

# Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

Give comfort to my people,  
says your God!



## Masses For The Week

### Sun 11 The Baptism of the Lord

09:00 am +Juan C. Flores (Belia Flores)  
+Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)

### Thr 15 Weekday

12:05 pm +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)

### The Baptism of the Lord

*Jesus joins the people going out to John the Baptist in the gesture of repentance, not because there is sin in him, but to make it possible for us to share in his relationship with the Father, announced from the heavens. He goes to the Baptist as a beggar because he takes upon himself our misery. The Lord Jesus lowers himself in his baptism and acknowledges his Father so that we will never hesitate to do the same. In baptism, Jesus gives us an efficacious approach to the Father. The Father knows us as his beloved sons and daughters.*

### The Sanctuary Candle



**This Week will be Burning for**  
+All Souls in Purgatory (Sandra Leyendecker)

## Good News!

January 11, 2026  
The Baptism of the Lord (A)  
Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Matthew 3:13-17

MIGUEL DULICK

John, miracle son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, cousin of Jesus and known as "the Baptist," offers a "baptism of repentance." Then Jesus shows up. The eternal Son of God a penitent? John is shocked and resists, saying it is Jesus who should baptize him. But Jesus insists, "to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15).

At the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus is humbling himself, much as he did toward the end, when he washed the feet of his disciples. Then it was Peter who would resist what seemed inappropriate by the standards of this world. Jesus is giving us an example, the way of the servant leader, as described in today's beautiful passage from Isaiah. Jesus is the servant leader, the Father's Son, over whom the Holy Spirit danced like a dove, and the Father, with his booming voice from the heavens, said of him, "This is my beloved Son!" (Matthew 3:17).

Jesus allowing himself to be baptized may seem like a contradiction, but given all that follows, we know he is offering his followers a consistent model of what he expects from those who choose to be his disciples. As St. Paul would later write to the Church in Philippi, "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped" (Philippians 2:5-6). ●

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25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup>

### Wedding Anniversary Mass



If you or someone you know is  
celebrating 25, 50 or more than 50 years of Catholic  
Marriage

\*\*\*\*\*Silver, Gold or Diamond Wedding Anniversaries\*\*\*\*\*  
The Diocese of Laredo would like to recognize  
this important milestone in your married life with  
a special Mass at San Agustin Cathedral  
on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Please register for this special event by calling  
your Parish Office or the Family Life Office  
of the Diocese of Laredo at (956) 727-2140.

Deadline for registration is Friday, January 23, 2026.

The Spirit  
of God  
came upon him



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### 2026 PRO-LIFE ROSARY WALK

Join us on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 2:00 pm as we pray the rosary on a 2 mile walk, asking God to protect human life at all stages from conception to natural death, and praying for parents who are experiencing a difficult pregnancy. We will start at the corner of Boston Street and Santa Ursula Avenue, in Laredo, Texas and conclude at San Agustine Cathedral, where a special Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Tamayo. Shuttle service will be available from San Agustin Cathedral to the starting site from 1:00 pm-1:45 pm. For more information call The Family Life Office, Diocese of Laredo, at (956) 727-2140.

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

The Diocese of Laredo would like to extend an invitation to the 2026 Annual Diocesan Conference, Pilgrims of Hope. This will take place at TAMIU Student Center (5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041) on Saturday March 7, 2026, from 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Please, Save the Date! This conference will give us the wonderful opportunity to continue meditating in the motto of the Jubilee Year 2025. Let us come together to make this a successful and memorable conference!

### LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Cristina Zarate, Mina Aldaco, Ramona Alaniz, Edna Flores, Ana Maria Finley, Mary G. Finley, Margarita Inocencio, Lucia Rodriguez, Maria Teresa Cassiano, Dotty Guffey, Rodrigo Medina, Armando Colchado, Elida Aldaco and Michelle Angela Nelson.

We are baptized  
in the SPIRIT  
of the LORD



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### Last Sunday's Collection

Envelopes: \$ 945.00

Loose: \$ 180.00

Children's Envelopes: \$ 2.25

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 1,127.25

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 1,244.48

## Dear Padre

January 11, 2026

**Why do our bishops not marry? Scripture plainly says that they must be the husband of one wife and have faithful children.**

This is an excellent question and brings us face to face with an important truth: for Catholics, the sacred Scripture is not the singular source of our practice and discipline. We also look, with equal authority, to the living Tradition of the Church. The magisterium is entrusted with the authentic interpretation of both Scripture and Tradition.

With this theological and historical context as a necessary background to your question, the answer to your query is this: the lived Tradition of the Church does not support a married clergy, including bishops. Although the Scripture allows for it, and provides some general guidelines, the lived Tradition of the Church does not. The Roman Catholic Church has a celibate clergy and will continue to have a celibate clergy unless and until the magisterium, in union with the pope, determines otherwise. There have been some discussions about changing this discipline, but now there is not much momentum that would suggest any imminent change.

In the wider Orthodox Catholic Church, in union with Rome, there is a provision for a married clergy, but, even in these traditions, there is no exception made for married bishops. Bishops are and will continue to be celibate regardless of what Scripture may allow. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, C.SsR / DearPadre.org

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