



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9TH JANUARY 2022 TIME YEAR C/2



These days there are some young Catholic parents who wonder whether baptism is the proper thing for them to seek for their children. One argument they sometimes offer is that it would be better to defer baptism until their child reaches adulthood and then he or she has the opportunity to choose it. As appealing as this argument might seem on the surface, the problem is that the reasoning behind it is so inconsistently applied.

Young Catholic parents do not give their children any choice about eating vegetables, learning to read or write and living out a moral code. They enforce these things because they know that nutrition, literacy and ethics are essential for adulthood. If we recognise that, from birth, a child has spiritual as well as educational, moral and physical needs, it strikes me as inconsistent to relegate this constitutively otherworldly element of a child's character to a 'must be decided on later' category. Baptism is not brainwashing. Adults can come and go from the practice of their faith as they feel drawn. Sadly for us, they can even choose against belief. To grow up, however, with no religious foundation or no basis on which to make spiritual choices seems to limit freedom rather than promote it. In our culture baptism of infants by their parents is an entirely proper thing to do.

In today's Gospel we hear that Jesus was baptised by John in the Jordan because it was 'the proper thing to do'.

This can seem all quaintly odd to us today because we seem to accept that our only convention is to flout convention. The done thing today is to undo what we've done before.

We hold very strongly, however, to the idea that God always does the 'proper thing'. It's called 'appropriateness' in theology. We believe, for example, that God decided it was proper to become incarnate when he did, how he did and where he did. Over the centuries there's been endless debate about what would've happened if the Word had come to us as a woman, in another era, on another continent. While these are interesting enough matters on which to speculate, they are not what God thought proper – or what, in fact, happened.

In line with the right action of God, Jesus does the proper thing in being baptised by John's baptism of repentance, even though he had nothing of which to repent. Jesus is not simply baptised, however, simply because it was expected of him, just a fulfilment of his duty. Jesus' experience of baptism starts with John's baptism as an admission of guilt and then reveals that baptism is primarily about the Father's love. To this day our baptismal ritual holds these two realities in a healthy tension. When we are baptised in Christ, we acknowledge both Original Sin and Original Grace. God's love comes alive in us even though we are aware of how far from that love we stray.

The Baptism of Jesus and every baptism done in his name ever since, is the moment when we hold together the greatness of God's love, that calls each of us by name to be his son or daughter, with the reality of our human frailty. What more appropriate way of welcoming anyone into the world than having a community of frail, human believers initiate its members by reminding them that Original Sin does not have the last word. For those of us baptised in Christ, the Father's love always and everywhere has the final, appropriate say on every matter.

May this Eucharist make us worthy of the love lavished on us in baptism and give us the courage to keep doing the appropriate things for the coming generations.

© Richard Leonard SJ

PARISH CONTACTS

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info@scp.org.au

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<https://scp.org.au>

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Ashmore Qld 4215

PO Box 216

Ashmore City 4214

Parish Office

(Parish Secretary)

Daloras Howes

dalorash@scp.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Maria Blancia

MariaB@scp.org.au

Priests of the Parish

Fr. Gerard McMorro (PP)

Fr Stephen Camiolo

(Parish Ministry
& Hospital Chaplaincy)

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

ASHMORE:

MONDAY TO THURSDAY

8.00AM TO 4.00PM

SOUTHPORT OFFICE:

(ANGELS ON SCARBOROUGH)

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

9.00AM TO 4.30PM

STOPLINE

INFORMATION CAN BE
PROVIDED ANONYMOUSLY

Phone: 1300 304 550

Email: AOb@stopline.com.au

Online Report:

www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

St. Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Masses

7.00am & 8.30am

Weekday Masses

Monday & Wednesday - 7.00am

Gold Coast University Hospital

Friday Mass at 10.30am

Rosary 10.00am

Mass Friday 10.30am

Guardian Angels Church

99 Scarborough Street, Southport

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Saturday Reconciliation : 4.30pm

Saturday (Vigil) 5.30 pm

Sunday 7.00am & 9.00am

Sunday 5.00pm Korean Mass

Prayers & Adoration

Wednesday 12.00noon -1.00pm

Weekday Mass

Friday 12.30pm

Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Saturday (Vigil) 4.30pm

Sunday 9.00am & 5.30pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9.00am

Thursday 9.00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Guardian Angels Church 4.30pm

ABOUT THE MASS – continued

Why do we pray together for people we don't even know?

We stay standing while the reader or priest leads us in prayer for our human needs. This is called the **Prayer of the Faithful**. Each part of it is called a *petition*. These petitions follow a pattern. We pray for

- ◆ The needs of the Church
- ◆ Leaders and nations
- ◆ People who are suffering in some way
- ◆ Our local Church community (this may include prayers for the sick and for people who have died).

We pray to God not to change God's mind or focus God's attention on these people. God already knows what the needs are. We pray to bring the people into our relationship with God, so that with God's help we can help them.

🕯 We pray for anyone or anything in need of God's care, including ourselves.

🕯 Sometimes at Mass, the priest will invite the people to say their personal prayers of petition out loud.

🕯 People who read the Scriptures and the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass stand at a podium called an *ambo*.



The Sacredness of the Present Moment

This flower, this light, this moment, this silence: Dominus est. Eternity. (God) passes. (God) remains. We pass. In and out. (God) passes. We remain. We are nothing. We are everything. (God) is in us. (God) is gone from us. (God) is not here. We are here in God.

The flower is itself. The light is itself. The silence is itself. I am myself.

THOMAS MERTON'S poetic language draws us into a contemplative aware-ness of the sacredness of the present moment. He evokes the mystery that in the simplest tiny flower we can see everything and nothing. We can experience that God is. Moreover, as Merton identifies in *New Seeds of Contemplation*, 'the ever changing reality in the midst of which we live should awaken us to the possibility of an uninterrupted dialogue with God.' We live in the Presence of God—a God who calls us to live an un-interrupted dialogue, in intimacy, in union.

In this article I will draw our attention to the sacredness of the present moment in which we dwell and show how we can nurture a spirituality of Presence through the practice of centering prayer.

After situating the image of God as Presence within the context of scripture and tradition, I will focus on various aspects of this Presence: the presence as love, a relational presence, and a dark presence. I will then show how awareness of the Presence unites us to the Presence we are seeking.

Finally I will give an example of centering prayer as a way of disposing and opening us to the gift of contemplation that the Presence longs to give us, by leading us to a meeting place with God in our deepest center, and sensitizing us to the oneness of all, in the uniting love of God.

For more on Thomas Merton, go to [Building Community on God's Love](#).

By Kerrie Hide. Copyright © 2006, Commission for Australian Catholic Women.

Volunteers

Notice for volunteers! As previously advised, the Archdiocese requires that some specific volunteer roles will need to have received their two doses of a COVID -19 vaccination by 15th December 2021.

Volunteers who are required to be vaccinated under this policy include those individuals who deliver or undertake activities:

- With children and vulnerable adults
- In homes, in workplaces, and hospitals and health care settings working with any person

Typical volunteer roles that will require vaccination include:

- Administration work in parish office
- Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who attend to the sick in hospitals or private residence
- Hospital Chaplains
- Ministries involving children such as: Catechists, Leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sacramental Coordinators and Altar Server Coordinators

If you are in any of the above roles, please make contact with the Parish Office as soon as possible.

To meet the requirements of the direction, the Archdiocese requires evidence of your vaccination. This proof can be provided in the form of a COVID-19 Digital Vaccination Certificate or an Immunisation History Statement. The copy will then be forwarded to the Archdiocesan volunteer coordinator for record keeping.

The easiest way is to screenshot your COVID-19 digital vaccination certificate on your phone and email to poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au. Alternatively, if you log into your MyGOV account you can obtain your immunisation history statement there which can be forwarded to the above address.

Parishioners and visitors at Masses and funerals are not required to be vaccinated. All churches will continue to use the Queensland Government's Check In Qld app.



SANITIZING

A Reminder to all Ministers of the Eucharist.

Please be mindful **after** you have consumed the Eucharist, and placed your mask back on **before** you hand out the Body of Jesus to the Community please re sanitize your hands.

If you wish to support **Angels Kitchen** and the great work they do in feeding the homeless, you can contribute by using the following bank account details –

BSB 064-786
A/C 100027383
Angels Kitchen – Southport Parish

~QUOTE~

“God will meet you where you are in order to take you where He wants you to go.” Tony Evans

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year C/2
1st Reading – Isaiah 62:1-5 - 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel - John 2:1-11

STOPLINE RECEIVES INFORMATION ABOUT SUSPECTED ABUSE, (INFORMATION CAN BE PROVIDED ANONYMOUSLY) MISCONDUCT & SERIOUS POLICY BREACHES BY ARCHDIOCESAN CLERGY, EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS.

PHONE: 1300 304 550 EMAIL: AOB@stoline.com.au ONLINE: www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)

Guardian Angels Church
Rebecca

Mary Immaculate Church
Raphaelle

St Joseph the Worker Church
Cathy

Our Parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. We are committed to high standards of recruitment, screening and selection of all our employees and volunteers and undertake intentional strategies to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment for all.



RECENTLY DECEASED

Monica McConchie

By request the names of our sick and deceased family & friends will be recorded in these books in each church

PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2021

Rosary Please join in saying the rosary every **Monday and Wednesday at 6am** at St Joseph the Worker Church, Labrador. **Tuesday & Thursday 8am** Mary Immaculate.

Eucharistic Adoration at Mary Immaculate Church

Please join us every **Tuesday** from 7.45 till 8.45 am. There will be rosary, chaplet of the Divine Mercy and Private prayer. Followed by Holy Mass.

Holy Hour at Guardian Angels Church, Southport

Please join us every **Wednesday** from 12noon Including silent prayer, hymns, rosary and spiritual reflections, Benediction at 1pm. Confessions available on Wednesday only. Adoration **Friday** from 11.30am.

Novena at St Joseph the Worker Church Labrador every **Wednesday** at 6pm.

1st Wednesday Rosary 6pm followed by Mass at 7pm

First Saturday of each month, Mass at St Joseph the Worker Church (Rosary - 8:30am) 9am Mass.

Sunday. Filipino Mass 1st Sunday of each month at Guardian Angels Church. 99 Scarborough St Southport.

Sunday. Korean Mass every Sunday at **5pm** at Guardian Angels Church. 99 Scarborough St Southport.

Walking Group. At **St Joseph the Worker church**, Saturday at 6:00am. To join please contact Janeece 0408 763 772.

Children's Corner

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

You are my own dear son

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

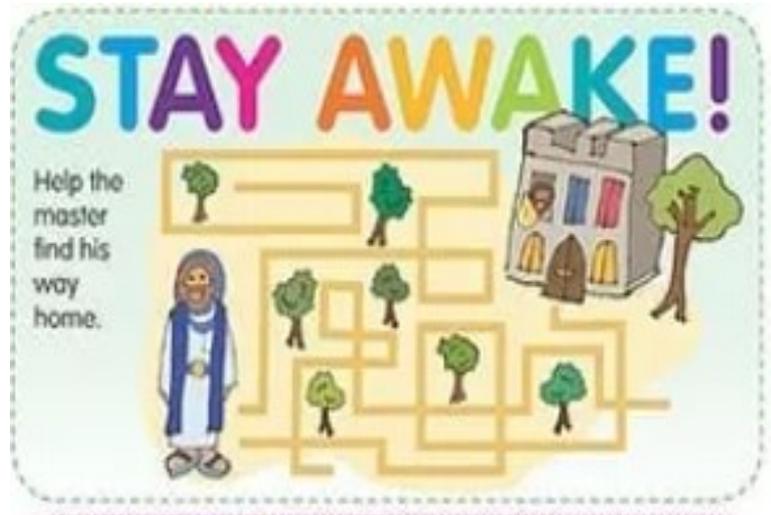
R L B I R S A N D A L S Z T Q
S H O V E C J R W A T E R M M
B M M W U J O H N N Q U X G F
A Z E R T F I R E C J H O X M
I G M U U X J I H E E K D L U
X Q D J O B D H A X X S I E M
B C A H S E P Z V O C Q G U P
C C F Z P Q M X A C I P Y X Y
P E P O W E R F U L T L S K Y
A F D C P R A Y E D E E P Y X
Q U X F K H I Q M D D A P O I
V T Y K D O V E H R R S A G O
U H E A V E N I D X S E Z H Y
R F S Q U R B K T S P D C O W
A K N V L B A P T I S E D Z L

Try to find these words:

baptised
dove
excited
fire
heaven
John
pleased
powerful
prayed
sandals
sky
water

The Baptism of the Lord, Year C [M10RSUC_2004_WSG.rtf]

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A Prayer to say

Thank you Jesus, for Promising to come to us. Help us to be ready to welcome you with open and loving hearts
Amen



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PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come to the Water

Refrain

***Come to the water,
you who are thirsty
though you have nothing,
I bid you come, and be filled
with the goodness I have to offer.
Come! Listen! Live!***

Why spend your money
on what cannot fill
the emptiness deep in your heart?
Listen to my word and you will enjoy
goodness and peace in your heart. **R**
Copyright© Frank Andersen, Chevalier Bookshop

SPRINKLING RITE:

Water of Life (Instrumental)

GLORY TO GOD- Mass Shalom(All Sung)

Refrain:

***Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good
will.***

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us. **R**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. **R Amen**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – SUNG

Water of Life

Refrain:

***Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us,
raise us to life in Christ Jesus.***

All you who thirst, come to the waters,
and you will never be thirsty again. **R**

As rain from heav'n, so is God's word,
it waters the earth
and brings forth life. **R**

Dying with Christ,
so we shall rise with him,
death shall no longer
have pow'r over us. **R**

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

The word of the Lord lasts for ever.
What is the word that is living?
It is brought to us
through his son, Jesus Christ

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

© 1985 O'Carroll and Walker OCP

GIFTS PROCESSION

Flow River Flow

Refrain

***Flow river flow, flow over me,
O living water, poured out for free,
O living water, flow over me.***

You will be mine
and I will be your God,
for I will wash you clean.
And a new heart,
a heart of flesh and feeling,
I will place within you
for your heart of stone. **R**

The blind shall see,
the mute shall find a voice,
the lame shall leap for joy.
Rivers will flow
into dry and barren desert,
flowers bloom in splendour,
glory fill the land. **R**

Whoever drinks the water I will give
will never thirst again.
The drink I give is an ever-flowing river,
welling up within you
to give eternal life. **R**
© Bob Hurd 1986.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us saviour of the world,
for by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

How Shall I Call You

How shall I call you?
Maker of heaven, poet of sunset
and painter of sky.
Father almighty,
who's running to find us,
giving his Son who must suffer and die.

Refrain:

***Glory to the Father,
the Son and the Spirit,
let's sing it again and again.
Glory to the Father,
the Son and the Spirit,
forever and ever. Amen.***

How shall I call you?
Lover of children, shepherd and
teacher and brother and friend,
healer of blind man and healer of leper,
you are beginning and
middle and end. **R**

How shall I call you?
Spirit of comfort, cloud in the daytime
and fire in the night.
Guide as we wander,
protector in danger,
listener and helper and giver of sight. **R**

©1977 Robin Mann

REFLECTION HYMN

As Gentle as Silence

Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence
of all that I love here on earth.
All the beauty I see
has been given to me,
and his giving is gentle as silence.

Ev'ry day, ev'ry hour, ev'ry moment
has been blessed
by the strength of his love.

At the turn of each tide
he is there at my side,
and his touch is as gentle as silence.
There've been times when I've turned
from his presence, and I've walked other
paths, other ways.
But I've called on his name
in the dark of my shame,
and his mercy was gentle as silence.
Estelle White © McCrimmon Publishing

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine!

Lord, the light of your love
is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining,
Jesus, Light of the World,
shine upon us.
Set us free by the truth
you now bring us.
Shine on me! Shine on me!

Refrain:

***Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land
with the Father's glory, blaze, Spirit
blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations
with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, Lord,
and let there be light.***

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood
I may enter your brightness.
Search me, try me, consume all my
darkness. Shine on me! Shine on me! **R.**
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Ltd.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father
almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of
all things visible and invisible. I believe
in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only
Begotten Son of God, born of the Father
before all ages. God from God, Light
from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him, all things were
made. For us men and for, our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(At the words that follow, up to and including
'and became man', all bow)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For
our sake, he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in
accordance, with the Scriptures. He
ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father. He will
come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead and his kingdom will have
no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from
the Father and the Son, who with the
Father
and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets. I
believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I
look forward to the resurrection of the
dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

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