



Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

Mailing Address: PO Box 100 • Big Lake, MN 55309-0100
Phone: 763-447-3339 • **Fax:** 763-263-3187 (Big Lake)
Fax: 763-275-0246 (Becker)



Becker



Big Lake

MISSION STATEMENT — We, the people of Mary of the Visitation parish, are a Catholic community bound together by the Word of God, sacramental worship, and the call to service.

VISION STATEMENT — Through the proclamation of the Word of God and embraced by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we seek to be welcoming, to grow spiritually, to see Christ's presence in others, and to offer our care and service to all.

MOTTO — "See Christ In Others; Be Christ For Others!"

Due to Covid-19 protocols, the following temporary changes (in red) have been put in place.

Parish Cell Phone: 763-250-0233

Call this number if you are unable to reach Fr. Mike at either location, if it is after regular hours, or if you have a pastoral need or emergency.

Website: www.maryofthevisitation.org

Email: parish@maryofthevisitation.org

Weekend Mass Schedule (Temporary)

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 9:30 am

Weekend Mass Location (Temporary)

12100 Sherburne Ave.
Becker, MN 55308

Weekday Masses

Please see Weekly Calendar of Events on Page 8 for day, time, and location.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Temporary)

By appointment only. Please contact Fr. Mike at 763-447-3339 (ext. 301) or mkelloff@maryofthevisitation.org.

Sacrament of Baptism (Temporary)

Baptisms are currently being held privately. Baptisms will not be held after weekend Masses. Membership with a Catholic parish is required. A baptism prep class within the past 5 years is required. Please begin arrangements at least 4 weeks in advance.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made with Fr. Mike a minimum of 6 months in advance.

Welcome!

We would like to welcome all those visiting with us today. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Danette at 763-447-3339 or dtoenies@maryofthevisitation.org.

MAGI FROM THE EAST ARRIVED IN JERUSALEM, SAYING,
"WHERE IS THE NEWBORN KING OF THE JEWS?"
WE SAW HIS STAR AT ITS RISING AND HAVE COME TO
DO HIM HOMAGE."
MATTHEW 2:1-2

THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD
JANUARY 3, 2021

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PARISH STAFF

Pastor	Fr. Mike Kellogg
mkellogg@maryofthevisitation.org	763-273-8406
Deacon	Phil Henneman
phenneman@maryofthevisitation.org	763-447-3339
Director of Faith Formation	Barb Olson
bolson@maryofthevisitation.org	763-273-8411
Director of Youth Ministry	Doug Watercott
dwatercott@maryofthevisitation.org	320-241-3827
Director of Music / Liturgy	Gretchen Roe
groe@maryofthevisitation.org	763-273-8864 or 763-262-7388
Bookkeeper / Parish Census	Patti Kroll
pkroll@maryofthevisitation.org	763-447-3339
Volunteer Coordinator / Communications	Sue Willing
swilling@maryofthevisitation.org	763-447-3339 or 763-273-8410
Secretary	Danette Toenies
dtoenies@maryofthevisitation.org	763-447-3339 or 763-273-8408
Housekeeping	Teresa Riebel

Office Staff available by Phone

Monday through Thursday: 8:00 am to 2:30 pm

Please call ahead if you need to get into the building to make sure someone is available.

Physical Addresses (Post Office does NOT deliver to these addresses)

12100 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN 55308

440 Lake Street North, Big Lake, MN 55309

Please send mail to: PO Box 100, Big Lake, MN 55309

Bulletin Deadline — Please have articles submitted to Danette two weeks prior to bulletin date.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

3 year term (ending 6/30/2022)

James Adelman	320-249-4775
Greg Scherber	763-237-2692

3 year term (ending 6/30/2023)

Melissa Dumonceaux	320-293-5957
Jeff Howell	763-313-1722
Geary Keppel	763-263-2769

3 year term (ending 6/30/2024)

Bonnie DeZelar	763-263-3746
Brenda Ewing	612-219-4071

Ex Officio

Deacon Phil Henneman	763-220-2549
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Trustees:

Eric Krause	612-720-6470
Clay Wilfahrt	763-688-4150

Minutes from Pastoral Council meetings can now be found on our website at <http://www.maryofthevisitation.com/parish-council>. If you do not have access to the website, a copy of the most recent minutes can be found in the scheduling area at either location.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Juanita Johnson	763-263-3240
Greg Powers	763-263-1663
Ryan Sakry	320-267-4562
Andy Voller	612-964-4964

PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is a powerful gift from God. Prayer can be used to give praise, in thanksgiving, for forgiveness, for guidance or when in need. Listed below are ways we are able to offer prayers for others:

If you have an immediate prayer request, please contact Fr. Mike at **763-250-0233**. He will forward the request to the Prayer Team.

As a parish, we have been asked to pray for the following people. If you would like a name included on this list, please contact Danette at 763-273-8408 or send a request to prayerrequest@maryofthevisitation.org. Out of respect, we ask that the person being listed has given permission to be added to the bulletin. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless other arrangements have been made.

Bobb Anderson	Jo Pace
Mary Dombrovski	James Pionk
Cindi Flack	Brenda Prudhomme
Lisa Gue	Charles Rice
Jim Herickhoff	Elaine & David Torma
Terri Hight	Jason Treptau
Judy Kindle	Dale Vogl
John Koenig	Sheila Yarke
Patrick Koenig	
Julie Kuznia	
Linda Gail Lippert	
Bill Malikowski	
Corey Marsh	
Tom Marshall	
Julie Neaton	
Catherine Nelson	
Linda Nelson	
Marcel Osowski	

Please pray for those active in Military Service

Noah Arrigoni	Tyler Jensen	Nick Malikowski
Andrew Berglund	David Johnson	Anthony Mohler
Nicholas Caouette	Matt Johnson	Scott Peterson
Debi Erickson	Brittney Kostek	Nicholas Robertson
Nick Erickson	Alex Lumley	Jacob Smith
Matt Howell	Kelli Lumley	Jeremy TenEyck

The Serra Club of St. Cloud asks that we pray for priests and seminarians of the diocese throughout the year.

Sunday, Jan. 3	Daniel Ruprecht/Assumption/Eden Valley
Monday, Jan. 4	Kevin Soenneker/St. Paul/Sauk Centre
Tuesday, Jan. 5	Nathaniel Daubner/St. Louis Bertrand/Foreston
Wednesday, Jan. 6	Joseph VanDenheuvel/St. Joseph/Bertha
Thursday, Jan. 7	Oliver Statz/Holy Spirit/St. Cloud
Friday, Jan. 8	Tobias Ellis/St. Mary's Cathedral/St. Cloud
Saturday, Jan. 9	Scott Kahler/Our Lady of Lourdes/Little Falls

HAPPENINGS at MARY OF THE VISITATION

Eucharistic Adoration

We are in **need of an Adorer from 7 am—8 am on Mondays**. What a wonderful way to start off your week...in prayer! Please prayerfully consider offering your prayers, reading scripture, or just sitting quietly with Christ in front of His Blessed Sacrament during this hour. If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Theresa, Julie or Deacon Phil:



Community Blood Drive / Hosted by Big Lake Lioness

Mon., Jan. 18 / Noon until 6:00 pm

Mary of the Visitation / Big Lake

To make an appointment: call 1-800-733-2767 or go online at www.redcrossblood.org.

Book Club Meeting

The Book Club meeting, normally held the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 am in Becker, has been postponed until further notice. Even though the group will not be meeting in person, the book being read in January is *On Fire: The 7 Choices to Ignite a Radically Inspired Life* by John O'Leary. Please continue to watch the bulletin for updates. If you have questions, contact Kelly Ciernia at 763-263-7577.

Baptism Preparation Class

Tue., Feb. 2 / 6:30 pm / Big Lake

If you have not taken the class in the past five years and are expecting a baby, please plan to attend. You can register online at www.maryofthevisitation.org (select Sacraments tab) or call Danette at 763-447-3339.

Epiphany House Blessing

Materials: a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family members, friends, and perhaps some neighbors at the front door.

Leader: In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We sign this doorway with four crosses and the numerals of the new year.

[20 + C + M + B + 21]

Let us pray: May Christ bless this house!

ALL: Amen!

Each room of the house is sprinkled with holy water.

Living room: Where two or three are gathered in your name,
Lord, you are present. Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Kitchen: Give us this day our daily bread.

Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Dining room: Prepare us for the heavenly banquet.

Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Bedrooms: Stay with us Lord, when night has come.

Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

Bathroom: Cleanse us from all sin. Bless this room, O Lord.

ALL: Amen!

All return to the front door to pray together.

Leader: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father . . .

The leader sprinkles all present with holy water.

Bless this household through all days to come, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen!

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Eucharistic Adoration happens every Monday from **5 am to 11 pm** in the church at the Becker location. If interested, or for more information, please contact:

- Theresa Slominski (763-227-0654)
- Julie Haecherl (612-219-3337)
- Deacon Phil Henneman (763-220-2549)

Rosary takes place on Thursdays at 8:30 am at the Big Lake location.

- This Ministry is temporarily suspended - Communion to the Homebound—Has illness or fragility prevented you or another member of the parish that you know from attending Mass and receiving communion? Would a visit from a Minister of Communion to the Homebound be appreciated? Whether it's short term or long term there are members of our parish who serve in this ministry of bringing communion to those who are homebound. For more information or to request a visit, please contact the parish office at 763-447-3339.

We continue to take donations on behalf of the below organizations. Containers for these items are available at both locations.

- **Lions Recycle For Sight**—Used eyeglasses/sunglasses/hearing aids can be recycled to provide aid to those in need in our communities.
- **Soles 4 Souls**—Used/old shoes become valuable to those in poorer countries where they are repaired (thus providing employment for the local residents in those countries) and then put to good use. Please be sure that the footwear is attached in pairs and somewhat clean.

Mass Intentions—It is the custom of the Catholic Church that priests remember specific intentions at the celebration of the Eucharist. Normally, an offering (customarily \$10 in the Diocese of St. Cloud) is given for a Mass intention. (*Can. 946--The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works.*)

Anyone can request a particular intention for which a Mass can be offered (for a living or deceased person, or for a special intention—in thanksgiving, for peace, healing, etc.). For the month of February there are **12** openings. If you are interested in scheduling a Mass Intention, please contact Danette at 763-447-3339.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Focus for January: The Church



The Church has the responsibility to continue the mission of Jesus Christ. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help and guide us. The Holy Spirit continues to unify the Church and make her holy. The Church is catholic because she is everywhere and welcomes everyone. The Church is one because the power of the Holy Spirit unites all the members of the faith, in the celebration of the Sacraments, and under the authority of the Pope. The Church is apostolic because under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Pope and bishops continue the Apostles' mission to teach the Good News of Jesus Christ.

- The Church is *one, holy, catholic, and apostolic*; these are the marks of the Church. Which of these marks is more important to you as a Catholic?
- How can we as church, be more welcoming to everyone?



Orientation meetings for 2021 Confirmation candidates and parents will be virtual this year. Dates/times are:

- 1/6 (Wed) 6:30 pm
- 1/10 (Sun) 4:00 pm
- 1/13 (Wed) 6:30 pm
- 1/17 (Sun) 6:00 pm

Families, sign up on our website to receive the meeting invitation:
www.maryofthevisitation.com/-efaith or contact Barb.



Like us on Facebook - search for:
Mary of the Visitation Faith Formation

Faith Formation Office is at the Becker Location
Barb Olson - bolson@maryofthevisitation.org

Youth for Truth / U-JAM / Kids for Christ

MOTV YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire Youth to develop
their relationship with Jesus Christ
— and —
empower discipleship through
prayer, service and community.

YOUTH GROUPS FOR 2020-2021 School Year

Kids for Christ—Grades 3-5 (SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY)

6-7 meetings a year from 3:00–5:00 @ Youth Center in Becker.
from 4:00-5:30 @ Youth House in Big Lake.

U-JAM—Grades 6-8

Meetings on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 on dates in which there is no Journey of Faith.

Youth for Truth—Grades 9-12

Meetings will be every Wednesday from 8:00-9:30.

Youth Leadership Team—Grades 11-12

For Youth desiring more leadership opportunities in the parish and diocese. Meets monthly.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*You are allowed to be a Masterpiece
and a Work in Progress, simultaneously!!*

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*Kids for Christ gatherings have been temporarily suspended.

*Youth Prayer Breakfasts have been temporarily suspended.

*Through the end January all U-JAM and Youth for Truth meetings will continue to be held via Zoom.

⇒ Wed. Jan. 6—Youth Groups via Zoom

6:30-7:30—U-JAM

8:00-9:00—Youth for Truth

Guest Speakers: Past Graduates

⇒ Thur. Jan. 7—Youth Advisory Board Meeting

7:00-8:00 via Zoom

⇒ Wed. Jan. 13—Youth Groups via Zoom

6:30-7:30—U-JAM

8:00-9:00—Youth for Truth

⇒ Wed. Jan. 20—Youth Groups via Zoom

6:30-7:30—U-JAM

Guest Speakers: Juniors from Youth Leadership Team

Topic: Their Faith Stories

8:00-9:00—Youth for Truth

⇒ **Shirts for sale! — Kids for Christ, U-JAM and Youth for Truth have shirts available for your purchase (view designs below). The cost of a shirt is \$10.00. Contact Doug to order yours!**



Christ's Peace to All,

Doug Watcott

MUSIC & LITURGY NOTES



Music Reminders: Our Musicianship Skills Workshop will resume this coming week on **Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7:00 pm in Becker.** Anyone who is interested in joining us in 2021 is most welcome; options for both in-person attendance and online participation are available. Please contact Gretchen for more information.

Liturgy Committee: Next meeting is Wednesday, January 20—7:00 pm in Big Lake.

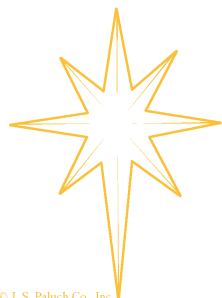
Christmas Poinsettias: Next weekend marks the end of our Christmas Season with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 9/10. There are several poinsettias here at church which are in beautiful condition and will be in need of a new home. They can be taken any time *after the 9:30 am Mass on January 10.* If you would enjoy one (or more!) of these plants, please stop in and help yourself!

Rehearsal Reminders: Rehearsal on **THURSDAY** in **BECKER** this week:

Thurs., Jan. 7

- Cantor Practice, 6:15-7:00 pm
- Musicianship Skills Workshop, 7-8 pm

In Christ,
Gretchen Roe



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THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.
—William Cullen Bryant

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Please remember that you are responsible for your ministry when scheduled. You are asked to find a replacement for your ministry when you are unavailable to serve.

Thank you to the below liturgical ministers who have agreed to serve this week.

Saturday, January 9 / 5:00 pm Mass / Becker Location

Sacristan: Norb Vossen
Greeters: Steve Stewart, **Volunteer (1)**
Ushers: Vicki Cote, Jim Valiant, **Volunteer (1)**
Lector: Sandi Ferris
Euch. Min.: Denise Kerr, Deb Lindboe, Norb Vossen

Sunday, January 10 / 9:30 am Mass / Becker Location

Sacristan: Kelly Berglund
Greeters: Luke Bordson, Daelyn Brannan
Ushers: Dan Bell, Geary Keppel, **Volunteers (1-2)**
Lector: Jason Baune
Euch. Min.: Kelly Berglund, Eron Bordson, Gordy Midas

If you are not feeling well on the date you are assigned to serve, please call the parish cell phone number: 763-250-0233.

Volunteers Needed!

If you are able to assist at any of the below Masses, please contact Danette at 763-447-3339 or dtoenies@maryofthevisitation.org.
Thank you!!

Date	Mass	Liturgical Ministers Needed
Jan. 9	5:00	Greeter (1), Usher (1)
Jan. 10	9:30	Ushers (1-2)
Jan. 17	9:30	Ushers (2-3)
Jan. 23	5:00	Ushers (2)
Jan. 24	9:30	Ushers (1-2)
Jan. 30	5:00	Usher (1)
Jan. 31	9:30	Ushers (1-2)



Liturgical Ministry

We are especially in need of Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in becoming a part of the liturgical ministry team, please contact Gretchen Roe at 763-447-3339 or

groe@maryofthevisitation.org and provide her with your name, phone number/email and the area of ministry where you would like to serve. *All of us have unique gifts--please join us in ministry and share yours!*

STEWARDSHIP of our FINANCES



Adult income received
 Dec. 14—Dec. 20, 2020: \$ 7,820.23
 Dec. 21: \$ 5,435.00

*Current numbers were unavailable
 due to early bulletin publication.*

**Adult income
 budgeted per week:** \$10,308.00
 (yearly budget of \$536,000 ÷ 52 weeks)

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021)

Parish Debt Reduction

\$55,186.72	\$38,320.22
\$52,774.72	\$35,927.72
\$43,961.22	
\$41,675.72	



\$100 CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

January 2, 2021—Arlene Opstad

January 3, 2021—Pat Treptau

COUNTERS

January: *Suspended for January*

February: Gina N., Troy N., Christa R.

ADVERTISER of the WEEK

Our advertisers make our
 bulletin possible
 at no cost to the parish.
 Please let them know your
 appreciation!

**Thank you
 for your support!**



Charlotte Lumley
 Propane Sales Representative
 CharlotteLumley@LakesGasCo.com
 Cell: 320.339.1013

Serving Central MN
LakesGasCo.com

HAPPENINGS in our AREA

Vespers For Life

Sun., Jan. 17 / 3:30 p.m. Rosary, 4:00 p.m. Vespers
Church of St. Anthony / 2405 1st St N / St. Cloud

Bishop Donald Kettler will preside at the Vespers service. The service includes music, prayer, scripture and reflection for the over 61 million children who have been aborted since 1973. Monetary donations accepted to Mother Mary's Fund to assist crisis pregnancy centers in the Diocese of St. Cloud. For more details: <https://stcdio.org/event/vespers-for-life-2021/>

Christ the King Retreat Center

621 1st Ave. S. / Buffalo, MN 55313

Christ the King Retreat Center is open and following all guidelines for safe-distancing, mask wearing and sanitization processes. Dining procedures have been modified to include the latest guidelines by the State of MN.

Upcoming Retreats:

- Men's Silent Weekend Retreat / Jan. 15-17, 2021
- Women's Silent Weekend Retreat / Jan. 29-31, 2021
- Men's Silent Weekend Retreat / Feb. 5-7, 2021
- Women's Lenten Midweek Retreat / Feb. 16-18, 2021

For information or to register:

- Call 763-682-1394
- Visit Website: www.kingshouse.com

Bishop's Annual Appeal: Let us look with hope to the new year. May 2021 be a year that witnesses the vitality of our parishes within our Area Catholic Communities and the ability of our diocesan ministries to continue to touch the lives of the faithful in meaningful ways. For more information, visit www.stcdio.org/appeal.

Stewardship as a Way of Life: "... they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh ..." — Matthew 2:11
 Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!





Christmas Flower Dedications

Leonard & Marlene Douver
Tom & Darlyne Phenow
Daniel Vettel
Edward Vettel

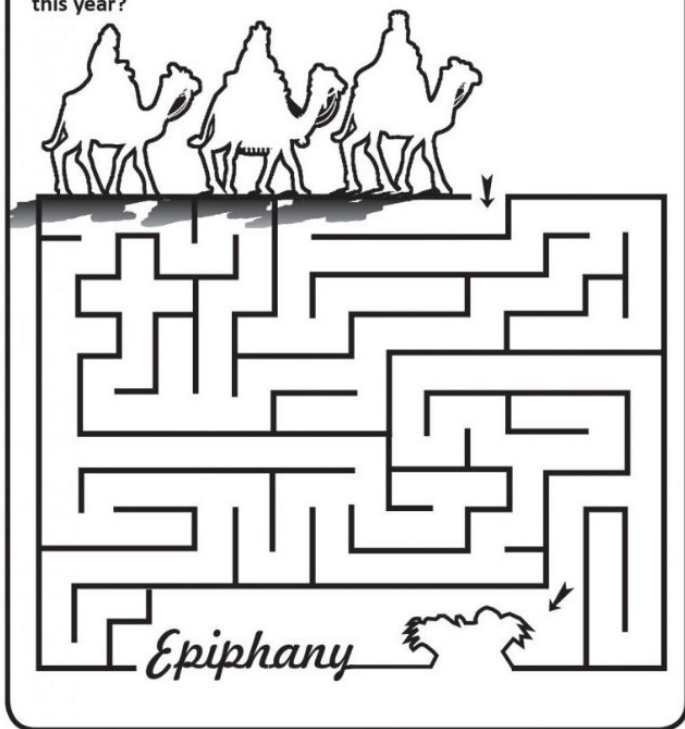
All kings shall pay
him homage,
all nations shall serve
him.

— Psalm 72:11

GOD’S WORD for CHILDREN

Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?**



WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS

Monday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

5 am—11 pm	Adoration	Becker
	No Liturgy	Becker
	No Liturgy	Big Lake
7:00 pm	AA and AI Anon Meeting	Big Lake

Tuesday, January 5—St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

5:00 pm	No Mass	Big Lake
6:30 pm	No Baptism Prep Class	Becker

Wednesday, January 6—Christmas Weekday; St. Andre Bessette, Religious

1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

8:00 am	No Mass	Becker
8:00 am	Suspended: Word & Comm. Svc.	Big Lake

Thursday, January 7—Christmas Weekday; St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest

1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

8:00 pm	No Mass	Becker
8:00 am	Suspended: Word & Comm. Svc.	Big Lake
8:30 am	Rosary	Big Lake
6:15 pm	Cantor Practice	Becker
7:00 pm	Musicianship Skills Workshop	Becker
7:00 pm	Youth Advisory Board	Becker
8:00 pm	AA meeting	Becker

Friday, January 8—Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

8:00 am	No Mass	Big Lake
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Saturday, January 9—Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

5:00 pm	Mass († Dave Gauthier)	Becker
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Sunday, January 10—Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

9:30 am	Mass († Lynne & Darold Seehafer)	Becker
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