

# The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

The Baptism of The Lord-January 9, 2022

## **Pastor**

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - [frrapaglia@yahoo.com](mailto:frrapaglia@yahoo.com)

## **Pastoral Associates**

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciulo

Fr. Soju Varghese

## **Principal**

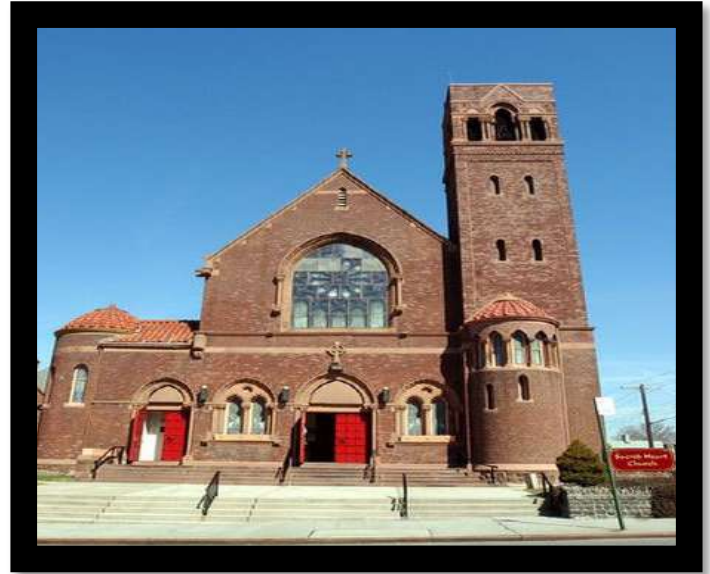
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

## **Coordinator of Religious Education**

Mrs. Francine Rizzuto

## **Director of Music**

Mr. Tom Czarnecki



## **Masses**

### **The Lord's Day**

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sundays 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM, 1:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:30 AM Monday-Saturday

Rosary 9 AM (Monday-Saturday)

### **Confessions**

Saturdays - 4:00 to 4:45 PM, Any time upon request

### **Parish Registration**

Please formalize your membership in our parish community by registering at the parish office. We sincerely welcome all new parishioners!

### **Handicapped Accessible**

**Office Hours** - Sunday 10 AM - 3PM

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

**Church** open daily until 5 PM (Sundays until 3 PM)

**Novena Devotions**: Mon & Wed (after daily Mass)

**Pro Life Rosary**: Tuesday 9 AM

## **Sick Calls**

Anytime, please contact one of the priests at (718) 442-0058.

## **Baptism**

Parents & Godparents should attend a meeting at 3 PM on the second Sunday of the month in the Rectory with Fr. Eric to initiate the Sacrament. For more information please see: [www.sacredheartsi.org/worship/sacraments](http://www.sacredheartsi.org/worship/sacraments).

## **Marriages**

Couples should contact the rectory at least 6 months before the wedding to arrange the time, banns, and Pre-Cana Conference.

## **Sponsor Certificate**

If you have been asked to be a godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation attend the 9 AM Mass on Sunday and see Sister Barbara immediately after in the church vestibule. Please see the parish website under the Worship/Sacraments link for godparent guidelines.

## **Websites:**

**Church Website:** - [www.sacredheartsi.org](http://www.sacredheartsi.org)

**School Website:** - [www.sacredheartsschoolsi.org](http://www.sacredheartsschoolsi.org)

### **Church**

718-442-0058

### **Church Fax**

718-816-8006

### **School**

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### **School Fax**

718-442-6978

### **C.C.D. Office**

718-448-1536

**JANUARY 9, 2022**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**OPENING HYMN: O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

**O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL, JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT, O COME YE, O COME YE TO BETHLEHEM; COME AND BEHOLD HIM, BORN THE KING OF ANGELS;**

**REFRAIN: O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST, THE LORD!**

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**READING 1 IS 40:1-5, 9-11.**

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by a strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 104:1B-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30.**



**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! You are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak. You have spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth;

**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

You have constructed your palace upon the waters. You make the clouds your chariot; you travel on the wings of the wind. You make the winds your messengers, and flaming fire your ministers.

**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have wrought them all, the earth is full of your creatures; the sea also, great and wide, in which are schools without number of living things both small and great.

**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

They look to you to give them food in due time. When you give it to them, they gather it; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to the dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

**R. O bless the Lord, my soul.**

**READING 2 TL 2:11-14; 3:4-7**

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good. When the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

## ALLELUIA

LK 3:16.



John said: One mightier than I is coming; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

## GOSPEL

LK 3:15-16,

21-22.

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



## Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from Heaven (BOW) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## ***CLOSING HYMN: JOY TO THE WORLD***

**JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME;  
LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING; LET EVERY  
HEART PREPARE HIM ROOM, AND HEAV'N  
AND NATURE SING, AND HEAV'N AND NA-  
TURE SING, AND HEAV'N, AND HEAV'N  
AND NATURE SING.**

**JOY TO THE WORLD! THE SAVIOR REIGNS;  
LET US OUR SONGS EMPLOY; WHILE FIELDS  
AND FLOODS, ROCKS, HILLS AND PLAINS  
REPEAT THE SOUNDING JOY, REPEAT THE  
SOUNDING JOY, REPEAT, REPEAT THE  
SOUNDING JOY.**



## A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

In today's great feast we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus Christ (blessed be His Name) was baptized in the waters of the Jordan River. However, St. John the Baptist was taken aback when he saw the King Messiah on line with sinners to receive the Baptist's ablution. *John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and yet You are coming to me?"* (Matthew 3:15). His confusion makes sense. After all, John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. Christ had no sin and so repentance cannot apply to Him. He was baptized not to become holy Himself, as the Son of God He is holiness itself. He was baptized to make holy the waters of our Baptism and to give us an example, that what He did we should do likewise. Everyone. He would later say: *Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.* (Mark 16:16)

In his letter to St. Jerome, St. Augustine said: "Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift.... We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called gift because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; grace since it is given even to the guilty; Baptism because sin is buried in the water; anointing for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; enlightenment because it radiates light; clothing since it veils our shame; bath because it washes; and seal as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship." (Quoted in Fr. John J. Pasquini, *Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions*, 2010, p 79).

Recently, a parishioner from another parish sent me an email. She has a sister in the fundamentalist/evangelical tradition of Protestantism. To their credit, these folks take the Holy Bible seriously, which is fit and proper. However, because they do not submit to the authority of the Catholic Church and the doctrines of the true religion, they often over-emphasize what the Bible verse says, rather than what it actually means, hence the term "fundamentalist". As a result, they fall into heresy, which is condemned by St. Paul in Galatians 5 as a mortal sin that shuts one out of the Kingdom of God. The sister's religion holds that only adults can receive Baptism. The parishioner wrote (I paraphrase): "My sister and her family were baptized at her service. She said it says in the Bible that unless you are born again you cannot see the kingdom of God. I read this also in the Bible. What does this mean for a Catholic?"

Fr. John Pasquini explains, "Most fundamentalists view Baptism as merely a symbol which signifies something that has already taken place. That is, one becomes 'born-again' by accepting Jesus as one's Lord and Savior (John 3:16), and then one is baptized to symbolically affirm what has already taken place. Baptism, for evangelicals, therefore implies the use of reason. Consequently, children under the age of reason cannot make such a reasoned decision. Children should not be baptized according to their view. Besides the idea of infant Baptism being contrary to their theology, fundamentalists argue that there is no proof of infant Baptism in the Bible and since there is no proof of infant Baptism in the Bible, it is not a Christian

practice."

"For the Catholic to be baptized is what it means to be 'born again.' Baptism is a Sacrament with real power and it is a Sacrament which is necessary for salvation, for it is by Baptism that we are 'born again' of water and the Spirit (John 3:5; Mark 16:16). *God saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life* (Titus 3:5-7). In Baptism one enters into Christ's death and Resurrection (cf. Romans 6:3-4). One has put on Christ in Baptism (Galatians 3:27). Baptism cleanses one from "original sin," personal sin, and the punishment for sin (Mark 16:16; John 3:5; Acts 2:38f; 22:16; Romans 6:3-6; Galatians 3:7; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Ephesians 5:26; Colossians 2:12-14; Hebrews 10:22). Psalm 51:7 states: *In guilt was I born, and in sin my mother conceived me.* One becomes a new creation in Christ and a partaker in the divine nature (2 Peter 1: 4). One becomes a member of the Church as an adopted child of God (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:13; 27). One becomes a Temple of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; 19:5f) with an indelible mark or character on the soul which enables one to share in the priesthood of Christ and in His passion (Mark 10:38f; Luke 12:50). Because of this reality, infants are encouraged to be baptized. As Irenaeus explains in *Against Heresies* (cf. 2, 22, 4) (around the year 180): 'Jesus came to save all for all are reborn through Him in Baptism—infants, children, youths, and old men.'"

"Many argue that one must be old enough to accept the faith: No one, not even your parents, can stand in for you. This might sound appealing but it is contrary to the Scriptures. God often bestowed spiritual gifts on peoples because of the faith of others. The centurion's faith brought about the healing of his servant (Matthew 8: 5-13); the Canaanite woman's faith brought about the healing of her daughter (Matthew 15:21-28); and in Luke 5:17-26 a crippled man is healed by the persistent faith of his friends. A parent's faith bestows the gifts of Baptism upon their children. Furthermore, Paul in Colossians 2:11-12 reminds us that Baptism replaces circumcision for the Christian. In the Old Covenant, the Old Testament, one became a member of the people of God through circumcision on the eighth day. Now in the New Covenant, the New Testament, one becomes a member of the people of God through Baptism as early as possible! For the Christian Baptism is a replacement for circumcision (Colossians 2:11-12). If Jewish parents would covenant with God on behalf of their eight-day old children through the command to circumcise their children, then Christian parents covenant with God on behalf of their children through the command to baptize. How could people deny children entrance into the covenant, into the people of God? As Jesus said: *Let the children come to Me for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these* (cf. Mark 10:14; Luke 18:15)." (Fr. John J. Pasquini, *Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions*, 2010, p 80-82).

God bless you!

Father Eric



**Lectors  
Commentators**

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**Saturday, January 8: Celebrant**

9:30 John Alesi Fr. Eric  
5:00 Terence Walsh Sr. (30th Anniversary) Fr. Eric

**Sunday, January 9:**

7:00 John Franzreb III Fr. Soju  
9:00 Gladys George Msgr. Nick  
11:00 Brendan Hoey Fr. Eric  
1:00 Jesus A. Santos (1st Anniversary) Msgr. Greg

**Monday, January 10:**

9:30 Charles Donohue Msgr. Nick

**Tuesday, January 11:**

9:30 Stanley Modzelewski Fr. Eric

**Wednesday, January 12:**

9:30 People of the Parish Fr. Eric

**Thursday, January 13:**

9:30 Albert Perry Msgr. Nick

**Friday, January 14:**

9:30 The Mello Family Fr. Eric

**Saturday January 15:**

9:30 William Kelly Fr. Eric  
5:00 John R. Kubasek Fr. Eric

**Sunday, January 16:**

7:00 Diana Kisto (9th Anniversary) Fr. Eric  
9:00 Matthew Pinto Msgr. Greg  
11:00 Angelina Zelaya Msgr. Nick  
1:00 Nancy Vidikiss Ozimek Fr. Eric

**Saturday, January 15:**

5:00 PM Jack Gordon

**Sunday, January 16:**

7:00 AM Theresa Zulch  
9:00 AM Kennedy Apoe  
11:00 AM Patricia Jezycki  
1:00 PM Wanda Ortiz

**Collections:**

**Christmas:**

\$39,727.00

**December 26th:**

\$6,432.00

**New Years'**

\$817.00

**January 2nd:**

\$7,116.00

**Pastosa Raffle Dec. 19th:**

Stephen Cambria

**Pastosa Raffle Dec. 26th:**

M/M Joseph Gullo

**Pastosa Raffle Jan. 2nd:**

M/M Jerry Cocozello

**December 2021 50/50:**

Mrs. Lois Mazzitelli

**Attendance Christmas:**

580

**Attendance Dec. 26th:**

333

**Attendance Jan. 2nd:**

437

## **Catholic University/Catholic Communica-**

**tions:** The Annual collection for Catholic University of America & Catholic Communications Campaign will be taken up next weekend. Catholic University was founded in 1887 and has served as a unique institution of higher education. Your donations have made it possible for students, young and old, to have quality academic and spiritual programs. The Catholic Communications Campaign helps our clergy provide quality Catholic television and radio programs. Half of this collection remains here in our own archdiocese to fund *Catholic New York* and other local programs. Please be as generous as your means will allow and remember every donation matters.

### **Prayer for Priests**

Heavenly Father, pour out Your grace on the priests You have made. Let them remember that in performing their tasks, they are never alone.

Relying on Your almighty power and believing in Christ who called them to share in his priesthood, may they devote themselves to their ministry with complete trust.

Strengthen them with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and help them to serve their subjects.

Through them, may Your Word be truly proclaimed, and may Your Sacraments, especially the Eucharist be faithfully administered and devoutly received.

Amen.



## **SAINT HILARY**

**FEAST DAY: JANUARY 13TH**

**WE ASK FOR THE INTERCESSION OF SAINT HILARY ON BEHALF OF OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS**



**Sick Relatives & Friends**

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