

Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord (B)

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11

My Son, My Daughter

Who was not asked, at the dawn of young adulthood, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Today there are so many options for girls and boys. How does one decide? Money and security are very tempting, as are fame and reputation. And then there is the other side of the story when, in the quiet of our thoughts, we wonder if we became everything we might have been. Did we choose the right path or the easy one? Did we rise to the occasion when life challenged us, or did we stay where it was comfortable? Did we really grow up, or did we just get older?

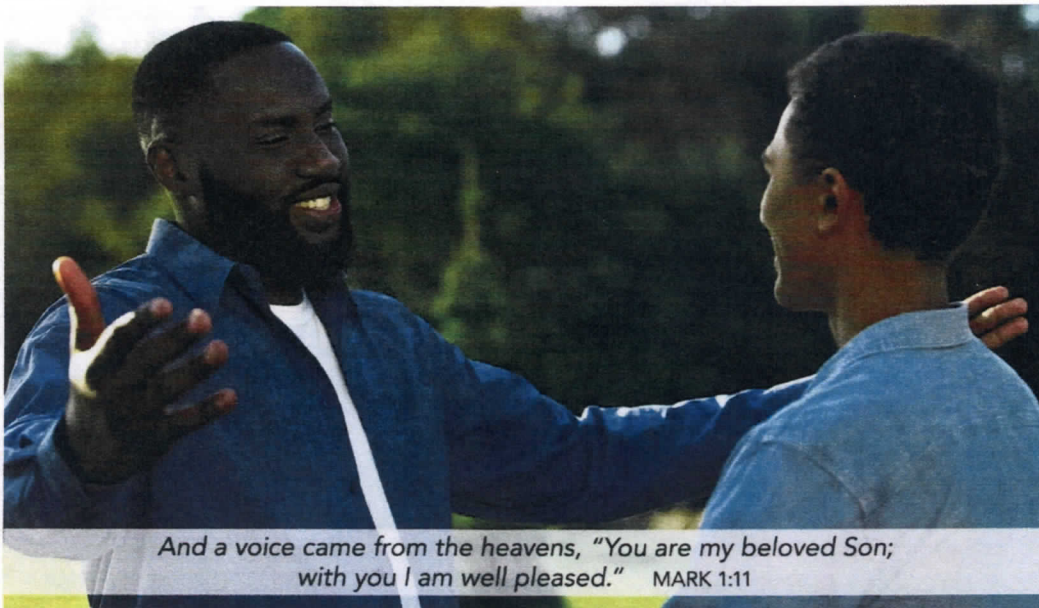
Today we cross the threshold of Christmastime and into Ordinary Time, when the readings focus on discipleship. What kind of disciple do we want to be? Regardless of the past, today we have a chance to start

anew. Today's Gospel passage places Jesus before us as a model to follow. He is at the threshold of his ministry. Stepping out of the waters of the Jordan, he is told: "You are my beloved Son." As Son, his role is to bring God's goodness to the world. Through baptism and profession of faith, we too are filled with God's spirit. We too are beloved sons and daughters of God, called to bring God's goodness to the world. What does this mean for us? To what kind of lives does this call us? What do we want to be when we grow up?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- * What can you do to make your part of the world a better place?
- * Look deep within yourself. To what might God be calling you?



And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." MARK 1:11

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Dear Padre,

My fiancée was baptized in the Lutheran Church. If she becomes Catholic, will she be baptized again?

A person can be validly baptized only once, whether in or out of the Catholic Church. Catholics believe three things are necessary for a valid baptism: baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; flowing water; and the intention of the “minister” to baptize using the form (words of the Trinitarian formula) and matter (flowing water) needed for a valid baptism.

Orthodox and most Protestant baptisms are recognized by the Catholic Church. However, the Catholic Church does not recognize as valid baptisms performed by Christian communities that don't believe in the Trinity—Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons, for example. These communities may use the same matter (flowing water), but they don't have the same form (Trinitarian formula) or intention in their baptism.

If your fiancée decides to become Catholic, she will need to attend Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults sessions, make her first Communion and reconciliation, and be confirmed, but she has already been validly baptized and will not need to be baptized again.

Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR
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SWEET MARSHMALLOW/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

To baptize a child is an act of justice toward them. Why? Because at baptism we offer a treasure, at baptism we offer a pledge: the Holy Spirit. Baptism endows the child with the strength of the Holy Spirit: the Spirit that will defend and assist each of them throughout life.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JANUARY 12, 2020

Calendar

- Monday**
 JANUARY 11
Weekday
 Heb 1:1–6
 Mk 1:14–20
- Tuesday**
 JANUARY 12
Weekday
 Heb 2:5–12
 Mk 1:21–28
- Wednesday**
 JANUARY 13
Weekday
 Heb 2:14–18
 Mk 1:29–39
- Thursday**
 JANUARY 14
Weekday
 Heb 3:7–14
 Mk 1:40–45
- Friday**
 JANUARY 15
Weekday
 Heb 4:1–5, 11
 Mk 2:1–12
- Saturday**
 JANUARY 16
Weekday
 Heb 4:12–16
 Mk 2:13–17
- Sunday**
 JANUARY 17
Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time
 1 Sm 3:3b–10, 19
 1 Cor 6:13c–15a,
 17–20
 Jn 1:35–42

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