

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2010

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2009

(1John5.14-21, John3.22-30)

5:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)
Leticia Prato-Salas by Dr. Salas-Prato and family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010

(Isaih42.1-4, 6-7, Acts10.34-38, Matt.3.15-16, 21-22)

10:30 Lorraine West & family (Estate)
Stanley Smith by the O'Shea family

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010 - NO MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2010

MEMORIAL - ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS

(1Sam1.9-20, Mark1.21-28)

5:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010

(1Sam3.1-10, 19-20, Mark1.29-39)

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2010

(1Sam4.1c-11, Mark1.40-45)

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)
Anne Clement by Ann & Paul Clement

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010

(1Sam8.4-7, 10-22a, Mark2.1-12)

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2009

(Sam9.1-4, 17-19; 10.1a, Mark2.13-17)

5:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)
Gilles Tremblay by his family

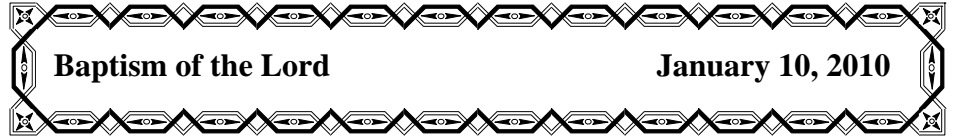
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010

(Isaiah62.1-5, 1Cor12.4-11, John 2.1-12)

10:30 Lorraine West & family (Estate)
Irene Jadunath & family by June DeFour

This Week at Ascension

- Monday: **Christian Meditation** at 7 p.m. in the East Sacristy for information call 931-5536.
- Wednesday: **Sunday Scripture Reflection** with Fr. Pat in the Parish Room of the Rectory at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.
- Thursday: **Choir Practice** at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.
- Saturday: **Children's Gathering** at 1:30 p.m. in the church. The children are asked to bring non-perishable groceries such as tinned meat and fish, soups etc. as well as hygiene products.



Baptism of the Lord (*Luke 3:15-16, 21-22*)

The messiah, a military/political leader gifted with God's spirit, was supposed to conquer the world and then rule all peoples with justice and compassion. Luke tells us the spirit of God descended on Jesus in the form of a dove after John baptized him. We can think of Jesus' baptism as his inauguration as the messiah because it was then that his heavenly Father gave him the Holy Spirit so he could defeat the devil and begin establishing his reign of justice and peace.

The word "baptism" comes from a Greek word meaning "to immerse in water." In the days of the early Church, Christians baptized by totally immersing the person from head to toe. In imitation of this practice some modern churches have shallow pools for immersion baptisms, but most modern Christian denominations simply pour water over the person's head.

Water is a powerful symbol of life. It plays a very important role in our own development by first surrounding us in our mother's womb and then refreshing and sustaining us after birth. People in biblical times built towns around a fresh water supply because without water they, their animals, and their crops could not survive. Therefore, water is a very appropriate vehicle through which we receive new spiritual life in baptism.

People living in the dry, hot climate of Palestine were aware of water's cleansing properties. Feet got dirty because most people either walked around barefoot or wore only leather sandals. Water to wash feet was usually the first thing a host offered a guest who arrived after a long journey. The water of baptism also has cleansing properties, washing us clean of our sins and giving us a fresh spiritual start. Thus, it achieves something ordinary water never could. Finally, water has a deep spiritual meaning. God used water to save Noah from the sinfulness of the people of his generation and, with water, God prevented the Egyptians from pursuing the Jewish people into the desert. Thus, it is appropriate that God uses the waters of baptism to save us from the power of the devil and to give us everlasting life with him.

For Reflection

The next time you take a bath or a shower, pray for those who do not have running water and have to rely on well water or rainfall for washing, cooking, and drinking. Think of all the uses of running water and thank God for the luxury of modern plumbing.

From the Desk of the Pastor

Fr. Pat and I would like to extend our sincere appreciation for the many cards, gifts and Christmas wishes received from so many in the parish. Your thoughtfulness and kindness to us over the holidays made our Christmas at Ascension a very special time.

Msgr. Sean

Ascension Parishioners!



As a result of your generosity at the Advent Mass of Concern, our parish has been able to help about 57 individuals and families with certificates for food at Christmas. We have also made a donation of \$5,000 to Westmount Park School's Breakfast Program.

We would like to thank those who support our ongoing efforts to collect non-perishable food and clean clothing for St. Willibrord's Food Bank, glasses for Lenscrafter's Gift of Sight Program and as well as all those who cook and serve meals at Benedict Labre House and who help at L'Abri en Ville. We would also like to thank all those who made financial contributions to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas in memory of loved ones.

Your generosity makes a difference in many lives. Thank you all.

**Come and See Evenings at St. Willibrord Parish
(351 Willibrord Ave.)**

For men, 18 and over, who may be discerning a vocation to follow Jesus as a priest, the Diocesan Vocation Office is offering informal get-together once a month from 5:30 - 9 p.m. This month's meeting is on January 22, 2010. Each meeting offers supper, recreation, a time of prayer, and ends with a discussion on various topics dealing with priestly life and ministry. These evenings are an excellent opportunity for those who are discerning a call to the priesthood to share in fellowship and to explore their call together. For more information call 925-4348 or email: vocationsmtl@hotmail.com

Parish Support

We encourage all parishioners to use the regular Sunday envelopes. These are mailed to parishioners four times a year. To obtain envelopes please call the parish office (932-3131) or fill in the form below and place it in the collection plate. We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Msgr. Harty & Fr. Donnelly after Mass.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____