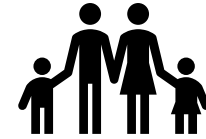




St. Joseph's Parish



Family Activity Sheet



Week 1 of Ordinary Time: 10-16 January 2021



I am sure you are all reeling from the changes in the government's policies this week. Please be assured that the Church us there for you and the Mass is celebrated every day except for Wednesdays in the church. There is no booking system and so if you have avoided Sundays thinking that you might be taking up too many spaces as a family, please feel free to being everyone along on weekdays, even if it is just somewhere different to go! The seating is socially distanced, and it is so covid safe. Fr Naz brings communion to those who wish to receive the Lord so there is no getting up and walking around.

Please do send feedback of the activities which you have enjoyed, and we can include pictures in next week's edition of this sheet. If anyone has any suggestions for future faith-based activities, please do let me know, either through the office or by emailing me directly.

There are Four Dimensions of the Faith making sure that Jesus Christ is the centre of everything we do:



Speaking/Learning the faith (which the Church calls "professing the faith")

Living it (in Christ) – i.e. the choices we make in everyday life



Celebrating it in the liturgy and the sacraments

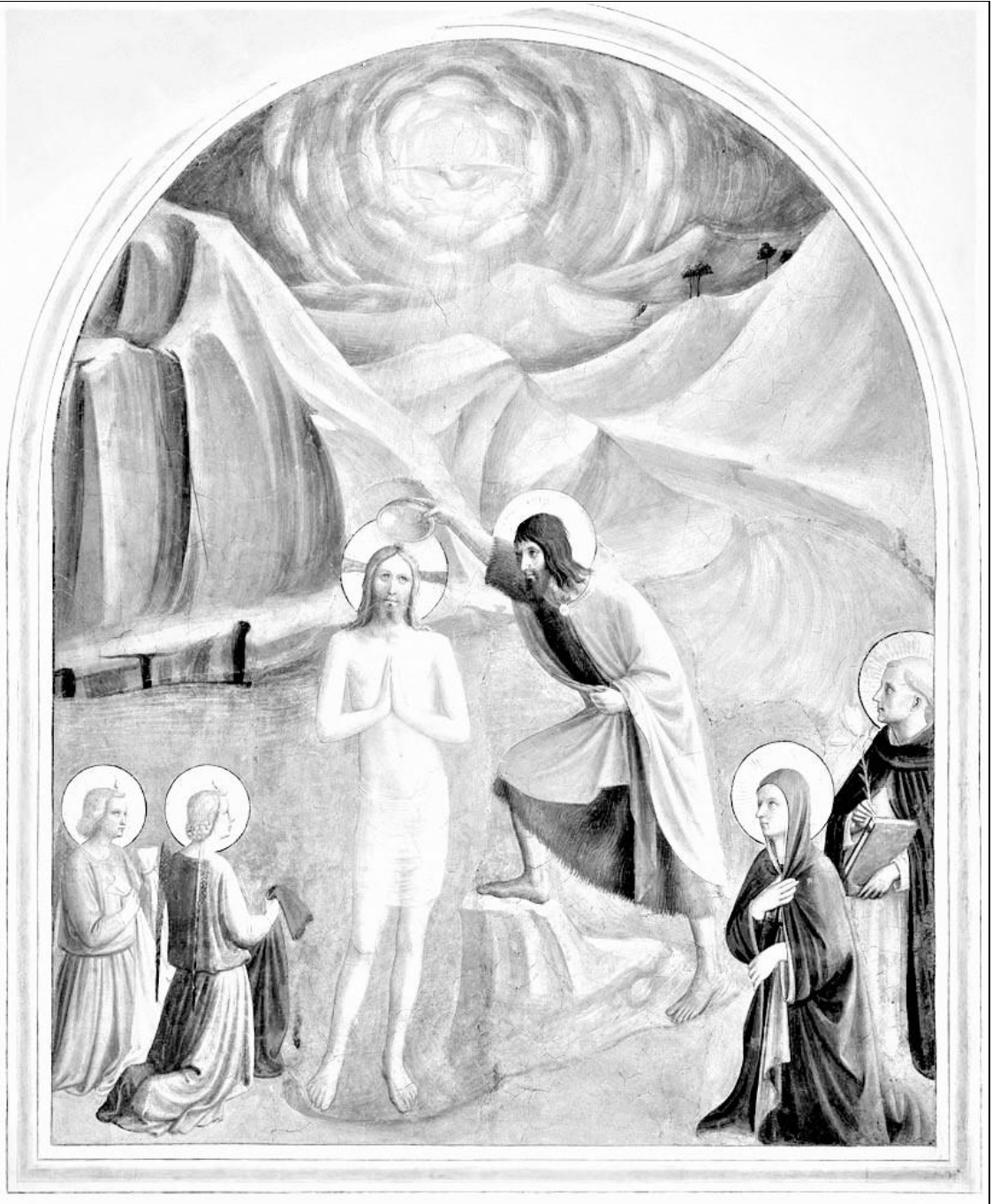
Christian prayer.

Feast/memorial	Activity
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 10th January, Baptism of the Lord</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Gospel Mark 1:7-11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you'</p> <p>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.'</p> <p>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.'</p> <p><i>Just a note about the Baptism of Jesus. Jesus is both fully man and fully God. He was without sin (as sin separates us from God) because He is God. Therefore, He did not need Baptism. It's important to realise that and not to think that Jesus was baptised like us. Not at all. Jesus was baptised to begin His public ministry and He received an anointing from the Holy Spirit who gives us the strength to go out and live our Christian lives in a world that does not understand God. Jesus as a man needed the help of the Holy Spirit in His ministry.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Family reflection on the Gospel:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light a candle • Someone read the Gospel passage <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p><i>Discuss these questions together or do the activity below with the picture (or both).</i></p> <p>Q: Who did John the Baptist say was following him? (A: someone more powerful than him...)</p> <p>Q: What does John the Baptist baptise with? (A: Water) <i>When we are baptised, the priest uses water but it is not ordinary water.</i></p> <p>Q: What kind of water is/was used for Baptism in our Church/when we/you were baptised? [adapt the question as necessary] (A: Holy water, water that has been blessed)</p> <p>Q: What will Jesus baptise with? (A: The Holy Spirit)</p> <p>Q: What happened when Jesus came up out of the water? (A: the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him like a dove).</p> <p>Q: What happens when a person is baptised? (A; we are joined to Jesus and to the Church. Our sins are wiped away and we are filled with grace. We are given special gifts (virtues) of faith hope and love and above all, we are given the Holy Spirit so that we can live as Jesus wants us to live.)</p> <p><i>As we receive the Holy Spirit when we are baptised, and St. John the Baptist said that Jesus would baptise with the Holy Spirit, we can see that the priest is baptising with power from Jesus.</i></p> <p>Q: What was the Father heard to say from heaven? (A: You are my Son....)</p> <p>Q: What do you think God the Father says to us when we are baptised? (A: you are my son/daughter, my favour rests on you (which means, I love you and have chosen you to be a child of mine).</p> <p><i>If you have anyone's baptismal candle, may be light it and ask the Holy Spirit to help you in the coming week with all the home-schooling and work things that you have to do.</i></p>

Baptism of Christ, Fra Angelico

On the next page is a copy of the painting by Fra Angelico of the Baptism of Christ. As you go through the notes, colour in the grey picture so that it matches the one in colour.

1. **Note that Jesus is already very white. This is to remind us of something white that the priest holds up at Mass. What?** (A: The Sacred Host which is Jesus that those who have made their First Holy Communion will receive) Draw the outline of Jesus more clearly.
2. **Note that in Jesus' halo we can see a part of a cross, which is red. Why is there a cross in His halo?** (A: To show that He came to die on the Cross). Colour in the lines of the cross red.
3. **John the Baptist is reaching up to pour the water over Jesus' head. What does this tell us about John the Baptist?** (A: That he was shorter. John the Baptist said that Jesus must grow greater and he smaller. John the Baptist meant that Jesus' importance must grow greater, but artists tend to show this by physical size). **Colour in John the Baptist. What colour is he wearing?** (A: Red, which is the colour of Christ's passion and a sign of humility). **Why do you think that John the Baptist is wearing red?** (A: because he was a martyr (he died for Christ) and because he was humble – he recognised that Jesus is more important than he is.)
4. **Often bare rocks are used in Sacred Art to show sin. Why do you think that Fra Angelico has painted the scenery so bare and rocky?** (A: to show that Jesus came to save the world from sin). Colour in the rocks.
5. **The Holy Spirit is coming from a hole in the sky formed by the clouds. What line in the Gospel passage is this depicting/showing?** (A: the heavens were opened) Colour in the sky and the clouds.
6. **There is no image of the Father because the Father is Spirit (He is not an old man sitting on a cloud). The clouds in a circle are a bit like a mouth. What does the Father say?** (A: This is my Son....)
7. **The water is curving around from just underneath the dove (the Holy Spirit). Why do you think that Fra Angelico has painted it this way?** (A: because the water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and it's also a symbol of life. All life comes from the Father). Colour in the water.
8. **In the front are two people on the right. They are St. Dominic and St. Catherine of Siena, who were dominicans. Fra Angelico was a dominican and he painted this picture to go on the wall of a cell for the dominicans in Florence. He has included them to show that we need to keep looking at Jesus as they are. May be if you have time you can find out about St. Dominic and send your findings to the parish office.** Colour in these people.
9. **In the front left are two figures which are normally understood as angels, holding Jesus' clothes. One holds a dark garment and one a light garment. When this picture was painted it was normal for the person who was baptised to change their clothes after Baptism, so instead of wearing white at the beginning, a baby (or child, or adult) would wear something dark and then after Baptism would take it off and put on something white. Today, the priest usually wraps a white shawl over the newly baptised person. Can you find out what happened when you were baptised?** Colour in the angels holding the garments.



St. Joseph

This is the year of St. Joseph and we are going to have some activities from time to time helping us to get to know him better. St. Joseph was the head of the Holy Family.

To start with, how many times can you find “Joseph”, “Mary” and “Jesus” in this word search. I have found 13 x Joseph 13 x Marys and 19 x Jesus – let me know if there are more and I can’t count.!

M	J	E	S	U	S	Y	R	A	M	H	R	Y	J	E	S	U	S	E	J	M
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Christmas decorations:

Although the Church begins “ordinary time” this week, many people keep their decorations up for longer. Many people like to keep them up until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord (on Sunday) and the crib up until the feast of the presentation in the Temple (2nd February). So if you have put your crib away, you can get it out again!