



*St. Regina's Church Staff*

**Pastor:** Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

**Secretary:** Patricia Humble

**DRE:** Christina Hammond

**Facilities Manager:** Jim Molitor

**Web Page:** [streginacatholicchurch.org](http://streginacatholicchurch.org)

**Email Address:** [saintregina@outlook.com](mailto:saintregina@outlook.com)

### Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,  
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,  
Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Judy Hendricks  
,Genevieve Schachle

## The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

All you are thirsty, come to thwater!

### THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this “knits” the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poulitice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he “knit” himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary’s womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

### Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say “in the *names*,” but “in the *name* of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our *yes* to all this, our first profession of faith.

### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations

(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* *Isaiah 55:1-11.*

**Psalm** — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* *Isaiah 12:2-6.*

**Second Reading** — God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38) *or* *1 John 5:1-9.*

**Gospel** — You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10;  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

### REHEARSAL

Psalms are sung in the home and rehearsed in the streets.

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins

Wednesday: St. Hilary

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

### AN ANCIENT BAPTISTERY

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistery, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.

Jan 17th  
Lector Jeff

WEEKLY OFFERING	
BUDGET	\$ 1351.00
DEC. 25&27TH	\$ 1225.00
Jan 1&3	\$1282.00