

## The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 55:1-11  
 Is 12:2-6  
 1 John 5:1-9  
 Mark 1:7-11

### Monday January 11

Hebrews 1:1-6  
 Ps 97:1,2b,6,7c,9  
 Mark 1:14-20

### Tuesday January 12

Hebrews 2:5-12  
 Ps 8:2ab,5-9  
 Mark 1:21-28

### Wednesday January 13

Hebrews 2:14-18  
 Ps 105:1-9  
 Mark 1:29-39

### Thursday January 14

Hebrews 3:7-14  
 Ps 95:6-11  
 Mark 1:40-45

### Friday January 15

Hebrews 4:1-5,11  
 Ps 78:3,4bc,6c-7,8  
 Mark 2:1-12

### Saturday January 16

Hebrews 4:12-16  
 Ps 19:8-10,15  
 Mark 2:13-17

Why was Jesus baptized? He wasn't in need of repentance. Why, for that matter, did Jesus do anything at all? Not just to save us from our sins by dying on the cross! There is so much more to Jesus.

Jesus united himself to sinners. First he humbled himself to become one of us, a human with the same needs we have every day. Then he surrendered himself to the baptismal water so that when we are baptized, he is there in the water with us, raising us up to a new life, the holy life, everlasting life.

Everything that Jesus did shows us by example who we are: what the Father created us to be like and how we are to live as children of God. When Jesus was baptized and the Holy Spirit descended upon him and the Father said, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well

pleased," he showed us by example what happens at every person's baptism.

The Holy Spirit descended upon YOU and the Father said about YOU: "You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased!"

In the Jordan River, Jesus was reborn from ordinary life to a life of ministry. Baptism does that for us, too. Is there some repentance you need to do so that you can be reborn more fully into what the Father created you to do – your divine purpose, the ministry he has called you



to do? Let us begin the Church Season of Ordinary Time with a renewal of our baptismal purification:

Do you reject Satan? And all his

works? And all his empty promises?

Do you believe in God the Father? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, who was born of the Virgin Mary, crucified, and rose from the dead? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

### A prayer of recommitment:

"Dear God, I am a sinner. I sometimes fail to put You first in my life. Forgive me. Change me. Renew me. To demonstrate that I truly want You to be Lord of my life, I will do a special act, just as Jesus put his life fully into the Father's hands by surrendering to John's baptism. The act that I choose to do is \_\_\_\_\_. Amen!"

And God the Father says of you: "This is my beloved son/daughter; with him/her I am well pleased!"

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What do you know about your baptism? When was it? Where? Who was there?
2. How did this Sacrament affect your life as the years went by?
3. Why does this mean that the Father is pleased with you?