

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

After the Lord was baptized, 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.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
You bring light to those in darkness:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us... Amen.

THE 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.



OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptized 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.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 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 Ps. 28:1 - 4, 9 - 10.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

- 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]
- 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]
- 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

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 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.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Matthew 3: 13 - 17

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said, 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



focus on sunday

This is the feast of Jesus receiving from his Father the calling and mission which he followed through in his life, death and resurrection. We too are baptised into a similar relationship with God in Christ.



'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'



Of a footballer they said recently - 'he really plays his heart out!' Or the bishop who walks up Croagh Patrick in July, or the Cardinal who went with pilgrims into the baths in Lourdes - they shared the life of the people they were with. Maybe a bit like the parents getting on the floor to

play with the child. Jesus was like that, and his baptism puts him in the ordinary line with people coming to John for the ritual baptism. Giving his heart and sharing our life.

He becomes one of us, sharing our humanity. At each Mass we say, 'by the mingling of the water and wine, may we come to share the divinity of Christ, who humbles himself to share in our humanity.' In the depths of sharing our humanity in the Jordan waters, he heard the affirmation of his Father, 'you are my beloved Son'.

He would live like that, touching closely the lives of his people, especially the sick. He would touch their hearts and literally their bodies even when they were 'unclean' like people suffering from leprosy. He would do the same today for the people we marginalise and look down on.

His baptism is one of the big moments of hope. His resurrection is the final reason for hope: as he is now, we shall be.

May I be reminded Lord when I take the holy water of your journey, I do so to become one with you.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven.

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death
and was buried, and rose again on
the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son, who with the Father
and the Son is adored and glorified, who
has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

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St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield



The Baptism of
The Lord
8th January 2017

Mass Times

Saturday : 6 pm Vigil
Sundays : 10:30 am & 12 noon
Weekdays : Mon. – Fri. 10:00 am
Mon. 7:30 pm Sat. 11:00 am

Contact: Co-Parish Priest Fr. Paddy Boyle 086 1011 415
Co-Parish Priest Fr. Gerry Corcoran (Moderator) 01 847 9822
Team Assistant Fr. Tom Colreavy (Retired) 01 848 4836
Parish Office 8160984 Sacristy 8160981
www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com Email : parishofficeayrfield@eircom.net

*We remember at Mass and in
our prayers those who have
gone before us*

Sunday 8th 10:30am

Ambrose McCall

8th Anniversary

Sunday 8th 12:00 noon

Cathy Cassidy - McManus

4th Anniversary

Ann & Christy Kearney

Anniversary

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*Your prayers are requested for*

**John Downes &**

**Paul McDermott**

recently deceased  
~~~~~

May they rest in peace

Christmas Dues

Sincere thanks to all who have
subscribed to our Christmas Dues.
Envelopes can be placed in the
boxes provided in the church or
given to your outdoor collector.

St. Vincent De Paul

The Society will be taking up their
monthly collection after all Masses
this weekend. They would like to
thank all parishioners for their
continued generosity throughout the
year and especially at Christmas time.



St Paul's Junior & Senior Schools

Our Schools re-open on Monday 9th January.
We wish all the children well in the coming year.

Liturgy Team

There will be a meeting of the Liturgy
Team on **Monday 9th January at 6pm**
in the Pastoral Centre.



Sacrament of Marriage

Congratulations to
Ciara Hurley and **Daniel Fox**
on the occasion of their marriage in
our church during December.

*We wish all our parishioners
a very Happy, Holy and Joyful
New Year.*

Thought for the day: The Baptism of The Lord

Today is the feast of the Baptism of Jesus, and it gives us an opportunity to consider the grace of our own baptism and its implications for us. Our Lord did not need to be baptised, but we do. Baptism is a sacrament of extraordinary importance. Unfortunately today it can be often seen as a naming ceremony, a day out and a day of welcoming a child into a local community. Yes, these things are good, and they are all a part of what baptism is, but they are not the important part of baptism, and we somewhat miss the point if this is where it all begins and ends for us.

Baptism is the sacrament in which we become the adopted sons and daughters of God. It is, in fact, the sacrament in which the seed of all the graces of our life has been planted in our soul. Our entire life, then, is a campaign to cultivate that grace and to eradicate those faults that would seek to strangle it.

You Shall Be My Witnesses

You Shall Be My Witnesses is the Parish Preparation Programme for Confirmation. For those of you who have volunteered to be Leaders in the programme we say a big thank you. This programme will give you the opportunity to get more actively involved with your child's preparation for Confirmation.

The following are the important dates for your diary.

The first two meetings will be facilitated by Rosemary Lavelle, who will explain the course to you. These will take place in Clonliffe College on **Wednesday 12th** and **Wednesday 19th of January** from **7:30pm – 9:30pm**. You will be picked up from the church car park at **7pm** on both nights.

The programme for the children will take place in the Pastoral Centre over four weeks, on the following dates.

- **Monday 20th February 2017 8:00pm – 9:00pm**
- **Monday 27th February 2017 8:00pm – 9:00pm**
- **Monday 6th March 2017 8:00pm – 9:00pm**
- **Monday 13th March 2017 8:00pm – 9:00pm**

We are very grateful to Paula & Lee Redmond who will be co-ordinating the programme this year. If you have any queries regarding the programme you may contact them at 086 159 8292

Notice to Coeliacs: *If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, please contact the Priest before Mass so that we can try to accommodate your requirements.*