

The Roman Catholic Communities of **BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, BURFORD & ST. ANTHONY DANIEL PARISH, SCOTLAND**

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PASTORAL TEAM

Father Andrew Czarny, Pastor

Gigi Pace Tavernese, Office Administrator blessedsacramentburford@hamiltondiocese.com

Susan Elliott, Parish Accountant



Epiphany of the Lord

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

**1st Friday of every month is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:30am Mass*

**1st Saturday of every month is Mass at 9:00am followed by the Rosary and Confession*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 4:15 pm-4:45 pm*

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, January 8

The Baptism of the Lord
No Mass

Tuesday, January 9

No Mass

Wednesday, January 10

No Mass

Thursday, January 11

No Mass

Friday, January 12

No Mass

Saturday, January 13

Mass 5:00pm

†Jack Vilaca offered by Maria Gloria Vilaca & family

Sunday, January 14

Mass 9:30am

~ All Our Parishioners ~

Contributions	Dec. 10 th	\$ 2,759.00
	Dec. 17 th	\$ 1,445.50
Jaffna Mission		\$ 775.00
Building Fund		\$ 212.00



Thought for the week

The Epiphany of Our Lord January 7, 2024

IS 60:1-6; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; EPH 3:2-3a, 5-6; MT 2:1-12



Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. The Gospel account of the three magi traveling to meet Baby Jesus is one that we know well. Yet, when we pause to reflect on this moment when these men met

Christ for the first time, we recognize that there is much to be said for us still today. When the magi entered the house, it says, “they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.” Clearly these men knew that they were in the presence of their King. They also came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, which symbolize Christ’s kingship, divinity, and humanity. Christ is still manifesting Himself to us today. We enter God’s house weekly, and we are in His presence. When we meet Him, do we offer Him our gifts — our time, talent, and treasure? As Christian stewards, we are called to respond with love, reverence, and gratitude.

Let us prepare our hearts to receive Christ’s many manifestations in our lives. We just need a grateful disposition to receive them.

DANCING AT ST. MARY’S HALL: You can now join us on the dance floor (St. Mary’s Parish Hall, Brantford) two evenings a week. \$5.00 per person per evening beginning January 8, 2024.

Mondays: 6:30pm–8:00pm
Beginners/Intermediate

Wednesdays: 7:00pm–8:00pm
Intermediate/Advanced

ST. ANTHONY DANIEL PARISH



Liturgical Calendar

Sunday, January 14

Mass 11:30am

~ All Our Parishioners ~

Contributions Dec. 10 th	\$ 560.00
Dec. 17 th	\$ 625.00

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



The mystery of Christ’s baptism in the Jordan by St John, the Precursor, proposes the contemplation of an already adult Jesus. This mystery is infinitely linked to the Solemnities of the Lord’s birth and the Epiphany that we have just celebrated, as in some ways it takes up and

represents their significance to us. At Christmas we contemplated the human birth of the Word incarnate by the Virgin Mary. In the 4th century, the Fathers of the Church deepened the understanding of the faith with regard to the Christmas mystery in the light of Jesus’ Humanity. They spoke of the Incarnation of the Word already working like the ‘Christification’ of that humanity that he had assumed from His mother. Or put in simpler terms: Jesus is the Christ from the first instant of conception in Mary’s spotless womb because He Himself, with His Divine Power, consecrated, anointed and ‘Christified’ that human nature with which He became incarnate. In the mystery of the Epiphany, we then meditated on Christ’s manifestation to all nations that was represented by the Magi, the wise men from the East, who came to adore the Child. Now, in the mystery of Christ’s Baptism in the Jordan

River, we again encounter and represent the truth of the Lord’s incarnation and His manifestation as the Christ. Jesus’ Baptism is in fact His definitive manifestation as the Messiah or Christ to Israel, and as the Son of the Father to the entire world. Here we find the dimension of the Epiphany which was His manifestation to all nations. The Father’s voice from heaven shows that Jesus of Nazareth is the eternal Son and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove shows the Trinitarian nature of the Christian God. The true and unique God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, shows Himself in Christ, through Him, with Him and in Him. The Baptism in the Jordan returns to the great Christmas theme of ‘Christification,’ Jesus of Nazareth’s spiritual anointing, His presentation as the Anointed One. The Spirit that descended on Jesus shows and seals in an incontrovertible way the ‘Christification’ of Jesus’ humanity that the Word had already fulfilled from the first moment of His miraculous conception by Mary. Jesus, from the very beginning, was always the Lord’s Christ, He was always God. Yet, His one, true humanity, that which is perfect in every way, as the Gospel records, constantly grew in natural and supernatural perfection. *‘And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and with men’* (Lk2:52). In Israel at 30 years of age, one reached full maturity and therefore could become a master. Jesus came of age and the Spirit, descending and remaining on Him, definitively consecrated His whole being as the Christ. The same Spirit, that descended on the water of the River Jordan wafted over the waters during the first creation (Gen 1:2). Therefore, the Baptism in the Jordan presents yet another truth: that Jesus has started a new creation. He is the second man (1 Cor 15:47) He does this as the Lamb of God that takes away our sins. *‘Looking at the events in light of the Cross and Resurrection, the Christian people realized what happened: Jesus loaded the burden of all mankind’s guilt upon His shoulders; he bore it down into the depths of the Jordan. He inaugurated his public activity by stepping into the place of sinners’* (Joseph Ratzinger, *Jesus of Nazareth*, Bloomsbury 2007, p 18).

—Excerpted from the [Dicastery for the Clergy](#)

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