



# Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

January 9, 2022 | The Baptism of the Lord

329 Poplar Street, Hazard, KY 41701

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[www.mgccc.org](http://www.mgccc.org)

## **Eucharistic Services:**

7:00 pm Wednesday -  
Word & Communion Service  
5:00 pm Saturday - Jackson, Vigil Mass  
11:30 am Sunday - Mass

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

**Office Hours: Wed - Friday 10 am to 5 pm**  
**Ministers for next Sunday, January 16, 2022**

Sacramental Minister : Rev.Livinus Uba  
Lector

## **Ministers at MGC**

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director  
email: [lhelfrich@cdlex.org](mailto:lhelfrich@cdlex.org)

## **Mother of Good Counsel Prayer** **by B.J. Ewen**

Holy Mary, our heavenly mother, keep us in your care.

Give us your good counsel as we strive to be disciples of your son Jesus and help us to grow in faith and in our love for God.

Bless our parish which is named in your honor. Help us in our lives as we humbly pray and help us be attentive to the needs of our families and our community. Amen

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY  
Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

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Lexington, KY 40508-2048  
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## **Parish Mission Statement**

Inspired and sustained in our Catholic faith through life-giving worship, we Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community, have as our mission to bring Christ and the teachings of the Catholic faith to one another and the larger community in a ways that draw us together as a supportive family, yet reaches out with a genuine concern for all people, so that we can be authentic witnesses in an area where Catholics are few in number.

The Baptism of the Lord (C)

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

After these thirty years of hidden life, Jesus' public life begins. And it begins precisely with his baptism in the River Jordan. But Jesus is God; why does Jesus get baptized?... Because he wants to be with the sinners. For this reason, he gets in line with them and does the same thing they do.

ANGELUS, BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JANUARY 10, 2021



## Calendars

Please pick up a wall calendar and a date book. They are gifts on behalf of the parish.

## Envelopes & tax Donation Letters

The new offertory envelopes are being mailed to your homes. They will be mailed to your home on a regular basis. Please talk with Lori if you have any questions. Donation Letters for Tax Year 2021 will be sent out in January to all donors who contributed in calendar year 2021 to the parish.

## Becoming Catholic

The OCIA formation program for those becoming Catholic is in full swing. Classes return this Tuesday January 11, 2022. The topic for class this week will be : Introduction to Sacraments.

## Decorations

Today following Mass we will be taking down Christmas decorations. Please take a few minutes to help take down decorations after Mass if you are able.

## Cleaning the Church in 2022

The new schedule for cleaning the church is 2022 is available. Please sign up for a slot to clean the church during those couple of weeks. This service helps to keep our church clean and provides an opportunity to maintain our facility.

## Parish Planners

The next parish planners will take place on January 23, 2022 following Mass. Come and join us as we plan for events and happenings at Mother of Good Counsel in the upcoming months.

## Second Collection

The Opportunities for Life Collection will occur January 15-16, 2022. Funds from the collection are used in the Diocese of Lexington to support a range of activities that promote the sanctity of life from conception until natural death. Please give generously to support programs in the Diocese of Lexington that honor, respect and value human life at all stages.

## Listening Sessions for the Synod

Synod for a Synodal Church – The Diocese of Lexington officially kicks off the Synod for a Synodal Church with Deanery level listening sessions beginning January 30, 2022. Mountain East Deanery will hold its listening session on March 13, 2022 at Mother of Good Counsel following the 11:30 am Mass. This will be an opportunity to share your thoughts on the Catholic Church and what it will look like in the future.

## Pope Francis Prayer Intention for 2022

January: For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

## Catholic Charities & Telehealth Counseling

Telehealth counseling services are available Monday through Friday and some evenings to anyone living in the Diocese of Lexington. An application packet is available at [catholiccharitieslexington.org](http://catholiccharitieslexington.org) under the counseling button. Costs and the sliding fee scale based on income and family size is also available there. Private health insurance may also pay for services. Persons who have questions or wish to have an application mailed to them should contact Gwen Hall at (606) 874-9170.

## Epiphany House Blessing

Instructions for Blessing the Home

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

20 + C + M + B + 22 while saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty two years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Then offer the following prayer: Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen

"Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the symbols written sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions the Latin words, *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house."

Adapted from: <http://www.carmelites.net/news/chalking-door-epiphany-house-blessing/>





After...Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.  
LUKE 3:21-22

## Taking Up Christ's Ministry

Before the Second Vatican Council, ministry was considered by many to be a Protestant word, and the religious leader who did it was called a minister. Catholics had priests and bishops who received and administered sacraments. Religious women did the Church's work in schools and hospitals. The council turned our understanding of Church membership inside out. We've come to realize that with baptism—not ordination or religious profession—comes the responsibility of ministry. Catholics and Protestants alike understand their commitment to justice and peace is a genuine ministry that seeks to establish God's reign in our world.

Many interpreters believe that the account of Jesus' baptism points to the inauguration of his own ministry. The theology expressed is certainly Trinitarian (the voice, Jesus identified as Son, and the dove). However, the revelation of his true identity occurs as he begins preaching and healing. Some say his baptism was meant to strengthen him as he began his public life. Others believe it was meant to strengthen his disciples.

Today we maintain that by baptism we are all children of God. Vatican II has enlightened us as to what this really means. Pope Francis has reminded us that by virtue of our baptism we are missionary disciples (see *Evangelii Gaudium*, 120). In other words, as disciples we follow Jesus, learning from him. As missionaries we go out to spread his Good News to others. It is now for us to take up the ministry where he left off, to be faithful servants with whom God is well pleased.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### For Reflection

How does your life's work make the world better? If it does, then you are a missionary disciple of Jesus.

Go out of your way to make someone's life a little better this week.



## Readings for the Week

### Monday

JANUARY 10

*Weekday*

1 Sm 1:1-8

Mk 1:14-20

### Tuesday

JANUARY 11

*Weekday*

1 Sm 1:9-20

Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday

JANUARY 12

*Weekday*

1 Sm 3:1-10,  
19-20

Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday

JANUARY 13

*Weekday*

1 Sm 4:1-11

Mk 1:40-45

### Friday

JANUARY 14

*Weekday*

1 Sm 8:4-7,  
10-22a

Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday

JANUARY 15

*Weekday*

1 Sm 9:1-4,  
17-19; 10:1a

Mk 2:13-17

### Sunday

JANUARY 16

*Second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Is 62:1-5

1 Cor 12:4-11

Jn 2:1-11



# Dear Padre

January 9, 2022

## Why did Jesus have to be baptized? Did he have original sin like us or was there another reason to be baptized?

Jesus is God and did not have original sin like us. He is like us in all things except sin. The baptisms John performed did not free people from their original sin. The people who came to John to be baptized were declaring that they were going to change their ways and reform their lives. They promised to turn away from sin and follow the commandments. The baptism of Jesus was different. When Jesus was baptized, God revealed who Jesus is and commissioned him to begin his mission on earth.

There were three significant components to Jesus' baptism. First, the skies opened above Jesus. The prophet Isaiah prayed that God would tear open the sky and come down to earth (Isaiah 63). This was a sign to the people that God was coming down to earth. A new era was beginning. God was no longer "locked up" in the heavens.

Second, the Spirit of God, in the form of a dove, descended from the sky and hovered over Jesus and the water. This takes us back to the first moments of creation when the spirit of God hovered over the waters. The Spirit was a sign to the people that a new creation was being made.

Finally, a voice declared that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is the new Adam, who will begin the new creation. Let us call the Holy Spirit to be within our hearts and send us forth, as Jesus was sent, to proclaim a new creation founded on the love and peace of our Savior.

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR

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## Happenings this Week

Tuesday

7- 9 pm OCIA Meets

Wednesday

6:40 pm Rosary

7:00 pm Word & Communion

Service



Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



Mother of Good Counsel



Mother of Good Counsel

## Prayer List

Joey Napier, Ray Lindon, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Louise Ayres, Marjorie Hommertzhelm, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Bob Rogers, Deedee Wells, Sherrian Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Willie Wagers, Christina Askew, Charles Brotherton, Willow Brockman, Tina Dawhare Fields, Valarie Maggard Dye, Marleen Combs, Robert Caldwell, Mike Caldwell, Monica Spare, The Rice Family, Renee Messer, Maria Hall, Elizabeth Pennington, Neal Boggs, Jackson Varela, Cecilia & Lucia Cory, Mandi Dishner, and Ron Brunty.

If you know of someone who needs a pastoral visit or is in the hospital and would appreciate a visit contact the parish and let Lori know about the request.

## Prayer Family:

Deb Combs

## Birthdays

1/15 : Bob Adams

## Our Weekly Offering

for 1/2/22

Loose: \$79

Envelopes : \$700

Monthly: \$430

Solemnity of Mary: \$81

Online: \$ 790

**Total Weekly Offering: \$2080**