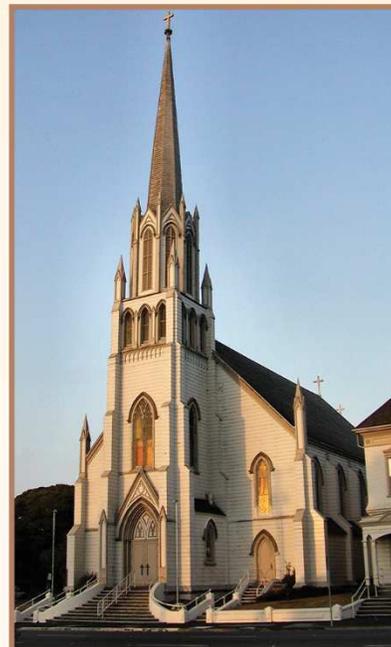
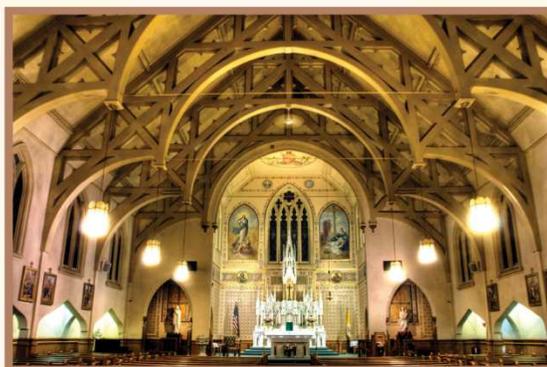
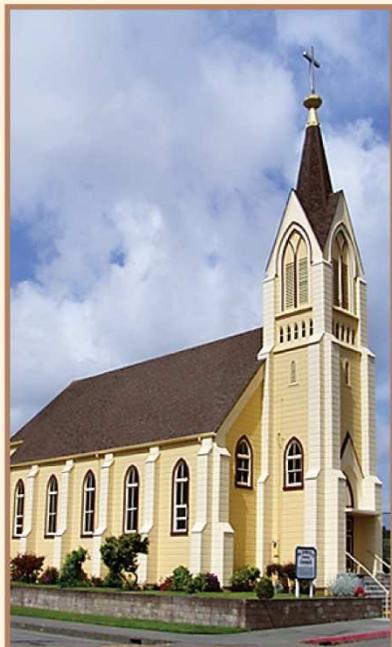


The Catholic Parish of St. Bernard

615 H St. Eureka, CA 95501 (707) 442-6466



January 10, 2021 Baptism of the Lord

St. Joseph Mission Church Mass Schedule

(Located on the corner of C & Henderson St.)
Saturdays: 4:00 pm. (vigil), Sundays: 7:30 am.
Weekdays: Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:30 am.
Holy Days: 7:30 am
Confessions: Saturdays 3:15-3:45 pm & by appt.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wed. 3:30-8:30 pm

Mass Schedule at St. Bernard

Sundays: 10:30 am
Weekdays: 12:15 pm. Mon, Wed, Fri
Holy Days Vigil: 12:15 pm, 5:30 pm
Confessions: Wednesdays 1:00 pm & by appointment
First Friday Devotion 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wed. 1-2 pm

Parish Staff

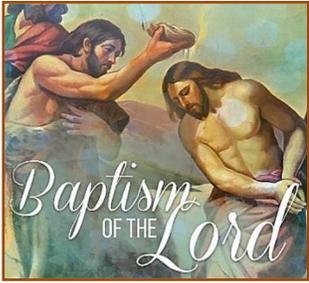
Rev. Bernard D'Sa, SFX, Pastor 443-8429
Rev. Rowell Gumalay, MOP, Parochial Vicar 443-8429
Rev. Mike Cloney, Retired, in residence
Deacon Frank Weber, 442-5615
Deacon W. Dance Farrell, 442-2233
Deacon Tony Viegas, 442-2232

Cathy, Office Manager, 442-6466
Illeen, Bookkeeper, Ext. 1102
Kim, Children Faith Formation, 442-2233
Fritz, Maintenance, 442-6466
Dianne, RCIA, 442-8812
Toni Lee, Prayer Line, 445-3616 (24/7)
Mikelyn, Rebecca, Music, 442-1695

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.—Friday 8 a.m. - Noon

Fax: (707) 443-0914 Email: office@saintbernards.org www.saintbernards.org

January 10th, 2021 – The Baptism of the Lord



It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." —Mark 1:7-11

The Covenant

That water must have felt good.

Granted, the Jordan river was murky and teeming with various pungent smells of desert growths, scuttling creatures, dry dust, and of course the unbathed bodies of ordinary people. Still it felt good. John the Baptist's voice boomed out over the waiting crowd. "Repent!"

Maybe you remember your own river swims as a kid, how it felt to sink into thick muddy water, how the mixture could go up your nose and, then into your mouth. And you can recall how it sounded when you dove up through the water-surface again.

Here in the desert, people had come to the water for baptism. The river must have been a potent symbol for them, since their means of cleanliness were limited.

Jesus was one of people. He entered John's baptism just like the others, entirely submerging his road-weary body when told to.

But when he came up from underwater, a great event waited for him. The New American Bible translates it this way: the heavens were "torn open." Out of the torn sky came the voice of the Holy Spirit, to announce to the world that God's ancient covenant of love now was before them in person, in the flesh—dirty and wet, just as they were.

Covenant.

What is a covenant? To put it simply, a solemn promise fortified by an oath (in word or deed), concerning future action. God said, "I agree to be your God and you agree to be my people." This proposal was re-stated many times in ancient scripture, with varying degrees of success. But now Jesus had come into the world to actually *become* this covenant. He was the most profound agreement possible of God and humanity. He was both halves of the covenant, God's and humans.

Many centuries earlier, the book of Isaiah had predicted this moment. The following words were uttered during the exile of Israel in Babylon:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit. He shall bring forth justice to the nations. (First Reading)

After so many centuries had passed, the Holy Spirit was descending now upon Jesus, and a voice was saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The time had come, after such a long anticipation.

What would this brand-new covenant life in God be like? It would be gentle ("not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street"). It would deliver God's love to the unkempt, the dripping wet, the honest (and dishonest), the alluring (and repulsive) people of - everyday life. Instead of excluding them, Jesus, who had become the covenant, would invite people down from trees where they scrambled to see him. He would say "of course I do" in answer to "Lord if you want to you can cure me." He will pity the soldiers who were ordered to kill him. He will agree to the shrewd thief's cry for pity.

We cannot doubt that he will reach into the heart and soul of each of us, even into the parts that so shame and embarrass us.

Most of us have already swum in this particular river, now known as baptismal water. It washes us clean, washes us free so that today we may surge up and out of our sin and reluctance, so that we may be surprised by the great words Jesus now says to each and every of us:

"You are my beloved; in you I am well pleased."
(Gospel) -John Foley, SJ

Readings This Sunday

Reading I: Isaiah 55: 1-11

Reading II: 1 John 5: 1-9

Gospel: Mark 1: 7-11

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading I: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel: John 1: 41, 17b

Finance / Stewardship Collection: The plate last weekend was **\$1430** and **Solemnity of Mary** was **\$584**.

HOLY COMMUNION INFO There are many faithful Catholics who participate in the Holy Mass virtually due to the pandemic. Keeping in view the pastoral aspect, the Bishop has granted permission to the Priests of the Diocese to distribute Holy Communion to these faithful Catholics. Therefore, if you participate in the Holy Mass virtually and want to receive Holy Communion thereafter, you may call the priest at 707-800-2699 and schedule a time to come by the parish to receive the Holy Eucharist.

If you would like a copy of your 2020 donations for tax purposes please call Cathy at the office at 442-6466 and leave your name and address.

Eureka Holy Mass Intentions

Saturday 09

4:00 pm SJ Erin Ford Int.

Sunday 10 The Baptism of the Lord

9:00 am SH Anne Granum †

10:30 am SB Barbara Masterson †

12:15 pm SH Francisco Vega † (Sp)

Monday 11

12:15 pm SB Dolores O'Connell †

Tuesday 12

7:30 am SJ No Intention

Wednesday

12:15 pm SB Nicholas Pepper Int
Marge Ford Int.

6:00 pm SH Adoration & Confession

7:00 pm SH Holy Mass (Sp)

Thursday 14

7:30 am SJ Erin Ford Int.

Friday 15

12:15 pm SB Bertha Yost †

1:00 pm SB Adoration & Confession

1:45 pm SB Benediction

Saturday 16

4:00 pm SJ Mass for the People

Sunday 17

9:00 am SH No Intention

10:30 am SB Msgr. Gerard Brady †

12:15 pm SH No Intention (Sp)

Please pray for: Barbara, Shawn, Laurie Moralez, Marilyn Ziblich, Monika Rose Cleenewerck, Chad Kryla, Basil & Santos Mainus, Harold Giacomini, Chet Branum, Florence, Garrett Anderson, Isela Adams, Lindy Timmerman & Family, Mary James, Dave Silverbrand, John Bertain, Denise Sledge, James Iron Shell, James Lemon, Wm. Hahn Family, Rose Ann Hurst, Armado De Los Santos, Judy Mill, Julia Walters, Connie Mather, Steve Mill, Ryan Pepper, Fred Pepper, Paul Shabata & Family.

PRAYER LINE

God our Father, you have promised to remain forever with those who do what is just and right. Help us to live in your presence. For the honor of your name, lead us and guide us. Call our prayer line leader, Toni at 445-3616 24/7.

Catholic Detention Ministry thanks the parishioners for their support this Christmas of the generous donation of Christmas cards and candies for the inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. The staff said they were blown away with how much they received and how the Inmates loved the cards and candies. Also, the inmates expressed how wonderful it was to be able to mail their loved ones Christmas cards."

Pray For Us Hilary of Poitiers Feast Jan.13th (Latin: *Hilarius*; c. 310 – c. 367" was Bishop of Poitiers and a Doctor of the Church. He was sometimes referred to as the "Hammer of the Arians" (*Malleus Arianorum*) and the "Athanasius of the West", His name comes from the Latin word for happy or cheerful. In addition to his important work as bishop, Hilary was married and the father of Abra of Poitiers, a nun and saint who became known for her charity."

"They didn't know who they were." This is how Hilary summed up the problem with the Arian heretics of the fourth century who denied Jesus' divinity. Hilary, on the other hand, knew very well who he was -- a child of a loving God who had inherited eternal life through belief in the Son of God. He hadn't been raised as a Christian but he had felt a wonder at the gift of life and a desire to find out the meaning of that gift. For Hilary could see in his own heart that humans were meant for even more than living a good life. So Hilary went looking for the gift giver. He was told many things about the divine -- many that we still hear today: that there were many Gods, that God didn't exist but all creation was the result of random acts of nature, that God existed but didn't really care for his creation, that God was in creatures or images. One look in his own soul told him these images of the divine were wrong. God had to be one because no creation could be as great as God. God had to be concerned with God's creation -- otherwise why create it? At that point, Hilary tells us, he "chanced upon" the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. When he read the verse where God tells Moses "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14), Hilary said, "I was frankly amazed at such a clear definition of God, which expressed the incomprehensible knowledge of the divine nature in words most suited to human intelligence." In the Psalms and the Prophets he found descriptions of God's power, concern, and beauty. For example in Psalm 139, "Where shall I go from your spirit?", he found confirmation that God was everywhere and omnipotent. At the age of 35 he had found who he was in discovering God and God's Son Jesus Christ.

The Christians of Poitiers so respected Hilary that about 350/353, they unanimously elected him their bishop. At that time Arianism threatened to overrun the Western Church; Hilary undertook to repel the disruption. He was not immediately successful and spent nearly four years in exile, however, he continued to govern his diocese, as well as writing two of the most important of his contributions to dogmatic and polemical theology. -Catholic Online

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John 3:16
American Bible




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