

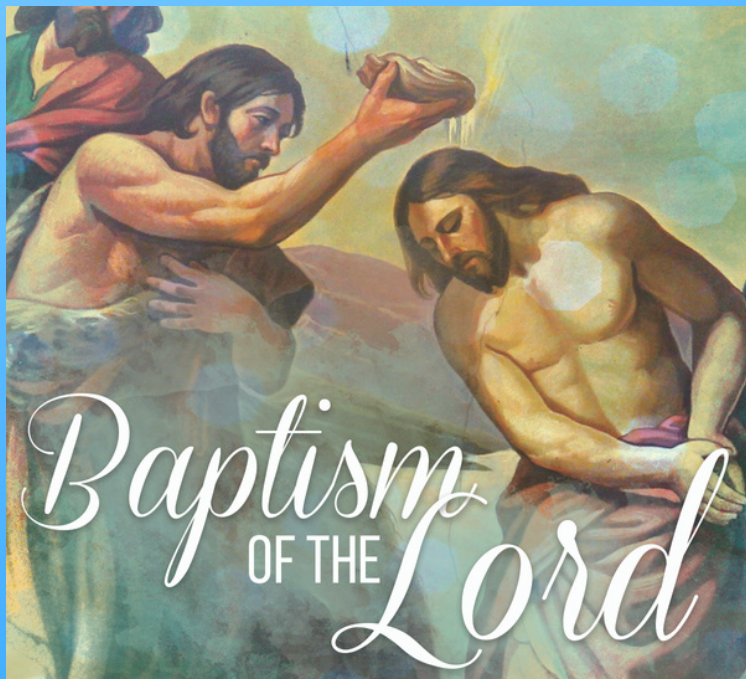
Made New

The Baptism of the Lord



At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptised by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptised by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

*Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus revealed
Him to be Your Son, anointing Him
with the Holy Spirit:
grant that we may be faithful to our
call as Children of God, listening to
you, guided by Your Spirit, to fulfil our
unique and definite purpose.
Amen.*

This week the Church celebrates Jesus' Baptism in the river Jordan. Baptism is fresh start, when we are made new in Christ. Jesus was baptised just before he went into the desert for 40 days and nights where he was tempted. We in our lives face lots of temptations but by walking with God throughout our lives, and making changes in our lives so we are able to make the right decisions, we will be able to face those temptations boldly, knowing what the right thing to do is.

The start of a new year provides opportunities for us to be made new, it gives us a chance to start a fresh, to make new resolutions to grow. This new year isn't about being a whole new person but about making the changes we need to make to be the best versions of ourselves. Through this fresh start of the new year we have the chance to do this.



[CLICK HERE](#) and have a listen to this beautiful song. This song invites the Holy Spirit to be with us, so as you listen invite the Holy Spirit to inspire you so that you can be made new this new year and be the best version of you.
(Youtube: Holy Spirit- Jesus Culture)



*"You are my son, the Beloved;
I am pleased with you."*

We are all children of God, so how can we try to live our lives the way God wants us to in the coming week?



Have you been baptised?

*If so, do you know the date of your baptism?
If not try and find out this week, maybe your parents have some pictures from your baptism too.*

*The date of your baptism is worth celebrating, so make sure you do when it comes around!
If you haven't been baptised would you like to be? If you have questions about baptism or being baptised drop in to see Kate!*

Baptism is the way that we are welcomed into the Church.

Through baptism our sins are forgiven and we are committed to God and to trying to live our lives the way that God wants us to, calls us to. It's not always easy, but, in the same way that the Holy Spirit came to Jesus when He was baptised, we are baptised with water and the Holy Spirit and the Spirit is there to help us when we find things difficult and to guide us to make the right choices.

Baptism is also seen as a fresh start because we are forgiven for sins and is the start of our life with Christ. But throughout our lives we are offered opportunities for a fresh start, for example when we go to confession. The start of a new year is a great time to start a fresh and often people make new year's resolutions for the year ahead so that they can have a better year.

Do you have any new years resolutions?

Is there anything you want to do differently this year?

What do you think God is calling you to do differently this year?

*"What have I done with my baptism?
Is Christ really at the centre of my life?
Do I have time for prayer in my life?
Do I live my life as a vocation and mission?"
Pope St John Paul II*



The Baptism of Jesus
(**[click here](#)**)

Why was Jesus baptised?
(**[click here](#)**)

Down To The River To Pray
(**[click here](#)**)