



Baptism of Our Lord



11th January 2026

“The Lord will bless His people with peace”

WEEKDAY MASSES: Wednesday & Thursday 10am, Friday 7.30pm

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil: 7pm, Sunday: 10am

DECEASED: Vincent Agnew, Cuishendall

MONTH'S MIND: Joseph McKavanagh, 3 Glen Rd

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen O'Boyle, Mary Fyfe, Brigid Magowan, Malachy Black, Brendan McQuillan., Maggie McQuillan.

Thought for today

Lord, in our different vocations, you call us to minister to others as parents, church ministers, friends, spiritual guides, but every once in a while we find ourselves in the position of John the Baptist with Jesus.

People come to us to be ministered to when it is we who would need to be ministered to by them:

~ one of our children is more courageous than we are;

~ holy people confess their sins to us;

~ someone we admire greatly comes to us for advice;

~ we are asked to pray for someone from a different religion one who is more spiritual than we are.

Our first response is to try and dissuade them, but then we realise that we must leave it like this for the time being, since this is what your saving will demands, and so we give in to them.

'You are beloved...'



Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist had a different meaning from ours. It was more a baptism of sorrow for sin and of forgiveness; in this plunge into the river, Jesus identified with his people in his baptism.

At the baptism he heard the best words he could hear; *You are my beloved*. God led Jesus to John to hear these words.

One of us, one with us, he could now be one for us. Joy flooded his heart as he heard these words. Something happened for Jesus at that moment that only he could know - like bells ringing that only he could hear. Have you heard it in your life? At times we face the huge mysteries love, beauty, friendship, birth, death. And we know in the middle of it all, that we are beloved.

Our call is to be fully involved in life and love.

The Christian is called to be involved with others at the times of need, of depth and mystery. Jesus did that - plunging himself into our humanity and with all of us.

The feast of the baptism is something new for all. The son of God is one of us. We have a new way of knowing God not just in the laws of old but in the new Spirit of Jesus.

So let the bells of love ring for us in God; and wherever we find it; let's ring bells of love for all the most needy of God's people.

Let the word 'beloved' echo in your mind and heart.

This is God's word for you today.

Lord, thanks for calling me 'beloved'
