

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, MUMBLES

HOME PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAYS

The Baptism of the Lord (B), 10 January 2021

This home prayer service can be used by a single person (sole participant) or by family members at home. Where there are two or more persons, a family member leads the prayer service (including reading the reflection). Where possible, the participant(s) should have the prayer service around a table with a lighted candle, a crucifix and a Bible (or missal).

ENTRANCE SONG (OR ANTIPHON)

An opening song may be sung or the following antiphon is recited. All stand.

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.

We begin with the sign of the Cross:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A leader or the sole participant says:

Blessed be the God of all consolation, who has shown us his great mercy. Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Response: Blessed be God for ever.

INTRODUCTION

Where there are two or more persons in the house, the leader introduces the celebration in these or similar words:

The Father anointed his beloved Son, Jesus, with the Holy Spirit and with power, to bring healing and peace to all the nations.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The sole participant or leader introduces the penitential act saying:

Let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves for this celebration.

A brief pause for silence follows.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The sole participant or the leader says:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.

COLLECT

The sole participant or leader says the Collect 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. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Response: Amen.

READINGS

After each reading a brief silence is observed. It is desirable to take all the readings with the responsorial psalm, all of which are available in the Sunday Missal. Where all readings of the Sunday cannot be taken, the Gospel (printed below) is read. The one who reads the Gospel, if not a priest or deacon, does not say "The Lord be with you" but begins with "A reading from the holy Gospel according to...".

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-9

Gospel Acclamation: cf. Jn1:29

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

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 with the Holy Spirit.'

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 on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

The sole participant or leader reads a homily prepared by the priest; or may give a short reflection on the scripture readings of the day. The reflection is followed by a period of silence.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The creed is said:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I 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. Amen.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The General Intercessions are said.

Leader: On this day, the heavens were opened as the Spirit descended upon Christ at his Baptism. In prayer, we ask the Father to unseal the fountain of his blessings upon the world.

Reader: Let us pray for the Church, like her Lord, the Beloved of the Father, that his favour may always rest upon her, and his Spirit overshadow her with truth and power. Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those who have become lukewarm in their faith, that the Spirit given in their baptism will rekindle faith and love in their hearts Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer

Reader: Let us pray for ourselves and our community, that we may eagerly follow Christ's call at our baptism and establish true justice on earth.

Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer

Reader: Let us pray that those who are sick with the coronavirus may regain their health through quality medical care and may those who have died from the virus find eternal rest with God. Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for our sick and housebound parishioners, that they may be strengthened through the power of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: In thanksgiving to the Lord, we pray for parishioners who mark their birthdays this week: Don

Mason, Martin Garry, Eileen Kennedy. May the Lord bless and keep them. Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray to our Father in the words Our Saviour taught us: **Our Father, who art in heaven...**

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

After a brief period of silence, the Prayer of Spiritual Communion is said by all.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

A song of thanksgiving may be sung after the prayer of spiritual communion.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

The sole participant or leader says the concluding prayer:

May your healing work, O Lord, free us, we pray, from doing evil and lead us to what is right. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The sole participant or leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the Sign of the Cross while saying the following:

May almighty God bless us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.