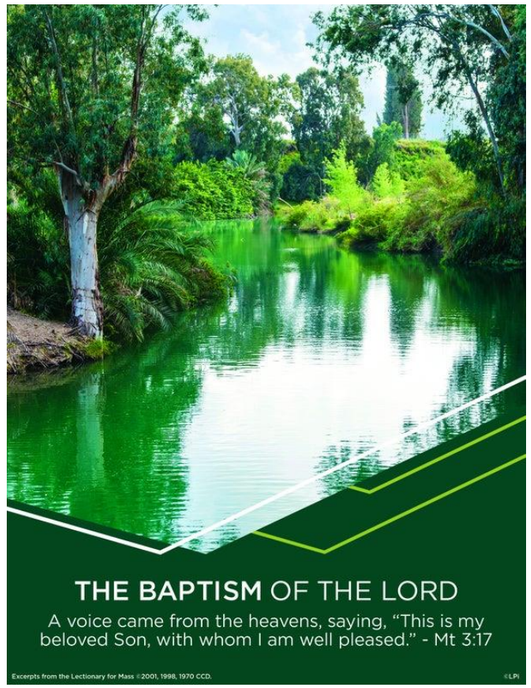
January 11, 2026
Baptism of the Lord



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE
February 18, 2026
St. Isaac Jogues, 4:00 pm
Blessed Sacrament, 5:30 pm

Weekend	Bl. Sac	St. Isaac
12/28/25	$1,023	$6,164
1/4/26	$1,251	$1,604
Christmas	$2,150	$4,535
On-Line Dec.	$5,679	$4,417

Reconciliation Available
3:30 pm Saturday's St. Isaac Jogues
11:30 am Sunday's Blessed Sacrament
or by appointment

When School is delayed or cancelled, weekday morning Mass, the Rosary & Holy Hour are also CANCELLED!

Blessed Sacrament

Intentions & Mass Cards: Please call Rita Whitney at 518-338-6858
1/11 All Souls *Req. The Schuster Family*
1/11 John Abraham *Req. The Schuster Family*
1/18 Tom Mihalics *Req. Maureen Milhalics*
1/18 Taylor Woodworth *Req. Ellie & Tom Torebka*
1/18 All Souls *Req. The Schuster Family*
Prayer Intentions: call Pat Nugent 518-668-2765
Rosary: Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
Daily Mass: will be on Thursday, January 15th, at 9:30 am followed by Adoration.
Transition to Ordinary Time: We will change the church from Christmas décor to Ordinary time today after Mass.

St. Isaac Jogues

Intentions & Mass Cards: Please call the office 518-824-1176.
1/11 Margaret W. McDermott *Req. St. Isaac Jogues*
1/11 Joseph Danial Turcotte
Req. Tom, Cindy, and the Turcotte Family
1/17 Kathy Barlow McCann *Req. Bernie McCann*
1/17 Jerry Merkel *Req. Janet Early*
1/18 Sr. Fran Husselbeck *Req. Camille Dougan*
1/18 Carol Schuerlein *Req. Paul Schuerlein*
Daily Mass: will be in the Parish Center on Wednesday, January 14th at 9:30 am.
Transition to Ordinary Time: We will gather on Tuesday at 10:00 am to remove the Christmas décor and prepare the church for Ordinary Time. All helping hands are appreciated.

What Makes a Church Vibrant

More Practical Steps Toward Vibrancy
Cultivate Hospitality: Train greeters, create welcoming spaces, and ensure newcomers feel noticed and valued. A vibrant church starts with warmth at the door.

VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Free Tax Return Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers) in Warren, Washington, & Northern Saratoga counties (January – April). This is free tax assistance for families and individuals whose household income is $70,000 or less per year. This service will be available at St. Cecilia's every Friday and Saturday in February and March. St. Isaac Jogues will host VITA on Thursday, February 26th, from 8 am to 4 pm. Call 1-800-211-5128 to schedule an appointment.

Diocesan Appeal

The Diocesan Appeal supports many vital ministries, including the education and formation of clergy, deacons, and seminarians, as well as chaplaincy programs in hospitals and colleges, and other essential Diocesan Services that help our parishes thrive.

Opening the appeal early allows you to spread your gift over a longer period of time.

Parish Goals & Progress:

St. Isaac Jogues—Assessment: $15,429 (an increase of $88 from last year). Raised to date: *$15,381 with 38 gifts (99.7% of goal)*. Wow, only $48 left to achieve our goal.

Blessed Sacrament—Assessment: $18,895 (a decrease of $2,147 from last year). Raised to date *$14,585 with 24 gifts (77.1% of goal)* Getting there!

Each parish's goal is based on a three-year average of offertory giving.

"With the light and strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love that proclaims the Word and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity." *--Pope Leo*

Cluster Information

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults If you, or someone you know, has been away from the Church, desires to complete the Sacraments of Initiation—especially Confirmation—or feels called to learn more about the Catholic faith, we invite you to reach out to the parish office.

A special **Evening of Inquiry** will be arranged for those who wish to explore the beauty of the Catholic Church in a prayerful and welcoming setting. All are encouraged to come and see what the Lord may be stirring in their hearts.

Christmas Cards

PLEASE DON'T THROW OUT YOUR RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS CARDS!

If the back of the picture is blank, simply trim the image off the card and place it in the narthex. We have an excellent way to give these beautiful images a second life, making our Giving Tree even more meaningful.

Thank you for helping us recycle with purpose and care!

Monday, January 19th
The office is closed.

Recognizing God in our 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.

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Blessing for Baptismal Graces

Dear God,
Through Baptism,
You called and claimed us as Your own, chosen and loved. Pour Your blessing upon us as we remember our Baptism. Plant Your identity in our hearts. Help us to live as Your beloved.
Amen. ©*LPi*