

The Baptism of the Lord January 11, 2026



Here is my servant whom I uphold

Reflection

The Church's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord brings our meditation on the Incarnation to an end. This Sunday our attention is gently, firmly shifted from the intimacy of the birth of Christ to the universality of salvation. The name, Jesus, means "the Lord saves." At the Annunciation, Mary was told that her child's name would be Jesus, because he would save the people from their sins. On the feast of the Epiphany, the small child of little Bethlehem is introduced to the world in the persons of the magi. On this Sunday we are introduced to the compassionate Savior. He is the beloved one on whom the Father's favor rests. He is also the one whose compassion goes to the great lengths described by Isaiah. He will not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoldering wick.

The second reading sends us off in a worldwide direction. Peter is called to the home of Cornelius the Gentile centurion, a God-fearing and generous man. Until this time, Peter is concerned with preaching to his fellow citizens—the Jews in Palestine. He has not yet grasped the meaning of universal salvation. But the Holy Spirit is ahead of Peter. And in the second reading we see the spread of the light that dawned at Christmas. God shows no partiality, and Jesus is Lord of all, Jew and Gentile alike. Peter recalls the anointing of the Holy Spirit that marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry. That same Spirit is present in the household of Cornelius, and he and his whole household are baptized.

This is the first recorded baptism of a Gentile in the New Testament. The fledgling Church struggled for some time before it was fully able to welcome Gentiles into the fold. This Spirit-driven decision had to overcome human reticence, and it was through the strenuous, passionate efforts of Paul that the Spirit had its way. Today, we have a universal Church—one that reaches to the ends of the earth.

Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Through the centuries, artists and craftspeople have depicted Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River by John. At first in mosaics and frescoes, and later in tapestries, stained glass, and paintings, the scene is familiar. Jesus is standing waist-high in flowing water. Above him, standing on dry land, John the Baptist pours water over Jesus. The first artists to depict this were sketching from memory. This is exactly how most people were baptized in the early days: as adults, standing or kneeling in the water, with water poured

over their heads.

This method of baptizing, called immersion, is the favored way today. An adult enters a font, or an infant is lowered a bit into the water supported by a parent's hand, and water is poured or splashed over them. The treasures of baptistry art attest that submersion, or plunging beneath the water's surface, is not really in our tradition, and that "infusion," the mere pouring of a few drops of water, yields too narrow an understanding of what it means to be plunged into Christ's life. Jesus Christ has gone before us into the water, and waits for us there with abundant gifts. No wonder the tradition calls for abundant symbols!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

MARRIAGE JUBILEE 2026

All couples who are celebrating their church wedding anniversaries of 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, and above in the calendar year of 2026 are invited to the Diocesan Marriage Jubilee bilingual celebrations on the following dates:

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Midland – Sun., Jan. 25, 2026-5:30pm
St. Mary, San Angelo – Sun., February 1, 2026-4:00pm

Renewal of their commitment will take place within the Mass. A light reception will follow. Those who attend the Mass can pick up their certificates at the corresponding parishes that day. For registration information, please contact the corresponding parish offices.

The deadlines for each celebration are as follows:

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Midland - **Monday, January 12, 2026**
St. Mary, San Angelo – **Monday, January 19, 2026**

~~~~~

### JUBILEO MATRIMONIAL 2026

Todas las parejas que celebran sus aniversarios de bodas por la iglesia de 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 y más en el año calendario de 2026 están invitados a las celebraciones bilingües del Jubileo Matrimonial Diocesano en las siguientes parroquias:

*Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Midland-*  
*domingo, 25 de enero de 2026, 5:30pm*

*St. Mary, San Angelo –*  
*domingo, 1, de febrero de 2026, 4:00p.m.*

La Renovación de su compromiso se hará durante la Misa. A continuación, se ofrecerá una recepción ligera. Quienes asistan a la Misa pueden recoger sus certificados en las parroquias correspondientes ese día. Para obtener información sobre el registro, comuníquese con las oficinas parroquiales correspondientes.

Las fechas finales para inscribirse en estas celebraciones son las siguientes:

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Midland –  
**lunes, 12 de enero de 2026**  
St. Mary, San Angelo - **lunes, 19 de enero de 2026**



**Saturday, January 10th -**

**5:00PM-IHM**– For the well-being and health of Tony and Matt Albidrez

**Sunday, January 11th -**

**8:00AM – IHM** Por nuestro seminarista

Martin Luna; +Marina Hernandez; +Sarah Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera;

Ysidro y Elvira Navarrette

**11:00AM – IHM** For the People of Nolan County

**Tuesday, January 13th 9:00AM - HF**

+Cecilio Villa and deceased members of his family

**Wednesday, January 14th 6:00PM– IHM**

Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, January 15th 9:00AM-HF**

+Ray Reyes

**Friday, January 16th 9:00AM HF**

+Leticia Acopa, Adan y Nallys Montejo

**Saturday, January 17th -**

**5:00PM-IHM**– +Maria Morales, Carlos C., Maria y

Carlos Guerrero, Sr., Rodolfo Morales;

+Alejandro Jaramillo

**Sunday, January 18th -**

**8:00AM – IHM** Por Grupo Misionero y en acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Maria Gonzales y Marta Herrera

**9:30AM – HF -** For the People of Nolan County

**11:00AM – IHM** +Miguel Ortiz, Tomasita Alcaras, Alfonso, Sara & Benjamin Gonzales;

+Rufus Palacios, Jr.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the newly elected officers of the Guadalupana Society: **President** –*Rita Hernandez*; **V-President**–*Donna Gutierrez*; **Secretary** – *Julia Madrigal*; & **Treasurer** – *Lupe Medellin*. Our gratitude and appreciation to the outgoing officers for their dedicated service.

**RELIGION CLASSES ---**

• Classes resume Sunday, January 11th, 2026, 9:30 until 10:40A.M.

• Wednesday Classes continue 7:00 until 8:30P.M

• **OCIA** – Classes are held on Thursdays, 6:00pm at Holy Family Hall, 507 Crane St.

**WEDNESDAY** - Confessions begin at 5:15pm followed by Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until 8:30pm at IHM.

**ULTREYA** in English will meet this Sunday, January 11, 6:00pm at Immaculate Heart Hall.

**PARISH MOVIE GROUP** – will meet this Sunday, January 11th, @4:00pm at Holy Family Hall.

**2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** – are on the 2 back pews. Please be sure to look for your numbered box. Thank you for your continued support.

**MARCH FOR LIFE** - On January 24th, The March for Life will take place in Austin, Texas. A bus will be provided for the trip originating in Abilene with a stop at Holy Angels Church in San Angelo. We need at least 30 participants before a bus will be provided.

I need to have an answer if you plan to participate by January 16th! Donations to offset the price of the bus will be appreciated.

I can be reached at [jmpoutdoorsmen@aol.com](mailto:jmpoutdoorsmen@aol.com), or Phone 325-374-5300, or send a message!

**WORD OF LIFE – January 2026**

“Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life.

Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own.

Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world. Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying. Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
“A Prayer for Hope”

**COLLECTIONS**

|                         | 01/01/2026         | 01/3-4/2026        |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                         | <i>New Year's</i>  |                    |
| ENVELOPES/CHECKS        | \$ 867.00          | \$ 4,511.00        |
| LOOSE PLATE             | 752.00             | 1,398.00           |
| CCD                     |                    | 753.00             |
| <b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b> | <b>\$ 1,619.00</b> | <b>\$ 6,662.00</b> |

**HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE**

January 17 - Grupo Misionero January 24 - Guadalupanas



## Manifestation

The quiet expectation of Advent and its fulfillment in the Incarnation are open to the entire universe on this feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The beloved One over whom the single star and angels hovered and whom shepherds and magi honored, now walks to the banks of the River Jordan. His public and saving ministry begins. This is the second “epiphany,” or manifestation, of the gift of God’s Son. Again the heavens open and a servant and beloved Son is presented to us.

Copyright ©2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved