



Praying at Home this Sunday

The Baptism of the Lord – January 10, 2021

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Sign of the Cross + Amen.** *(All briefly call to mind their sins, praising God for his mercy.)*

Leader: Lord Jesus, you are the light of the nations: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are worthy of all glory and praise: Christ have mercy.

Response: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you hear and answer the cry of the poor: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray: (Pause)

God of salvation,
in the river Jordan you bathed your Son Jesus in glory
and revealed him as your obedient servant.

In spirit and in power you have
rent the heavens and have come down to us.

Strengthen us to acknowledge your Christ,
that we who are reborn in his likeness
may walk with him the path of obedience.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (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.

The word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10)

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,
give to the LORD glory and praise,
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;
adore the LORD in holy attire.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,
the LORD, over vast waters.
The voice of the LORD is mighty;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The God of glory thunders,
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 10:34-38)

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

The word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

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.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Discussion Questions:

1. (Isaiah) Where in your life are you in need of Jesus's freeing touch?
2. (Acts) In your community do you see some individuals or groups receive particular acclaim or censure due to their race, gender, or religious creed? How can you challenge these biases when you encounter them?
3. (Mark) How do you experience the Holy Spirit working in your life?

Sample Intercessions:

1. For all who minister to the people of God, strengthened by the grace of baptism, may they testify to the light of Christ in word and deed: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
2. For our nation, may we be guided by the Spirit of the Truth to a deeper unity: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
3. For all who are sick, especially those with the coronavirus: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
4. For those who are incarcerated, may they know the support of a forgiving and loving community, and encounter opportunities for growth and healing: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
5. For those who have died, especially Rebecca Marie Lawton and Isabel Loomis, may they be welcomed into heaven with joy: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
6. For all members of our parish, nourished by the word of God, may we be renewed in mind, body, and spirit to bring Christ's merciful love to all we meet: we pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray together as Jesus taught:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

**My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if you are already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.**

Closing Prayer:

God of compassion,
despite our weaknesses and our sinfulness,
you look upon each of us as a beloved child.
Hear our prayers that through the power
of the Holy Spirit we might serve you with fidelity
all the days of our lives.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**
Sign of the Cross +