

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
St Stephen Deacon & Martyr Parish  
January 10, 2021

Entrance Hymn:

“River of Glory”

River of glory, springs of our birth  
Flood of God's riches poured on the Earth  
We are born from the darkness  
And clothed in the light!  
We are bathed in the glory of God!

Fountain of mercy  
Grace flowing free  
Streams of salvation,  
Spilling with love from a tree!  
Here there is haven,  
Healing, and health,  
Joy for the asking,  
Love in abundance of wealth!

**Reading I**

**Is 42:1-4, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD:  
Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,  
upon whom I have put my spirit;  
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,  
not crying out, not shouting,  
not making his voice heard in the street.  
a bruised reed he shall not break,  
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,  
until he establishes justice on the earth;  
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.  
I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you  
as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to bring out prisoners from confinement,  
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

**Responsorial Psalm**

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

God indeed is my savior;  
I am confident and unafraid.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.  
Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;  
among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.  
Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.  
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

## Reading II

[1 Jn 5:1-9](#)

Beloved:

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God,  
and everyone who loves the Father  
loves also the one begotten by him.

In this way we know that we love the children of God  
when we love God and obey his commandments.

For the love of God is this,  
that we keep his commandments.

And his commandments are not burdensome,  
for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.

And the victory that conquers the world is our faith.

Who indeed is the victor over the world  
but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ,  
not by water alone, but by water and blood.

The Spirit is the one who testifies,  
and the Spirit is truth.

So there are three that testify,  
the Spirit, the water, and the blood,  
and the three are of one accord.

If we accept human testimony,  
the testimony of God is surely greater.

Now the testimony of God is this,  
that he has testified on behalf of his Son.

## **Alleluia**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **Gospel**

**Mk 1:7-11**

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed:

“One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John.

On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens,

“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

For the Church, that we may continue to fulfill Christ’s mission, welcoming all those who seek the Lord, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

For leaders around the world, that they may strive to bring forth justice to their nations and peace across their borders, let us pray to the Lord.

For those who prepare adult catechumens or new parents for baptism, that they may be strengthened in their ministry as they pass their faith and wisdom to their sisters and brothers, let us pray to the Lord.

For those who are homeless and those who have difficulty affording adequate heat, that they may be kept safe and warm this winter, let us pray to the Lord.

For all of us, that we may be conscious of our call as baptized Christians to carry out Christ’s mission and serve others as he did, let us pray to the Lord.

For all who are ill with the coronavirus: that God’s healing love will touch them, relieve their suffering, and restore them to health, let us pray to the Lord.

For all those who work to provide essential services during this pandemic, that they may find the strength and energy to continue the work they are doing and they be kept safe in all that they do for those in their care, let us pray to the Lord.

For all those who have died, especially Phyllis Jacobsen, Raymond Skarzynski, and for those who have died from the Corona Virus pandemic, that we may know their presence eternally in

the communion of saints, let us pray to the Lord.

For Mary Ann & Joseph Green, Theresa Manikowski, Linda Jozwiakowski and the parishioners of St. Stephen's, for whom this Mass is being offered, let us pray to the Lord.

For all the prayers in our parish intention book, for the prayer requests that have been sent in and for all the prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts (PAUSE)..., let us pray to the Lord

Preparation of the Gifts

"On Jordan's Bank"

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh.  
Awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin:  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

Communion

"The Eyes and Hands of Christ"

Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
love will be found, life will abound.  
By name we are called, from water we are sent:  
to become the eyes and hands of Christ.

One we become, no longer strangers.  
No longer empty or frail.  
Filled with the Spirit, ev'ry hunger satisfied.  
Christ is the center of our lives.  
(Refrain)

One in the Spirit, one in the Lord.  
One in the breaking of the bread.  
Life-giving witness of our dying and new life,  
held by the promise in our hands.  
(Refrain)

Not what we are, but what we become.  
Not what we say, but what we do.  
Living the challenge as the bearers of light.  
We are the eyes and hands of Christ

Recessional

“ Rain Down ”

Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love on your people  
Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love, God of life  
Faithful and true is the Word of our God  
All of God's works are so worthy of trust  
God's mercy falls on the just and the right  
Full of God's love is the earth  
Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love on your people  
Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love, God of life  
We who revere and find hope in our God  
Live in the kindness and joy of God's wing  
God will protect us from darkness and death  
God will not leave us to starve