

Getting Ready for Sunday



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Matthew 3:13-17



The Baptism of Jesus

For adults:

This Sunday marks the end of Christmas!

It is the feast of the Baptism of Jesus our Lord.

It is also a celebration of our own Baptism.

On the day that Jesus was Baptised and on the day we were Baptised, we were marked for God as people who belong to God and who are sent to show Jesus to the world through our love, prayer, parish community and trust.

It is a day on which we consider what our Baptismal commitment means to us today.

Once Jesus was Baptised he set about on his mission to preach, heal, gather people in prayer and put right what was wrong.

When we listen in the quiet of our hearts, we will walk with Jesus guided by the Holy Spirit.

For young people:

Jesus was given the gift of courage by the Holy Spirit at Baptism.

We were also given the gift of courage by the Holy Spirit.

The God who is love is with you and in you loving you and guiding you in love.

God's greatest pleasure is our company in prayer and at the sacraments where we can chat together about whatever is in our hearts. Sit quietly with God and just feel God's presence in you.

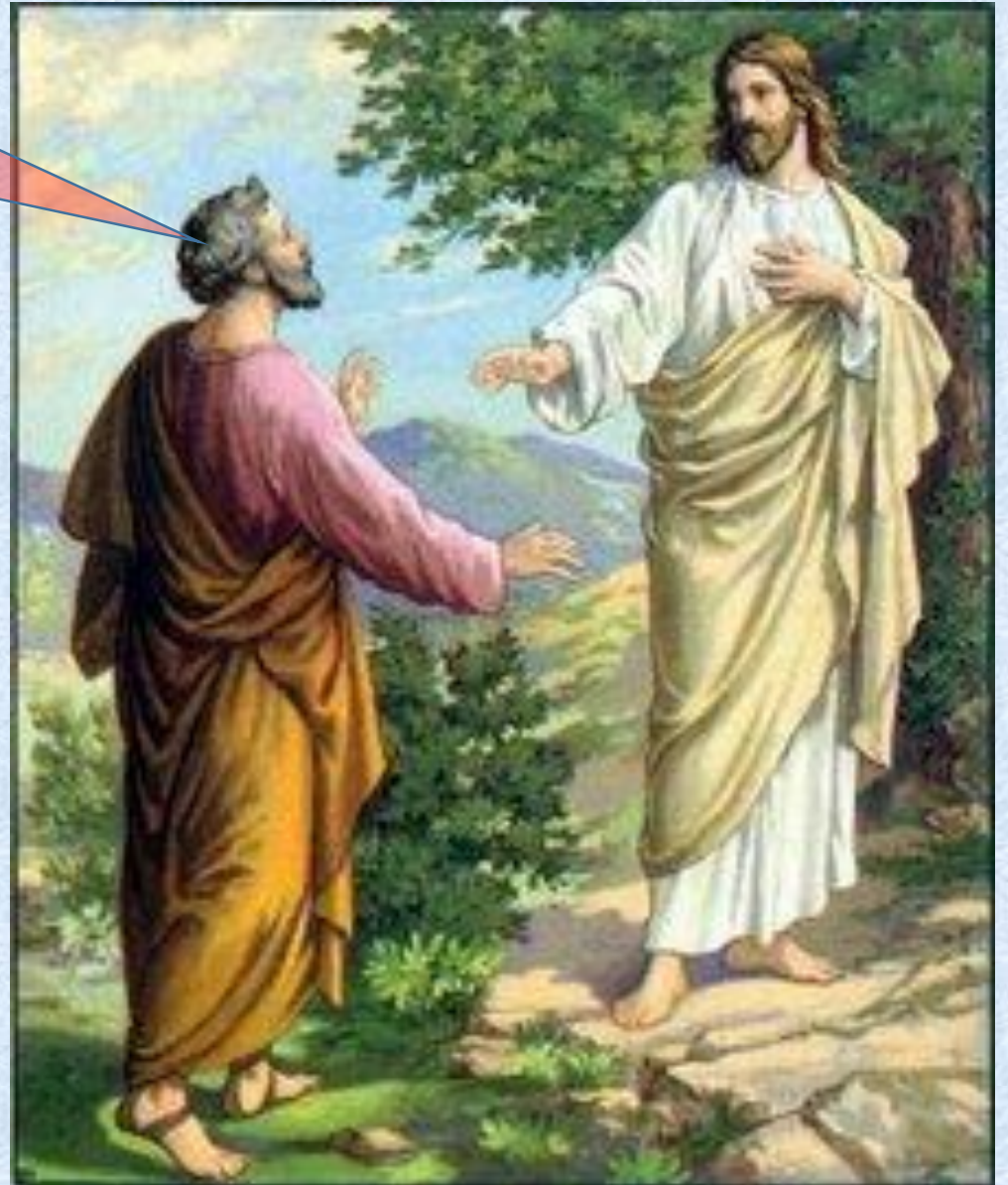
We are Baptised into a parish faith community to support one another. There is a welcome place for you in your parish community. Perhaps you have gifts or talents that you want to share with the community. Everyone matters!

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying:

**I need to be baptised by you,
and do you come to me?**

**John did not
believe that he
could be good
enough to baptise
Jesus.**

**Also, he didn't
know why Jesus
needed baptism
when He had not
sinned!**



But Jesus answered him:

Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.



Then he consented.

John did as Jesus asked him, even though he did not understand why he was being asked to baptise Jesus.

We sometimes wonder what God is doing in our world: if we follow John the Baptist we will trust in God and believe that He has a great plan for each of us.



And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.



And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

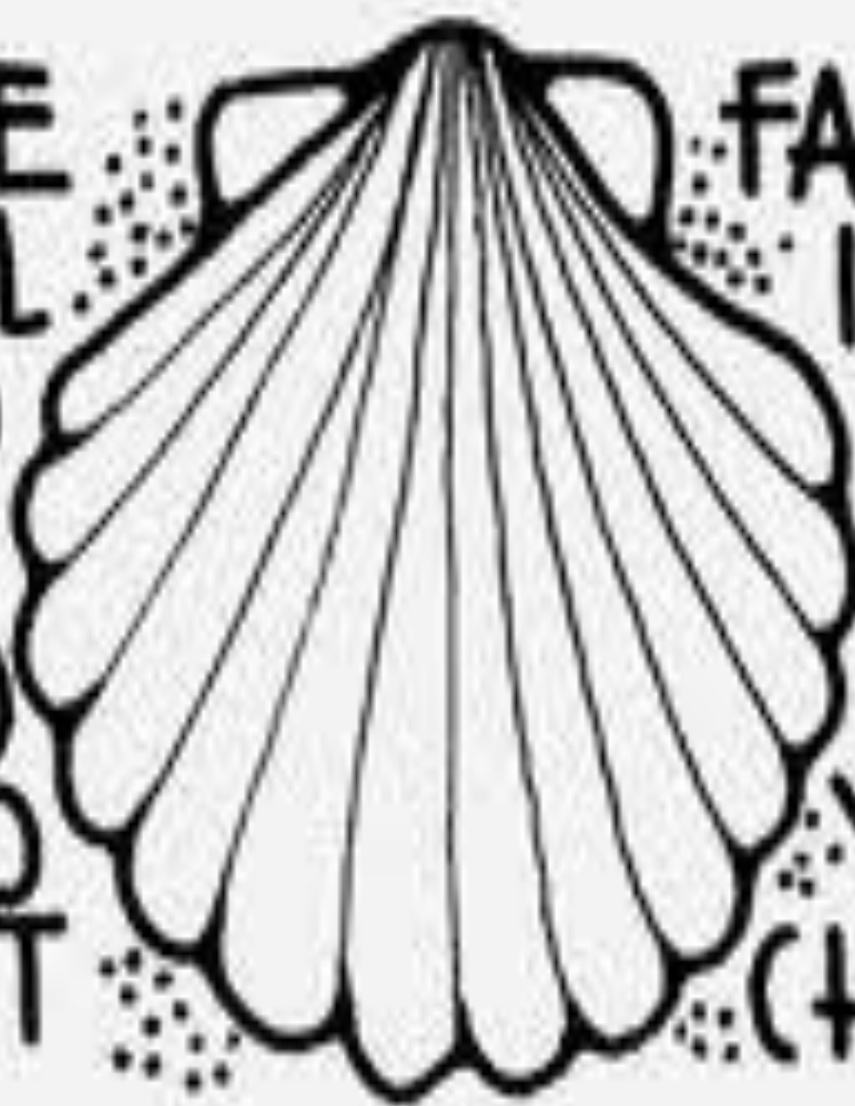
The Holy Spirit came down on Jesus giving Him the power to go out to people sharing the Good News, healing, preaching, teaching, forgiving, etc. This was the beginning of Jesus sending on mission.

When we are baptised we too are sealed as God's own by the Holy Spirit and then sent out to live as Jesus shows us in the Gospels.

As brothers and sisters of Jesus we, too, are Gods beloved with whom He is well pleased!



• MAKE
ALL
WHO
ARE
BAPTIZED
INTO
CHRIST



FAITHFUL
IN
OUR
CALLING
TO BE
YOUR
CHILDREN.



**You are precious
in my sight,
and honoured,
and I love you.**

Isaiah 43:4

The Baptism of the Lord

Activity in preparation for Sunday Mass



Read the Gospel:

- a. Colour the picture of Jesus baptism
- b. or draw a picture of a baptism you may have been at recently.
- c. Discuss your own Baptism and look at any photos you might have of the Baptism





Bible Search

Read **Matthew 3:13-17**

**in your family Bible-this is
the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.**



Consider



What does your own baptism mean in your life?
How do you follow Jesus in your own life?
Have you been faithful to the promise to gather with the friends of
Jesus each week at Mass?

Praying to Jesus



Pray for the grace to trust God.

