

January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Mt 3:13-17

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

We hear in today's Gospel that at the moment of Jesus' baptism, "a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" We can hear these words as a simple proclamation of who Jesus is — the beloved Son of God — but also as a proclamation of who we are called to be: the beloved adopted sons and daughters of God. I sometimes forget that I am also called beloved. I mistakenly think that my value depends on my accomplishments or on my faithfulness, but the truth is that my status as beloved is due to being made in the image of my Creator. If I allow myself to absorb the full meaning of that, it will not only affect how I view myself but also how I relate to others. But Christ didn't come only to show us the truth about who we are. His coming also invites us to see one another as beloved. As Peter reminds us in our second reading, "God shows no partiality." May we strive to see the belovedness that God bestows on us and on all people.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Jesus entered fully into our humanity, including entering into communion with each of us through our common baptism, to allow for us to one day share in the perfect exchange of love of the Trinity. Our call is to take on Christ's mission of love here on earth — to speak and act in a way that proclaims the truth of who God is and who he has made us to be. How can we remind our families, our neighbors, and even our enemies of their nature as beloved children of God? And by recognizing our own nature as beloved, we allow God's grace to flow through us. We then trust that God will make himself known as the source of love itself.

REFLECT

Take time this week to reflect on what it means to be a beloved son or daughter of God. What would it be like to hear, "You are my beloved child, with whom I am well pleased"? Once we root ourselves in this truth we can ask ourselves, "What act of kindness, what consoling word might I offer, what goodness might I do for others around me to help them experience a glimpse of their own belovedness?" Then, do it!



Church of the Ascension
ascensionsaratoga.org | 408-725-3939

Masses: (Sat) 5p; (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p
(Mon-Fri) 8a; (Sat) 9a
Confessions: (Sat) 5p

Found in Translation

The pontificate of Damasus (366-384) occurred during a tumultuous period in the Early Church, with schisms and heresies on all sides. Perhaps Damasus' greatest contribution was his insight that a standardized version of the Bible was desperately needed. In 382 he commissioned a highly respected scholar named Jerome to revise the Bible into a more accurate and updated Latin version, working directly from the original Greek (New Testament) and Hebrew (Old Testament) versions. Saint Jerome's monumental effort came to be known as the Vulgate, meaning "translated into a native language." Even though Latin long ago stopped being a language of everyday use, the Vulgate still holds an honored position in the church. Take time for a little scripture reading today. [-Takefiveforfaith.com](http://Takefiveforfaith.com)

Walk for Life West Coast

Please join with Bishop Cantú on January 24, 2026, at St. Lucy's Church, Campbell, for the 8:00 am Diocesan Mass - before the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast - as we walk for Hope, for Love, and for Life.

Pope's Message to Diplomatic Corps

Warning that "war is back in vogue" and that peace is increasingly sought through force rather than justice, Pope Leo XIV issued a strong appeal for humility, dialogue, and a renewed commitment to multilateralism in his address to the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See on January 9, the traditional day of exchange of New Year greetings. It's often dubbed the "State of the World" address.

Special Collection for Faith Formation

Jan. 18

This semi-annual collection is for our Youth Faith Formation Fund. Thank you for your support.

WEEKLY OFFERING - Jan. 4

-Total: **\$8,468** (\$6,470 including **\$3,400** year-end gifts + online: 1,997). Goal: \$6,800.
-YTD Sunday: **\$175,284**. Budget: \$183,600.
-Christmas: **\$100** (YTD: \$21,277)
-New Year's Day/Mother of God: **\$806**.
-Flowers: **\$5** (YTD: 1,093)

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Jan 10	Sat	05 pm	Alfred Firato, Junior (L)
Jan 11	Sun	07 am	Agatha Pao +
		09 am	Richard Firato +
		11 am	Father Rey Sarmiento +
		05 pm	Joseph Fiorentino, Junior (L)
Jan 12	Mon	08 am	The Maynard Family
Jan 14	Wed	08 am	Felix Sichon +
Jan 17	Sat	09 am	Father Rey Sarmiento +

Spiritual Renewal

Parish Mission

with Fr. Michael Moore, SPS

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Not Only With Us But Also Within Us

1/31 & 2/1 (Sat & Sun Masses)

Introducing Mission

2/2 - 2/5 (Mon-Thu) 9:00 am & repeated at 7:00 pm

Mission

Monday: "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."

Tuesday: That is why Jesus, the Son of God was born as one of us.

Wednesday: That is also why Jesus gave us the Eucharist.

Thursday: How can we even try to understand the next life while still in this life?

Scan QR code for details >>>



Revs vs Sems Basketball Challenge

(Priests vs Seminarians)

January 25 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Santa Clara University, Leavey Center

Doors open: 5:00pm | Tip-off: 6:30pm

\$10 General Admission

Free: Children under 9, Altar servers
*(must bring photos of them
wearing liturgical albs).*

\$10 Raffle Tickets

Tickets available after Sat/Sun Masses or online.

Scan QR code for details.



Rooms for Refugees

Catholic Charities Refugee Foster Care is in need of families or individuals who would be able to welcome into their homes unaccompanied refugee minors fleeing persecution and violence.

Contact Idella-maggiore@ccscc.org or 408-315-3602.

Putting Our Faith into Practice

On the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord today, we celebrated Jesus' entry into the Jordan and the beginning of his public ministry. He shows us what faith looks like: steady, public, and close to those carrying heavy burdens.

This weekend, the Diocese of San José shares simple ways to support neighbors who may be impacted by immigration enforcement actions.

Scan QR code for details.

