

The Baptism of the Lord

"I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." That was a lowly job. Removing someone's sandals back in the days when everyone walked everywhere on dusty, sandy desert ground was a dirty task. So when John the Baptist said he wasn't even worthy for that humble duty, he was emphasizing an important point.

John understood Jesus' real identity. He knew that this was not just another good man, not just a wise teacher or a gifted leader. John realized that Jesus was truly God-made-man. And because of this, the prophet also comprehended how perfect Jesus was. In relation to this perfection, John honestly acknowledged his own sinfulness with this analogy about the sandals. But look what happened: even though John proclaimed that "one mightier than I is coming after me," Jesus showed up at the Jordan River and asked John to baptize him! Jesus humbled himself by going through this ritual of cleansing and purification, even though he didn't need to. John may have thought himself unworthy, but that didn't stop Jesus from coming to him.

Jesus wants to come to us too. Not because we have "earned" his love or because we are "worthy" of some great honor, but simply because he loves us. God sent his Son to us to be one of us, to walk among us, to care for us and guide us. When we were baptized, he counted us among his beloved children in a special way, but that joyful bond is not a thing of the past. By our baptism we are always his children, even when we may be disobedient or belligerent ones. His love is not calculated or quantified; it is a free gift. May we appreciate this gift enough to show our gratitude by a life well lived.



MASSES OF THE WEEK

MON. (Jan. 12) Weekday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am (Anniv.) Rita & Thomas Peacock (Family)
TUE. (Jan. 13) Weekday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am Frances Wynne (Patti and Sam Sica)
WED. (Jan. 14) Weekday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am Helen and Peter Lenio (Don and Louise Lenio)
THU. (Jan. 15) Weekday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am Andre Souchak (Darlene Valenza)
FRI: (Jan. 16) Weekday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am Jack Sileo (Frank and Joyce Huff)
SAT: (Jan. 17) St. Anthony
4:00 pm Tricia M. Sheehan (Family)
5:30 pm Catherine Sheehan (Jackie Dente and Family)
SUN: (Jan. 18) Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am John McCrone (Family)
9:30 am Abigail Zappel (Family)
11:30 am Marie and Joseph Abda (sisters, Barbara and Jeanette)
5:00 pm Deceased Members of McNulty and McDonough Families (Nan McNulty)

Important Dates:

Sun.	1/11	10:15am-11:15am	CCD (SA)
Tues.	1/13	3:00 pm-4:15 pm	CCD (SA)
		3:00pm-4:30pm	Practice First Penance
Wed.	1/14	3:00 pm	Children's Youth Choir (Church)
Thu.	1/15	10:30 am	Dunmore Health Care
		7:00 pm	RCIA (R)
		7:00 pm	Adult Choir (Church)



Please pray for the elderly, the seriously ill, the dying and recently deceased members of our parish community, especially *Thomas Voytek, Jr., and Mildred M. Murphy*. May God grant them and all the faithful departed eternal rest.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Collection for the Weekend of December 27/28, 2014
\$9,934.55
Collection for the Weekend of December 28/29, 2013
unavailable

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Collection for the Weekend of January 4, 2015
\$12,421.00
Collection for the Weekend of January 5, 2014
\$14,839.83

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION amounted to **\$26,687.**

THE SECOND COLLECTION— last weekend, January 3/4, 2015 will be for the Care and Education of Priests amounted to **\$405.90.** Thank you for your generous donation.

PARISH SURVEY—If you haven't already received one, please take a survey home and return by January 17th. Thank you!

Financial Updates

- **Second collections**—All second collections not addressed to the Missions or to the Diocese, will go to help support our cemeteries and parish related needs not covered from interest from perpetual care.
- **A Friendly Reminder**—Please make every effort to keep your offertory pledges current.
- **Online Giving**—(see below for instructions)

ONLINE GIVING LINK ANNOUNCEMENT:

Signing up is easy— you can use a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Just go to our church website www.olmcdunmore.org and click the Online Giving logo at the bottom right of the page to get started.

End of the Year Financial Statement—As in the past we are asking those who want a statement to call the rectory at 570-346-7429. Statements will be prepared the end of January. We thank all for their cooperation in this matter.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE

We are proud to announce that at this point in our Capital Campaign, 557 parishioners have pledged \$1,037,860.00 There are many pledges not yet in, however, and I would ask all those who have not yet turned in their pledge to please do so. Please know that I am so thankful for your response and I do pray our Lord bless you with his kindness and generosity!
God Bless, —Fr. Doris.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN— GOOD NEWS!

Improvements to our parish and our school are progressing. Please make every effort to keep your pledge payments current. **PLEDGE ENVELOPES ARE THE GREEN ENVELOPES FOUND IN YOUR ENVELOPE SETS AND IN THE REAR OF THE CHURCH.**

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Eucharistic community of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Dunmore, are called to manifest the leadership, love and service of Jesus Christ. In union with the Holy Father, and under the leadership of our Diocesan Bishop, We are called to proclaim the salvation of our loving Lord through our participation in His Word, Worship, Service and Community. With the Blessed Virgin Mary as our Model, we seek to share our Baptismal gifts to build His Kingdom.

OUR VALUE STATEMENT

We recognize that as a Parish Faith Community of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, that our purpose is to accept and develop our call, through a servant style of leadership. To evangelize others with zeal and joy through the witness of our Life in Word, Worship and a Service that builds up our Community.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
KEYSTONE CONTAINER SERVICE
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

Note: Seeking Volunteer 1st, 2nd grade & substitute teachers for CCD Tuesdays from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m. Please call rectory at 570-346-7429 if interested.

Jan.13&20	Penance Practice 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	1st Penance 10:00 a.m. Snow date: Jan. 31 at 10:00 a.m.
Jan. 27	CCD Makeup Day 3:00-4:14 p.m. Please note; class will be held in the Church, not the School
Feb. 24	Confirmation Retreat 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. La Buona Vita
March 20	Confirmation Practice 6:30 p.m. (Students Only)
March 23	Confirmation Practice 6:00 p.m. (Students Only)
March 24	Confirmation Practice 6:00 p.m. (Students and Sponsors)
March 25	Sacrament of Confirmation 5:00 p.m.
April 21	1st Holy Communion Practice (Group A & B) 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
April 28	1st Holy Communion Practice (Group A& B) 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
May 2	1st Holy Communion 9:00 and 11:30 a.m.
Last CCD	May 3 (Grades 6,7,8) May 5 (Grades 1—5)


WELCOME

A Holy Name Society meeting will be held Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory. New members are welcome.

Know a Marriage That Needs Help? Throw them a lifeline and tell them about Retrouvaille, an international program that helps couples who are experiencing marital difficulties. This program is for all couples, at any state of marriage, that need help to communicate with each other in a more attentive and loving manner. The next program in the Diocese of Scranton February 27-March 1 at the Ramada Inn, Clarks Summit. Please call 1-800-470-2230 or visit <http://www.retrouvaille.org> for more information or to register.



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY



CDR. WILLIAM E. KELLY, MSC US NAVY
SGT. RYAN HARBAUGH, US ARMY
LT JONATHAN PUHALLA, US ARMY
CPL CHRISTOPHER MECCA, USMC
LT GEN CHRISTOPHER BURNE, USAF
ENSIGN JONATHAN M. SMITH, US NAVY
MM2 SHAWN SMITH, US NAVY
1ST LT WILLIAM C. STUCKART USMC
SPC SEAN FISNE, US ARMY
CORP CHRISTOPHER DESANDO
SPC KAILA LEWONCZYK
SPC ERIC SLOSS
CPT MICHAEL TODARO
SGT MICHAEL P. WENTLINE, USMC
LT JOHN W. GILLIGAN, US NAVY
ENS. KATHRYN M. GILLIGAN, US COAST GUARD
LT. ANTHONY CANTAFIO, US NAVY
CW2 JOHN T. REDMOND, US ARMY
COL. JAMES F. CUMMINGS, M.D., US ARMY
AIC DARREN HUSSEY, USAF
LT. JASON A. BUSELLI, US ARMY
HA CONOR J. RUANE, US NAVY
MAJOR. ROBERT MCALLISTER, US ARMY
MAJOR. ANDREW SCHLESSINGER, US ARMY
AIC MARK MICCICHE, USAF

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which face them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To add names of active military duty personnel from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish to the prayer list, please call the parish rectory at 570-346-7429.

“Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word on Friday, January 23, 2015, at 12:10 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton.”“The Diocese of Scranton will again participate in the worldwide Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which is celebrated each year in January. This observance, first organized by Father Paul Watson, S.A., in 1908 at Graymoor in Garrison, N.Y., seeks to gather together diverse communities of the Christian faith to express the degree of communion which the churches have already received, and to pray together for the full visible unity of the one Church of Jesus Christ. **The Diocese of Scranton will host an Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word on Friday, January 23, 2015, at 12:10 p.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton. There will be no 12:10 p.m. Mass that day in the Cathedral.** All are welcome to attend. In addition, CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the service live. The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, will preside, and the Reverend William W. Fairchild of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will deliver the homily. Clergy and representatives from various Christian traditions and ecumenical agencies will be present. Liturgical music will be provided by the Junior Choir from Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green.”



POINSETTIA MEMORIALS OMITTED



A poinsettia was donated in memory of
Jay and Millie Sardo from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lacertoso
Philomenia & Tony Lacertoso from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lacertoso
Ryan Carr from his parents Thomas and Sheila Carr
Joseph and Carmella Verrastro from Mr. Joseph Verrastro

Thank you!



Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM, President/CEO of St. Joseph's Center would like to extend gratitude to the parishioners of Our Lady of

Mt. Carmel Parish for our exceptionally generous offerings of toys, books, art supplies and gift cards that will be enjoyed throughout the year. She thanks God each day for the generosity of people in the community and appreciates our support of our mission to our most fragile citizens. She wishes our parish Peace and Joy throughout the New Year.

Wedding Anniversary Mass for 2015—His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2015 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 21. The event includes a 2:30 pm mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. **Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made by calling the rectory office at 570-346-7429 before March 16.**



The High School Youth Group will meet Sunday January 18th at 6:00 PM in the St Mary's School auditorium. Plans for this year's Living Stations will be discussed and roles will be assigned. All high school students are welcome.



My name is **Nicholas Klein**. I am in eighth grade at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School. I am also the president of Student Council, and as a nine-year veteran of the school, I would like to tell you about the three core standards of our school: **Faith, Knowledge, and Service**. From the start of my career at Saint Mary's, it was instilled upon me that the most important part of my life is my faith. My faith makes me a stronger and better person as I grow older, and I believe that there is no better place to learn that than at Saint Mary's. At Saint Mary's, we are held to a high standard academically which pushes us to excel further and prepare a foundation for the rest of our academic careers. Finally we have service. In the 2013-14 school year, we created a "Service Club" in which students may join if they choose. Participating in the club gives students the opportunity to earn service hours towards the ten hours they need per quarter. In the club, we focus on participation in clothing drives, food drives, helping out around the school, etc. I am very thankful to my parents who have given me the opportunity to excel in both my academic career and my faith.

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School will host an Open House on Sunday January 25, 2015, following the 11:30 Liturgy from 12:30 -2:30 PM. All are welcome!

Ministers of the Liturgy Schedule—Weekend of January 17/18, 2015

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
4:00 P.M.	Dennis Wozniak	A.M.Fazio N.Dolan, D.Valenza	Ryan Carey
5:30 P.M.	Andy Fazio	T.Kelley, N.Rinaldi, T.Carlucci	Dominick Panunzio, Hannah Albano
7:00 A.M.	Alice Foley	Sr. Miriam Joseph Reinhardt	Patrick Conway
9:30 A.M.	Sidney Prejean	L.Gatto, M.A. Dougherty, S.Schiavo	Jacob Gatto
11:30 A.M.	Ken Smith	D.Smith, M.R. Malia, M.A. McDonald	Zoe Krisandra, Alyssa Shonk
5:00 P.M.	Maria Kocsis	Connie DeSando	Maren Lindemuth