



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



The Baptism of the Lord - Year B - 10th January 2021

This weekend, we solemnly celebrate the feast of "**The Baptism of the Lord.**" The baptism of Our Lord Jesus by John the Baptist in the River Jordan is an important event in Jesus' life with profound significance. It is highly symbolic, having deep meaning. One may wonder, and even find it difficult to understand, and may ask the question: 'Why did Jesus need to be baptized by John the Baptist in the first place?' John the Baptist preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and therefore, most of those coming to him were repentant sinners. But Jesus was sinless; He did not commit any sin; so, in no way did He need this baptism of John the Baptist.



Again, John the Baptist wasn't the one who introduced baptism for the first time. From earlier time on, the Jewish people knew and were used to baptism. Actually, it was used as an initiation rite for the pagan converts to Judaism from some other faith. 'So, why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit Himself to John's baptism?' For two reasons: Firstly, Jesus did it to show His unity and solidarity with the human race, which He came to save. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of His mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed Himself to be numbered among sinners. He submitted Himself entirely to His Father's will. Out of love He consented to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins.

Secondly, He did it to sanctify the water of baptism, so that our sins are washed away and we come to a state of grace in order to follow Him. This meaning of baptism in relation to forgiveness of sins is still maintained. When we are baptized, the original sin, as well as personal sins are washed away; we become free from sin and acquire the state of holiness and grace.

In baptism, we too are named by God. All of us have different names, signifying our uniqueness before God. Yet in baptism, all of us are given the same name, that is 'child of God,' signifying our oneness with God and our unity with one another in God. God says to Jesus at His baptism, 'You are my beloved Son, God says the same thing to each one of us in our baptism, 'You are my beloved daughter, my beloved son.'

Today, the Church invites all of us to renew our own baptismal promises. Through baptism, we put on Christ; we have to live and keep our baptismal promises throughout our life. We are clothed with Christ; we become one with Christ; we become another Christ.

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

First Reading: Isa 47:1-4, 6-7 – Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.

Psalm Response: All the ends of the earth have seen the power of God.
All the ends of the earth have seen the power of God.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-9 – The Spirit, the water and the blood give witness.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus approaching him, and said: this is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11 – You are my beloved So, in whom I am well pleased.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

Life never seems to be the way we want it, but we live in the best way we can. There is no perfect life but we can fill it with perfect moments....

Next week's Readings

First: 1 Sam 3:3-10, 19

Second: 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20

Gospel: John 1:35-42

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: By appointment only

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stoline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

No one is humanly worthy to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother.

No one is worthy to stoop and untie the sandal straps of Jesus.

But he still calls us and favours us to do His work. Will you serve?

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Roma Piper, Janice McAnlen, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Jasmine Webb, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Peter Goodbun, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather, Joseph Thottathil.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Konrad Wachtel

Anniversaries & Remembrances January: Ray Tiernan, Lionel Browning, Nancy Greco, Alberto Bandiera, Joan Bevan, Pastor Calunod Obligado, Tom Curran, Philip Pitts, Alaister Pitts, Nicola Pasqualini, Serena Ragagnin, William Peterson, Brian Cannon, Stefanie Boyd, Melinda Simo-Swer, Tina Toomey, Katerina Grudina, Maree Kearney, Margaret Campbell, Else Peters, David Stark, William Maclean, Harry Copas, John Harrison, Br Pat Doolin, Barry Logan, Bette Risson, Garth Brown, Nancy Greco, Frank Shearif, Lionel Browning, John Pearce, Aleida Wishey, Mario Vitali, Charles Brown, Liam Maher, John Boon, Doris McInroth, Baby Samuel, Fre Caterina, Margaret Duncan, Ray Stephenson, Theresa & Laurence Gormley, Irene Harrison, Peter Knights, John Bergin, Gianna Santarossa., Winnie D'Souza, Frances Nell, Billie Riley, Jenni McPhee, John Gormley, Thomas McNamee, Helen McNamee.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Mass Celebrations Please visit the following website to register for the Mass you wish to attend. If you are unable to utilise this online system, please call the parish office to register.

Saturdays at 6:15pm - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-saturday-tickets-109262537190>

Sundays at 8:00am - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-sunday-tickets-109263853126>

EAST TIMOR RAFFLE Prize winners 1st – Irene S, 2nd - Margaret C, 3rd – Betty A, 4th – Denis R, 5th – Jodie D. Amount raised \$1,638.00. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and to everyone who supported our raffle. The East Timor Christmas retiring collection raised \$2,002.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Small Coins for East Timor The collection jar for your SMALL COINS will be at the Welcome Desk each week. Total collected to date is **\$15,637.70**.

Counting Roster Volunteers are needed to join the counting roster. Commitment is approximately one hour after Sunday Mass once per month. Please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 if you are able to help. If you are ready to help out with any of the volunteer positions in the Parish, please visit <http://archbne.org/welcome> and complete the relevant sections. Thank you to all parish volunteers who give of their time so generously.

Reflection Garden: The concrete path in our garden has been completed within our expected timeframe and within budget. Please take a look next time you are at the Church...it looks amazing. The work was completed by Matt and his team at Excellent Concrete Finish. They did a great job and have advised that they will give a competitive pricing deal to anyone in the parish who needs concrete work done. Contact phone number is 409 635 197.

Columbarium We are now taking reservations for niches or plaques. If you would like to discuss your requirements or have any questions about the process, please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 to arrange a suitable time.

Parish Diary:

Monday 11th January

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Tuesday 12th January

Wednesday 13th January

11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 14th January

6:00pm Mass

Friday 15th January

9:30am Mass

Saturday 16th January

3:30pm Baptism

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 17th January

8:00am Mass

Bookings for Weekend Masses are essential

Reconciliation is by appointment only. Please contact the Parish office to make a booking.

Roster		Readers		Music	
16th & 17th January	6:15pm (1st) Paulina P (2nd) Vern D (POF) Vern D	8:00am (1st) Lorraine K (2nd) Matthew K (POF) Matthew K	6:15pm Gp 1	8:00am Gp 3	Powerpoint 6:15pm Alan B 8:00am Clinton T

The Baptism of the Lord (1st & 2nd Reading from Year A)

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth - so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit'.

It was this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'