



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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The Baptism of the Lord (Year B)– 10th January 2021

1st Reading – Isaiah 55:1-11

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

2nd Reading – 1 John 5:1-9

Gospel – Mark 1:7-11

With the lockdown upon us, number of infections rising, more sickness and suffering, death, more fear and anxiety, life is far from what we've been used to until last year. We need to be wise in what we do and how we respond to a given situation, and as we are advised to do, to minimise our contact with others. The Gospel as ever, is offering us words of comfort in a tough situation. The Lord is reminding us that we are His beloved on this great feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Each of us is uniquely loved by God without any conditions attached to that gift, and through the sacrament of baptism all of us have been drawn even more closely into the mystery of the very life of the Holy Trinity.

It is often the case that we don't remember the date of our baptism, and yet so many other events are deeply embedded in our memory, including the dates. What's so special about our own baptism that we would want to find out the date when it happened and commemorate it? In a nutshell: we have begun to share in Jesus' death and resurrection, we have become freed from the guilt of original sin, we are now known as children of God, we can address God as Father, all our sins have been wiped clean if we were baptised later on in life, we have become a new creation, we have been given the virtues of faith, hope, and love, we have become anointed as prophets, priests, and kings. In other words, we were given a new identity, a sense of direction, and a specific mission to fulfil on that day. The whole of our Christian life depends on our growing understanding of what happened to us and what we received, and we have our life to live that gift. By any account, the day on which we were baptized is worth remembering and celebrating.

The first step might be to look for that document that tells me the date of my baptism. Put it in your diary for each year. Spend a few moments with the Gospel and remind yourself of the words God speaks to you today: You are my beloved. As we continue facing the uncertainties of this time, God's words are what we need the most.

Br. Charles' Golden Jubilee of Profession: "THANK YOU TO ALL! I am unable to thank all of you who sent in prayers, gifts and wishes on the occasion of my 50th Jubilee of Profession on the 10th January. I appreciate your thought very much. To God be the glory! May He give you and your loved ones the blessings you need most" – Br. Charles

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 10th January

The Baptism of the Lord

9.00am	Phil Rudman
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Winnie Joyce & Family

Monday 11th January

7.30am	Mrs Frances Guinan (Get Well)
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Tuesday 12th January

St. Bernard of Corleone

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Wednesday 13th January

7.30am	Br. Charles' Intentions
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Thursday 14th January

7.30am	St. Anthony's Guild
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Friday 15th January

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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Saturday 16th January

St. Berard and Companions

8.00am	Peggy Brennall
6.30pm	Jimmy, Geraldine & Family

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.

We also pray for the repose of the soul of Veronica Brennan whose 1st Anniversary will occur this week. May she and all our faithful departed rest in peace.