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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 104): O bless the Lord, my soul!

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis January: *For the right to an education:* Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Mass Intentions For This Week:

Baptism of the Lord

Saturday Jan 11 7:30 p.m. Russell For a friend req by Irene Deschamps
 Sunday Jan 12 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.**
 + For all parishioners req by Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family
 Monday Jan 13 No Mass
 Tuesday Jan 14 + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family
 Wed Jan 15 No Mass
 Thurs Jan 16 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration
 11:00 a.m. + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family
 Friday Jan 17 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
 9:00 a.m. Fr Paul req by Darin & Carlene



2nd Sunday of Advent

Saturday Jan 18 7:30 p.m. Russell Special Intentions req by Gary & Nicole Petz
 Sunday Jan 19 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.**
 + John Selby req by Doug and Donalda Wishart
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn For all parishioners req by Father Paul

****First communion** classes will begin again today, January 12th at 10:00 a.m. after 9 a.m. mass. Thank you!

The Christmas season, celebrating the Self-revelation of God through Jesus, comes to an end with the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Christmas is the feast of God's Self-revelation to the Jews, and Epiphany celebrates God's Self-revelation to the Gentiles. At his Baptism in the Jordan, Christ reveals himself to repentant sinners. The Baptism of the Lord Jesus is the great event celebrated by the Eastern churches on the feast of Epiphany because it is the occasion of the first public revelation of all the Three Persons in the Holy Trinity, and the official revelation of Jesus as the Son of God to the world by God the Father. It is also an event described by all four Gospels, and it marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. **The liturgical season of Christmas comes to a conclusion this Sunday with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord.**

St. Theresa's Parish News

The total of the donations to Mary's meals for 2024 was \$3,015.00. Thank you to all who donated to Mary's meals. Your generosity is very much appreciated!



Coffee Sunday this month will be on Sunday, January 26th after 9 am Mass and *everyone is invited!* **Please note...** If you haven't already done so and would like to be added to a group, please contact Brenda Robin at 204-564-2646 or cell 204-937-0270. Coffee Sunday is part of the Ministry of Hospitality, a time to gather together, greet one another and visit after Mass while enjoying coffee and snacks. **We hope to see you there!**

Food for Thought

(1) The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity. It reminds us of who we are and Whose we are. By Baptism we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit.

(2) Jesus' baptism reminds us also of our mission: a) to experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children, and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them and serving them in all humility; b) to live as the children of God in thought, word and action. c) to lead holy and transparent Christian lives and not to desecrate our bodies (the temples of the Holy Spirit and members of Jesus' Body), by impurity, injustice, intolerance, jealousy, or hatred; d) to accept both the good and the bad experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father for our growth in holiness; e) to grow daily in intimacy with God by personal and family prayers, by meditative reading of the Word of God, by participating in the Holy Mass, and by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



(3) It is a day to thank God for the graces we have received in Baptism, to renew our Baptismal promises and to preach Christ's "Good News" by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service and forgiveness.

Significance of Christ's baptism: This exalted identity of the "Son of God" revealed at his baptism is the starting point for all that Jesus will undertake—his self-giving ministry, death and Resurrection. It is because Jesus knows Who he is that he does as he does. As we begin Ordinary Time, we do so knowing that, in our own Baptism, God has named us beloved sons and daughters. Like Jesus, all that we undertake must flow from who we are—God's beloved. We are called to follow in the footsteps of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This means that we, too, must humbly submit ourselves to God's wise and loving plan for our lives. He, in turn, anoints us with the Holy Spirit that we may be clothed with His power and grace. According to the Navarre Bible commentary, in Christ's baptism we can find a reflection of the way the Sacrament of Baptism affects a person. Christ's baptism was the exemplar of our own. In it the mystery of the Blessed Trinity was revealed, and the faithful, on receiving Baptism, are consecrated by the invocation and the power of the Blessed Trinity. Similarly, Heaven's opening signifies that the power, the effectiveness, of this Sacrament comes from above, from God, and that the baptized have the road to Heaven opened up for them, a road which Original Sin had closed. Jesus's prayer after His baptism teaches us that "after Baptism, man needs to pray continually in order to enter Heaven; for though sins are remitted through Baptism, there still remains the inclination to sin which assails us from within, and also the flesh and the devil which assails us from without." Each time we dip our hand into the Holy Water font in a church to bless ourselves, we need to remember that this act is a renewal of our Baptism.

☺ A little boy Jimmy was overheard praying; 'Lord, if you can't make me a better, boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'

Dear Padre,

We are told that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and that baptism is necessary for our salvation. But why was Jesus baptized?

Jesus was baptized, not because he needed saving, but so that others might be saved. By accepting baptism, he established this act as the normative path for salvation. Saint John Chrysostom addressed this question: "Though [Christ] needed not baptism for his own sake, yet carnal nature in others had need thereof." Or as St. Gregory Nazianzen said more poetically: "Christ was baptized that he might plunge the old Adam entirely in the water."

Another reason Jesus accepted baptism is suggested by St. Augustine. He said our Lord was baptized "because he wished to do what he had commanded all to do." This is true servant leadership—not asking of others what one is not willing to do oneself. Or as St. Ambrose said, "This is justice, to do first thyself that which thou wishest another to do, and so encourage others by thy example."

Perhaps as we launch into a new year, we might try to remember our baptismal promise to "put on Christ" and imitate Jesus in this way: to not ask of anyone—our children or parents; employers or employees; teachers or students; principals or pastors; or even presidents—what we do not ask of ourselves, especially when it comes to honesty, dedication, civility, and charity. ●



SWEET MARSHMALLOW / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 13 <i>Weekday</i>	January 14 <i>Weekday</i>	January 15 <i>Weekday</i>	January 16 <i>Weekday</i>	January 17 <i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	January 18 <i>Weekday</i>	January 19 <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Heb 1:1–6 Mk 1:14–20	Heb 2:5–12 Mk 1:21–28	Heb 2:14–18 Mk 1:29–39	Heb 3:7–14 Mk 1:40–45	Heb 4:1–5, 11 Mk 2:1–12	Heb 4:12–16 Mk 2:13–17	Is 62:1–5 1 Cor 12:4–11 Jn 2:1–11

Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord (C)

Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7 or Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11 / Acts 10:34–38
or Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–7 / Luke 3:15–16, 21–22



[John said:] "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.... He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire."

LUKE 3:16

Spirit-Trained

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The Spirit that descended upon Jesus is the same Spirit with which we have been baptized. In one way or another, it calls us out into the world, into the lives of others. At times, that call is a passionate desire that burns like fire "eager to do what is good," as Paul wrote to Titus (Titus 2:14). It shows itself as a call to the work we do in life—perhaps parenting, teaching, medical work, or creating jobs through business. The Spirit beckons us into making the world a better place in which to live.

Sometimes, however, the Spirit's voice echoes with calls made to us by others. Teachers are urged to become principals. Employees are recognized as potential managers and supervisors. People receive requests to volunteer in community or school projects. At other times, the Spirit calls us through the needs of life. A child may need to care for an aged parent. A family may have a child with special needs. One-sided relationships may call for a listening ear that saps our patience.

Saint Paul wrote to Titus that, in all of this, we are being trained by God's Spirit to live life as follows: temperately, with a sense of balance, perhaps between giving and receiving; justly, because life is not all about us; and devoutly, for there is a power greater than ourselves (Titus 2:12). It may help to realize that those in training do not always perform their work perfectly. It is the nature of being trained. Trust the Spirit to train you well. ●

Reflect

How is the Spirit training you to make the world a better place?



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us thank the Lord for baptism. Let us also thank him for the parents who brought us to the font, for those who administered the sacrament...for the community in which we received him.... Do I acknowledge, in my life, the light of the presence of God, who sees me as his beloved son, his beloved daughter?

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 7, 2024

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