

Reflection—

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptised with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit.



The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.



THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SATURDAY 9th January
Vigil Mass 4.00 pm
SUNDAY 10th January
Mass 9.30 am

Saturday	9th	The Feast of	Vigil Mass 4 pm	Parishioners
Sunday	10th	the Baptism of the Lord	Mass 9.30 am	That people will listen to God as he speaks
Monday	11th	Feria NO MASS		
Tuesday	12th	Feria Mass 10 am		All Ordinands
Wednesday	13th	Feria Mass 10 am		Ben Woloszczuk RIP & John Robertson RIP
Thursday	14th	Feria Mass 10 am		Sick in the parish
Friday	15th	Feria Mass 10 am		All religious sisters & brothers
Saturday	16th	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vigil Mass 4 pm	Winifrid Bernadette Clark RIP

Next Week : THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B):

Saturday 16th January 2021

Vigil Mass 4 pm

and Sunday 17th January Mass at 9.30am

ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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As the season of Christmas comes to an end what are we going to do with our Christmas cards as we take them down?

Obviously recycle them but why not bring the religious ones to St. Benedict's so that the Chinthowa Charity can use them to make cards for next Christmas?

Fr. Paul and Andrea are giving their cards to Margaret so they can be re-used. Please bring your cards and we will make sure they are used again.

A reminder to all who are in the **GIFT AID SCHEME**. Please ensure we have been informed of any change of address or Tax situation. **THANK YOU. If you are not Gift Aiding your church giving why not do it?**

Mass each day continues to be shown live on my Facebook page—Paul Roy Lomas. It is also available to use after the Mass has ended in case you can't be on your computer, smart phone or lap-top at the exact time.

THE 2019-2020 GIFT AID ENVELOPES ARE NOW (BELATEDLY) AVAILABLE.

It is hoped that you can collect them from Fr. Paul or he will deliver them for those not coming to mass as yet. He apologises for the delay but the Pandemic wrecked the provision he put in place to prepare them, so he has with John Nolan's help done them now. If you would rather pay by Standing Order then he can provide the necessary form for you to take to your bank. Thank you for supporting your Church.

**Tel No:
01827 736286
Locked down,
need a chat,
phone me!**



Looking forward to beyond

the Pandemic we need to start praying now and thinking now about how we will move forward after the worst danger is over. We need to decide how we can grow as a Community, both in numbers but also in our spirituality. When we can all meet together for worship, then we must also meet together to discern the way forward both in maintaining our church buildings but also how we have a presence in Atherstone. Can we be confident in our faith and outward in our outreach?

REFLECTION Finding one's work

I think it is a great blessing when people find their work.

I often feel that I am as rich as Croesus, not in money, but rich because I have found my work. In that work I have something to which I can devote myself heart and soul, and which gives meaning and inspiration to my life.

Even though I have lots of difficulties, and there are many gloomy days in my life, I count myself among the fortunate.

This is not the road on which one perishes. This is a powerful stream that will bear me safely to port.

Vincent Van Gogh.



COVID 19 VIRUS IS STILL PREVALENT SO KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM EACH OTHER. TOUCH AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE.

Sick & Housebound

Prayers for Sick and Housebound:

May the communion we share today, with the members of our Parish Family who are at home, or in hospital, remind us to live for one another, and give them a sense of belonging to our Family, and to this celebration.

Are you or a member of your family or friends going in hospital? If yes please make sure that you inform Fr. Paul or the hospital chaplain so that they can receive Holy Communion when in hospital. If you would like to bring Christ, in Communion, to a sick or housebound relative or friend in your bubble, please call Fr. Paul on 07973239942 or 01827736286

Mass Intentions 2021

Please don't forget to hand in your Mass requests in an envelope with the name and date on and with your donation inside. Fr. Paul has a few outstanding Masses.