

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

The Baptism of the Lord - Year C

9 January 2022



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

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New Testament Commentary Brendan Byrne SJ



the Gospel and received the Spirit (Acts 10:44-47). In this way the wider narrative links the baptism of Jesus and his reception of the Spirit with the baptism of all who will respond to the Gospel with faith and likewise receive the Spirit.

The Gospel, Luke 3:15-16, 21-22, completes the picture. Luke's account begins with a notice about 'a feeling of expectancy' that had arisen among the people. What they are 'expecting' of course is appearance of the long-promised Messiah. They wonder whether John the Baptist might fill this role. But John's disclaimer is clear: he baptises with water – a simple rite of conversion and preparation for the messianic age. A 'stronger One' is coming who will baptise, not with water, but 'with the Holy Spirit and fire'. It is probably right to take these two terms, 'Holy Spirit' and 'fire', closely together. At Pentecost the 'baptism' with the Spirit that the disciples are to receive will involve the appearance upon them of tongues 'as if of fire' (Acts 2:3). Essentially, then, the role of the Stronger One (Jesus) will be to cleanse and empower people with the gift of the Spirit, the force of the messianic era that is now at hand.

Luke notes but does not particularly stress (contrast Matthew 3:13-17) the baptism of Jesus at the hands of John. It is what happens next that is truly significant. Distinctive to Luke is the notice that the experience Jesus is about to undergo takes place while he is 'at prayer' (v. 21). Prayer is a notable theme in Luke. Jesus prays at significant moments in his ministry (6:12; 9:18; 9:28; 22:40-46; 23:34, 46). Prayer erases the barrier between heaven and earth. While Jesus is praying, the 'heavens are opened', responding to a plea in Isaiah 64:1 ('O that you would tear open the heavens and come down'), signalling the onset of the messianic age.

The descent of the Spirit ('in bodily form like a dove') has been variously explained. In view of the address that follows: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased', there are grounds for thinking that Jesus' experience of the Spirit here is essentially an assurance of the Father's love (cf. Paul in Rom 5:5: 'God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us'). This is his 'anointing' with the Spirit that he will announce when inaugurating his ministry, proclaiming the fulfilment of Isaiah 61:1-2, in the synagogue of Nazareth (4:16-22). His mission, empowered by the Spirit (4:14), will be to rebuild a People of God upon that same assurance of love.

The First Reading, from the first Servant Song in Isaiah (42:1-4, 6-7), is presumably chosen because its opening words seem to find an echo in the divine voice that Jesus hears as he emerges from the water following his baptism by John, 'You are my Son, the Beloved, in whom my soul delights'. The Song records the divine address to a chosen person, presumably a royal figure. Endowed with God's Spirit, the Servant will 'establish true justice' through a quiet, gentle, yet persevering encouragement of those who are crushed and downtrodden. Beyond being 'a covenant to Israel', he is to be 'a light to the nations', leading them out of the darkness in which they are imprisoned into the light of God's new day.

This note of a wider mission is picked up in the Second Reading (Acts 10:34-38), an extract from Peter's address in the house of Cornelius. Through an earlier vision at Jaffa (Acts 10:9-16) Peter has learned that God does not distinguish between a 'holy nation' (Israel) and an 'unclean' rest (the Gentiles). Peter has accordingly set aside his former hesitation and gone willingly to the house of the Roman centurion Cornelius. What we hear in the reading is the summary of the Gospel that he gives to the assembled household. Like the four gospels, the summary here in Acts relates the beginning of Jesus' ministry to that of John. Peter alludes to the events surrounding Jesus' baptism by John in speaking of God's 'anointing him with the Holy Spirit and with power'. It is rather odd that the extract stops where it does because the text of Acts goes on to tell of how 'the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word', convincing Peter and those with him that baptism was not to be denied to these Gentiles who had heard

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm

Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Saturdays at 10.30am

No Baptism during Lent

Other Time

Negotiable with Father Patrick

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

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Melissa Vranjes

New Principal 2021

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ROSTER		Weekend 8/9 January	Weekend of 15/16 January
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 7.30am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Readers	Sat 9.00am	Krystyna Henderson	Carlos Sivalingam
	Sun 7.30am	David Jenaway	Br Basil Hickey
	Sun 9.00am	Vincent Whyte	Elicia Eng
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers
	Sun 9.00am	Volunteers	Volunteers
Counters		Terry & Meagan Scanlan	Sharon & Ryan Moore

Parish Calendar		
Jan Mon 10	8.00am	Communion Service (Week 1 in Ordinary Time) Church
Tue 11	9.30am	Funeral Mass (No Morning Mass) Church
Wed 12	8.00am	Mass (Week 1 in Ordinary Time - C) Church
Thu 13	8.00am	Mass (Week 1 in Ordinary Time - C) Church
Fri 14	8.00am	Mass (Week 1 in Ordinary Time - C) Church
Sat 15	8.00am	Mass (Week 1 in Ordinary Time - C) Church
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Week 2 in Ordinary Time - C) Church
Sun 16	7.30am	Sunday Mass (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C) Church



The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life and the Diocese of Rome are organising the 10th World Meeting of Families, which will take place in 2022 from June 22 to 26.

As the Holy Father underlined in his recent video-message presenting the event, the Meeting will take place following a never-before-seen and multi-centric format. While Rome will in fact remain the main designated location, each diocese will be able to be the centre of a local meeting for families and communities, thus allowing everyone to feel like protagonists.

For more information please check our website for the documents and links if you are interested to participate.



Line Dancing Classes

Mondays and Wednesdays
10am - 12noon \$5 per session
All proceeds go to the Parish
This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay
All are welcome; no age limits.
Classes recommence Monday 10 Jan 2022



Divine Mercy Hour

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy prayers, Rosary and Benediction every third Sunday of the month at 3.00pm.

Please join us next Sunday at 3.00pm.

Brother Peter Negus RIP

Our condolences to the Christian Brothers on the death of Brother Negus. Vigil Prayers will take place on Monday 10 January at 7.00pm and funeral mass will be celebrated on Tuesday at 9.30am at St Pius X Church.

Please be informed that the 8.00am Mass on Tuesday 11 January is cancelled.



Manning Parish Youth

Quest Youth Ministry

Guiding our youth on a Quest to know, love and serve the Lord.
The youth ministry for the parish is open to youth aged in High School or University, and meet every second Saturday after mass.
Get in touch with us by finding us online at <https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>

On leave

I am taking a bit of time out to fully recover from my recent health scare. It is not a holiday but a time to rest so that I can come back with energy to do as much as I can for the Parish for the next 2 years.

Father Stephen Ocola will be here to cover for me until 28 January. I'll be back on 29 January if I can't get anyone to cover for me on 29 and 30 January.

I hope you will make Fr Stephen welcome and might invite him for a meal at your place.

Hope 2022 has been good to you so far!
Blessings and Prayers Fr Pat



SPX Safeguarding Officers

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6pm Vigil Mass – Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777

7:30am Mass – Jeevan Joseph 0434 038 353

9am Mass – Barbara Thompson 0408 955 859

11am Chinese Mass

Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Augustine Lai 0402 185 248, Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

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PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME - DON'T LEAVE IT BEHIND (COVID-SAFE RULE)

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her = that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; = then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-30.

(R.) Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent. (R.)
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. (R.)
3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. (R.)
4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. (R.)
5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Try to imagine what it would be like on a hot, dry day to go to the river and be baptised by John the Baptist. Try to imagine being drenched with water as you make a new commitment to life without sin. Then imagine seeing Jesus, the one John has been preaching about. He gets baptised himself, and the skies open up and a dove alights on him, and you hear the voice of God announce pleasure with what Jesus has done.

What would you do next? How is your life different when you take that experience seriously? How is your life different now because of your baptism?

Being drenched with water would be most appealing when we are hot, dry or dirty. Recall a particular time that you looked forward to the cooling, cleansing experience of being drenched with water.

Next Sunday Readings

16 January 2022

2nd Sunday in Ordinary time - Year C

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Draw a line to connect each symbol with its correct meaning.

	
	

Candle

Dove

Water

White Gown

- Symbolizes the Holy Spirit
- Symbolizes life, cleansing and growth
- Symbolizes purity and freedom from sin
- Symbolizes the emergence from darkness into the light