

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

# Saint Edward's & Saint Paul's

Longville

Remer

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE SPIRIT OF GOD  
DESCENDING LIKE  
A DOVE.

MATTHEW 3:16

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of January 11, 2026

### Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

### Monday:

1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/  
Mk 1:14-20

### Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,  
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

### Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday:

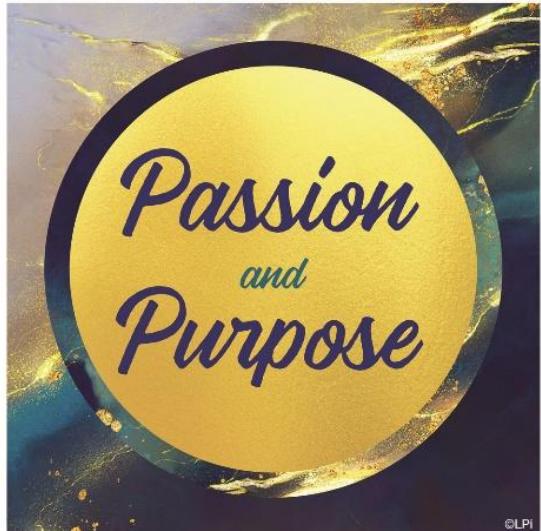
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17

### Next Sunday:

Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/  
1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



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## Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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

# (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** When 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.

## 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 Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Saint Vincent de Paul/Saint Rose of Lima Conference**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 20, 2026**  
**1 PM @ Saint Edward's**



After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words.  
**Have you considered joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that you can live your Baptism more fully?**

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

At times, temptation seems so powerful that it is almost impossible to resist. How can I be stronger in my resolve to avoid sin and temptation?

#### Answer:

The saints have written that every human person desires the good. In a sense, we don't desire sin itself. Temptation is powerful because there is at least some bit of good in it. Even in the blackest of sin, there is something good that becomes twisted. We can look for good in sin when we feel it is lacking in our own life. When we lack true relational intimacy, it can be easy to turn to lust. When we lack confidence in God in our own lives, it can be easy to judge others or to grasp for control over situations. When we lack peace in the present moment, it can be easy to compete with others or to treat others poorly in our quest for success.

Overcoming temptation isn't just about repressing our sinful desires. If that's all we do, they'll just burst out someplace else! If there is a recurring temptation in your life, prayerfully consider why this is so appealing to you. Submit this to God and bring it to a wise person. And in the meantime, continue to resist temptation to sin. If we fail to choose God in small choices, we're several steps down the road towards failing in larger ones. Pray for the grace to persevere!

### *The Forgotten Way*

by Matthew Kelly

There are still copies available at the entrances.

### St. Edward's Collection

Dec. 29, 2025 – Jan. 4, 2026

Envelopes	\$ 2,622.50
Plate	\$ 292.00
Ministries Appeal	\$ 295.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 635.00

### St. Paul Collection

Dec. 29, 2025 – Jan. 4, 2026

Envelopes	\$ 780.00
Plate	\$ 48.00
Building Fund	\$ 20.00
Grotto	\$ 125.00
Ministries Appeal	\$ 50.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 481.00