



CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH THE ARTISAN PARISH NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING THE BAPTISM OF JESUS



VOLUME 2 No. 19

7TH JANUARY 2018



The Baptism of Jesus

This feast of the baptism of our Lord brings to a conclusion the Christmas season that we've been celebrating, and the readings that we have today, if we listen carefully, we will find kind of a re-statement, a summary of all that this marvellous, almost unbelievable feast means for all of us. First of all, we're reminded again of the extraordinary truth that God, the God who is transcended above and beyond all of creation, this God who is the source of all being, has become one like us, fully human, in every way except sin.

In fact, you might ask yourselves, "Why would Jesus be baptized?" After all, John was preaching a baptism of repentance, a baptism for the forgiveness of sin. In fact, if you look in Matthew's Gospel at the account of the baptism, John himself seems confused. Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him, but John tried to prevent him. He said, "How is it that you come to me? I should be baptized by you."

Jesus tells John, "Let it be like that for now so that we may fulfil the right order." He doesn't fully answer John, but he gives a hint because Jesus, though he is Son of God, wants to follow what he calls the right order. He wants to be fully identified with us, with humans, with those who are sinners, those who are marginalized, oppressed, pushed aside. In that crowd that came to follow John and be baptized, there were people of every class, every order, every nationality.

Jesus is our friend. He's part of our human family. He's part of our human history.

That's the mystery of Christmas. But then also Jesus came -- and this is what we learned from the second lesson today -- not for a few, not for the chosen people only. He came for all and that includes you and me!

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Sat Evening: 7pm	Sally Reilly (1st A)
	Tommy Irving (A)
Sun: 9.30am	John Roe (A)
Sun: 11.30am	Paddy Hanlon (A)
Mon: 9.30am	
Tues: 9.30am	
Wed: 9.30am	(Liturgy of the Word—no Mass)
Thurs: 9.30am	
Fri: 9.30am	

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NO LONGER BE A MORNING MASS ON WEDNESDAYS UNTIL THE SEASON OF LENT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS WILL BE REPLACED BY A LITURGY OF THE WORD.

Contact Details

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PARISH OFFICE

☎ 01 848 5262

(The above number is transferred to a mobile phone outside of office hours.)

✉ office@bonnybrookparish.ie

Opening Hours

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Period and will re-open on Monday, 8th January 2018. If you require anything in the office during this time please call the number above and we will be happy to assist.

Website: www.bonnybrookparish.ie

Facebook: Bonnybrook Parish.

Parish Pastoral Council: chairperson@bonnybrookparish.ie

Mass Times

Sunday Vigil: (Saturday Evening) 7.00pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 11.30am

Monday - Friday: 9.30am

Saturday morning: No Mass

BAPTISMS

Second Saturday of each month at 12.00pm

Fourth Sunday of each month at 12.30pm



COLLECTIONS FOR 24TH DEC 2017

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.



St. Joseph's National School re-opens on Monday, 8th Jan 2018. We wish all our students and staff a very happy New Year and blessings on the semester that is about to begin.



World Meeting of Families - Dates for your Diaries.

The Joy of Love - Parish Conversations

Three Meetings will be held in our Cluster of Parish.

1. Wednesday, 21st Feb 2018 in **Bonnybrook** Church at 7pm
2. Wednesday, 7th March 2018 in **Priorswood** Church at 7pm
3. Wednesday, 21st March 2018 in **Darndale** Church at 7pm

The above meetings are open to parishioners in each parish as we gather 'together' to explore the significance of this important meeting for all our families. We hope you will join us.

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**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED**

QUESTION:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

ANSWER:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is celebrated January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the new born King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?



Jesus came for everyone. No one has an exclusive claim on Christ and his birth not only transcends time and space but earthly boundaries as well. Every human being is a child of God. Jews and Gentiles alike are all coheirs, partners and members of the same body. This is what we celebrate in the Epiphany. It also expresses our hope that one day every nation on earth will recognize and adore Jesus Christ. Jesus' message of peace, justice, reconciliation and love are meant for everyone to hear and understand.

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