

Discussion and Reflection Questions

Baptism of Our Lord 7th of January 2024

Reading: Mark 1:4-11

⁴ John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Discussion & Reflection Questions

- 1) What has been your experience of baptism? Baptism can occur in different ways for different people & different churches, what impact has baptism had in your journey?
- 2) What do you think it means for us that Jesus was baptised?
- 3) What is your own experience of repentance & forgiveness?
- 4) Do you find it easier to repent or to forgive others?
- 5) How do you deal with new beginnings & change?
- 6) How do you see & experience the move of the Holy Spirit in your life, in the Church & in others?

Prayer

Almighty God,
who anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit
and revealed him as your beloved Son:
inspire us, your children,
who are born again of water and the Spirit,
to surrender our lives to your service,
that we may rejoice to be called your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.