



January 9, 2011

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN - Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign. The collection helps support the communication efforts of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and this archdiocese. Today communication efforts include print, radio, television and a multitude of communication resources via the internet. Each is unique and plays a role in assisting the church in proclaiming the Gospel to Catholics and society as a whole.

THANK YOU TO ALL who made a pledge to *Sharing Our Faith, Shaping Our Future* all-parish campaign. We have nearly reached our goal. If you have not yet had an opportunity to make your pledge, we encourage you to do so. Forms are available in the back of the church.

POINSETTIAS - Please feel free to take home a poinsettia this weekend.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available in the back of the church. Please check off your name on the list when you take your packet. If you would like to begin using envelopes, please record your name on a blank line and take the corresponding packet.

Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth of Hungary,

Thank you for generously hosting our Traveling Crib again. We are overwhelmed with all of the wonderful donations from you, inspired and encouraged, reminded again what a privilege it is to work in partnership with kind supporters like you all! We couldn't do our work without you.

Peace and blessings,

*Robin Neal and Program Staff
Catholic Charities
Pregnancy Support & Adoption Services*

RESTORED & REMARRIED - Whether you consider yourself a step family or a blended family, *Restored & Remarried* is a hands-on resource for you. Been remarried for awhile or just contemplating the idea? *Restored & Remarried* will encourage and equip couples for the step family adventure. This seminar is fun and interactive and it's most definitely, "guy friendly."

January 22 & 23 @ 7pm - 9pm Friday & 9am-4pm Saturday,
Northwest Family Services - Youth and Family Center, 6200 SE King Road, Portland, 97222
\$35 per couple. Includes lunch, refreshments and materials.
Registration online @ www.LastingRelationships.org or call 503-546-6377



On this day, our Lord and Savior was baptized by John in the Jordan; hence, this is not a small feast but a great and even very great one. For when our Lord condescended to receive baptism, the Holy Spirit came upon him in the form of a dove, and the Father's voice was heard saying: "This is my beloved Son. My favor rests on him."

What a great mystery lies in this celestial baptism! From heaven, the Father speaks out, the Son appears on earth, and the Holy Spirit manifests himself in the form of a dove. Indeed, there is neither true baptism nor real remission of sins where the truth of the Trinity is absent, and the remission of sins cannot be given where belief in the perfect Trinity is lacking. The baptism imparted by the Church is the sole true baptism and it is given just once.

Let a man immerse himself in it a single time and he will emerge pure and renewed; pure because he has washed away the stain of sins, and renewed because he rises to a new life after having put off the oldness of sin. For this bath of baptism renders man whiter than snow, not in his bodily skin but in the splendor of his spirit and the purity of his soul.

(Chromatius of Acquileia, Sermon 34, Christian Readings, vol. 6, Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1972, p. 107)

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: *The Baptism of the Lord*. Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7/Psalm 29/Acts 10:34-38/
Matthew 3:13-17

Monday: Hebrews 1:1-6/ Psalm 97/ Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday: Hebrews 2:5-12/ Psalm 8/ Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday: Hebrews 2:14-18/ Psalm 105/ Mark 1:29-39

Thursday: Hebrews 3:7-14/ Psalm 95/ Mark 1:40-45

Friday: Hebrews 4:1-5, 11/ Psalm 78/ Mark 2:1-12

Saturday: Hebrews 4:12-16/ Psalm 19/ Mark 2:13-17

Next Sunday: *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Isaiah 49:3, 5-6/Psalm 40/
1 Corinthians 1:1-3/ John 1:29-34

COLLECTION FOR NEW YEARS: \$1,080.00

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$5,171.00 Thank you.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 AM: Mary and Dick Adkisson

11:00 AM: The Nisbet Family

If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 * FAX (503)274-2438 * www.stelizabethportland.net

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Baptism and Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Marriage: Six months' notice required.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James M. Kolb, C.S.P., Administrator

Joan Enright, Secretary - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The annual season of light draws to a close. January may be quite bleak in northern climates, but the solstice has passed. Light has won out over darkness and we have celebrated the bright hope of salvation. We have ritualized once more the cherished customs of Christmas

Families, stores, and communities regularly package their Christmas décor and store it away for eleven months. For the Church, our season of birth and manifestation is not packed up and stored. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord does not tie up all the loose ends of the plot or neatly summarize the mystery. It remembers one more aspect of Christmas, but it also sets the stage for the week by week unfolding of the mystery of Jesus through the recounting of each synoptic gospel.

The evangelists present the baptism of Jesus at the start of his public life because the varied details of their accounts unveil his identity. Like the servant praised in Isaiah, Jesus has come to do God's will. He is consecrated in the Spirit. He is the beloved son.

These proclamations about Jesus summon us to fuller awareness of the paschal mystery. Through baptism we are the body of Christ, facing the same mystery of dying and rising. We too must be open to the Spirit, conscious of our relationship to God. Thus we can live a life of discipleship and begin to understand the true meaning of history.