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**St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church**  
**THE VIGIL**

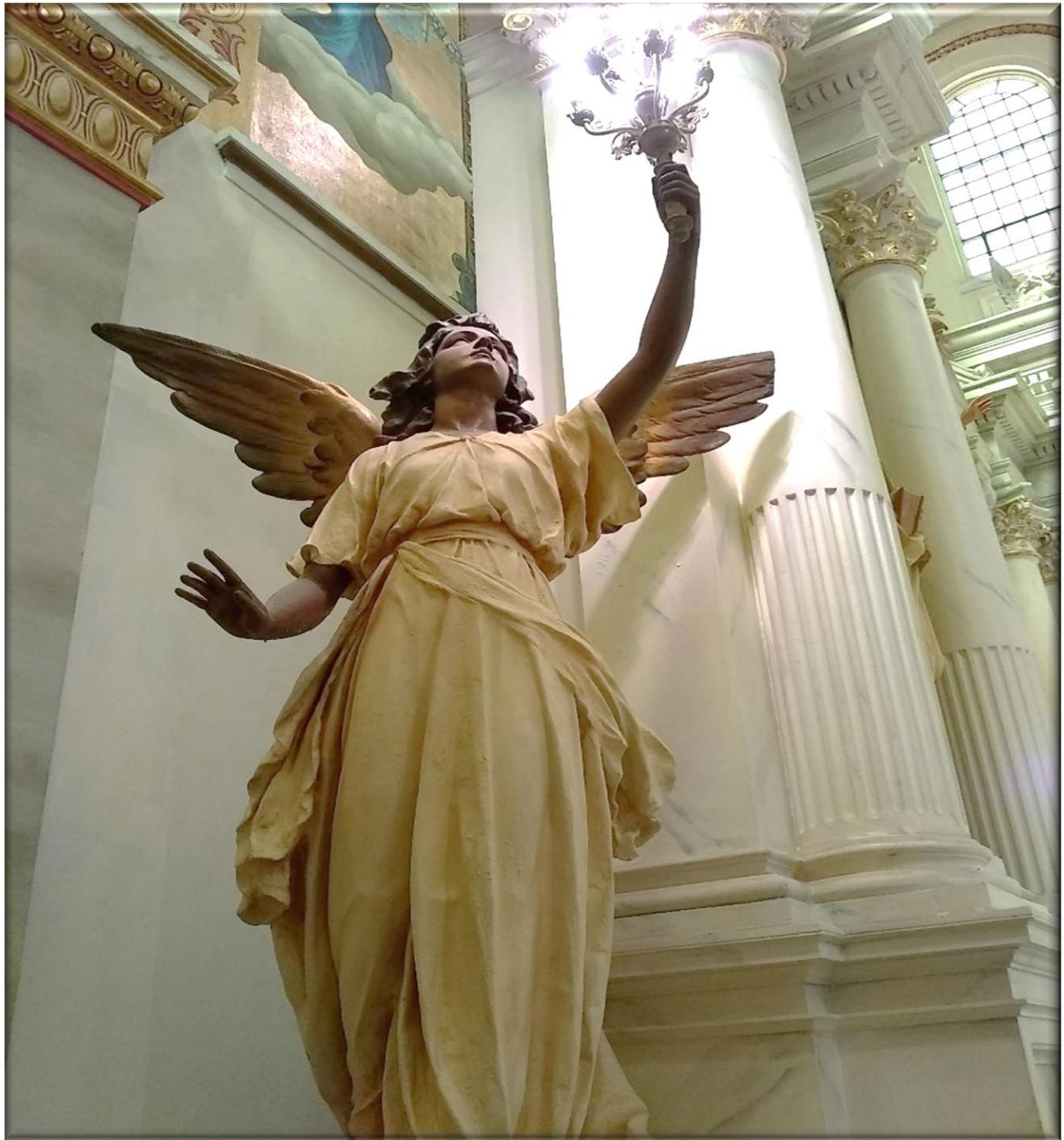
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**Sunday, January 11, 2026 (Year A)**

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**The Baptism of The Lord**

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# *Thoughts for Today's Readings    "With a Prayer..."*

## **Sunday Food for Your Soul**

### **You Are My Beloved**

A few years ago I was privileged to write music for As a River of Light, which is the story of Jesus' passion according to Luke.\* The librettist, Michael Dennis Browne, and I had a good time conceiving the opening scene in which many different people approached John the Baptist and spoke out their names as they were baptized.

#### **God's love for us naturally evokes our mutual love for God.**

Michael was away from home, but we needed specific names for the people. So I went to a friend who is also a scholar of the scriptures, Fr. Dennis Hamm. I told him I wanted names of people from the New Testament era, but I did not want them to sound formal and starchy: daily names that people used for short. Could he think of any? Dennis paused a fraction of a second and said, "you mean like 'Jack the Dipper'?"

The hilarity of the moment did not mask the fact that the word baptism does derive from a word meaning *to dip*.

After we got a list of names, I went off to compose music for the scene, with Jesus as just another person in the lineup of people to be baptized. This emphasizes Jesus' humility.

As you know, Jesus' baptism had a spectacular climax. The heavens opened and Jesus saw the Holy Spirit descending upon him like a dove. He heard from heaven the following words: "You are my beloved and in you I am well pleased." I loved writing music for these words. As it happened, the first violinist for the recording showed up with a Stradivarius, making the violin solo particularly poignant.

The words are also echoes of the First Reading (from Isaiah) we will hear this Sunday.

**Here is my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit ... ; a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth.**

Both readings are loving, gentle and filled with promise.

What I did not realize—even after several performances and a recording session—was that such a short sentence, put to music, would be the one everybody would chose as their favorite moment from the whole musical: the tender voice of God, saying "You are my beloved and in you I am well pleased." It seems to have captured many hearts. I suspect people hear God's voice saying the same thing to them, even today.

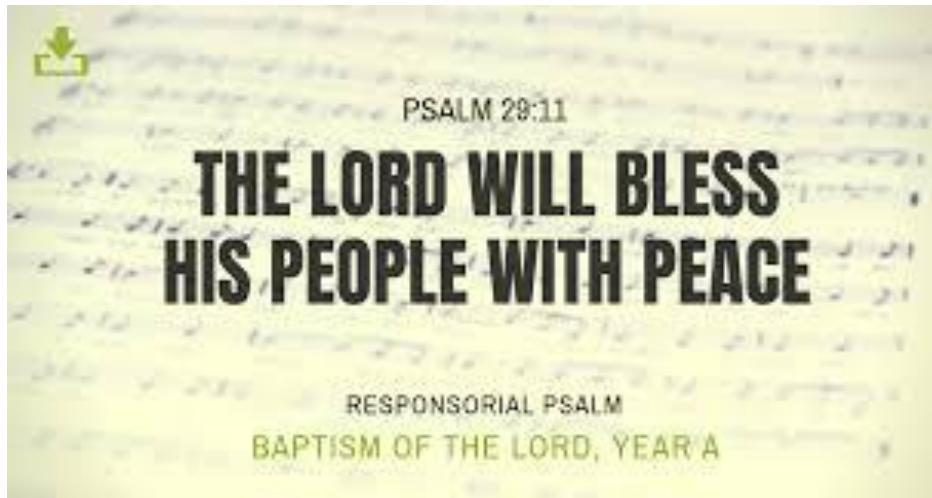
God's love for us naturally evokes our mutual love for God. Jesus heard the voice of love and immediately went to the desert to prepare the giving of his whole life to God in gratitude. If you and I ever begin to grasp the meaning of "you are my beloved," we too will begin to live our lives out of thankfulness to the one who stands behind the words.

That strange name, "Jack the Dipper," started me toward an understanding of the sacrament of Baptism, even if it is the Baptism of the Lord himself. It says loud and clear to the infant or the adult being baptized, "Come in. Be washed. You are much beloved to God and to the Church." I hope you and I can remember those words all the days of our lives.

John Foley, SJ  
St. Louis University

**Sunday Community Dinners...** As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed. We are in need of more. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory. **Today Sunday, January 11, 2026:** Angie Kadowaki & Family; **January 18, 2026:** Parish Council; **January 25, 2026:** St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans; **February 1, 2026:** The Rosary Group; **February 8, 2026:** Patty Gillis and Crew; **February 15, 2026:** Kim & Steve Llorens

**Nativity Pantry News:** We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. Between you, our St. Charles family, and the Nativity Family, we have enough Family Size Peanut for bigger families for the rest of the month depending on our numbers. This week we need tuna, pork & beans, and cereal. Again, we thank you for all you do to help us.



### Prayer for The Baptism of the Lord Sunday

O Lord,  
Your Baptism shows us that You are not remote.  
You are at our side.  
You know sin but are not a sinner.  
Give us the grace to renew our baptism through a frequent reception of  
confession and the Holy Eucharist.  
By receiving one,  
We strengthen others.  
By receiving You,  
we receive God Himself.

Amen.

## Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Today the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**. This feast brings to an end the season of Christmas. Ordinary Time lasts from the day after this feast to the Tuesday before Lent.

The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world".

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

—Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas

**PRAY FOR THE  
HEALING PRESENCE**

Jean-Marie Allion  
Anderson and Miller Family  
Paul Andrecovich  
Kathy Ayoub  
Mary Canaday  
Jane Colombo  
Kyle Duker  
Jim Dutkiewicz  
Doris Franklin  
Anna Grabowski  
Nancy Hayes  
Jim Howard  
Evelyn Hughes  
Bertha Jackson-Hyde  
Michelle Koss  
Steve Lamendola  
Michael Martin  
Jacqueline Morant  
Gloria Parham  
Ronald Parham  
Vertis Park, Sr.  
Earlene Park-Williams  
Orlando Richardson  
Aaron Scott  
Karen Seyboldt  
Cherise Sweeney  
Jonathan Taylor  
Tommy Traylor  
Anna Tyler  
Guillermo Villanueva  
Eldora White

**Please call the rectory at 313-331-0253 to let us know when a name should be added to or removed from the list. Names will stay on the list for 3 months, but can be continued if we are notified of the wishes to do so.**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

January 11, 2026

**Patricia Sweeting  
Carolyn Loringer  
James Callahan**

January 18, 2026

**Michael Ayoub  
Renee Valenti  
John Pilette**

January 25, 2026

**Fr. Dan Trapp  
Joyce Carson  
Carolyn Carson**

February 1, 2026

**Santa Toarmina  
Thomas Nahas**

**Shawn Eric Alford**

February 8, 2026

**Jon Harvey  
Richard Jarvis**

February 15, 2026

**Angela McDonald  
Angela Dearing**

February 220,  
, 2026

**Michael Rachal  
Vicky Scott**

**TODAY'S READINGS**

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

**(Work of the Messiah)**

Psalm 29: 1-2, 3-4, 9-10  
**(Peace for God's People)**

Acts 10: 34-38  
**(Anointed To Do Good)**

Mark 9:7  
**(Hear Him)**

Matthew 3:13-17  
**(Beloved Son)**

**The Holy Father's Intentions  
for the Month of  
January 2026**

**For prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Mon., Jan. 12:** First Samuel 1: 1-8; Psalm 116: 12-13, 14-16, 18-19; Mark 1: 15; Mark 1: 14-20

**Tues., Jan. 13:** First Samuel 1: 9-20; First Samuel 2: 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; First Thessalonians 2: 13; Mark 1: 21-28

**Wed., Jan. 14:** First Samuel 3: 1-10, 19-20; Psalm 40: 2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; John 10: 27; Mark 1: 29-39

**Thurs., Jan. 15:** First Samuel 4: 1-11; Psalm 44: 10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Matthew 4: 23; Mark 1: 40-45

**Fri., Jan. 16:** First Samuel 8: 4-7, 10-22a; Psalm 89: 16-17, 18-19; Luke 7: 16; Mark 2: 1-12

**Sat., Jan. 17:** First Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10: 1; Psalm 21: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Luke 4: 18; Mark 2: 13-17

**Sun., Jan. 18:** Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6; Psalm 40: 2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; First Corinthians 1: 1-3; John 1: 14a, 12a; John 1: 29-34

**STEWARDSHIP MINUTE**

**Baptized Stewards**

*"John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?'" MATTHEW 3:14*

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 Catholic **Stewards**, there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

**COLLECTION INFO**

**12/24/25, 12/25/25**

**12/28/25, 01/04/26**

Collection \$ 9,996.32

Online \$11,526.00

**TOTAL \$21,522.32**

## Parish Nurse News and Notes December

### January Health Focus: The Gift of Blood Donation

As we begin a new year, January invites us to think about fresh starts and meaningful ways to care for one another. One powerful way to do this is through blood donation. Donating blood is a simple act that can save lives—helping accident victims, surgical patients, those undergoing cancer treatment, and individuals with chronic illnesses.

Most healthy adults can donate blood every 8 weeks, and the process usually takes less than an hour. Before donating, you'll have a brief health screening, and the actual donation typically lasts only 10–15 minutes. Many donors report feeling good afterward, knowing they've made a real difference.

Staying well-hydrated, eating a healthy meal beforehand, and resting after donation help ensure a smooth experience.

Beyond helping others, blood donation can offer health benefits for donors, including a free mini health check (such as blood pressure and hemoglobin levels) and the satisfaction that comes from serving others.

As people of faith, we are called to care for our neighbors. Giving blood is a tangible way to live out compassion and stewardship of our health. Consider making blood donation part of your New Year's commitment to caring for body, mind, and spirit. If you have questions about eligibility, I am happy to help.

God Bless  
Mary Catherine Wright RN  
Parish Nurse

## Boulevard Ministry News and Thanks

Dear Parishioners,

As you know we had a wonderful Christmas party for the Blvd folks and for former Blvd residents Cheryl and Linda at Regency Chene.

We wanted to thank all of you who baked cookies, donated treats, or donated candy or soda for the party. We had so much fun!

Thanks to Father Francis, Father David and Brother Bob for attending and giving all a Christmas blessing . Thank you Horace for driving our sleigh (the bus!) packed with all the presents that were donated by St. Vincent Pallotti, St. Clare Montefalco and St. Hugo of the Hills Parishes!

Each resident and home received many items that are sure to keep everyone warm all winter.

Many New year blessing to all of you in 2026  
Blvd Ministry, Joan and Angie

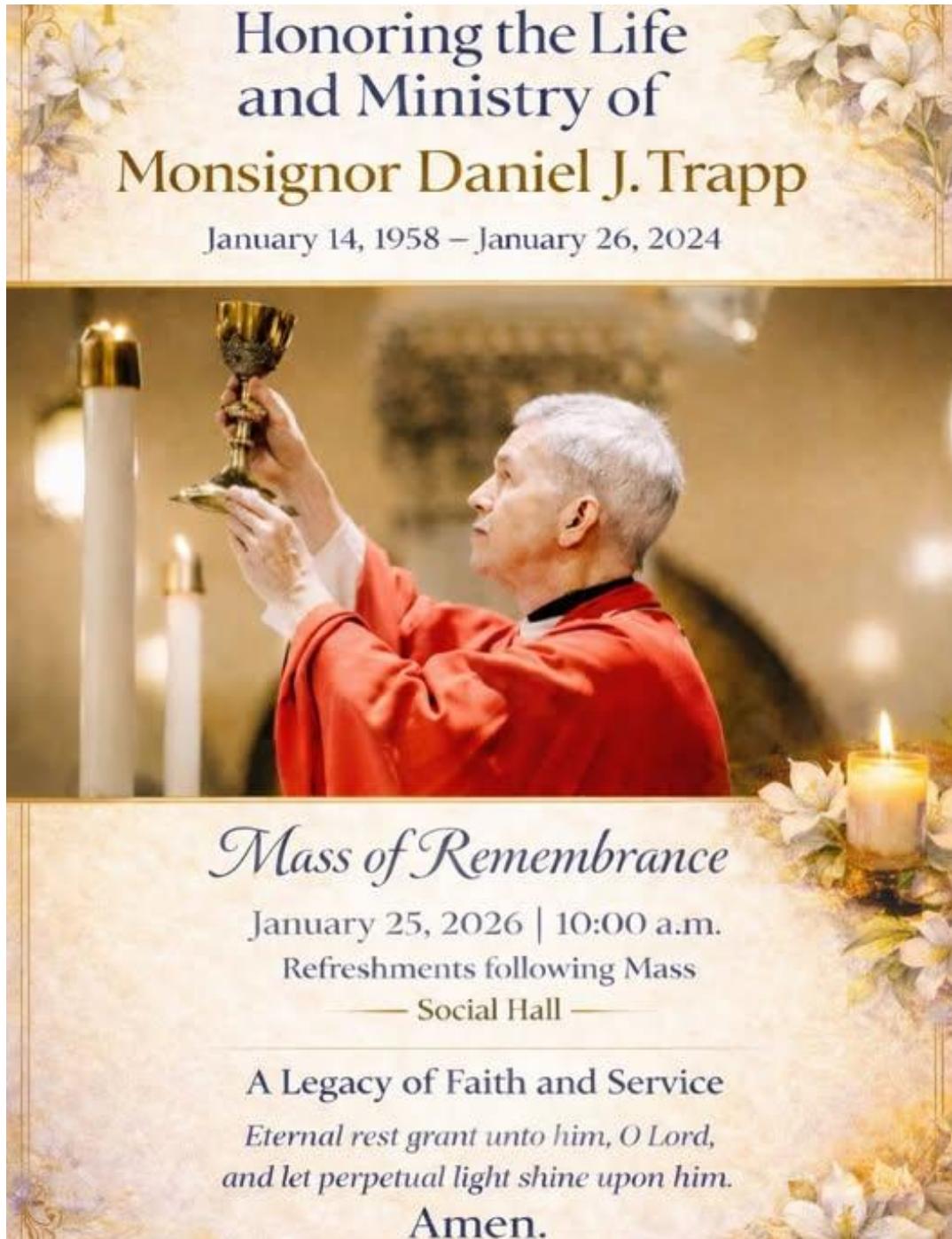


You are warmly invited to join us for Monsignor's Mass of Remembrance on Sunday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Augustine & St. Monica Parish (4151 Seminole Street, Detroit, MI 48214).

This will be a meaningful time to laugh, share memories, and shed some tears if need be, as we gather together in faith and love as one parish family.

All are welcome. Following Mass, please join us for refreshments in the Social Hall, where we can continue our fellowship and support one another.

We look forward to being together as we honor cherished memories and find comfort in God's abiding presence.





“BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS!  
DO NOT FEAR NOR BE DISMAYED,  
FOR THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS WITH YOU  
WHEREVER YOU GO.”  
JOSHUA 1:9

# RISE

UNAFRAID

A GATHERING OF HIGH  
SCHOOL YOUTH

DATE:

**Sunday, February 1, 2026**  
**8:15 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.**

COST:

**\$35**

**Merch available for \$5-10**

FEATURING:

**Chika Anyanwu**

MASS WITH:

**Archbishop Weisenburger**

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI  
[AOD.ORG/RISE](http://AOD.ORG/RISE)



# Christmas Eve Mass



St. Charles Youth







## Christmas Eve Mass

**Thank You!**

**Thank you to everyone who helped make our St. Charles Church Christmas play possible.**

**We are especially grateful for the dedication, creativity, and support of our Religious Education program, our Dearing Detroit Dancers, and our generous church parishioners that helped provide our children with the gifts they received. Your time, talent, and commitment helped bring the joy, meaning, and spirit of Christmas to life for our church community.**

**We are truly blessed by each of you.**



## Detroit Eastside Family Parish Information and Mass Times

**St Charles Borromeo Detroit**  
1491 Baldwin  
Detroit, MI 48214  
313-331-0253

[www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org](http://www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org)  
[stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com)  
Sunday: 11:30am  
Friday: 11am in rectory  
Live Stream & YouTube

Nativity of Our Lord  
5900 McClellan  
Detroit, MI 48213  
313-922-0033

[www.nativitydetroit.org](http://www.nativitydetroit.org)  
[nativityvol@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nativityvol@sbcglobal.net)  
Sunday 9:30am

**Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am**  
Live Stream and YouTube

**St Augustine & St Monica**  
4151 Seminole  
Detroit, MI 48214  
313-921-4107

[www.saintamparish.org](http://www.saintamparish.org)  
[office@saintamparish.org](mailto:office@saintamparish.org)  
Sunday: 10am  
Wednesday: 9am

**St. Jude**  
15889 Seven Mile E ·  
Detroit, MI 48205  
313-527-0380  
[stjudedetroit.org](http://stjudedetroit.org)  
Sunday: 10:30am  
Saturday: 4pm

**Sacred Heart**  
1000 Eliot St.  
Detroit, MI 48207  
313-831-1356

[www.sacredheartdetroit.com](http://www.sacredheartdetroit.com)  
[info@sacredheart.com](mailto:info@sacredheart.com)  
Sunday: 8am and 10am  
Tuesday: 5pm  
Saturday: 5pm

St. Elizabeth  
3138 E. Canfield St.  
Detroit, MI 48207  
313-921-9225

[www.stelizabethdetroit.org](http://www.stelizabethdetroit.org)  
[saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com](mailto:saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com)  
Sunday: 12:00pm

**St. Raymond – Our Lady of Good Council**  
20103 Joann  
Detroit, MI 48205  
313-527-0525

[www.straymondolg.org](http://www.straymondolg.org)  
Sunday: 10:30am  
Tuesday: 8:30am  
Thursday: 8:30am

**Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd**  
8200 Rolyat St.  
Detroit, MI 48234  
313-891-4553

[ourladyofgoodshepherd.org](http://ourladyofgoodshepherd.org)  
Sunday: 9am  
Tuesday: 10:30am  
Thursday: 10:30am  
Friday: 10:30am  
Saturday: 4pm

# January 2026

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue                                      | Wed   | Thu  | Fri                                   | Sat       |
|--|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------|
|  |  |  |   | <p><b>1</b> New Year's Day</p> <p>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</p> <p><b>Parish Office Closed</b></p> | <p><b>2</b> Mass in Rectory 11am</p>  | <b>3</b>  |
| <p><b>4</b> Epiphany of the Lord</p> <p><u>11:30am Mass</u></p> <p><i>Community Meal</i></p> <p>Diabetes Class</p>   | <p><b>5</b> Parish Office Reopens</p>  | <p><b>6</b> PGC On- Line Session 6pm</p> | <p><b>7</b> <b>NO Bible Study</b></p>   | <b>8</b>   | <p><b>9</b> Mass in Rectory 11am</p>  | <b>10</b> |
| <p><b>11</b> The Baptism of the Lord</p> <p><u>11:30am Mass</u></p> <p><i>Community Meal</i></p> <p><i>Christmas Decorations Come Down</i></p> <p>Diabetes Class</p> | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b>                                | <p><b>14</b> <b>NO Bible Study</b></p> <p>PGC On- Line Session 6pm</p> <p><b>Holy Hour for Archdiocesan Restructuring—Cathedral of the Most Blessed Blessed Sacrament 7pm</b></p> | <b>15</b>  | <p><b>16</b> Mass in Rectory 11am</p> | <b>17</b> |
| <p><b>18</b> 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p><u>11:30am Mass</u></p> <p><i>Community Meal</i></p> <p>Diabetes Class</p>   | <p><b>19</b> <b>Annual Justice &amp; Peace Mass—Cathedral of the Most Blessed Blessed Sacrament (MLK Day) 11am</b></p> | <b>20</b>                                | <p><b>21</b> <b>Bible Study Resumes 6-7pm</b></p>   | <b>22</b>  | <p><b>23</b> Mass in Rectory 11am</p> | <b>24</b> |
| <p><b>25</b> 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p><u>11:30am Mass</u></p> <p><i>Community Meal</i></p> <p>Diabetes Class</p>   | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>                                | <p><b>28</b> <b>Bible Study Resumes 6-7pm</b></p>   | <b>29</b>  | <p><b>30</b> Mass in Rectory 11am</p> | <b>31</b> |

**St Charles Borromeo**

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214  
(313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

**St. Charles Office Hours:**

Monday, 10am to 3pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm  
Friday, 9am to 3pm

**Pastoral Team**

Fr. Francis Asomkase, SSJ, Priest in Solidum and Moderator

Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum

Reverend Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum

Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum

Deacon Joseph Jones

Edward Cotton – Mission Support Director

Rhonda Gilbert – Pastoral Associate

Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers

Mary Catherine Wright – Parish Nurse

**Council Members:** Naim Edwards (Chairperson), Angela Kadawaki, Dennis Ballard (Vice-Chairperson), Patricia Ballard, Alex Grabowski, Marian Harvey (Secretary), Freddie Henry, Mary Ellen Howard, Bruce McDonald, Mikhail Perkins, Richard Preuss, Linda Simpkins

**AOD Restructuring  
St. Charles Parish  
Leaders**

Doris Allen

Alex Grabowski

Joan Jacobs

Bruce McDonald

Richard Preuss

**Parish Point Person of  
Contact**

Rhonda Gilbert

**St. Charles Mission Statement**

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

**St Charles Website:** [www.stcharlesdetroit.org](http://www.stcharlesdetroit.org)

**Email:** [stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com)

**Facebook:** St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit](https://www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit)



**Online Giving**

*Go to the giving site at:*  
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit>

# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

We guide children in their faith journey through engaging lessons, Sacrament preparation, Scripture stories, prayer, and meaningful activities rooted in Catholic life.

## Christmas Season

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us. (Taken from USCCB)

### \*Please Note\*

Liturgical dates for Christmas Season:  
Dec. 24, 2025 - Jan. 4, 2026.

## Key Dates:

- **Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025**  
10:45am before Mass, Family Formation Meeting with Parents & children
  - Youth Mass at 11:30am
- **Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026**
  - YFACT SERVICE DAY for MLK day
- **Sunday, February 1, 2026**
  - RISE Detroit 2026 Mercy High School for teens

## Contact Info

- Interested in Registering?
- If you would like to sign up or need sacraments
  - please contact:  
Barbara Taylor