

**Saint Philip Neri Church (Reed City)  
Saint Anne Church (Paris)**

**Pastor: Fr. Michael G. Hodges**  
Director of Faith Formation: Beth Dake  
Website: [www.stphilipanne.org](http://www.stphilipanne.org)  
Parish email: [pneri831@stphilipanne.org](mailto:pneri831@stphilipanne.org)  
Phone: (231)832-5544

Parish Office: 831 S. Chestnut Street  
Reed City, Michigan 49677  
Hours: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Mon-Thur  
Closed Fridays  
Prayer Chain: (231) 832-9453

# The Baptism of the Lord January 9, 2022

## Sunday, January 9

### **The Baptism of the Lord**

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7;

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

8:00 AM Mass at St. Anne

10:00 AM Mass at St. Philip Neri

## Monday, January 10

### **First Week in Ordinary Time**

1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20

1:00 PM Al-anon Meeting

5:30 PM RCIA

## Tuesday, January 11

1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8;

Mark 1:21-28

7:00 PM Al-anon Meeting

**No Daily Mass**

## Wednesday, January 12

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39

**No Daily Mass**

**6:00 PM-7:30 PM Faith Formation K-6**

## Thursday, January 13

### **St. Hilary**

1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45

**No Daily Mass**

## Friday, January 14

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22; Mark 2:1-12

9:00 AM Mass-St. Philip Neri

Pius X Chapel

## Saturday, January 15

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Mark 2:13-17

3:00 PM Reconciliation-St. Philip Neri

4:00 PM Mass at St. Philip Neri

## Sunday, January 16

### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11;

John 2:1-11

8:00 AM Mass at St. Anne

10:00 AM Mass at St. Philip Neri

## Father Mike's Musings

Hearing John the Baptist's powerful preaching and symbolic action of baptism, many people wondered if John might be Christ, the Savior. The Jews believed that immersion in water was necessary to make the converts pure. But John was calling for the Jews to admit that they were sinners and needed to get baptized in water as a sign of their repentance.

Luke writes that as John was baptizing the people, Jesus too went to be baptized. Some might ask the question: *If John preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and those who came to him, therefore, were repentant sinners, then why had Jesus, who was sinless, gone to John to be baptized?*

By submitting Himself to the baptism administered by John the Baptist, Jesus expressed His humility and obedience to the will of His Father. Jesus allowed Himself to receive John's baptism to show His solidarity with the sinful humankind which He came to save. In lining up for baptism like a sinner, Jesus set aside all exemption for Himself and completely identified with sinners. He also accepted to be baptized, to sanctify the waters of baptism. He entered and sanctified the water with His very flesh so that our sins are washed away and that we become free from sin and acquire the state of holiness and grace.

Luke then notes, *"After His baptism, while Jesus was praying, the heavens were 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.'"* This was an extraordinary manifestation or a revelation of who Jesus is. God's voice encouraged Jesus to know that His Father was happy with Him. Thenceforth, everything which Jesus did was to obey His Father. He humbled Himself and *"became obedient to the point of death, even the death on the Cross."* (Philippians 2:3). Nothing Jesus did was outside of God's will. He knew that He had to die so that our sins could be forgiven and we could have eternal life.

As we commemorate Our Lord's baptism, it is essential that we remember our own baptisms, and affirm this most important event in our lives. Unfortunately, many of us may not get excited about it anymore. We probably cannot also remember any of the details of our baptism because we were baptized as infants. However, we can remember it in a different way. Every time we dip our finger into the holy water font at the entrance to the church and make the Sign of the Cross, let us consciously and devoutly recall our baptism, our union with Christ, and our baptismal promises; and then, ask the Lord to cleanse us of every sin, heal our infirmities, and strengthen us in our sufferings. By being baptized, we make known to people that we have become children of God; that we follow Jesus Christ; that we have given ourselves completely to God; that we have promised to obey God; and that we are members of His Church.

**Weekly Contributions**  
December 31-January 1 & 2

	<b><u>St. Philip Neri</u></b>		<b><u>St. Anne</u></b>
Offering Env. (57)	\$3,511.00	(09)	\$575.00
Loose	<u>132.00</u>		<u>90.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3643.00</b>		<b>\$665.00</b>
<b>Wkly. Budget</b>	<b>\$3,596.15</b>		
<b>O/ (U) Budget</b>	<b>711.85</b>		
<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>\$93,499.90</b>		
<b>YTD Collection</b>	<b><u>89,981.01</u></b>		
	<b>(\$3,518.89)</b>		

**St. Philip Neri: January 15, 4:00 PM**

**Eucharist:** None at this Time  
**Word:** Sandy Forgue  
**Hospitality:** Harriet Lenahan  
 Betty Yost

**St. Philip Neri: January 16, 10:00 AM**

**Eucharist:** None at this Time  
**Word:** Amy Shank  
**Hospitality:** Bob Shepler  
 Tyler Shepler

**St. Anne: January 16, 8:00 AM**

**Eucharist:** None at this Time  
**Word:** Dan Hoeh  
**Hospitality:** Beth Hoeh

**Knights of Columbus**



**CHARITY**

Our Catholic faith teaches us to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” We show our love for neighbors through community programs. Recently the Knights of St. Philip Neri-St. Anne conducted two such programs; the Tootsie Roll fund drive and ‘Coats for Kids’.

The Tootsie Roll drive raised \$2,200 which was donated to Special Olympics and Hope Network. Each organization received \$1,100 for the support of their programs working with special needs people.

Providing warmth for children in need during cold winter months is the goal of the ‘Coats for Kids’ program. \$600 was donated to Eagle Village for the purchase of children’s coats for the young people living there.

The Knights of Columbus of our parish extend a great “**Thank You!**” to all who support our charitable programs.

**Number and Addresses**

Due to increasing reliance on cell phones, texting, and e-mail in our society it has become increasingly evident that our contact information for parishioners is out-of-date. Please send in or call the office with updated information.

Thank You

**Faith Formation News**

Do you ever think about the sacraments that you have celebrated? That the Church only celebrates once in a person’s lifetime? Sacraments like Baptism and Confirmation? This weekend we celebrate the ‘Baptism of the Lord’. I would guess most of us were baptized as infants and do not remember our baptisms. Confirmation, I will guess that most were in Junior High and remember a little bit more.

In the Second Reading today, we hear from Titus. At the end of this reading, we hear “*He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*” The “bath of rebirth,” our baptism! We share a common bath, like it or not. We share a common rebirth in the waters of baptism. We were claimed for Jesus Christ when the radical sign of the cross was traced on our foreheads by the priest, our parents, and godparents. Yes, the sign of the cross. A sign of suffering and a sign of eternal life through and in Jesus Christ our savior. In this common bath we were washed of original sin and given a share of the Holy Spirit. Think about that for a minute or two.

“Renewal by the Holy Spirit,” in Confirmation the Holy Spirit was strengthened within us and sealed. Do you need a renewal of the Holy Spirit in your life now? Then call upon the Holy Spirit, foster a relationship with the Holy Spirit. Pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgement, Courage, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:1-2). Pray and cultivate these gifts in your life, you will see a change in the way you think and live your life. You and those around you will begin to see the fruits of the gifts active in our life: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity (Galatians 5:22).

I invite you to take time to reflect on your baptism (I know some of you remember your baptism through the RCIA process! I remember too!) and your Confirmation. Take time to give thanks for your parents who presented you to the Church for these sacraments and the priest who celebrated the sacraments with you. Give thanks to Jesus for His “bath of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit” in our lives. Go tell others of the great gifts of the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

In peace,  
Beth Dake

Director of Faith Formation

**What is your experience with the Catholic Church?**

Bishop Walkowiak wants to hear from you, both practicing Catholics and yes, individuals who are not currently active in their Catholic faith. As preparations begin for an international gathering of bishops (synod), we invite you to share your experiences with the Catholic Church – both the positive and areas where improvement is needed.

Join us for shared reflection, prayer and dialogue after the New Year. Listening sessions will be held from the end of January through mid-March with exact dates to be shared soon. More details are available on the diocesan website:

**<https://grdiocese.org/synod-21-23-communion-participation-mission/>**