

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



Baptism of the Lord
10 January 2021 - Year B

“When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.”

Something to Think About

We know that Jesus was without sin, and didn't really need to be baptised. Yet, Jesus asked to be baptised by John in the River Jordan along with the other people as an example to his followers and as a sign of his true identity as the Son of God.

The Story

In today's Gospel, we hear about Jesus' cousin, John, who baptised people in the Jordan River. The people wonder if John is the special person that they have been waiting for, but John assures them that someone more powerful is coming – someone who could baptise not with water, but with the Holy Spirit and with fire. John was talking about Jesus! John told those gathered that he was unfit to even untie Jesus' sandals.

After Jesus was baptised, the Holy Spirit came to rest on him in the form of a dove. The voice of God came from heaven, saying “You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you.”

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

3:15-16, 21-22

Everyone became excited and wondered,
"Could John be the Messiah?"

John said, "I am just baptising with water.

But someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

After everyone else had been baptised, Jesus himself was baptised.

Then as he prayed, the sky opened up,
and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in the form of a dove.

A voice from heaven said,
"You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Video

Click to watch the video.

[The Baptism of Jesus](#)



Group Discussion

In the same way that the Holy Spirit came to Jesus when he was baptised, we are baptised with water and the Holy Spirit at our own baptism. The Spirit is there to help us when we find things difficult and to guide us to make the right choices. How might we try to live as God wants us to in the coming week?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray.

Reader: We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may continue to spread Jesus's message of love for all people. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who are preparing for baptism. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that we may do all we can to live the way God wants us to. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For courage to care for others. Lord hear us.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



God of light,
You sent your Spirit down upon your Son
Jesus at his baptism.
Send us your Spirit too, so that we may
be filled with the courage to do all that
you ask of us.
Amen.

Group Activity

NAME PLAQUES

You will need: piece of cardboard for each child, felt-tip pens, stickers, stamps, other decorative items.

At our baptism we are given a name. To celebrate each person's special place in God's family, invite each child to make their own name plaque and to decorate it with the gifts that God has given them.

Display these in a place of honour this week!



JOHN BAPTISES JESUS



The **HOLY SPIRIT** came
down upon **JESUS** in the
form of a **DOVE**.

DRAW

A voice from heaven said:
You are my own dear Son,
and I am pleased with you!

WRITE

my _____

You are _____
