



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

George Caird in his Pelican commentary on the Gospel of Luke asked this question, "Why was Jesus baptized?" Caird writes: "Jesus went to be

baptized then, not for private reasons, but as a man with a public calling. John the Baptist had summoned all Israel to repentance and with Israel, Jesus too, must go. Jesus dwelt in the midst of a sinful people and could not separate himself from them. Rather, he must be fully identified with them in their movement towards God."

In other words, baptism is not necessary for Jesus Christ. He was always God's beloved Son on whom His favor rests. And yet He chose to be baptized to identify Himself with our need for forgiveness and with our longing for redemption. To lead us into the kingdom, He himself would enter by the same and only door open to us, the door of baptism and which is also the door to other sacraments. That we are not yet baptized we could receive the other sacrament. So to speak, He was baptized to be in solidarity with us.

How can we, as baptized Christians live our baptismal promises? It is in baptism that we received the Holy Spirit. It is said that a diamond is a hard transparent and brilliant mineral, a crystalline carbon and is used as a gem by which everybody are tirelessly looking for. But this raw mineral attains its precious value if it is polished and appraised according to the four C: Cut, Color, Clarity and Cost. According to a certain priest that we are like a diamond, we are nothing but a black carbon buried in death and sin. But Christ came to purify us with his sacrifice and death on the cross. As St. Paul says, "we were buried, therefore, with him through baptism into his death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the father, we, too, might walk in the newness of life." (Rom 6:4).

So, as baptized Christians, we have to be constantly formed to perfection that He may actualize his priceless value. In this endeavor, like the raw diamond that needs the four C's in order to attain its precious value, we, too, need these four C's according to this priest: Christ, Church, Conversion and Charity.

To end this sharing with you, I have these questions thrown to you: Do you know when and where you were baptized? If not, why not find out and celebrate it as your birth date in faith? You might attend Mass that day, say a rosary, make a holy hour in the adoration chapel and other places or reread the baptismal promises and meditate on their meaning.

(Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.)

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, January 13, 2025 **9:00 a.m.**

Leo Didero req Sharon and Cathy

Tuesday, January 14 **9:00 a.m.**

Leo James Didero req Sharon and Cathy

Thanksgiving for Gisha James req Joy

Thanksgiving for Joy and Gisha req Joy

Wednesday, January 15 **9:00 a.m.**

All souls in purgatory req Benilda Fajardo

Repose of the soul of Felice Mastroianni req Mary and family

Repose of the soul of Janice Wilson

req Mary Mastroianni and family

Jan Villanueva req Anabeth Ondiano

Thursday, January 16 **9:00 a.m.**

In memory of Frank Sweeney req Parish family

Friday, January 17 **9:00 a.m.**

Repose of the soul of Leo Didero req Jackie Sherk

Blessings and intentions of Annabelle Banzon

req Flo and Paul and family

Saturday, January 18 **5:00 p.m.**

Maureen Williams req Williams family

Molly and Peg Deery req Helen McSorley

Leo Didero req Virginia Pretto

Sunday, January 19, 2025 **10:00 a.m.**

For St. Charles Garnier Parish Community

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church. This week our Lamp burns:

For Leo James Didero
Req Parish Family

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it."

John 1:5



**PARISH
SUPPORT**

Christmas Offering \$ 6,565.00

Sunday Offering (Dec 28/29) 3,898.00

New Year's Offering 780.00

Sunday Offering (Jan 4/5) 1,713.00

Loose collection 320.00



Thank you for your generosity and continued support to St. Charles Garnier Parish.

ST. CHARLES JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

There will be a number of programs throughout the coming year to celebrate the Jubilee Year. One program will begin in January. Each day, except Sundays, the Mass will be offered for one family from the parish. By the end of the year, each family will have been included. You may choose the day you would like the Mass intention for your family. There will be sign-up sheets available at the back of the church. Please sign the sheet by **January 15th, 2025**. We are blessed to receive this gift of a Mass intention for our family and to receive these prayers. We hope each family will attend the Mass that is offered for them.

JUBILEE OF HOPE, 2025 The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as "Pilgrims of Hope!" All are invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been designated as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all available on the Diocesan Website: www.hamiltondiocese.com.



HEALING MASS

Tuesday, January 21st, 2025

6:00 p.m. Adoration

7:00 p.m. Healing Mass

with Anointing with Holy Oil

"Lord my God, I called to You for help, and You healed me." (Psalm 30:2)

Please Invite families and friends

2024 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS



are now available at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity. (If there are questions, please see Flo in the office)

BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM



"Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life"

Jesus is our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be? We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for ***Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life***, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what he means for us as Catholics today. In Saint Charles Garnier Parish we will begin the study on Tuesday, February 4th at 10 in the morning (soon after the Holy Mass 9:00 a.m.) and in the evening, for those who cannot participate in the morning, at 6:00 p.m. This Jubilee Year, ("Pilgrims of Hope") please consider joining us for this wonderful spiritual pilgrimage with Jesus to know and love.

Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship.

Please Register Your Name for the Study with \$50 for the Textbook and the workbook. For more information about the study contact, Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, Donna Marcaccio, Anne McInnis or call the parish office at 905-528-0074 or email us: saintcharlesgarnier505@gmail.com

We hope you can join us!

And a voice from Heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17