



The Baptism of the Lord

January 13, 2019

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

CALLED TO SERVE

For many weeks now, we have been celebrating the appearance of the divine presence in human form. As a child, he came to Mary and Joseph, was seen by the shepherds, and then by some wandering magi from the East. Today we celebrate another showing, later in time, to a group gathered at the Jordan River.

John hesitated to baptize Jesus, whom he recognized as “one mightier than I.” But he did as Jesus asked, and the “Holy Spirit descended” and heaven’s voice spoke to Jesus, “You are my beloved Son.” Jesus was beginning his public life of teaching and service. Soon he would start calling others to join him.

Peter was one of the first to be called by Jesus. In today’s second reading, he announces the heart of the message, “peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.” Peter was called, and you and I are called to spread that message and to serve God’s word.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. They may wonder if you have had any Elvis sightings lately, attended Star Trekkie conventions, or were Cleopatra in a previous lifetime. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John’s Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since “today there is a blessing on the water.” At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*.

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or *Psalm 104*.

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) or *Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7*.

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
 Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
 Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

SELF-DISCIPLINE

The greatest of all warriors in the siege of Troy had not the preeminence because nature had given him strength and he carried the largest bow, but because self-discipline had taught him how to bend it.

There is a second collection January 27th for the Church in Latin America



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins

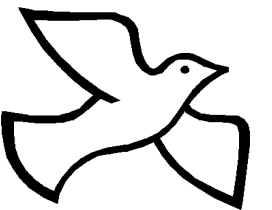
Thursday: St. Anthony

Friday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Saturday: Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany);

Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Intention
Repose of the soul
Tom Milligan



Jan.20th

Jeff

EUCCHARISTIC MINSTER

Jim/ Maurisio

USHERS

Diane/Peach

SERVERS

Ty

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

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Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Connie Galvan,
 Fr Robert Ponticello , Don Reed ,
 Emanel Milligan, Charley Therrell,
 Leonard Humble , Louis Humble Sr.
 ,Dolores Mullins , Martha Jo Neuenschwander,
 Paul Jelonek ,David Korabek

OFFERTORY

1/6/201918
 BUDGET \$1249.00
 ACTUAL \$1423.25
 +\$174.00
 B&M
 \$256.00