ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ. have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You bring light to those in darkness:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. May almighty God have mercy on us...Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father have mercy on us; For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord. you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:1-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh! come to the water all you who are thirsty: though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat,

and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,

your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me: listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

See. I have made of you a witness to the peoples. a leader and a master of the nations.

See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you,

for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you. Seek the Lord while he is still to be found. call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way. the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him.

to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts.

my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways.

my thoughts above your thoughts.

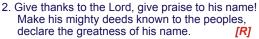
Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth. making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Is.12:2-6

R. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

1. Truly God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.



3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds. make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for iov for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-9

A reading from the first letter of John.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God:

and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us:

this is what loving God is keeping his commandments:

and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God

has already overcome the world: this is the victory over the world - our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only.

but with water and blood:

with the Spirit as another witness since the Spirit is the truth -



We accept the testimony of human

witnesses, but God's testimony

is much greater, and this is God's

testimony, given as evidence for

John saw Jesus coming towards

him and said: This is the Lamb of

God who takes away the sin of the

A reading from the holy Gospel

In the course of his preaching John

the Baptist said, 'Someone is

following me, someone who is more

powerful than I am, and I am not fit

to kneel down and undo the strap

of his sandals. I have baptised you

with water, but he will baptise you

It was at this time that Jesus came

from Nazareth in Galilee and was

baptised in the Jordan by John. No

sooner had he come up out of the

water than he saw the heavens torn

apart and the Spirit. like a dove.

descending on him. And a voice

came from heaven. 'You are my

Son, the Beloved; my favour rests

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

May the Lord accept the sacrifice

at your hands for the praise and

glory of his name, for our good and

Pray brothers and sisters......

the good of all his holy Church.

for by your Cross and Resurrection

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

Save us, Saviour of the world,

The mystery of faith.

you have set us free.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Alleluia!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL Mark 1:7-11

according to Mark.

with the Holy Spirit.'

Alleluia, alleluia!

his Son.

world.

on you.'

rocus on sunday

so that there are three witnesses, the beginning of his life's work, his taking on the fullness of humanity.

Our baptism is the source of our Christian vocation. the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree.





A birth is a joy to parents. The first words of a child or grandchild or nephew or niece make a big difference to our lives. A new estate of houses and the beginning of a parish, a country. We mark beginnings with

some sort of ritual or ceremony.

Jesus' baptism begins his mission and joins him into the religious life of his people.

Baptism for us is the beginning of faith. It introduces us into the prayer and sacraments for important times of life, joining us to the community within the area and the parish, with people we meet through the Church - friends, husband, or wife. It brings us into a meaning in life in the gospel of Jesus, and the big traditions of the Church, and faith in the afterlife; by baptism we are to care for the

We are part of the church. Baptism not just a prayer but a joining into the church. Part of a community which with all its faults and failings has made a huge difference to the world. How much health care, education and other services in Ireland and abroad can we thank our church and the other churches for?

And knowing Jesus, a friend. The one who forgives. So that we can always move forward to a fuller life, more joy, and peace. As was said to him, is said to us - 'you are my beloved son and daughter.'

For baptism we pray in thanks --- glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always. Amen.

Donal Neary SJ. Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

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