



Why was Jesus baptized?

At first glance, it seems that Jesus being baptized has no purpose at all. John's baptism was the baptism of repentance, but Jesus was sinless and had no need of repentance. Even John was taken aback at Jesus coming to him. John recognized his own sin and was aware that he, a sinful man in need of repentance himself, was unfit to baptize the spotless Lamb of God: "I need to be baptized by You and You are coming to me?" Jesus replied that it should be done because "it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness".

There are several reasons why it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus at the beginning of His public ministry. Jesus was about to embark on His great work, and it was appropriate that He be recognized publicly by His forerunner. John was the "voice crying in the wilderness" prophesied by Isaiah, calling people to repentance in preparation for their Messiah. By baptizing Him, John was declaring to all that here was the One they had been waiting for, the Son of God, the One he had predicted would baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire".

Jesus' baptism also showed that He identified with sinners. His baptism symbolized the sinners' baptism into the righteousness of Christ, dying with Him and rising free from sin and able to walk in the newness of life. His perfect righteousness would fulfill all the requirements of the Law for sinners who could never hope to do so on their own. When John hesitated to baptize the sinless Son of God, Jesus replied that it was proper to "fulfill all righteousness". By this He alluded to the righteousness that He provides to all who come to Him to exchange their sin for His righteousness.

In addition, Jesus coming to John showed His approval of John's baptism, bearing witness to it, that it was from heaven and approved by God. This would be important in the future when others would begin to doubt John's authority, particularly after his arrest by Herod.

Perhaps most importantly, the occasion of the public baptism recorded for all generations to come the perfect embodiment of the triune God revealed in glory from heaven. The testimony directly from heaven of the Father's pleasure with the Son and the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus is a beautiful picture of the Trinitarian nature of God. It also depicts the work of the Father, Son and Spirit in the salvation of those Jesus came to save. The Father loves the elect from before the foundation of the world; He sends His Son to seek and save the lost; and the Spirit convicts of sin and draws the believer to the Father through the Son. All the glorious truth of the mercy of God through Jesus Christ is on display at His baptism.



NO Mass on Mondays

Please consider joining fellow parishioners, and of course myself, for daily Mass as we journey through the year by reflecting on a different saint of the day. ~ Fr. Irek

Tuesday, January 15

8:00 am + ANTONIO FIGUEIREDO - son and family
+ KATA & MILAN GRIZELJ - Mr. & Mrs. Eljuga

Wednesday, January 16

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 6:00 pm and concludes with Benediction at 7:00 pm
7:15 pm + ALBANO BARBOSA - Maria
+ DECEASED FAMILY & FRIENDS and SOULS IN PURGATORY- Maria Borges
Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 17

8:00 am - for the intentions of Ann Jones - from Frances
- for the intentions of Willie & Vern Lix - Sharyn and Pam

Friday, January 18

8:00 am + GENEVIEVE BYRNE - Diana and David Cahill
+ DECEASED BRENNAN FAMILY - Robert, Jim, Linda, John

Saturday, January 19

8:00 am + JEANNE MARGARET SULLIVAN - St. Anne School
5:00 pm + BETTY HORVATH - Les & Gert Gueth
+ THELMA LOBAO and MARIA CORREIA - Manuel
- for the intentions of Grace Milne - from Mary Cooper

Sunday, January 20

9:00 am - for the intentions of all parishioners
11:00 am + STAN PIASECZNY and the DECEASED PSIURSKI
and PIASECZNY FAMILIES - Stella

Attention Envelope users: Please write your name and address on your Church envelopes for the next few weeks. Also, please regularly write the amount on the outside of your envelope.

Have you moved? Will you be moving in the near future? Please inform the parish office so that our parish database can be kept up to date. Thank you!

Saint Vincent Pallotti Feast Day

January 19, 2019 at 5:00 pm

Y o u ' r e i n v i t e d

In honour of St. Vincent Pallotti, founder of the **Pallottine Fathers**, the religious society to which Father Irek belongs, you are welcome to an afternoon Mass at 5:00 pm at **Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 133 Murray Street, Brantford**. Bishop Matthew Ustryzcki will be the celebrant.

School building sold to the city of Cambridge

As printed in the local newspaper, the school building next door has been sold to the city of Cambridge. The city is permitting church parishioners to use the former school yard for parking, so feel free to do so!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: A Lenten Pilgrimage

March 26 - April 2, 2019. Please consider joining Father Luke Kopaniak SAC, Pastor of St Mary's, Brantford and Deacon Randy Matters on this pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas, The Unborn and the New Evangelization. For more information regarding itinerary, etc please visit www.pilgrimdeaconrandy.com

Canadian Food for Children Kitchener Depot urgently needs help!

The depot needs volunteers with a pickup truck with a hardtop or tarp; a cargo van; or trailer who would be able to pick up 75-100 green bags of used clothing at the Saint Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Thrift Shop in Cambridge and bring it to the depot on Guelph Street in Kitchener. This would be required every other Wednesday before 1pm

The SVDP Thrift Shop gives a weekly donation of used clothing. Very generously, SVDP has been delivering this donation to on a weekly basis but can no longer provide their truck every week. The loss of this regular weekly source of good used clothing would have a major impact on our work. If you or someone you know might be able to help, please contact John Pinnington at 519-894-5046 or pinn@golden.net

Nursing mums... please feel free to use our Confessional Room for a quiet place to nurse/feed during Mass.



REMINDER - Please pick-up your 2019 box of church envelopes from the back of the Church!

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Christian Ministry for children aged 3-12 years that is based on the Bible and liturgy of the church; it is inspired by the principles of Montessori education. This Ministry provides:

* An opportunity for children to fall in love with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in a child-friendly space called an atrium – located in a church or school.

* Guided activity to aid meditation on Bible scripture and the mysteries of the Christian faith once a week - in small groups, facilitated by trained adults (catechists).

* That each child's unique spiritual needs and abilities are respected and nurtured.

The comprehensive training program will be held in Guelph:

Jan 25-27, Feb 22-24, Mar 8-10, Mar 15-17, April 5-7

Times are Fridays 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information please go www.cgsac.ca



Children's Mass **Next Sunday, January 20 at** **11:00 am Mass**

Families with young children are especially welcome to attend this Mass. Children will be invited to sit in the Sanctuary for the homily.

DVDs at the back of the Church - there are family and religious themed DVDs available to borrow. The movie is located in the case and you are welcome to sign out the DVD and return it the following week. These are loaned out on the "honour system".

Gentle Exercise Class

Tuesday and Thursdays in St. Ambrose Church Hall

11am to 12 noon

Regular gentle exercise contributes to overall health and well being; management of chronic conditions; prevention decrease of falls; improved mental health. Men and Women welcome ☺ Enter the hall through the South Street side entrance. Facilitated by a qualified instructor. For more information please contact Myra at 519-621-2013 or myra@stambrosecambridge.ca

Annual Protest Walk

Each year **Cambridge Right to Life** organizes an Annual Protest Walk and visit with a government representative. This year we will be visiting our new MPP, Belinda Karahalios, 498 Eagle St N, Cambridge on Friday, January 25, 2019 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Jesus Prayer: *'Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'*

The history of the Jesus Prayer goes back, as far as we know, to the early sixth century, with Diadochos, who taught that repetition of the prayer leads to inner stillness.