

Established  
July 5, 1840

# St. Michael the Archangel Parish

*We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.*

Churches: † Immaculate Conception-Holualoa † Holy Rosary-Kalaoa † St. Paul's-Kawanui † St. Peter's by-the-Sea-Kahalua  
St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: [stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org](mailto:stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org) / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am - 4:30pm

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception

Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am - 4:45pm / Confessions: Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church

WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12noon

Gift Shop Hours: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

Website: [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) **January 11, 2026 | 11 de enero de 2026**

## Feast of the Baptism of the LORD

Reading I - **Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7** | Psalm - **29: 1-2,3-4,3,9-10** | Reading II - **Acts 10:34-38** | Gospel - **Matthew 3:13-17**  
Primera Lectura - **Isaías 42:1-4,6-7** | Salmo - **28: 1-2,3-4,3,9-10** | Segunda Lectura - **Hechos 10:34-38** | Evangelio - **Mateo 3:13-17**

### GOD'S BELOVED

Only one week has passed since we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany. No longer are we focused on the images of the child Jesus surrounded by his parents and the magi at the manger in Bethlehem. Today, it's as if the Church has pressed the "fast forward" button in the life of Jesus. Today we celebrate his baptism in the Jordan. When the Lord Jesus rises from the waters of baptism, the heavens open and a voice announces, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). This event sets the stage for the unfolding of Jesus Christ's life and work, which will become our focus for the rest of the year as we tune our ears to Saint Matthew's Gospel. As we prepare ourselves for this work, let us be reminded that we, too, were counted among God's beloved at the moment of our own baptism.

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### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. GLPI

### Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: Isaiah (Isaias) 49:3,5-6

Psalm/Salmo: 40(39):2,4,7-8,8-9,10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Segunda Lectura: 1 Corintios 1:1-3

Gospel/Evangelio: John (Juan) 1:29-34

### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

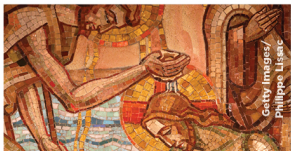
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish** - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org). To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

# MEN OF FAITH

The Men of Faith is a forum for men to share their faith with other men of the parish in a small group setting. Men helping one another to become better men, fathers, husbands, and spiritual heads of their family; to encourage men to grow in knowledge and practice of their Catholic faith; to help men seek Christ through the Mass, prayer, Scripture reading, and the Sacraments; and to enable them to know, love, and serve God, wife, family, and neighbor. Weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evening after Benediction from 5:30 to 6:30pm on the South Lanai. On the last Wednesday of the month, we have a potluck dinner in the Grace Parish Center beginning at 5:30 PM. **SAVE THE DATE:** We are having our first retreat on Saturday, February 28 from 7am to 1pm in the Grace Parish Center with discussion on "This is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival" by Bishop Robert Barron.



January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

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

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## **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.

## **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!

## **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.

# Life of Stewardship

Today marks the close of the Christmas season, but before we return to Ordinary Time, we have one more great feast to celebrate - The Baptism of the Lord. Today's feast is a perfect opportunity to consider the privileges and responsibilities we all share as Christian stewards by virtue of our own Baptism.

At the moment of our Baptism, we became adopted sons and daughters of God, members of his holy, Catholic Church. Though we may not have realized it, the moment of our Baptism is also the moment we become Christian stewards, disciples of Jesus Christ, tasked with the work of following in His footsteps day by day and sharing the Gospel message with all those around us.

In our second reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Peter gives us a glimpse of the person of Jesus we should imitate. "He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." We must live our lives like Jesus, seeking to do good to everyone we encounter; not just those in our inner circle of family and friends, but everyone in our community since the Father loves us all and Jesus sought out everyone with His saving message.

In the Gospel passage from Matthew, we see yet another aspect of Jesus in action, this time as he humbly stands before John to be baptized by him. What humility and what willingness to unite Himself to us our Lord demonstrates by this act. We can do no less as we live out our daily lives as his disciples.

And when we do strive with all our might to live out our Baptismal call to Christian stewardship, we will experience the deep honor of knowing that we, too, are God's "beloved" sons and daughters "with whom He is well-pleased."

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

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## Parish News

### St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

We are happy to announce that our Phase 1 brick order has been submitted, with delivery and installation expected soon. We are now accepting orders for Phase 2, scheduled for installation in the Spring 2026. Order forms and information are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or at the Parish Office during the week. Three brick sizes are offered, each with your choice of engraving. Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come - everyone is welcomed to participate. MAHALO for your generous support!

### St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship Program

To encourage and assist our young adults to further their education, St. Michael's is establishing a scholarship program for parishioners. The St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship aims to empower young adults to become active witnesses of the Catholic faith, supporting students in developing and participating in a faith-based environment at their campus or local church. The scholarship is available to incoming or current students at an accredited university, college, community college, or technical school.

Visit St. Michael's website [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) for eligibility criteria and application. Deadline to apply is March 15. Top candidates will be notified by May 1. Scholarship

amounts can vary and will be determined based on availability of funds. If you wish to donate to the scholarship fund or for more information, please contact the Parish Office.

### Spiritual Book Club

Our monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15 from 4pm to 5pm in the Grace Parish Center. Our book for January is The Forgotten Way by Matthew Kelly. Meeting is available via Zoom.

### Baptism Class

The next Baptism class is on **Saturday, January 17** at **8:30am** in the Parish Office Conference room. All parents and godparents are required to attend. To register for the class, please email [baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org](mailto:baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org).

### Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Join fellow parishioners on Sunday, January 18th, after the 7am and 9am masses for a delicious breakfast and warm fellowship in the Grace Parish Center. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to the Youth Ministry Spring Bible Camp Retreat at Mauna Kea State Park. The \$8 per person (children free when accompanied by parent) menu items include pancakes, sausages, fruit, juice, water and Kona coffee. Support our youth by joining us for breakfast.

### Grief Recovery Method Program

***If you are still coping with a painful loss in your life, consider learning what can help you move forward . . .***

The Grief Recovery Method Program includes identifying beliefs about dealing with loss which have been ineffective, which losses continue to affect your life now, and learning the actions that can help. This is **not** a drop-in or "counseling" program, and will involve reading and writing assignments outlined in the *Grief Recovery Handbook - 20th Anniversary Expanded Edition* (book will be provided).

This 8-week program starts on **Wednesday, January 21, 2026 to March 11, 2026, from 10 am - 12 noon** at St. Michael's. Pre-registration is required. Call Suzanne to register at (808)339-7980. There is **no cost for this program**, but a firm commitment to attend all eight sessions is required.

### 2026 Hawaii Island Homeless Point-In-Time Count

The Homeless Point-in-Time count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. HOPE Services Hawai'i needs volunteers for the 2026 Hawai'i Island HPIT Count on January 26-30. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. Participation in a mandatory training session via Zoom is required on Thursday, January 15, 2026, from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. To volunteer or for more information, email [volunteer@hopeserviceshawaii.org](mailto:volunteer@hopeserviceshawaii.org).

### Faith Formation

#### Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

Classes continue on Sundays from 10:15 to 11:50am in the Grace Parish Center. No class on January 18.

# Stewardship of Treasure

December 29th, 2025 - January 4th, 2026

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 8,655.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 14,672.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 15,529.00

After our December regular monthly loan payment of \$21,283.15 plus an additional payment of \$70,000.00, our remaining Loan Balance for the Grace Parish Center is **\$567,109.65**. *Mahalo* for your continued generosity!

**Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or click on our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.**

## STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH JANUARY 2026 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$14,082.75

The Diocesan Assessment covers shared staff and administrative resources from the Diocese supporting every parish. The new "Annual Appeal" assessment starting in January provides funds for collaborative Catholic ministries and services that extend beyond the capacity of any single parish.

## Online Giving

St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit [saintmichaelparishkona.org](http://saintmichaelparishkona.org) and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

## Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Youth Ministry Meeting for parents and students on Sunday, January 11th at 5:15 pm. We will go over community service, safe environment compliance, Big Island Youth Day at St. Joseph in Hilo, Spring Bible Camp at Mauna Kea State Park cabins, Family Faith Formation pilot program, and Sacrament celebrations.

## Feast of the Baptism of the LORD

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac - Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the

better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your Baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

- *Father John Muir, ©LPi*

## Treasures From Our Tradition

As we conclude the Christmas season, there is one more treasure from our tradition worth mentioning.

Everyone knows the "Twelve Days of Christmas." British Catholics invented it to teach the catechism to their children at the time of the Reformation. The partridge in a pear tree is, of course, Jesus in the tree of the Garden of Eden. Each number is a clue to help children remember aspects of our faith: two testaments in the Bible; three Persons in the Trinity (or the virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity); the four evangelists; and the five golden rings, the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. Then we have the six days of creation, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the eight beatitudes, the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit, the ten commandments, the eleven faithful apostles, and the twelve points of belief in the Apostle's Creed. For persecuted Catholics, the beloved carol helped the faithful to stay under the radar had have some fun passing on the tradition to their children.

- *James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

## Everyday Stewardship - Lessons from Baptizing a Frog

I used to lead an RCIA session on Baptism, where I would bring in my Kermit the Frog toy from when I was a child and pretend to baptize it. It was a session I especially made sure I led when we had children preparing for Easter sacraments. You would think Kermit would have become super holy having been baptized so many times, year after year. But, if he had been real, he would not have been any holier due to multiple baptisms than he was after the first baptism. He couldn't be re-baptized. (Not to mention, of course, he is a FROG.)

When Jesus came to John for baptism, he transformed the baptism of repentance that John was practicing into a baptism of redemption. And although we are called to repentance over and over in our life, redemption comes to us only once. We cannot get baptized again in the Jordan or Sea of Galilee because of romantic notions, or come into the Catholic Church by a second baptism so we can start all over. Our baptism, whether we can remember it or not, is a one-time deal. But it is the real deal. Whether you feel it or not, you are sealed for Christ, and the stain of original sin has been washed away.

Too many of us take that moment for granted. Yes, you may have been baptized as an infant. But much time has passed since then, and you can work to understand the impact that it had on your life. We sometimes look for a good time to begin living a stewardship way of life. However, that time already passed, and God has been waiting. We are called to reflect on our baptism

# YOU ARE INVITED

(schedule may change without advance notice)

## MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm  
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

## TUESDAY

- Coffee with the Priests 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:00-7:30pm

## WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Hula Ministry Practice 5:30-6:30pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm
- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00-7:00pm  
(Last Wed. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm

## THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm  
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm  
(First Thursday - Grace Parish Center)  
(Third Thursday - Ola Brew)

## FRIDAY

- Women of Faith 12:00-1:00pm

## SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

## SUNDAY

- Gift Shop Open 7:30am-11am
- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Immigration Seminar 1:00-2:00pm  
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father 3:00pm  
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

# Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly as needed. Parents and Godparents must attend class. To register, please email [baptism.stmichaekona@rcchawaii.org](mailto:baptism.stmichaekona@rcchawaii.org)

# Marriage

Please notify the office and allow six months before the date of marriage for preparation.

and respond to the call it has placed on our lives. We can respond and be disciples, or we can be like Kermit the Frog, always searching for a new start that never comes.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPi

## Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - When Jesus Wades In

Usually, when God comes to us, we aren't ready. We think we are. Like John the Baptist, we stand in our waters of baptism, certain of our mission. We know how it's going to go. We know what's going to be asked of us. We're sure of it.

Christ wades into the waters. And he screws up all our plans.

To be clear, I don't think John the Baptist lacks faith when he balks at the idea of baptizing Jesus. I think it is, in fact, a testament to his humility. But whatever motivated John's actions, he is - if even for a brief moment - hesitating to do the will of God. Just a few chapters after this in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus will acknowledge that John is the greatest person "born of women" - with the caveat that even he is not perfect enough for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Not yet. Jesus didn't give John an explanation as the two stood in the River Jordan. He merely said, "Allow it for now." John could have resisted further, demanding to understand why. He could have grown suspicious at the simplicity of Jesus' answer, at the strangeness of this request. He could have clung desperately to his version of How Things Are Supposed To Be, and in doing so, fostered doubt in his heart. He could have even stormed off, confused and angry.

He did none of these things, because John is, as Jesus says, the greatest born of women.

When the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God declares, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," he is referring, of course, to Jesus. But I think He would say the same of John the Baptist - and of all those who welcome Jesus into the waters, ready to do as he bids. - Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPi

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

John could not believe that Jesus would seek baptism from him, a lowly mortal man. But our God is a humble God. He does not fear our weakness. He extends his hand, saying, "It is fitting." So take his hand. Begin the work he has set out for you. - ©LPi



# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH

- 4pm - Repose of the Soul of Larry Denis, Jr.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH

### FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

- 7am - Frank Herrera, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Phillip Edward Moss, Death Anniversary, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - Zola Ingram, Rest in Peace

## MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH

- 7am - John Roberts, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Ka'uawai Duarte, May he Rest in Eternal Peace

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH

- 7am - Pete & Suzy Redburn, Special Intention
- 5pm - Raymond Rogers, Birthday Blessings

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH

- 7am - Susan Bender, Special Intention
- 5pm - Soki Gonzales, Rest in Peace

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH

- 7am - Maureen Saturnio, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Kimo & Lisa Duarte, for Peace and Comfort

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH

- 7am - Meagaan G. Vincent, Birthday Blessings

## Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **808-326-7771**.

**Mass cards are available.**

**"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..."**

—Matthew 25:35

## The Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month **from 9 - 9:45am at Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.**



Use this QR Code for our Amazon Wishlist. Items purchased can be mailed directly to the Parish Office.



Mahalo for your support!

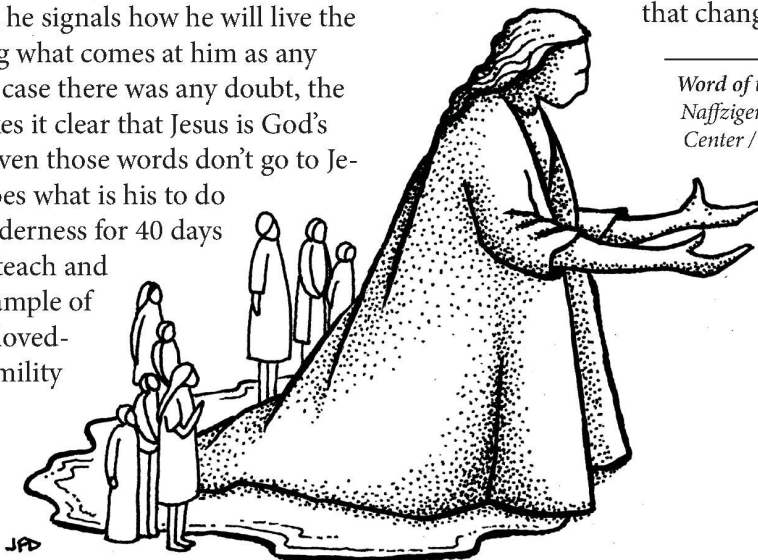
## With All the Rest

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 • The servant of the Lord
- ▶ Acts 10:34-38 • Peter's discourse; the good news of peace
- ▶ Matthew 3:13-17 • Baptism of Jesus

Jesus comes from humble beginnings and begins his public career showing humility. Jesus was born to humble parents, a peasant carpenter and a young mother of no particular standing. He was born in the relatively unknown town of Bethlehem, nothing like the centers of power and prestige in Jerusalem and Rome of his day. He was visited by the esteemed magi and given lavish gifts, but immediately after, his family became refugees, fleeing their home country for their lives. When they returned, they had to begin building their life again in the simple, small town of Nazareth. It's no surprise then that Jesus grows to adulthood without an inflated ego.

Right from the beginning of Jesus' adult life, we see how his humility plays out at his baptism. John was the famous one at that point, with huge crowds of people leaving their homes and workplaces to go out into the desert to hear him preach and teach. Humble, poor people were going to him to be baptized, as well as the well-educated and well-off religious leaders of the day. Jesus thought it was only right that he began his public ministry by being baptized "with all the rest." In his solidarity with all humans, Jesus doesn't ask for special treatment because he is the Son of God. At his baptism, he signals how he will live the rest of his life, accepting what comes at him as any other human has to. In case there was any doubt, the voice from heaven makes it clear that Jesus is God's Son, the Beloved. But even those words don't go to Jesus' head. He simply does what is his to do next: going into the wilderness for 40 days and then beginning to teach and heal. He is a perfect example of one who accepts his belovedness and retains his humility



“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased.”

**Sheepish Question:**  
Although we are baptized in water—not birdseed—how does my baptism with Christ empower me to live in a way that pleases God?

## Questions of the Week

- 1 Whom do you know from humble beginnings who have earned your respect because they have shown themselves to be people of great integrity?
- 2 Often people feel the need to show off, puff themselves up, or otherwise prove their worthiness to feel good about themselves. If everyone were able to believe that they are beloved and that God is pleased with them, how might that change things?

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**REV. CLAUDIO AGUIRRE**  
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**SHARMAYNE NAONE**  
Stewardship Committee Chair  
& Safe Environment

**DON DAVID**  
Capital Campaign Committee Chair

**TJ MOSES**  
Parish Life Coordinator

**WALTER BACXA**  
Music Ministry

**MIGUEL SALAZAR**  
Spanish Music Ministry

**CAROLINE SMITH / LOUELLA BRANCO**  
Funeral Ministry

**PAULETTE ADAMS**  
Wedding Coordinator

**MAYRA RAMIREZ**  
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# Catholic Answers

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**St. Michael's  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
COUNCIL 13227**

**MEETS ON THE 2ND MONDAY  
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