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Sunday, 9th January 2022 The Baptism of the Lord – Year C



Dear Jesus, You have raised us to new life through water and the Spirit. May your Spirit of justice and peace always rest upon us so that we may dedicate ourselves to the work and prayers we offered.

SUNDAY MASSES:	Vigil Saturday	5:00 pm
	Sunday	8:00am, 10am
WEEKDAY MASSES:	Tuesday to Saturday	9.15am
ROSARY:	Tuesday to Saturday	8.30am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday – 4.15pm or by appointment	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:	Saturday	4.15pm
BAPTISMS:	By appointment, Sundays after 10am mass	
WEDDINGS:	By appointment (minimum of six months' notice required)	
AN OINTING MASS:	2 nd Saturday of the month March, June and September	
PARISH SECRETARY:	Tuesday & Friday	9am to 3pm
	(Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)	
This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired		

REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Recently Deceased: Alejandro Roblero,

Anniversaries: Felisiana Ros Penano, Domenico C., Hilda Victorine La Porte, Patrick La Porte

“May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.”

We pray for: Thomas Laidler, Judy & Leo Melville, Caterina Smiroldo

“Mother of God, Health of the sick, Refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted. Pray for us”

READERS ROSTER 3rd Week

<u>Time</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Mass Co-ordinator</u>
5:00pm	Judy Simon Sue Allan	Tony Allan		Therese Di Paolo
8.00am	Barbara Perry Rhos Shi – Wang	Ruben Baluyot		Barbara Mucha
10.00am	Leo Vakauta Christina Kazzi	Cheston La Porte Radley La Porte	Chuma Brothers	

MASS for the Anniversary of the Death of Servant of God, Eileen O'Connor Monday, 10th January at 11am Principal Celebrant: Bishop Terry Brady Due to COVID concerns, Mass will only be available as a Livestream from Our Lady's Home, Coogee and there will not be an opportunity to pray this year at Eileen's tomb. Livestreamed from Our Lady's Home in Coogee www.eileenconnor.com.au Visitors to the homepage can click on a link which will then send them to the Archdiocese of Sydney You Tube channel where they can watch the Mass.

IGNITE YOUTH – 2022 Want to give your children the best faith-filled experiences throughout the year. Get excited! Events include **Ignite Summer Camp**, **Ignite Launch** and **Ignite Conference** for high school delegates. These one-off tickets are only available until 10 Jan 2022

RECLAIMING EVANGELISATION SERIES This series continues with Dr Mary Healy Live Online, Saturday 12 February 2022, 10 – 1:30am You are invited to attend Dr Mary Healy's live online address to the faithful of Sydney on the topic 'Why Make Disciples? What Scripture tells us about calling and forming disciples.' Dr Mary Healy is a professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, as well as an accomplished author and international speaker. Places limited. Registrations essential via www.gomakedisciples.org.au

COFFEE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SYNOD The Synod of Bishops consultation has now commenced, and parishioners are invited to gather in small groups to discuss one or more of the topics for the Synod. This is a low-key discussion with responses invited to the National Team by February 27. The Coffee Conversation leaflet will be available in parishes for interested parishioners to assist in the conversation. If you require more information, can you please contact Sr Jo Brady RSJ Plenary Council/Synod Liaison Support Officer at jo.brady@sdneycatholic.org

AGING WELL MASTERCLASSES Bringing together a team of clinical experts and professionals in the field of ageing, Catholic Care's Ageing Well masterclasses will help you live life to the full. These series of masterclasses, Age Well covers everything you need to know from staying connected to community, diet and exercise, navigating the many choices around ageing support, why mental health matters as we age and financial and legal planning. Ageing Well masterclasses are due to begin in February 2022 and will be held in casual, non-judgmental community forums in Liverpool, Haberfield and Lidcombe. please visit catholiccare.org/ageingwell.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Baptism of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 **The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it** 'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm - 103(104) R: *Oh, Bless the LORD, my soul!*

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7 **He saved us by means of the cleansing water of rebirth**

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to *set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own* and would have no ambition except to do good.

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions, we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our Saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation: Lk3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: *He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-16,21-22 **'Someone is coming who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire'**

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated the Sunday after the Epiphany and concludes the Christmas Season. The Baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of his public ministry. Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by his cousin John the Baptist in the Jordan River. In his baptism, Jesus submits himself entirely to his Father's will and out of love he consents to the baptism of death for the remission of our sins. After agreeing to be baptized along with sinners, John the Baptist looked at Jesus and pointed him out as the "lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". By doing so, John reveals that Jesus is at the same time the suffering servant who silently allows himself to be led to the slaughter and who bears the sin of many as well as the Paschal Lamb, the symbol of Israel's redemption at the first Passover. When Jesus comes up from the water of his baptism, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes upon Jesus and remains with him. As does the Holy Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of all who are baptized. As the Holy Spirit comes upon Jesus a voice from Heaven proclaims, "***This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased***". And with this the heavens were opened to us again which had been closed through Adam's sin.

So let us enter into this mystery of Baptism as we join with Jesus in order to rise with him and walk in the newness of life.

"Let us be buried with Christ by Baptism to rise with him: let us go down with him to be raised with him; and let us rise with him to be glorified with him."

-St. Gregory of Nazyanus

As we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord let us remember how much our Heavenly Father loves us by coming and lowering himself to be among sinners so that He might always be standing side by side next to us, relating to us instead of judging from up high. Giving us this beautiful sacrament of Baptism so that we may be forever in communication with God.

A MESSAGE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING ISSUES

A copy of the Safeguarding Policy has been uploaded to the website of St John of God and a copy will also be attached to our notice board. If anyone would like a copy of the Safeguarding Policy, one can be provided to you upon request.

As part of the Safeguarding procedures, the Parish is now making available a suggestion box especially for children and young people in order that we take into consideration their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions in a more proactive way. The Suggestion Box which will be placed on a table in the church foyer. We look forward to hearing from our children.

Also, as part of the Safeguarding procedures, it is available for parents, guardians and the general community a protocol 'Managing Safeguarding Complaints'. We value the process in moving forward positively in relation to all Safeguarding measures. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Priest. Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has legal obligation to report crimes to the police.