

JANUARY 10, 2010 – BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A Tithing Parish

STEWARDSHIP

Tithing: God's Plan for Giving

REPORT FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

Envelopes (2010)	\$ 9,489.00
Envelopes (2009)	3,330.00
Loose	654.00
Non-Member Checks	130.00
Poor Box	377.63
Diocesan Priests	<u>387.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$14,367.63

Christmas Collection 2009: \$52,870.75

YTD July 1 through November 30, 2009

	Actual	Budget
Operating Income	352,399	337,480
Operating Expense	<u>396,489</u>	<u>422,489</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	(44,090)	(85,009)

This is a new year: 2010. When you resolve to make the changes in your life that have been nagging at you, don't forget our responsibilities as stewards of God's gifts. This is our chance to renew our efforts to share the grace bestowed upon us. (Stewardship January, 2010)

POOR BOX

The Poor Box for January will benefit the Maryland Fuel Fund. Your donations will help to provide assistance for heating fuel for needy families.

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of January 10

Sunday	8 am	Chuck Sudina†
	9:30 am	Geraldine Fleming†
	11:30 am	For The Community
Monday	12:10 pm	Communion Service
Tuesday	12:10 pm	James Dwyer†
Wednesday	12:10 pm	Karen Louise Tully†
Thursday	12:10 pm	James Wilkerson, Jr. †
Saturday	5 pm	Molly Fischer†
Sunday	8 am	For The Community
	9:30 am	Nicola Rispoli†
	11:30 am	Welsh Family†

†Deceased

PARISH EVENTS

Week of January 10, 2010

Today! Sunday, January 10

10:45 am Rosary
10:45 am Prayer Meeting
12:45 pm Youth Core Team Meeting

Monday, January 11

9:15 am CSS Leaders Meeting
10:15 am Bible Study
4:45 pm Monday Groups
7 pm Unified Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 12

9:15 am Catholic Scripture Study
7 pm Into the Heart

Wednesday, January 13

7 pm RCIA
7:15 am AA Meeting
7:30 pm Prayer Meeting

Thursday, January 14

7 pm Choir Practice
7 pm Catholic Scripture Studies

Friday, January 15

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 16

Room at the Table Food Drive
Mass: 5 pm

Sunday, January 17

Room at the Table Food Drive
10:45 am Rosary
10:45 am Prayer Meeting
5 pm Youth Mass

AA Meeting – 7:15 pm on Wednesday – Chatard House
<http://222.baltimoreaa.org> or 410-663-1922
(24 hour hotline)

Next Sunday's Readings

January 17, 2010

<i>1st Reading</i>	ISAIAH 62:1-5
<i>2nd Reading</i>	1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-11
<i>Gospel</i>	JOHN 2:1-12

The readings will be more meaningful and familiar if you take the time to read them before Mass.

Pastor's Corner -

Dear Parishioners:

Why did Jesus need to be baptized? Certainly He had nothing to repent, and He was already filled with the Spirit. So why did He bother? Perhaps it was for the same reason that doctors-in-training record their experiences as patients and lawyers in mock trials with law students serving as judge and jury. Those with knowledge and power are trying to empathize with those who are on the receiving end of their authority.

But Jesus can't possibly walk in our guilt and shame, and how can He know what it feels like to turn from God? Perhaps, then, the reason Jesus is baptized is to show us that our call to new life is not about being released from shame and guilt, but being washed in love. Through that process, we move from sin into grace. Love leads us to new life, but it doesn't say the old never existed. The mountains made low with love were mountains once. And without the constant renewal of love, they can become mountains again.

Our baptism reminds us that we are worthy of love and more important we are capable of love. Our past sins do not define who we are in this present moment. We can choose love over hate, courage over cowardice, integrity over ambiguity. Live in this new Spirit and you will be true to your baptism and Christ's.

We are pleased to welcome Don Awalt and his wife Kathy to our parish. Don is in his final year in the diaconal formation program. Don will participate in the weekend Mass on a rotating basis, as well as ministering to the sick, visiting the imprisoned, the RCIA, preaching at a week day Mass. We will officially welcome Don and Kathy next weekend at Mass.

May our good God bless you and your families with His richest blessings in this New Year!

In Christ's love,

Fr. Frank

ROOM AT THE TABLE FOOD DRIVE

We had a good response last month for the Christmas season. Thank you so much. Fr. Damien has specifically asked for meat products. Remember to bring your donation next weekend...on January 16th & 17th. If possible, please include Spam, Velveeta, beans, spaghetti and sauce, canned tuna, ham or chicken and peanut butter. Please note that your donations should now be placed downstairs in the lower level stairwell area. Signs will be posted for your convenience.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Lutherville/Timonium area:

Christopher Bowers & Katherine Pinkard
Andrew & Christine Rowe
Vincent & Karen Truant
Dr. Gregory & Elizabeth Hobelmann
Nina Schuler
Paul & Ellen Johnson

Cockeysville/Hunt Valley area:

Daniel Gister
Nicholas & JoAnne Kollman
Matthew Price & Michele Giannini
Dr. Jill Fahrner & Dr. Matthew Frieman
Irene Rovira
Giovanni Vincenti

Sparks/Glencoe area:

Mark Wiley
Stephen & Mary Puthumana
Lance & Mary Trifillis

Reisterstown/Owings Mills area:

Andre & Mary Louque
Alexander Forfa
Peter & Carroll McGill

Phoenix area:

Michael & Margaret Vaughan

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

This weekend in your bulletin you will find a copy of a newsletter entitled *Everyday Catholic*, which will be inserted on the 2nd weekend of every month through next December. Each month focuses on faith in the life of the *sandwich generation*. Be sure to read the final page where you will find some thoughtful tips on being a 'saint' in the lives of others. Let us (parish staff) know what you think!



FAITH FORMATION

Pat Allshouse (pallshouse@ccsfx.net)
Middle School – Joanie Carlson
(carlsonj@notredameprep.com)

FAITH FORMATION for CHILDREN

SECOND SEMESTER DATES

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION – Session II

For children who will be preparing for First Eucharist in Spring 2010

The second parent meeting - **Tuesday, Feb. 23rd and repeated on Wednesday, Feb. 24th from 7-9 p.m.** **You must attend ONE!** Parents should have already attended Session I this past fall. Missed Session I? A recap will be held on **Thursday, Feb. 18th at 10 a.m. in Room 128.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

For children who will be preparing for First Reconciliation during Lent 2010

Parent Meeting – **Monday, Jan 25th from 7-9 p.m.**

MONDAY GROUPS

Starts back tomorrow, Monday, January 11th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Second Semester Dates – **Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20; Mar. 13, 20.**

SUMMER CAMP

Make your plans now ... our annual Summer Camp for children entering Kindergarten through 7th grade will be held from **August 16-29, 2010.** More information will be available in the spring.

First Planning Meeting – Saturday, January 23rd @ 9 a.m. Come join us! Your help is needed!

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SANDWICHES FOR OUR DAILY BREAD –

Next sandwich making session for families – **Saturday, January 9th at 8:30.** Please bring 8 loaves of fresh bread and contact Murray Carlson (410-667-9123) ahead of time so that he knows who to expect.



CHILDREN'S CORNER – FINAL QUESTION OF THE WEEK

January 10 – The Baptism of the Lord – Spirit and Fire!

Luke 3:1a, 2-6

How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is in my life help my family? Can my family set the world on fire? What could we do?

WE FOUND THE STAR!

Many thanks to Larry & Amy Mason and Alison Walsh for organizing our family Epiphany party which was held last weekend. The telling of the Epiphany story was just beautiful. All those attending received a bottle of holy water to use in the blessing of their homes for this New Year. Extra bottles of holy water and the Home Blessing can be found in the Chapel. Help yourself!



BOOK CLUB

The next parish Book Club discussion will be on Wednesday, January 27th at 7 pm. The selection is “Three Cups of Tea” by Greg Mortenson. As the cover says, this is “the astonishing, uplifting story of a real-life Indiana Jones and his remarkable humanitarian campaign in the Taliban’s backyard.” A recent Parade magazine article about Mortenson reported that “Three Cups of Tea” is now required reading for all Special Forces soldiers deploying to Afghanistan. All are invited. Please join us! Note: The Book Club will be meeting in the upstairs area at Wegman’s Market rather than at the church. We encourage you to pick up some refreshments downstairs and join us for this special meeting.



CASSEROLES FOR BEANS

& BREAD

Thanks and a big shout-out to all of you that contributed casseroles for the hungry during 2009. You are awesome!

Sincere thanks go to **Patty Stephens** for delivering the casseroles to B & B in December. Now it's a brand New Year and there is still hunger in our city. Let's start the year with a bounteous harvest of 35+ casseroles so that we can keep feeding as many hungry people as we can. Our next collection of casseroles will be **Jan. 14th**. Bring your **frozen casserole (labeled for Beans & Bread) to the church any weekday (M-Th) before 9:15 a.m. on Jan. 14th**. Pans and recipes are available in the Gathering Space. The **recipe is also available on our parish website**; follow the link in Service Projects. See the recipe sheet for delivery options.



HELP NEEDED

Our Altar Society is in need of some new members, especially people who like to iron. The Altar Society is responsible for maintaining the altar linens and vestments and the Sanctuary area. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Pat Jarosinski – 410-329-3094.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Contact Deacon Don

deacondon@ccsfx.net or 410-785-0356 x12

LIFE AFTER SUNDAY AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Dr. Robert Friday, St. Francis Xavier parishioner and former professor at Catholic University of America, will be the guest speaker at St. Joseph Parish's *Life After Sunday* series on **Sunday, January 17**. Dr. Friday will speak on "Healthcare, Ethics, & Moral Decision Making." The sessions are held in the Parish Center, 101 Church Lane, at 9 am and repeated at 10:30 am. Refreshments are available along with a book and media table. All are welcomed!

GOSPEL OF LIFE

March For Life –Save the Date! On Friday, **January 22, 2010**, plan to attend, with thousands throughout the country, the Rally at the Mall and peacefully march to the Supreme Court in Washington, D. C. The anniversary of Roe v Wade is the Supreme Court decision which legalized the killing of 50,000,000 innocent preborn babies and has divided this country for the past 37 years. Additionally, it has put us on a slippery slope to devalue human life even further with assisted suicide, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. Contact your parish Respect Life Coordinator. CCSFX will have a bus and sign up tables the weeks before the March. Please plan to join us this year.

Reserve a place by emailing or calling Jim Althoff, videomansix@comcast.net, 410-527-1045.

"Pray the Rosary or the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Attend Mass more regularly. Pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Just as the loaves and fishes were multiplied, our efforts to change hearts and save the unborn are multiplied exponentially by prayer." Archbishop Edwin O'Brien

The GOL committee sponsors a rosary for the Parish's intentions every Sunday at 10:45, a perfect time between the two Masses. Please plan on joining us.

Pregnant, Need Help? Call the Gabriel Network 1-800-ANGEL-OK

Suffering Post-Abortion Stress? Call Project Rachel 1-800-286-4224

<http://www.sfxforlife.org>

IT'S WINTER TIME

Winter is the time of year that brings us snow, sleet and tricky driving conditions. CCSFX will follow the snow policy as decided by Baltimore County for closings. **If evening classes are cancelled or schools close early, all programs at church will be cancelled.** Weekend activities (whether they are cancelled or not) will be posted on the phone system, ext. 42. If you have any doubts, call 410-785-0356, enter extension 42 and listen for your event.



DON AWALT

As part of the formation (preparation) program for deacons, there is an intern year during which the candidate carries out part-time service in a parish or other institution approved by the Archdiocese. The Office of the Diaconate, Division of Clergy Personnel, has assigned Mr. R. Donald Awalt to the Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier during 2010.

Don will be receiving the sacrament of Holy Orders when he is ordained a deacon in the spring of 2011. During this current year, he will be assisting at the altar for at least one Mass each weekend. In addition, he will be experiencing other diaconal responsibilities here. Don and his wife, Kathy, are parishioners at St. Joseph, Cockeysville. We welcome them during their time at CCSFX.

LITURGY CORNER

Today is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord at the hands of John the Baptist. Today is also the close of the Church's Christmas season which began on the evening of December 24. Just a thought . . . If the Christmas decorations at home have already been taken down and stored away until next year, perhaps we could make a note on the family's "official" calendar today, reminding us not to end the Christmas season next year before the Church's liturgical calendar shows that it is ended. That will be Sunday, January 9, 2011.

Shifting gears . . . a question and answer period.

Q. When receiving Communion from the chalice, there is sometimes a piece of the Host in the chalice. Why is that?

A. As the *Lamb of God* is sung at Mass, the consecrated Bread (large Host), in what is known as the Fraction Rite, is broken apart by the priest. He then puts a small piece of the Host into the chalice. This action is "to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation, namely, of the living and glorious Body of Jesus Christ." (Reference is #83 in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal.)

THE ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

WHEN I CALLED, YOU ANSWERED ME... (PSALM 138:3)

The **Archbishop's Annual Appeal** is now underway. Many of our parishioners have received a mailing from Archbishop O'Brien. He has asked that you make a pledge to the 2010 Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

The Appeal not only funds the operations of the Archdiocese, it funds services that are of great help to the ministries here in our parish.

This year, the theme of the Appeal is, "When I called, you answered me." Our contributions to our parish and our Archdiocese serve as a sign of our gratitude not only for God's answers to our prayers but also as a sign of our recognition that all that we are and all that we have are gifts given to us by God.

POINT-IN-TIME SURVEY

January 28, 2010

We need your involvement to make sure that everyone experiencing homelessness in Baltimore County is counted. Your help makes the numbers more accurate. Contact Sue Bull at 410-887-2886 or sbull@baltimorecountymd.gov.

HELP NEEDED FOR HOMELESS IN BALTIMORE COUNTY

Please help us raise funds to purchase Toiletry Kits for the Homeless in Baltimore County. Kits are to be distributed on the Day of the Point-In-Time Survey, Thursday, January 28th, 2010. Donation: \$2 per kit. . . Make checks payable to: Baltimore County Communities for the Homeless (BCCH), P.O. Box 6860, Towson, MD 21285. For questions, contact Joe Liberto (410-683-0600; jliberto@sjpmd.org.)

Confirmation Congratulations !

On December 6th, 43 of our parish youth received the sacrament of Confirmation completing their initiation into our Catholic faith. Now, filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, they go out into our parish and our world as visible signs of Christ's presence among us. Please continue to keep them and their families in your prayer.

Roberta Ariosa
Jacob Asher
Megan Cannon
Thomas Carroll
Michaela Cayce
Jon Christiana
Will Cosgarea
Alec Cosgarea
John DeGraw
Monica Fafaul
Julie Giannino
Emily Gibbons
Matthew Gillespie
A.J. Hall
Jack Hamed
Wesley Heffernan
Sean Horning
Christiana Janacek
Rebecca King
Austin Kowaleski
Patrick Larkin
Jessie Lindenkohl
Megan Maas
Kristen Makar
Francis McSweeney
Ashley Mistretta
Maura Monti
James Parker
Clare Powderly
Joe Puthumana
Emily Pyne
Meghan Reinhardt
Allie Rockstroh
Michael Sack
Claire Schuler
Katie Schuler
Sean Sommerville
Mary Kate Stromberg
Joe Thompson
Kyra Twohy
Peter Vaccacio
Amy Woods
Michael Yost