

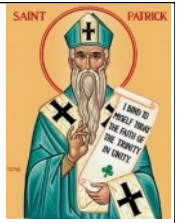
KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay

12th January 2020

The Baptism of the Lord—Year A
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17



A Whisper Echoing Heaven

For the early church, this gospel incident provided something of a puzzle. Why would Jesus, the sinless One, submit to baptism by John? Why be immersed in the waters of the River Jordan as though he were a repentant sinner? The answer gives us great hope.

Right from the start of his public ministry, Jesus wanted to be identified with the great mass of humanity who **are** sinful.

In other words, this being plunged into the waters of the Jordan was for Jesus a great act of solidarity with you and with me.

He wanted to identify with those of us who have become conscious of the fracturing of our relationship with God, and have sensed the need to turn our lives in a better direction.

But what I want to focus on is Jesus' mystical experience as he emerged from the waters of the River Jordan.

'Suddenly the heavens opened.' Heaven and earth are communicating again! If heaven appeared closed to humankind it is now open again in this great act of solidarity by our saviour.

'And he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him.' Please get rid of the idea that there was actually a fluttering bird.

Jesus was a Jew. He would have been steeped in the first lines of the Jewish scriptures which portray the Spirit of God hovering over the waters of chaos. He would have also been aware of the great story of Noah. When the dove fluttered over his ark he knew that the earth was safe for humanity again. So, it is not surprising that Jesus, a Jew, experienced the presence of the divine Spirit of God **'in dove-like fashion', 'like a dove does'** – a sense of being hovered over by this Divine presence.

All this was a prelude to a heavenly intuition: **'and a voice spoke from Heaven: "This is my Son, the beloved, my favour rests on him."'**

In the Jewish tradition this sort of sensation is called the **bat qol**, the daughter of a voice, a **whisper echoing heaven**.

All these sensations had a great impact on Jesus, leaving him with a deep sense of intimacy with his heavenly Father which enabled him, humanly speaking, to persevere throughout his ministry. This is part of what it meant for Jesus to be baptised in the River Jordan. But what does this Gospel mean for us? Each of us has shared in the baptism of Our Lord. Each of us has been incorporated into **His** baptism.

At whatever age you received baptism,

the heavens were opened: divine love and power streamed from heaven to earth.

At that moment, heaven and earth were as one in each one of you;

the Holy Spirit, Divine lover of humanity, hovered gently over you;

and deep down, at the intimate wellspring of your life, the Divine voice was heard whispering:

'You are my beloved daughter' or 'You are my beloved son,' 'My favour rests on you.'

That is our true identity as adopted brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.

Of course our Heavenly Father in his boundless compassion finds other ways to communicate divine life to billions who never get the opportunity to be baptised, or even to hear the gospel.

But, oh what a special privilege! What a great gift to have been incorporated into the baptism of the Lord. What a difference it would make if we re-called each morning the heavenly whisper at **our** baptism and then re-echoed it in **our** lives. © Fr Michael Tate

PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082

P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH

Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper

Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine

School/Parish Liturgy L. Patricia Smith

Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	5pm	St Bernard's
	6pm	St Patrick's
Sunday	8am	St Patrick's
	9am	St Bernard's
	10am	St Patrick's
	6pm	St Patrick's

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Bernard's	8am	Mon, Tues and Thurs.
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.
First Friday –	St Bernard's	
	10.30am	Adoration
	11.00am	Reconciliation
	11.30am	Healing Mass
First Friday –	St Patrick's	
	Night Vigil	7.30pm
	RECONCILIATION	
Every Saturday	9.30 am	at St Patrick's
Every Friday	After 9am Mass at St Bernard's, (except First Friday—see above)	



January Office Hours

The Pastoral Centre will be **CLOSED until mid JANUARY.**

If you need assistance outside these hours please phone the office on 9456 2450 and leave a message.

NB: The phone will be **CHECKED** only **INTERMITTENTLY** during this period.

USUAL OFFICE HOURS will resume on Monday 20 January 2020 (9am to 3.30pm).

REMEMBER: If in urgent need of a priest, the emergency number is: **0468 341 841.**

ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 18/19 January—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE

Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34



KU-RING-GAI CHASE
CATHOLIC PARISH
Diocese of Broken Bay, Australia

St Bernard's Church

St Patrick's Church (Sacristy Phone 9476 6904)

	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
	Fr Shaju	Fr Joy	Fr Joy	Fr Shaju	Fr Shaju	Fr Joy
Acolyte/Snr Server	Paul Dryden	Alex Jarominek	Mani Subramany	Bill Martin	David Massa	Vicente Sanchez
Server	Preston Nguyen Harry Tod Adam Waite	Levi McLoughlin Matthius McLoughlin Freya Tonkin	Enzo Alarcon	Phillip Daidone Conor Collins Tara Collins	Chloe Starling William Trist Luke Trist Annah Francis	
Reader	Mary Dorahy Anne Maree Hutchins	Cristina Hopwood Paul Maher	Penny Loughland Brian Walsh	Dan Leavy Rosemary Pendlebury	Elizabeth Fernandes Cora Cuasay	Ethleen Low Don Low
Children's Liturgy	<i>In recess until February 2020</i>		<i>In recess until February 2020</i>			
Communion to Sick	Garth Graham		Susie Gates, Sue Lum			
Sacristy Care/Church Cleaning/Flowers	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Marlene Moloney (f), Gwen Wood (s)		Pat Smith, Teresa Schneider, Ellen Downey, Marion Pahalawatta, Francis & Tess Lizardo			
Maintenance	Both teams A & B		January: Sydney Fernandes, Richard Fellow			
Counters	Cecilia Waite, Pat Folkes, Anne Marie Doran		Henning Schneider, Coral Thaddeus, Mary Stokes			

LITURGICAL SERVICES & PASTORAL CARE

What's happening in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish

Rosary After weekday Masses both Churches
Visit Housebound Fr Shaju & Fr Joy - 9456 2450
Nursing Home Visits: By request
Emergency Priest 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours only)
Clergy Days Off Fr Shaju — Monday Fr Joy — Tuesday
Home Visits For Masses, House Blessings & Pastoral Requests—
 Please phone the office 9456 2450.
HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If you are admitted to hospital, please write down
 your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services. **Please notify the
 Parish Office, if hospitalised if you would like our own priests to attend.**



**Keep Calm and Drink Tea on
 Sunday the 26th of Jan-u-ary!**
Australia Day in Australia & Republic Day in India

**250 Club Results drawn between Dec 23 and Jan 31
 will be published in the 2nd February 2020 bulletin.**

Are you travelling this New Year?
*You are important to us and so we ask you to take
 special care when travelling over the New Year
 period. Enjoy your break, may it be relaxing and enjoyable
 but most important of all, please return to us safely.*




RECENTLY DECEASED: Geoffrey Ranson (Father of Fr David Ranson), Grace Walker, Elisabeth (May) Bailey, Gabrielle Anne King (nee Cox), Colin Randazzo, Helen McKeon, Antonietta (Ann), Fr Barry Nobbs, Noel & Martin Corrigan, James Kennelly
ANNIVERSARIES: Eulalie Hailstone, Neil Mickelson, Alison Hinton, Mary Treacy, Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Deacon David Huntley, Ronald Bond, Jack Van Pierce
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Felicity Fone, Graeme Kachel, Michelle Chahine, Anna Nicholson, Antonio, Doug Hawkins, Pat Bowden, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Erick Enriquez, Charles Abela, Elaine Estrellado, Maureen Sharpe, Paul Sarks, Eve Davis (baby), Penny Rigor, Rodney Porter, Irena Fellmann, Jwona Nowak, Elaine Longmuir, Paula McGaulley, Michael Quinn, June Eileen, Patricia Smith (Carlton), Ramona Estrellado, Cathy Gleeson, Rosalinda de Ramos, Jaz Pitts, Georgia Meyers, Angela Smith, Matthew Franklin, Jeanette Bakker, Ewa Rakozy, Jean Cook, Greg Cooper, Betty Borg, Morrie Ramsden, Brian Neary, Edwina Subramany, Aiko Concepcion, John Buckley, Ellen Asistente, Sam Calacoci, Barbara Jones, Arlene Joson, Alfredo De Ramos, Kath Lock, Cadia Maestri, Marcelina De Ramos, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy, John Macy, Narelle Cartwright, Tom Dawson, Mary Fernandes, Patricia Sanders, Monique Leyden, Frederick Novak, Barbara & Maciej Maciejewski, Alfredo De Ramos Sr.



We the people of the *Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay
 and in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish,*
 are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people,
 especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable.
 Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



Pope's intention for January:
Promotion of World Peace:
 We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

The businesses below support our parish by advertising here. Please give them your support in turn.

Now in Hornsby

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- Easy Under Cover Parking at the Rear on Ground Floor
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- Corner of Jersey Street North and Bridge Road

9987 4500
 73 Jersey St North, Hornsby NSW 2077



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 www.comfortdiscovered.com

King Tide Café/Restaurant
 Owned and operated by
 our very own
KCCP Parishioners
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 Open 7 days
 from 8am to 4pm
 Come by Car
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 & exceptional views await YOU!
 Hawkesbury River Marina
 9 Dangar Rd Brooklyn NSW
 (02) 9985 7102

Francesca Parrino



**Your
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 E. francescaparrino@mcgrath.com.au

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