Christmas: Baptism of the Lord
Sunday January 9, 2022

Lead Story Headline:
A Voice From Heaven

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"When John the Baptist was baptizing at the Jordan River, all the people were filled with excitement, and they wondered if he might be the Messiah. But John said to them, ‘I am baptizing you in water, but someone is coming later who is mightier than I am. I am not even worthy to untie his sandal straps. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.’ Then, after all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized. While he was praying, the Holy Spirit came to him in the form of a dove, and a voice from heaven said, ‘You are my beloved Son with whom I am very pleased.’"

This is the Good News of the Lord.

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**Check It Out:**

There are many symbols throughout the Catholic faith that you may or may not know about. One of these symbols is the number 40. Read Genesis 7:12, Exodus 24:18, Matthew 4:2 and Acts 1:3. Forty can symbolize a challenge, but it also reminds us that God is with us through the challenge. Why do you think certain numbers are symbols in the Catholic faith?

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**What Do You Think?**

1. Why do you think Jesus needed to be baptized?

2. What do you know about your baptism?

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Activity: Find the Words

John baptized with water. But he told the people that the one to come would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Look at the first row of words in the river. Find the one that cannot be spelled using only the letters in the cloud. Draw a line through it. Repeat this process with the remaining rows.


Now Act:

Do you always remember to say thank you? To help you remember, try playing a thank you game with your family or friends. For three days, all players try to notice and count the number of times in a day that they say “thank you” in a kind way. At the end of day three, talk about your thank you’s and decide who won.

Why is it important to always remember to say thank you?


"I, your God, have called you...
I have taken you by your hand."

Isaiah 42:6
Calling All Saints: St. André Bessette

January 7th is the Memorial of Saint André Bessette. He was born to a poor French-Canadian family and his father worked very hard in the trades to make enough money to support his family. He eventually began to work as a lumberjack but died while he was working from a falling tree and left behind his wife and 10 children. Three years later, André and his 9 siblings were orphaned when their mother died of tuberculosis. André then went to live with his aunt and uncle. He was in poor health as a child and did not have much education so although he tried to work various jobs, it was hard for him to stick with one job. Eventually, he moved to the United States and worked for some time in New England. He came back to Canada later and entered the Congregation of the Holy Cross in Montreal. He was the doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Quebec and he kept this job for 40 years. Many people began to hear about him because of his holiness and wisdom. He began to build a small chapel on Mount Royal in 1904, which later became St. Joseph’s Oratory. Thousands of healings were attributed to Saint André while he was alive but he always told everyone it was the doing of Saint Joseph - Jesus’ foster father. Saint André just became a saint in 2010 (only 11 years ago) and he is very close to home as he even stayed in a cottage in St. Joseph’s which is only about an hour from London, Ontario. Ask your friends and family if they have heard about Saint André and see what you can tell them about him!


"I praise you, O God, for your faithful love.
I praise you, O God, for all that you do."
Psalm 146