

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Sunday 10th January 2021

COLLECT

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

ACTS 19: 1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL READING

MARK 1: 4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



Baptism of Our Lord.

THANK YOU for the prayers and support over many months for Barry during his illness. God's blessings to the wonderful community of St Paul's.
love Margaret x

THANK YOU – so much for the gift of homemade goodies that arrived on my doorstep on my 85th birthday – so beautifully presented. One can never feel alone when surrounded by the friendship and love that abounds at St Paul's – the best gifts of all.
God bless you all Sylvia Jones xx

THANK YOU – I would like to thank the church for the delicious biscuits and fudge, and to Sue Wilson for her prayers at Christmas. Pat Rye

THANK YOU – My grateful thanks to the church for the surprise gift that was delivered to me just before Christmas, and for all the kind messages during the past year to keep me in touch.
Jean Marsden