

BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR B

11th January 2009

THEME: Mark 1: 7-11

Today we remember the baptism of our Lord Jesus, and it is fitting that we also remember our own baptism.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus approaching him and said: this is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Alleluia!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Saturday 17th January

Anthony, abbot

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JESUS CHRIST

After thirty years of hidden growth, here is a surprising happening, and one full of consequence. Here, among the crowds of people called to repentance by St John the Baptist, Jesus undergoes an indescribable experience. St John the Baptist's baptism becomes for Jesus, the sinless One, a kind of door through which he passes in search of sinners. He will share in their lot and redirect towards God the whole of creation now, at last, on its true course. So Jesus descends into the River Jordan to 'do all that righteousness demands' (Mt 3: 15) (This response was given by Jesus to St John the Baptist when he expressed his unworthiness to baptise Jesus, his cousin).

To this humble inauguration of a new and purified future, the very heavens open and reveal divine secrets. God, the Holy Spirit (in the form of a dove) comes down on Jesus and a voice speaks: 'You are my son...' (Mk 1:11). Jesus has always been the well-beloved of the Father, but today he finds himself established in his role of servant - like a new Isaac ready for sacrifice. Jesus will show himself to be truly the Son and Servant of his Father as, under the impulse of the Holy Spirit, he forms step by step a new group of sons and daughters, the baptised Christians, His church.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Norm McLaurin, Keith Hynes, Mihovil Katalinic, Vin Griffiths, Bruce Tate, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, John Hunt, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Joan Sullivan, Mary Cooper, Stan Sawaski, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Bess Harris, Gregory Cummins, Patricia Bourke, Nicholas Hetherington, Joseph Doran, Effie Ray, Sandra Varrasso, Bob Woods and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

Dinny Wighton, Simun Goles (Croatia), Pat Hickey, Lucy Van Oijen, Anne Ferguson, Joyce Hollis, Paul Graeber, Alf Elliott, Patricia Wilson and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

Bernice Bird, Arsenio Caringal and all our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Lorraine Hill and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Recently we welcomed into God's Church the following newly baptised:

POLLY DAVIS

SIENNA HEAVEN

CAMPBELL HAYCOCK

AXEL PEDERSEN

ZARA PEDERSEN

FOR YOUR DIARY

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP, 18-35 YRS

St Patrick's holds a weekly discussion group for 18-35 year olds on Wednesday nights at 7.00pm in the upper room of St Patrick's hall. For more information, contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com, John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.

HOLY ROSARY

Holy Rosary is offered each Saturday morning at 9.15am prior to 9.30am Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood and peace in the world - lead by the Legion of Mary members and auxiliary. All parishioners very welcome.

YOUTH GROUP (12-17YRS)

St Patrick's Youth Group meets on the first Sunday of the month after the 5.30pm Mass in the hall. If you like meeting new people, eating junk food and getting to know your faith better, then youth group is for you. Contact Fr Lee: 6041 2588 or Miriam: 0400 419 981.

PARISH COUNCIL

The first meeting of St Patrick's Parish Council for 2009 will be held on Thursday 29th January at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

SNIPPET

Our calling and mission is to share freely with others the love which God lavishes upon us without any merit of our own. (Benedict XVI)