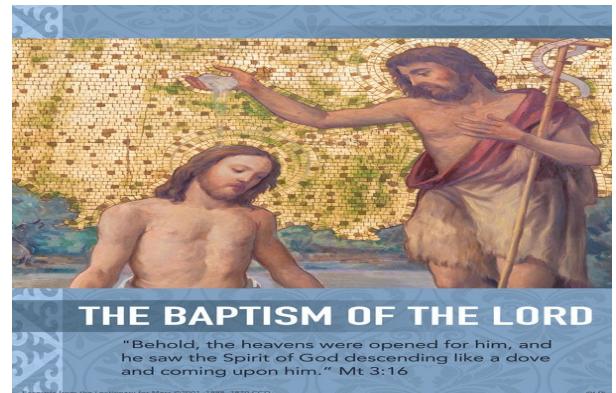
SCHOOL NEWS

The school community celebrated the first Mass of 2026 with Fr. Tom. The students were encouraged by the Gospel to share a message or act of love with someone the way God shared Jesus with us on Christmas Day.

Best, Nancy Lynch, Principal

MISSION OF THE PARISH

We are a welcoming Catholic Parish
Embracing its African American culture,
Empowering its members
And sharing its love of Christ
Through service to the community.



JANUARY 11, 2026

10932 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44108-1939

Parish House: 216-451-3262 • Fax: 216-268-3830

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (weekdays)

Project H.O.P.E.: 216-391-7557

Parish Hall: 216-451-5908

Please call Parish House to include prayer intentions or announcements in Sunday Liturgy

St. Aloysius—St Agatha School

640 Lakeview Road • Cleveland, Ohio 44108

Phone: 216-451-2050 • Fax: 216-541-1601

Monday thru Friday: 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

St. Aloysius Preschool

Phone: 216-451-4144

Pastoral Staff

Sr Mary Jean Raymond OSU..... Parish Life Coordinator

Fr. Daniel Schlegel.....Presbyteral Moderator

Mrs. Nancy Lynch.....St. Aloysius School Principal

Ms. Carol Bunn Hunger Center Director

Ms. Kim JamesPreschool Director

Parish Leadership

Gregory Clifford.....Pastoral Council

Joe Harbert..... Finance Council

Belinda SimsLiturgy-Spiritual Life Committee

Carol Bunn..... St. Vincent dePaul Society

Marguerite Strickland.....Choir Representative

Chris Sledge Men's Club President

Beverly Berry.....Evangelization Committee

Community Services

Project HopeAndrea Wasdovoich-Duffner

Connecting Seniors to Services.....Carol Bunn

Eucharistic Celebration

Sunday Mass:10:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Before Sunday Mass or by appt.

Marriages: Arrangements made at the Parish House at least 6 months prior to the date of the wedding.

Baptisms: Contact the Parish House.

First Communion, First Reconciliation: Contact the Parish House.

Anointing of the sick and Hospital Visits: Contact the Parish House.

Funerals: All arrangements must be made at the Parish House before publication in Newspapers.

Registration: Everyone should be properly registered in the Parish. New parishioners should contact the Parish House. Those moving in or out of the Parish are asked to notify the Parish House.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Sr. Mary Jean's Column

In this time of moral crisis, where are the shepherds?

By Ronald E. Smith

**from the
Black Catholic Messenger**

As I read about early Catholic history, I learned of the schisms, differences of opinions, and persecutions that the Church experienced. I also learned that men, women, and children died for the faith, including those that refused to renounce their faith. Over the past 2,000 years, the Church has grown, but people continue to be fooled by those who use religion for their own gain, while leading believers astray.

The prophets of old shared God's message and warned the Israelites when they fell away from God. The Israelites were also misled by their political and religious leaders. In today's world, it appears that religious leaders are less likely to be vocal on political issues out of fear, apathy, a lack of understanding of biblical teachings, and, in some cases, a failure to practice what they preach.

America's religious leaders are no exception. Our nation is thought to have the most religious freedom and tolerance, yet our Christian leaders are failing the faith with their silence. It is okay to be aligned with a political party or ideology, but not to the extent that one becomes silent about immoral words and deeds.

In the current American moment, some Catholic bishops have spoken out against the immigration raids, but where are the rest of them, and other Christian leaders? Where have they been when President Donald Trump calls people "garbage" and other disrespectful names? Where are they when the Catholic vice president JD Vance and other elected officials use derogatory and mean-spirited words or spread misinformation? Who is speaking out against podcasters and others that distort the truth and promote discord?

The shepherd is supposed to lead the flock, not follow its whims when it comes to what is morally acceptable as a Christian. Are not religious leaders to speak up in favor of what the Bible teaches, rather than praise the worst offenders?

Currying favor with the president, for example, is great for the ego, but what message are you sending to the faithful? Through your silence, you are telling us to lie, cheat, steal, and do whatever we can to get ahead, and to not worry about our eternity. That is one of the devil's oldest tricks. How is it that religious leaders are doing his work through their silence?

Continued on next column

MINISTERS - January 11, 2026

LECTORS	
Greg Clifford	Arnetta Pryor
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	
Belinda Sims	Walter Morris
Jerri Evans	David Woody
SUNDAY COUNTERS	
Chris Sledge	Trewery Ford
Karen Clifford	

MASS INTENTIONS - JAN 11-18, 2026

Jan 11	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Walter Brewster, Sr.
Jan 13	Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	St. Aloysius & St. Raphael Parishes
Jan 18	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Marie M. Brewster Coach Eugene Jones

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sharon Alexander, Eben Anderson, Jr., Denise Brewster, Henrita Broadus, Lois Bunker, Greg Clifford, Angela Comedy, Jerri Evans, Miles Frierson, Irene Gantt, Victoria Harden, Jermaine Harland, Keli Harland, Madelyn Harland, Deborah Howard, Eugene Jones, Marlene Jones, Paulette Jones, Rosetta Mackey, Mary McCombs, Deborah McIntyre, Yvonne Nettles, Toni E. Payne, Trudy Payne, Jaxon Peck, Jordyn Peck, Clarice, Barbara Williams, Ann White, Vermonette Wright

HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOMES

Marilyn Anthony, Margaret Atwell, Barbara Bridges, Evelyn Davis, Vyrdy Hopes, Paulette Jones, Everette Matlock, Sr., Mary Ann Melton, Jackie Reese, Etta Reynolds, Vivian Watkins, Lavonia Williams

In another example, antisemitic behavior is on the rise. What are Christian leaders saying and doing to discourage such behavior? There are wars throughout the world and Pope Leo XIV is the only voice I hear trying to bring about peace. Where is everyone else? Are they not concerned because America is not at war?

Racism also still exists in America and throughout the world. Does anyone care? People and nations are being exploited. Human trafficking is a global problem. Who is speaking out against it? Who is taking action to reduce or eliminate these problem? Are you being made aware of these matters in your church?

Recent political decisions, including this year's tax cut and Medicaid reduction bill, the government shutdown, ICE raids in states with Democratic governors, gerrymandering political districts before the next census, and cowardly decisions by the Catholic-majority US Supreme Court have not been adequately addressed by religious leaders. Why? Were those political actions ones that will help people or are they vindictive political actions designed to keep people in their place?

Continued next week

EVENTS THIS MONTH		
Sunday	Jan 11	10:00 a.m. Mass
Tuesday	Jan 13	11:30 a.m. - Mass
Thursday	Jan 15	
Friday	Jan 16	9:00 a.m. at the cathedral. Our eighth graders will be attending along with students from a number of the city schools. Everyone is welcome to join us.
Saturday	Jan 17	10:00 a.m. - in the rectory. The finance council was scheduled to meet on Wednesday, Jan 14, however, some members are not able to meet on Wednesdays.
Sunday	Jan 18	10:00 a.m. - Mass - Irish Order of Hibernians Visit - The group from the east side will join us for our liturgy today. They will not stay for breakfast this year.

Why do we stand? When should we sit?

When should we sit down after communion? When the tabernacle is closed? When Father sits down? When the last person receives communion? I asked Fr. Dan about this and he offered the following advice: We stand during communion praying in support and solidarity with everyone who is receiving communion. It is proper to sit after the last person has received communion. I hope this helps to clarify our response after communion.

Sr. Mary Jean

Another way to donate to the collection - go to:

saintaloysiuscleveland.com

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**PLEASE
CONSIDER
ONLINE
GIVING**

Take advantage of the simple convenience of safe, automatic, regularly scheduled contributions (or one-time gifts for special collections).

SUNDAY READINGS

1st Reading - Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or 40:1-5, 9-11
My chosen servant, light of the nations

2nd Reading - Acts 10:34-38 or Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
God shows no partiality, Jesus anointed by the Spirit

Gospel - Matthew 3:13-17
Jesus' Baptism; "This is my beloved Son"

WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

Mon Jan 12 – 1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20
Tue Jan 13 – 1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28
Wed Jan 14 – 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39
Thu Jan 15 – 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45
Fri Jan 16 – 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1-12
Sat Jan 17 – 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Mark 2:13-17

Save the Dates

UJAMAA Awards - The school will hold the UJAMAA awards on Sunday, January 25 during the 10:00 Mass with a continental breakfast afterwards. This also marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week.

Diocesan Revival - This year we will host the revival on **February 18, 19, 20**. You will be hearing more from the committee soon. Many volunteers will be needed to help make this a wonderful experience for everyone who attends.

Funeral Mass for Cezanne Whittington - The family has requested that the date be changed to Saturday, **March 7, 2026**. As of right now, the funeral will be at 10:00 a.m. with a

Beginning in January our weekly Mass will move to Tuesdays at the same time 11:30 a.m.

COLLECTION SUMMARY 12/24/25

\$246.00 - Offertory
\$83,200.00 - Collection Annual Target (till 6/30/26)
\$59,782.41 - Collections Year to Date

COLLECTION SUMMARY 12/25/25

\$424.00 - Offertory
\$10.00 - Special Collections
\$83,200.00 - Collection Annual Target (till 6/30/26)
\$60,216.41 - Collections Year to Date

COLLECTION SUMMARY 12/28/25

\$1,087.00 - Offertory
\$84.00 - Renovations
\$112.00 - Special Collections
\$83,200.00 - Collection Annual Target (till 6/30/26)
\$61,499.41 - Collections Year to Date