

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, FARRELL, PA.

Week of January 11, 2026, Calendar of Events

Monday Jan 12:
Tuesday, Jan 13: 9:00AM Making Fatima Cavatelli
In the Good Shepherd Social Hall

Wednesday Jan 14: 6:00PM PRAYER BOOK CLUB
Downstairs in our Social Hall

Thursday Jan 15: 9:00Am Making Fatima Cavatelli
In the Good Shepherd Social Hall
ALL DAY ADORATION 6:30AM TO 6:00PM
HOLY HOUR 6:00PM TO 7:00PM

Friday Jan 16:
Saturday, 17: 4:00PM MASS

12/24 12/31/2025 & 01/03/2026	
# of Registered Families	380
# of Envelopes Used	137
Solemnity of Mary	\$826.00
Offertory Collection	\$4238.00
Loose Offertory	\$542.00



Intentions		Requested By		
SATURDAY, Jan 10 at 4:00 pm MASS		Mary Conti Ray Giardina	Knights of Columbus Knights of Columbus	
Monday, Jan 12 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service		
Tuesday, Jan 13 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service		
Wednesday, Jan 14 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service		
Thursday, Jan 15 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service		
Friday Jan 16 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service		
Saturday, Jan 17 at 4:00 pm MASS		Sobash Family Our Fr. Frank (Thanksgiving)	Bill & MaryBeth Schuster George Rozman	
MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	GREETERS
SATURDAY 4:00 PM	Chris Connelly	Tresa Templeton Christine Oberman	Marsha Petrillo	John Jarocki Jean Burke
JAN 17				

Altar Candles the Week of
JAN 11 thru JAN 17, 2026

SANCTUARY LIGHT
GERARD SCARMACK
From His Sisters

BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR
ROSARIA & FRANK DONATELLI
From AnnMarie Donatelli & Family

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR
EDWARD H. GREEN
From Bette Green
PAUL J. VERNILLE
From The Family

Blessed Virgin Mary Altar Flowers
For this week were donated in memory of
DEANN MASON-BURKEY
From Mom, Christine

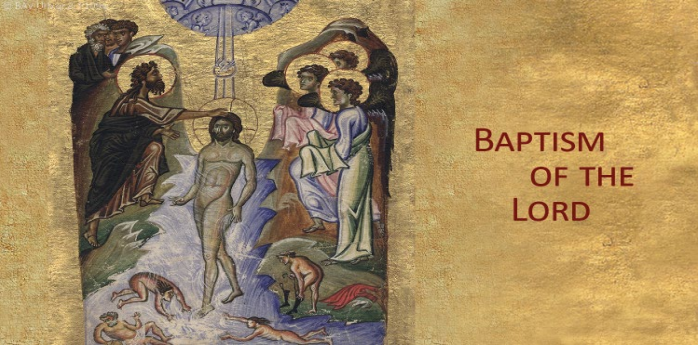
Our Bishop reflections of 2025



“A Jubilee Year is a significant moment in the life of the church in which she celebrates the year of messianic favor inaugurated by Christ through his Incarnation and Paschal Mystery,” said Bishop Persico. He explained that pilgrimages, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and works of mercy were central expressions of the Holy Year and tangible ways the faithful encountered God’s grace.

Reflecting on the past year, Bishop Persico expressed gratitude for the many opportunities embraced by the faithful.

“As a Diocese we can look back upon this Holy Year with gratitude,” said Bishop Persico, recalling those who made pilgrimages to [Saint Peter Cathedral](#) and [Saint Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway](#), the diocesan [pilgrimage to Rome](#) and the prayerful participation of countless individuals and families. He also noted the role of diocesan resources, including the [Jubilee website](#) and the [Jubilee Journey newsletter](#), in helping people engage more deeply with the Holy Year.

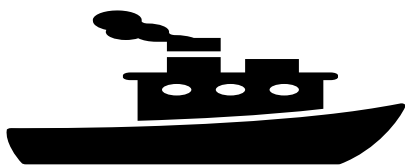


Already in 300 AD, the Eastern Church celebrated the Epiphany and the Baptism of Jesus on 6 January. In the Western Church, this feast was mentioned in the Liturgy of the Hours. With the reform of the liturgy in 1969, the date for this Feast was set on the Sunday after the Epiphany. When the Feast of the Epiphany is not celebrated on 6 January, it is celebrated on the Sunday between 2 and 8 January, and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Monday following the Epiphany. The Christmas Season concludes with the celebration of this Feast, even though a “window” is left open until 2 February, the day on which the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple is celebrated. The latter feast is also known as Candlemas since Christ is proclaimed as the “*light for the gentiles*”.



BRIGHTEN UP THE CORNER

A devout man was caught in a flood. A boat arrived to rescue him, but he selflessly said, “Go rescue others! God will save me.” Another boat came. The man told it the same thing. The rising water forced him onto a church roof. A helicopter came, but the man waved it away again. Finally, he was overcome by the waves. In Heaven, the man was reunited with his wife. He asked, “Why didn’t God save me?” She said, “Are you not in Heaven? AND He sent two boats and a helicopter!”



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF

Jan 11 to Jan 17

- Sunday Is 42: 1-4, 6-7
Acts 10: 34-38
Mt 3: 13-17 (21)
- Monday 1 Sm 1: 1-8
Mk 1: 14-20 (305)
- Tuesday 1 Sm 1: 9-20
Mk 1: 21-28 (306)
- Wednesday 1Sm3:1-10,19-20
Mk 1: 29-39 (307)
- Thursday 1 Sm 4: 1-11
Mk 1:40-45 (308)
- Friday 1 Sm 8: 4-7, 10-22a
Mk 2: 1-12 (309)
- Saturday 1 Sm 9: 1-4,17-19
Mk 2:13-17 (310)



“THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD” JANUARY 10, 2026

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

“This is my son, my beloved, in whom I am well pleased.”

These days there are some young Catholic parents who wonder whether baptism is the proper thing to do for their children. One argument they offer is that it would be better to defer baptism until their child reaches adulthood in order for it to be a personal, mature choice. As appealing as that argument might seem on the surface, the problem is that the reasoning behind it is so inconsistently applied.

Young Catholic parents do not give their children any choice about eating vegetables, learning to read or write, and living out a moral code. They enforce these things because they know nutrition, literacy and ethics are *essential* for adulthood. If we recognize that from birth, a child has spiritual as well as educational, moral and physical needs, it seems inconsistent to relegate this otherworldly element of a child’s character to a “must be decided on later” category.

Baptism isn’t brainwashing. Adults can come and go from the practice of their faith as they feel drawn. Sadly for us, they can even choose against belief. To grow up, however, with no religious foundation or no basis on which to make spiritual choices seems to limit freedom rather than promote it. In our culture baptism of infants by their parents is an entirely proper thing to do. In the gospels, it is written Jesus’ baptism by John was “the proper thing to do.”

This can seem all quaintly odd to us today because we seem to accept that our only custom is to flout custom or convention.

The done thing today is to undo what we’ve done before. We hold very strongly, however, to the idea that God always does the “proper thing.” We believe, for example, that God decided it was proper for the Word to become incarnate when it was done, how it was accomplished, and where it took place. Over the centuries there’s been endless debate about what would’ve happened if the Word had come to us as a woman, in another era, on another continent. While these are interesting matters on which to speculate, they are not what God thought proper – what, in fact, happened.

In line with the “right” action of God, Jesus does the proper thing by being baptized by John’s Baptism of repentance, even though he had nothing of which to repent. Jesus isn’t simply baptized because it was expected of him. Jesus’ experience of baptism starts with John’s baptism as an admission of guilt and THEN reveals that baptism is primarily about the Father’s love (“*in whom I am well pleased.*”) To this day our baptismal ritual holds these two realities in a healthy tension. When we are baptized in Christ, we acknowledge both original sin and original grace. God’s love comes alive in us even though we are aware of how far from that love we occasionally stray.

The baptism of Jesus, and every baptism done in his name ever since, is the moment we hold together the greatness of God’s love, which calls each of us by name as “daughter” or “son” along with the reality of our human frailty. What more appropriate way of welcoming anyone into the world than having a community of frail, human believers initiate its members by reminding

them that original sin doesn't have the last word? For we who are baptized in Christ, the Father's love always and everywhere has the final, proper say on every matter. May the effect of that sacramental experience give us the strength and courage to keep doing the appropriate things for the coming generations. In prayer, have you ever heard God call you "My daughter" or "My son"? Be advised that God does so every day we wake up, until we enter into glory.

Father Glenn & Father Frank

FATIMA IS ON THE MOVE FOR 2026

OUR PARISH COUNCIL IS WORKING ON SOME GREAT IDEAS FOR US FOR 2026 BUT YOUR HELP IS NEEDED:

WE ARE ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!!!

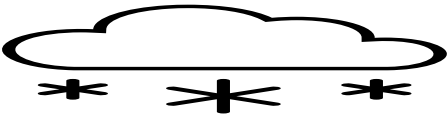
Every first Saturday of the month, starting with February 7th, we will start saying the Rosary before mass. We need someone to lead this. Your help is really needed for this one. We have heard from many parishioners that this is something that they would like to see happen. So, we are listening. Our hope is to get enough volunteers so that each reader would only have to do this every two or three months. Remember this will only happen on the FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.

We are also working on our Stations of the Cross Service on Tuesdays during Lent. We will be working on the timing for our service. This will be either at 12:15pm or 6:00pm. We will be adding a communion service to follow. So, we need a Eucharistic Minister to help with communion weekly. We will be letting everyone know about time within the next few weeks.

It has been requested that we start a prayer chain that would be printed in our bulletin every week. We are asking for a person to receive these calls at home. Then every Monday, call the office to have the names added to our bulletin list.

We are also planning to have a parish picnic in August. There will be many jobs to be filled for this fun event. Please call the office and get in on the ground floor. We have some great ideas, but your help is needed!!!

SO, WITH THAT BEING SAID, YOU KNOW HOW THEY SAY, "IT TAKES A VILLAGE" IN OUR CASE "IT TAKES A PARISH!!!!PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE!!! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!



FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The words in today's gospel, "This is my beloved, with whom I am well pleased," are words every child needs to hear often. Affirmation is crucial for raising happy and confident children.

RESPECT LIFE- PREGNANCY LOSS

. Did you know that "10 to 20 percent of known pregnancies end in miscarriage" ([Mayo Clinic](#))? Couples mourning the loss of a child before or at birth are in our families, among our friends, and in our pews. They need to know that the life of their child (or children) matters, and that they have the support of their parish community during this time of mourning. Show these couples your support by listening to them, praying for them, bringing them a meal, reminding them that God is with them, and that they are not alone. For more resources and support, visit www.springsinthedesert.org.

ENGAGED COUPLES

. Planning your wedding? Prepare for a lifetime of love with an **Engagement Encounter** retreat, February 6-8, 2026, at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. This weekend fulfills diocesan marriage prep requirements. **Catholic and interfaith couples** are welcome. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email: familylife@erieRCD.org, register at eriercd.org/familylifeoffice.

"A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."

WORD OF LIFE – "A Prayer for Hope"

"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"

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments – January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month. In 2024, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children received over 27,800 reports of possible child sex trafficking. The average age of child sex trafficking victims is 15 years old. Child sex trafficking is child abuse. It occurs when a minor is advertised, solicited, or exploited through a commercial sex act-where sex is exchanged for money, food, shelter, drugs, or anything of value. Traffickers can be family members (even parents), friends, gangs, foster parents, trusted adults or boyfriends. Talk openly with your child about this reality and build resiliency. Address myths that glamorize the commercial sex industry. Warn about online risks: social media and gaming platforms are used by traffickers to target, groom, and recruit victims. Prepare your child: at some point they will likely encounter inappropriate messages or harmful content online. Teach them how to respond safely. Report suspected child sex trafficking by calling 1-800-843-5678 or visit CyberTipline.org. For additional resources

visit www.eriercd.org/childprotection/