

**SUNDAY, January 9, 2022**  
**The Baptism of the Lord**

### **Affirmation Prayer...**

The Lord is great: come, let us adore him!

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

### **Hymn** **Meter: CM**

"I come," the great Redeemer cries,  
"To do thy will, O Lord."  
At Jordan's stream, behold! He seals  
The sure prophetic word.  
"Thus it becomes us to fulfill  
All righteousness," he said.  
Then, faithful to the Lord's commands,  
Through Jordan's flood was led.  
Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks  
From heav'n's exalted height:  
"This is my Son, my well-beloved  
In whom I take delight."

### **Psalm** **40:7-10, 12, 17**

*Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work." (Jn 4:34)*

*Jesus listened with an open ear and an open heart to the voice of his Father. Listening, he obeyed. Let us, who have been baptized in him, listen to the voice that calls us beloved children and gives us a work to do, the work of the Gospel proclaimed and lived in love for God and neighbor.*

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.  
In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart.  
Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord.  
O Lord, you will not withhold  
your compassion from me.  
Your merciful love and your truth  
will always guard me.  
O let there be rejoicing and gladness  
for all who seek you.  
Let them ever say: "The Lord is great,"  
who love your saving help.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **Word of God** **Philippians 2:7-9**

He emptied himself,/ taking the form of a slave,/ coming in human likeness;/ and found human in appearance,/ he humbled himself,/ becoming obedient to death,/ even death on a cross./ Because of this, God greatly exalted him/ and bestowed on him the name/ that is above every name.

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered. (Heb 5:8)

### **Canticle of Zechariah**

*Here is my servant whom I uphold,/ my chosen one with whom I am pleased,/ Upon whom I have put my spirit. (Is 42:1)*

**All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **Intercessions**

As children and servants of the living God, let us pray in faith and love:

**R/ Father, hear us!**

You sent your Son to save the world through his obedience even unto death: instill in us his desire to do your will. **R/**

You sent your Son to lead us from death to life through the waters of salvation: grant us the courage to follow where he leads. **R/**

You sent your Son to deliver all peoples from slavery to sin and death: grant us the wisdom to accept the gift of freedom and to seek freedom for others. **R/**

### **Personal intentions**

**All: Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

God our Father and deliverer, you have redeemed your people through the waters of baptism into the Death and Resurrection of Christ. May we who have passed through the waters take up our cross and follow him from death to glory according to your will, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Reading 1**

**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.

**Reading 2**

**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.

But 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.

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.’

**Men of St. Joseph Prayer**

**All: St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God’s commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God’s will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family’s salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!**

*Prayer for the text used with permission of Magnificat*