

**SUNDAY BULLETIN JANUARY 12, 2025**  
**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

*Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for January*

*For the right to an education*

*Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.*

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**  
**CONFESSIONS HEARD 30 MINUTES BEFORE EACH MASS**

**Tuesday, January 14 —Mass for the Sick**

7:30 AM—Denise Barnes Tridle+

**Wednesday, January 15—Our Lord, Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest**

8:15 AM—Fran Catron+

**Thursday, January 16—Mass In Any Need**

7:30 AM—Kim Atwell+

**Friday, January 17—St. Anthony**

8:15 AM—Carolyn Hurst+

**Saturday, January 18—St. Prisca**

7:30 AM—Mike Anderson+

5:00 PM—Ted Anderson+ (Sunday Vigil Mass)

**Sunday, January 19—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM— People of the Parish

10:00 AM— Marshall family

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**Scripture Readings**  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
 Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7  
 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

**DIOCESAN OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION**

THE DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY-ST. JOSEPH IS COMMITTED TO COMBATING SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE CHURCH. IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ABUSE, OR IF YOU *OBSERVE OR SUSPECT* SEXUAL ABUSE:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18) and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911 and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, 816-812-2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org), if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of The Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816-392-0011 or [true.francis@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:true.francis@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

## “ O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL.”

### THIS WEEK'S SAINTS

#### January 13: St. Hilary of Poitiers

"They didn't know who they were." This is how Hilary summed up the problem with the Arian heretics of the fourth century.

Hilary, on the other hand, knew very well who he was -- a child of a loving God who had inherited eternal life through belief in the Son of God. He hadn't been raised as a Christian but he had felt a wonder at the gift of life and a desire to find out the meaning of that gift. He first discarded the approach of many people who around him, who believed the purpose of life was only to satisfy desires. He knew he wasn't a beast grazing in a pasture. The philosophers agreed with him. Human beings should rise above desires and live a life of virtue, they said. But Hilary could see in his own heart that humans were meant for even more than living a good life.

If he didn't lead a virtuous life, he would suffer from guilt and be unhappy. His soul seemed to cry out that wasn't enough to justify the enormous gift of life. So Hilary went looking for the giftgiver. He was told many things about the divine -- many that we still hear today: that there were many Gods, that God didn't exist but all creation was the result of random acts of nature, that God existed but didn't really care for his creation, that God was in creatures or images. One look in his own soul told him these images of the divine were wrong. God had to be one because no creation could be as great as God. God had to be concerned with God's creation -- otherwise why create it?

At that point, Hilary tells us, he "chanced upon" the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. When he read the verse where God tells Moses "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14), Hilary said, "I was frankly amazed at such a clear definition of God, which expressed the incomprehensible knowledge of the divine nature in words most suited to human intelligence." In the Psalms and the Prophets he found descriptions of God's power, concern, and beauty. For example in Psalm 139, "Where shall I go from your spirit?", he found confirmation that God was everywhere and omnipotent.

After becoming a Christian, he was elected bishop of Poitiers in what is now France by the laity and clergy. He was already married with one daughter named Apra.

Not everyone at that time had the same idea of who they were. The Arians did not believe in the divinity of Christ and the Arians had a lot of power including the support of the emperor Constantius. This resulted in many

persecutions. When Hilary refused to support their condemnation of Saint Athanasius he was exiled from Poitiers to the East in 356. The Arians couldn't have had a worse plan -- for themselves.

Hilary really had known very little of the whole Arian controversy before he was banished. Perhaps he supported Athanasius simply because he didn't like their methods. But being exiled from his home and his duties gave him plenty of time to study and write. He learned everything he could about what the Arians said and what the orthodox Christians answered and then he began to write. "Although in exile we shall speak through these books, and the word of God, which cannot be bound, shall move about in freedom." The writings of his that still exist include *On the Trinity*, a commentary on the Gospel of Matthew, and a commentary on the Psalms. He tells us about the Trinity, "For one to attempt to speak of God in terms more precise than he himself has used: -- to undertake such a thing is to embark upon the boundless, to dare the incomprehensible. He fixed the names of His nature: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Whatever is sought over and above this is beyond the meaning of words, beyond the limits of perception, beyond the embrace of understanding."

After three years the emperor kicked him back to Poitiers, because, we are told by Sulpicius Severus, the emperor was tired of having to deal with the troublemaker, "a sower of discord and a disturber of the Orient." But no one told Hilary he had to go straight back to his home and so he took a leisurely route through Greece and Italy, preaching against the Arians as he went.

In the East he had also heard the hymns used by Arians and orthodox Christians as propaganda. These hymns were not based on Scripture as Western hymns but full of beliefs about God. Back at home, Hilary started writing hymns of propaganda himself to spread the faith. His hymns are the first in the West with a known writer.

#### January 17: St. Anthony of the Desert

The life of Anthony will remind many people of Saint Francis of Assisi. At 20, Anthony was so moved by the Gospel message, "Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor" (Mark 10:21b), that he actually did just that with his large inheritance. He is different from Francis in that most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude. He saw the world completely covered with snares, and gave the Church and the world the witness of solitary asceticism, great personal mortification and prayer. But no saint is antisocial, and Anthony drew many people to himself for spiritual healing and guidance.

At 54, he responded to many requests and founded a sort of monastery of scattered cells. Again, like Francis, he had great fear of "stately buildings and well-laden tables."

## SUNDAY BULLETIN- THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

<b>KNIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES JANUARY 18-19</b>		
Mass Time	Position	Knight(s)
<b>Sat. 5pm</b>	Acolyte 1 Acolyte 2	Shay Johnson Wyatt Dysart
<b>Sun. 8am</b>	Acolyte 1 Acolyte 2	Cason Bonderer Dominic Robinson
<b>Sun. 10am</b>	M.C. Thurifer Acolyte 1 Acolyte 2 Cross Bearer Torch Torch	Oliver Perry Dominic Sherer Ivan Dickerson Rowdy Miller Rocky Sherer Grady Allen Harry Goad

At 60, he hoped to be a martyr in the renewed Roman persecution of 311, fearlessly exposing himself to danger while giving moral and material support to those in prison. At 88, he was fighting the Arian heresy, that massive trauma from which it took the Church centuries to recover. "The mule kicking over the altar" denied the divinity of Christ.

Anthony is associated in art with a T-shaped cross, a pig and a book. The pig and the cross are symbols of his valiant warfare with the devil—the cross his constant means of power over evil spirits, the pig a symbol of the devil himself. The book recalls his preference for "the book of nature" over the printed word. Anthony died in solitude at age 105.

### PARISH POT LUCK

Next Sunday we will gather again across the street at the school cafeteria. All are welcome to join! Bring a dish or two to share. Drinks and tableware are provided. Call or text Amanda Sherer for more details 712-216-1713. Hope to see you there!

### BISHOP HOGAN NEWS

Happy New Year from all of us at Bishop Hogan Memorial School! It is great to be back at school and beginning our second semester of the school year! Because of the snow, Wednesday was our first day back! Students were excited to catch up with their friends and talk about their holidays.

Our 4th and 5th grade basketball practices are beginning this upcoming week. Kevin Goad and Kyle Marcolla are coaching the boys' team and Adam Warren is coaching the girls. Our first game is February 18 against Pleasant View @ Pleasant View. We have 9 girls and 14 boys playing. Eleven girls signed up to be cheerleaders.

The **essay winners for the Patriots Pen**, sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars were:

- first place: Ethan Anderson, son of Chris and Stephanie Anderson
  - second place: London Douglas, daughter of Aaron and Micah Douglas
  - third place: Emma Rupp, daughter of Gina and George Rupp. Congratulations to them!
- Pam Brobst, Principal

<b>LECTOR SCHEDULE JANUARY 19</b>	
Mass Time	Lector
<b>Sun. 8am</b>	Ken Lauhoff
<b>Sun. 10am</b>	Mary Pauley

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR THE 2025 CONFIRMATION** are held every Sunday after 10:00 Mass.

### FIRST COMMUNION PREP

If your child is in second grade, does not attend Bishop Hogan, and is ready to begin classes for first confession and first communion **please attend the first class on Sunday, January 12 after the 10:00 Mass (Today)** **This first meeting will be short with the parents getting to meet each other and make sure everyone has all the information they need.**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will have a meeting Monday night, Jan. 13 at 7 pm.

### 2024 DONATION GIVINGS STATEMENT

If you would like a statement of your Offertory givings, please call or email the office and one will be provided.



### Weekly Offering

*December 22*  
Offertory \$7,808  
Property Maint \$288

*December 29 & Christmas*  
Offertory \$72,030  
Property Maint \$58  
Birthright \$320

*January 5*  
Offertory \$8,300  
Property Maint \$602  
Birthright \$142

*December Income/Expense*  
Income \$119,566  
Expense \$107,004  
Income over (under) Expense \$12,562

Visit the church website and Facebook page to keep up to date on church events. Sunday Bulletins are also published on the website [stcolumbanchurch.com](http://stcolumbanchurch.com) [facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/St.ColumbanChurch/) [St.ColumbanChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/St.ColumbanChurch/)