



### Gospel Mk 1:7-11

*You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

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.'

### Reflection by Greg Sunter

The baptism of Jesus in the gospel of Mark serves as a revelation of the identity of Jesus. Throughout this gospel there is secrecy about who Jesus really is. Whenever a person's faith reveals that Jesus is the Messiah or the Son of God, Jesus commands them to remain silent and not tell anyone else about him. However, through the baptism event, the reader is let in to the secret from the outset. Unlike the public announcements of Jesus as the beloved Son of God that occurs in other gospels, in the gospel of Mark, the voice is addressed to Jesus himself and there is no indication that anyone else hears it. The words used are, 'You are my Son' not, 'This is my Son.' But the reader is placed in the privileged position of knowing the truth about Jesus from the very beginning of the gospel. As they read further, they observe the disciples' growing yet imperfect understanding of this truth.

John the Baptist serves another particular function in the gospel story. Aside from fulfilling scriptural prophecy by proclaiming the one who is to come, he provides a point of contrast with Jesus. In many ways, John represents the Jewish religious belief of the time. For John, baptism is a ritual of purifying and forgiveness of sin that can be administered as often as required. The way to God is through strict observance of the Law and through ritual acts of prayer and purification. For Jesus though, the way to God is through love and through Jesus himself. The baptism that Jesus will give is a baptism of the Spirit – pouring out the Spirit on those who realise and accept the love of God in their lives.

# The Living Word

The Baptism of the Lord, Year B

10 January 2021

## First Reading Is 42:1-4. 6-7

*Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.*

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.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 28:1-4. 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 Acts 10:34-38

*God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.*

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 the 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.'

## Gospel Acclamation See Mk 9:8

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The heavens were opened and the*

*Father's voice was heard:*

*this is my beloved Son, hear him.*

*Alleluia!*

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**St Michael's Parish Office Hours**  
 Closed Dec 23 2020 to Jan 05 2021  
*Please call 0448 529 712 if you urgently require a priest.*  
**Parish Pastoral Council**  
 Greg Imhagwe Chairperson, Fr Francis, Sr Doreen, Kevin Taylor, Jenifer Hanratty, Amanda Reid, Steve Kimani, Lia DiCorleto, Watson Gomez, Judi McLaughlin, Thomas Mathew, Jodie Ware, Ros Joyner, Doug Doherty and Bev O'Brien.  
**Parish Schools:**  
**St Gabriel's School** 5174 5515  
 Principal: Mrs Ros Joyner  
**St Michael's School** 5174 3295  
 Principal: Mrs Jodie Ware  
**Lavalla Catholic College** 5174 5272  
 Principal: Mr John Freeman  
 Kildare Campus 5174 8111  
 St Paul's Campus 5174 7355

**St Michael's Vision & Mission Statements**

Inspired by Jesus Christ, we are a welcoming Catholic community seeking to enrich lives. Come and join us!  
 We seek to provide opportunities for all to : \*grow in holiness; \*discover and live out a personal call to mission to live as Catholics who effectively transform society.  
**Statement of Commitment to the Safety of Children and Vulnerable Adults:** Central to the mission of St Michael's and St Mary's Parishes is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children, young people and vulnerable adults and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

**SR DOREEN'S 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY:**

It is with great joy that we can celebrate with Sr Doreen this weekend, as she has reached her 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her profession as a Josephite sister.  
 It's hard to remember just what we were all about sixty years ago. Some of us were only in God's future plan, some of us were babes at home, some in primary school or in secondary school and some of us were just marrying, just starting out at work; indeed, so much has occurred in the past 60 years.

Sr Doreen's years of service have taken her right throughout the Diocese of Sale, and all around Australia. Her loving presence, her laughter and her faith have been huge gifts to the many, many people who've been fortunate enough to have her in their lives.  
 The parish and our parishioners have got together and bought her a beautiful gift, but we can't tell you what is in this bulletin. . . you'll have to wait 'til next week.

May God continue to bless Doreen in her coming years ~ may she continue to be a model of faith, trust and hope in our Lord.

**PANDEMIC MATTERS:**

**Receiving Holy Communion:** Parishioners are reminded that the Body of Christ may only be administered to the hand for the time being, and that Holy Communion from the cup is suspended until further notice.

**Face Masks** must be worn throughout the Mass.

**Social distancing** must be maintained.

**Cleaning of pews and kneelers** must be completed before leaving the Church.

**Booking to attend Mass** is required for all weekend Masses.

**WELCOME**

**FR CONFIDENCE MASVOSVA**

How wonderful to have Fr Confidence with us at our Masses this weekend. It is lovely to have you back in our parish for a short time. We wish you every blessing in your ministry.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We remember those who have died recently including John Van Berkel and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Jonathan Phelan, Ellen Koch, Jack Dessent, Bishop Patrick Whelan, Bishop Noel Daly and Noel Cummins.

**Lord, let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.**

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK** including Maria Alessandrini, Lee Allman, Fr Bernard Buckley, Conceicao Carvalho, Peter Dal Pra, Ann-Maree Daly, Anthony Derham, Gary Donchi, Bill Edgar, Bernadette Formaran, Fr Frank Freeman, Denis Hallinan, Marj Gilbert, Carolyn Gleeson, Robert Hazelman, Imogen Hillier, Marie Howard, Joan Lamont, Peter Lont, Joyce Martin, Ivy May, Deborah Mckerchar, Ben Melenhorst, Joan Quigley, Joan Riggall, Kath Ryan, Jerry Templer, Julie Vaz, Brian Vivian, Celie Smith, Wil Waanders, George Walkan and Roy Ward and all those we hold dear in our hearts.

**MEETINGS THIS WEEK.**

**7:00pm Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January**  
 Baptism Preparation meeting  
 in the Church.

<b>Sunday Mass Times</b> (as of Dec 10, 2020)	
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00pm
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm

Attendance numbers at our Masses are limited to 180 people.

Attendance must be booked at [Trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com) or at the Parish Office.

**Weekday Mass Times**

<b>Tuesday Jan 12</b>	9:30am Mass
<b>Weds Jan 13</b>	11:00am Adoration 12:00pm Mass
<b>Thursday Jan 14</b>	9:30am Mass
<b>Friday Jan 15</b>	9:30am Mass

Parishioners attending weekday Masses are asked to arrive 10 minutes before Mass to have their name and contact number recorded by the usher.

**Rosters:** January 16 & 17, 2021  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday 5:00pm Mass**

Lector R Foote: Commentator, M Noone:  
 Usher: Alan Ryan

**Sunday 9:00am Mass**

Lector M Hansen: Commentator C McCabe:  
 Usher : Bill Jacobs

**Sunday 10:30am Mass**

Lector J Panozzo-Tilé: Commentator L Van der Velden: Usher: volunteer required

**Sunday 5:00pm Mass**

Lector E Joseph Commentator S Luscombe:  
 Usher : volunteer required