

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Cf. Mt 3: 16-17  
 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.

### ENTRANCE HYMN

(To the tune of O Salutaris Hostia)

When Jesus comes to be baptised,  
 he leaves the hidden years behind,  
 the years of safety and of peace,  
 to bear the sins of all mankind.

The Spirit of the Lord comes down,  
 anoints the Christ to suffering,  
 to preach the word, to free the bound,  
 and to the mourner, comfort bring.

He will not quench the dying flame,  
 and what is bruised he will not break,  
 but heal the wound injustice dealt,  
 and out of death his triumph make.

Our everlasting Father, praise,  
 with Christ, his well-beloved Son,  
 who with the Spirit reigns serene,  
 untroubled Trinity in one.

**Priest:** In the name of the Father and  
 of the Son, and of the Holy  
 Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the  
 love of God and the communion of the  
 Holy Spirit be with you all.

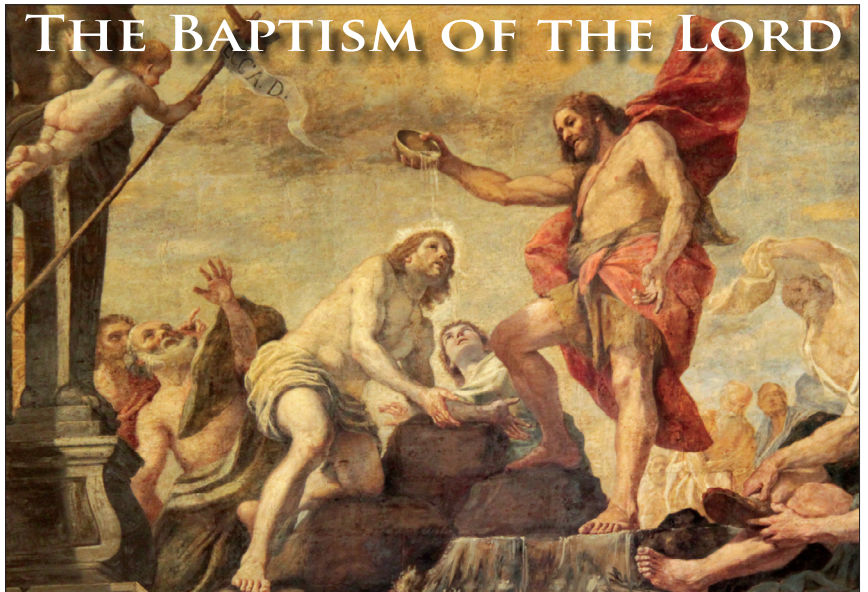
**And with your spirit.**

### RITE FOR THE BLESSING AND SPRINKLING OF WATER

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),  
 let us humbly beseech the Lord our  
 God to bless this water he has  
 created, which will be sprinkled on us  
 as a memorial of our Baptism.  
 May he help us by his grace  
 to remain faithful to the Spirit we have  
 received.

Almighty ever-living God,  
 who willed that through water,  
 the fountain of life and the source of  
 purification, even souls should be  
 cleansed and receive the gift of  
 eternal life; be pleased, we pray, to  
 bless this water, by which we seek  
 protection on this your day, O Lord.  
 Renew the living spring of your grace  
 within us and grant that by this water

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



7th January 2024

we may be defended from all ills of  
 spirit and body, and so approach you  
 with hearts made clean  
 and worthily receive your salvation.  
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Priest sprinkles himself and the  
 congregation. When he returns to the chair he  
 says:**

May almighty God cleanse us of our  
 sins, and through the celebration of  
 this Eucharist make us worthy to  
 share at the table of his Kingdom.  
**Amen.**

### GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
 and on earth peace to people of  
 good will.

We praise you,  
 we bless you,  
 we adore you,  
 we glorify you,  
 we give you thanks for your great  
 glory,  
 Lord God, heavenly King,  
 O God, almighty Father.  
 Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten  
 Son,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of  
 the Father,  
 you take away the sins of the  
 world, have mercy on us;  
 you take away the sins of the  
 world, receive our prayer;  
 you are seated at the right hand of  
 the Father,  
 have mercy on us.  
 For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,  
 you alone are the Most High,  
 Jesus Christ,  
 with the Holy Spirit,  
 in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

### COLLECT

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.  
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 your Son,  
 who lives and reigns with you in the  
 unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever  
 and ever.  
**Amen.**

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

42:1-4.6-7

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the Lord:

"Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
 my chosen one in whom my  
 soul delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit  
 that he may bring true justice to  
 the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
 or make his voice heard in the  
 streets.

He does not break the crushed

reed, nor quench the wavering flame.  
Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth,  
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;  
I have taken you by the hand and formed you;  
I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the dungeon."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps28:1-4.9-10.R.v.11*

**R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court. **R.**
2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord,  
full of splendour. **R.**
3. The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: "Glory!"  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever. **R.**

#### SECOND READING

*10:34-38*

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

"It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and

how he began in Galilee after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



#### ACCLAMATION Ps 84:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
The heavens opened and the  
Father's voice resounded  
'This is my Son, the Beloved.  
Listen to him.' Alleluia!**

#### GOSPEL

*1:7-11*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy  
Gospel according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



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.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



#### RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

*The priest now invites the people to  
renew their baptismal vows:*

Dear brothers and sisters, let us now renew the promises of our baptism by which we once renounced Satan and all his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

Do you renounce Satan? **I do.**

And all his works? **I do.**

And all his empty show **I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father? **I do.**

Do you 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? **I do.**

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST



*Raising the host, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The priest pours wine and a little water  
into the chalice, saying quietly:*

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ,  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*Raising the chalice, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Bowing the priest says quietly:*

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

*Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:*  
Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity;  
and cleanse me from my sin.

**STAND**

*Facing the people the priest says:*

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at  
your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all  
his holy Church.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the offerings  
we have brought to honour the  
revealing of your beloved Son,  
so that the oblation of your faithful  
may be transformed into the sacrifice  
of him who willed in his compassion  
to wash away the sins of the world.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and  
ever. **Amen.**

*PREFACE Baptism of the Lord*  
**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your Spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and  
our salvation, always and everywhere  
to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and  
eternal God.

For in the waters of the Jordan  
you revealed with signs and wonders  
a new Baptism, so that through the  
voice that came down from heaven  
we might come to believe in your  
Word dwelling among us,  
and by the Spirit's descending in the  
likeness of a dove we might know that  
Christ your Servant has been anointed  
with the oil of gladness and sent to  
bring the good news to the poor.  
And so, with the Powers of heaven,  
we worship you constantly on earth,  
and before your majesty  
without end we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**KNEEL**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
the fount of all holiness.

*The Priest joins his hands and, holding them  
extended over the offerings, says:*

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we  
pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon  
them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord,  
Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks,  
broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT  
OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was  
ended,  
he took the chalice  
and, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND  
DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY  
BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND  
ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR  
YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

**The mystery of faith:**

**When we eat this Bread and  
drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

*Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:*

Therefore, as we celebrate the  
memorial of his Death and  
Resurrection, we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of  
salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us  
worthy to be in your presence and  
minister to you.  
Humbly we pray  
that, partaking of the Body and Blood  
of Christ, we may be gathered into  
one by the Holy Spirit.  
Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her to the fullness of charity,

together with Francis, our Pope,  
N. our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s),  
and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and  
sisters who have fallen asleep in the  
hope of the resurrection, and all who  
have died in your mercy: welcome  
them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother of God, with blessed Joseph,  
her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles  
and with all the Saints who have  
pleased you throughout the ages,  
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal  
life, and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

*The Priest takes the chalice and the paten  
with the host and, elevating both, he says:*

Through him, and with him, and in  
him, O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION RITE**

**STAND**

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus  
Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the  
glory are yours, now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give  
you, look not on our sins,  
but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and  
unity in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you  
always.

**And with your Spirit.**

*The priest may add these or similar words.*  
Let us offer each other the sign of peace.



*The priest places a small piece of the host in the chalice saying quietly:*

May this mingling of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

*Meanwhile the people sing or say:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

**(KNEEL)**

*The priest says quietly:*

May the receiving of your Body and Blood, Lord Jesus Christ, not bring me to judgement and condemnation, but through your loving mercy be for me protection in mind and body, and a healing remedy.

*Raising the host the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*And together with the people he says once:*

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

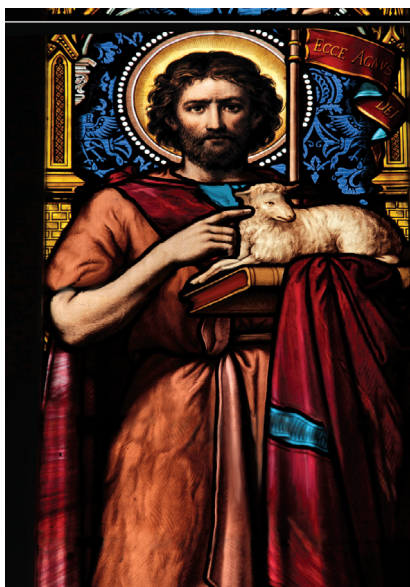
*The Priest reverently consumes the Body of Christ.*

*Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:*  
May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it to each of the communicants, saying:*

The Body of Christ.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON    Jn 1: 32, 34**  
**Behold the One of whom John**  
**said: I have seen and testified that**  
**this is the Son of God.**



### COMMUNION HYMN

**Christ be near at either hand,  
Christ behind, before me stand,  
Christ with me where e'er I go.  
Christ around, above, below.**

**Christ be in my heart and mind  
Christ within my soul enshrined,  
Christ control my wayward heart;  
Christ abide and ne'er depart.**

**Christ my life and only way,  
Christ my lantern night and day;  
Christ be my unchanging friend,  
Guide and shepherd to the end.**

### PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

My Jesus, you are the beloved Son of God, in whom he is well pleased . . . and you have come into my soul.

Lord, I am not worthy to untie your shoes and yet you have come into my soul.

Jesus, meek and humble of heart,  
make my heart like unto yours.

My Jesus, how can I ever thank you for the call to baptism?  
By water and the Holy Spirit you gave to me the gift of new life,  
a real sharing in your own divine life.  
You have taken me by the hand and kept me: you have made me in truth a child of God.

My Jesus, I thank you with all my heart,  
and beg of you to renew in me the grace of baptism; help me from now on to go about doing good.

**(STAND)**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts,  
we humbly entreat your mercy,  
O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

*Solemn Blessing No3 –  
The Beginning of the Year*

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace,  
pour out his blessing in abundance,  
and keep you safe from harm throughout the year.  
**Amen.**

May he give you integrity in the faith,  
endurance in hope,  
and perseverance in charity  
with holy patience to the end.  
**Amen**

May he order your days and your deeds in his peace,  
grant your prayers in this and in every place,  
and lead you happily to eternal life.  
**Amen**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Holy God we praise thy name.  
Lord of all we bow before thee.  
All on earth thy sceptre own.  
All in heaven above adore thee.  
Endless is thy vast domain.  
Everlasting is thy reign.**

**Hark, with loud and pealing hymn,  
Thee the angel choirs are praising;  
Cherubim and seraphim,  
One unceasing chorus raising,  
Ever sing with sweet accord,  
holy, holy, holy Lord.**