

The Baptism of the Lord

9th January 2022

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white cloth on the table or floor (white – the colour for solemnity)

Place a cross, bible, and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



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Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel, Jesus is baptised by John.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, we remember that Jesus did what pleased you. Help us to be more like Jesus and do all that pleases you too.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (3:15-16, 21-22)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Everyone became excited and wondered, "Could John be the Messiah?"

John said, "I am just baptising with water. But someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

After everyone else had been baptised, Jesus himself was baptised. Then as he prayed, the sky opened up, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in the form of a dove. A voice from heaven said, "You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you."

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the videos together

The Baptism of Jesus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMNO2MAmWA> (1:50min)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why everyone was excited...

I wonder what made them think John could be the Messiah...

I wonder who John was talking about when he said, 'someone more powerful is going to come'...

I wonder why Jesus was baptised after everyone else...

I wonder why the voice from heaven said, 'I am pleased with you'...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgGQ> (4 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(*We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders will think about their communities and meet the people's needs.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for those people and families preparing for the Sacrament of Baptism, that they will be grow in love with God.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that all the members of our Church will continue to trust in God's plans and grow in faith.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for our world, especially for all those who have died or lost loved ones. May the love of Jesus give them comfort and peace.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: We lift our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: What Child is This? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99eoQglyMpU>

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**
Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **Colouring In**
<https://kidadl.com/free-coloring-pages/bible/baptism-of-jesus>
- **Jesus' Baptism craft**
Recreate Jesus' Baptism using the downloads from Bible Fun for Kids
<https://www.biblefunforkids.com/2014/03/preschool-alphabet-w-is-for-water-jesus.html>
- **Sunday Connection**
As you gather as a family, identify some of the expectations and behaviours that govern your family life by answering the question, "What are some of the things that make our family life unique?" Celebrate these things about your family life.
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/baptism-of-the-lord-cycle-c-sunday-connection/>