Dear parishioners and friends of the Historic Church of St. Patrick,

The scenes from the US Capitol and reports of similar "marches" on a number of state legislatures were truly astounding. It seems civil discourse has been cast aside as a means of expressing our political disagreements, but what we saw goes far beyond the political arena and has infected much of the culture of the United States and the world beyond. Social media has opened a Pandora's Box of invective, vitriol, anger and hatred, none of which are virtues proclaimed as expedient to the Christian. Indeed, the readings of the Mass all this week have been taken from the Letter of John in which he expounds on the Great Command of Jesus to love God with your whole heart, your whole soul, your whole mind and with your whole strength; and love your neighbor as you love yourself.

John writes (Thursday if you want to look it up on the USCCB web page) that if you say you love God but hate your neighbor, you are a liar. Love of God genuinely evokes love of God's creation, even those people with whom we ardently and vigorously disagree. If we harbor hatred or even intense dislike of someone because of their behaviors, real or perceived, their political ideology or their faith traditions, we cannot love God and ought not say we do.

As Catholics our faith should underwrite our actions. Our faith professes a God of love, reconciliation and salvation so our behaviors ought to reflect that in our daily lives both in the Church and in the secular culture (what the Church's documenters refers to as the marketplace). To repair our tattered civil situation demands that we search deeply within and determine whether we truly love ourselves so that we can genuinely love one another and not only tolerate but engage with those who hold very different attitudes and behavioral traits.

Jesus asks that we pray for the conversion of sinners; I realize that many believe our politicians are the sinners we ought to be praying for but we should all remember that Jesus also tells us to remove the plank from our own eye before attempting to remove the splinter form the neighbor's eye. Jesus also reminds us to let the one who is sinless cast the first stone so I don't believe any of us should condemn unless we're prepared to undertake some serious effort to reform the sinner, bring about reconciliation and restore civility to the public discourse by being civil ourselves. Let us commit ourselves as a parish to decency in our conversation, civility in our behavior and perhaps become a shining example which can transform our nation and restore it to what it once was. If that means turning our backs on destructive social media, maybe we should consider it.

WATCH

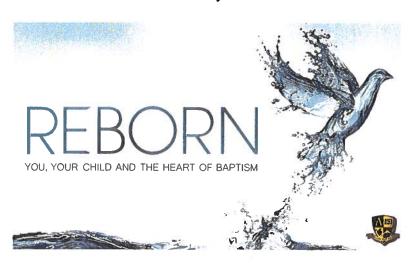
FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 10, 2021

REBORN - EPISODE 1: A NEW CREATION

This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!



LECTIO^{TA} UNVSILING SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION MARK

LECTIO: MARK, EPISODE 2: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Jesus couldn't have been baptized without a baptizer. Join Dr. Tim Gray as he explains the opening verses of Mark's Gospel that depict the ministry of John the Baptist — the man who would baptize Jesus.

LEARN

ISTEN

CHANGED FOREVER: THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

Renowned Catholic speaker and priest, Fr. Mike Schmitz, explores the beautiful gift of the Sacrament of Baptism. In this talk, Fr. Mike provides a wonderful presentation on the waters that give new life!



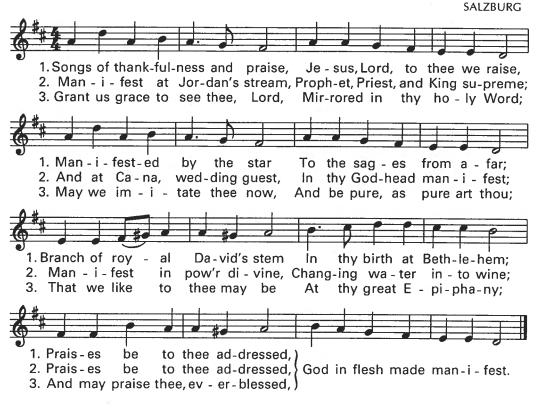
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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Opening Hymn

SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE



Text: 77 77 D; Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; adapt. by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750.

Sign of the Cross & Greeting

In the name of the Father, ★ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. R Amen.

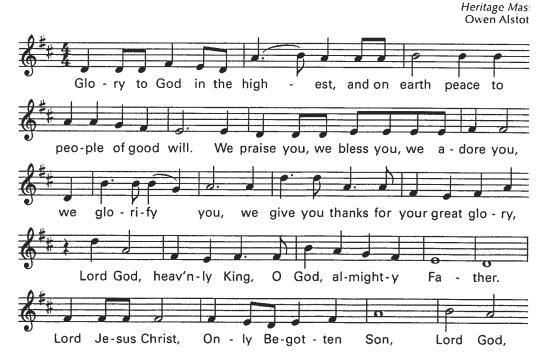
If The Lord be with you. R And with your spirit.

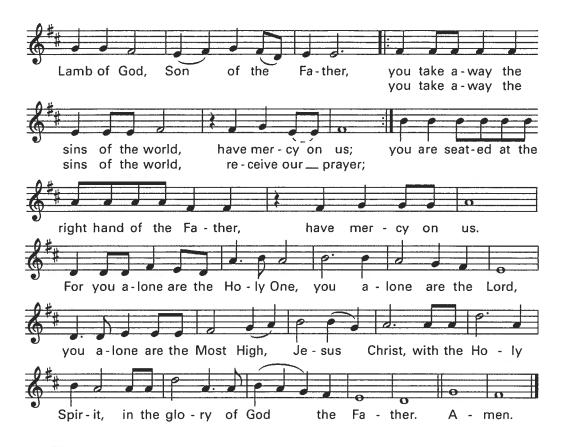
Penitential Act

W Lord, have mercy. R Lord, have mercy. M Christ, have mercy. R Christ, have mercy.

V Lord, have mercy. R Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

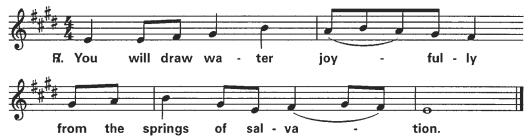




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Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Responsorial Psalm



Second Reading Gospel Acclamation



Music: Festival Alleluia, James J. Chepponis, © 1999, Morningstar Music Publishers

Gospel Reading

Profession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Preparation of the Gifts and Altar (instrumental music)

Prayer over the Offerings

N. Pray, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

Ry May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Preface

). The Lord be with you.

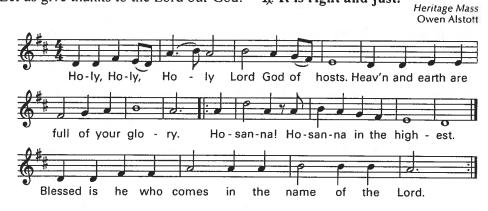
R' And with your spirit.

V. Lift up your hearts.

R We lift them up to the Lord.

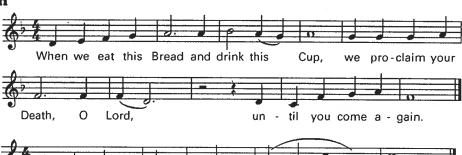
Det us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.



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Mystery of Faith



Doxology



The Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we for give those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**Deliver us, Lord, we pray from every evil... As we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

The Peace

If The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R'And with your spirit.

Agnus Dei



Ecce Agnus Dei

- Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
- R Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Hymn

COME TO THE RIVER

SPRINKLING RITE



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Concluding Rites

Blessing & Dismissal

The St. Michael Prayer

Saint Michael, the Archangel, | defend us in battle. | Be our safeguard against the wickedness | and snares of the devil. | May God rebuke him, | we humbly pray. |And you, | O prince of the heavenly hosts, | by the power of God, | cast down to hell Satan | and the other evil spirits | who prowl through the world | for the ruin of souls. | Amen.