

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH



ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON
OFFICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

Gloria

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. 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. 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. Amen.

First Reading **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:

The Lord will bless his people with peace..

Second Reading **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.”

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.”

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

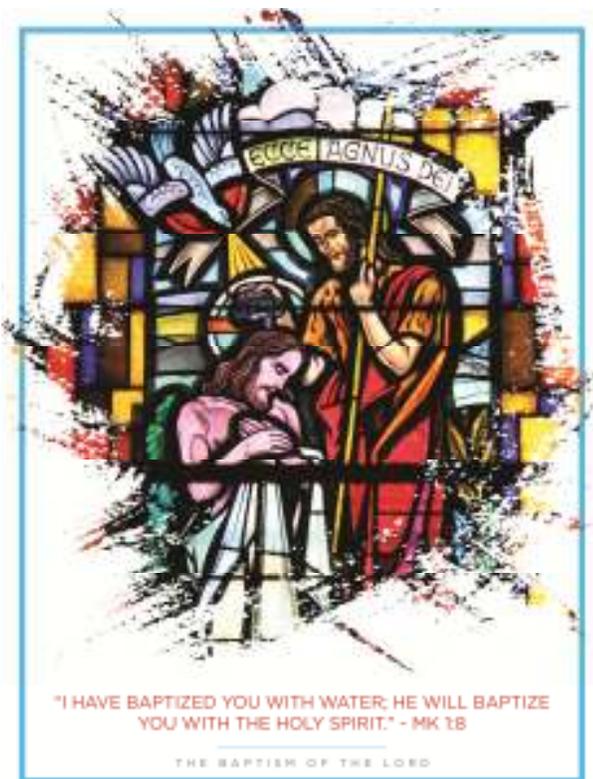
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will 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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Words from the Pastor

January 10th, 2021

The Baptism of the Lord

The last time we left Jesus was before he became terrible two. The three magi had come to their house and left gifts fitting for a king. They departed, and Joseph was told in a dream to take Jesus and Mary to safety in Egypt. They were refugees—strangers in a strange land. This weekend we fast forward almost 30 years to an adult Jesus. We also rejoin John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus, who was offering a baptism of repentance in the Jordan River. He was the one who lived in the desert preparing the way of the Lord. Jesus asked John to baptize him even though he was without sin. John reluctantly did so, and when he emerged from the water “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.” This event marks the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. From there, he goes into the desert to fast and pray for 40 days and 40 nights. There, he is tempted by the devil.

Why did Jesus choose to be baptized? He had no need for repentance—he came to bring repentance to all and prepare them for the kingdom of God in heaven. Jesus chose to be baptized to be an example to all. It gave attention to John, and by Jesus entering the water, he blessed it and the sacrament of Baptism for all time.

Baptism is the first and foundational sacrament. From it Confirmation and First Communion spring. These are the three sacraments of Initiation. The sacraments of healing, Penance and the Sacrament of the sick have their roots in Baptism, as do the sacraments of commitment, Marriage and Holy Orders. These all begin when we become children of God, being blessed with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Today is a good time to renew our baptismal promises which we made, or were done for us by our parents.