



11 January 2026 - *The BAPTISM of the LORD*

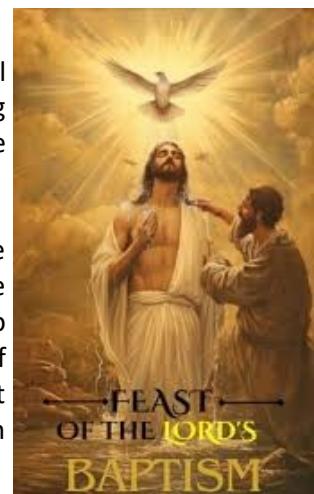
"I HAVE ENDOWED HIM WITH MY SPIRIT"

We are coming to the end of the Christmas season. It has been a time when we have been exchanging gifts with one another. For a moment let us speak about the gifts we give to people and the gifts we receive from them. At times, we give our friends for example: a nice T-shirt, or a headscarf. The people will wear it for a while, but after some time the cloth is worn out. If we have given some food as a gift, it disappears even more quickly. A gift made of glass, or plastic, or metal, can easily be broken. And even such gifts can be lost.

Dear friends, not many gifts last. However, friendship can be one gift that lasts. I can give my friendship with someone for many years. But most of the gifts we give to each other cannot be enjoyed for a very long time. But there is someone whose gifts last for a long time, in fact they last forever. This Someone is God. His gift cannot be spoiled or damaged. They do not get lost and they cannot be stolen either.

In the gospel today, we see Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist. Jesus is God's special Messenger/Gift. He comes to us as God Himself. This is what we have been celebrating during this Christmas season. On the day Jesus was baptised, what happened? "A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him'."

Take example, that a child is lost in the crowd of festivity dancing hall. Noticed by someone seeing the child crying. He /she took the child in front of the hall and announced over the loudspeaker, whose child is this? The mother came forward and claimed, 'it is my child.' To claim means to say: "it is mine, it belongs to me." This is what the mother does. In front of everybody she is happy for people to know this is her child. In the gospel today, this is what God does. He claimed Jesus as His Son. He says that Jesus is His beloved. He is pleased with Him.



In a wonderful way, God does this also for each one of us. At our baptism God has claimed you and me as His own. In the first reading prophet Isaiah tells us how God speaks of His Son. He said, "Here is my servant, my chosen one, in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit". To endow means to give a permanent gift, a lasting gift. God says He has endowed His servant with his own Spirit. Like Jesus, we too who are baptised have been endowed by the spirit of the Lord.

Before His death, Jesus had promised: "I shall ask the Father, and he will give you the Spirit of the Truth to be with you forever" (Jn.14:16). Jesus has fulfilled His promise to His friends. And we too, have received this Spirit at our baptism.

Fr. Gaspar Mushi, Cssp.



SAVE THE DATE !! FRIDAY 16 JANUARY

VIGILS OF REPARATION

Commencing at 6:30pm with Silent Adoration and ending at 12:15am with Holy Mass.

Full details on flyer available in the Church.

SENIOR SERVER/ACOLYTE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR ROSTERED WEEKS 1 & 3 OF THE MONTH FOR SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS.
Please contact the Parish Office or Fr Gaspar if you can help. Thank you.

Mass Times: Throughout December and January, regular weekday and weekend Mass times will be maintained.

Weekdays: Tuesday to Friday 9:15am Weekends: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am 9:30am and 5:30pm

Masses will be celebrated regularly, Sacraments available and a Priest on duty.

Parish Office Hours into January: The office is open on Mondays and Wednesdays up to Wednesday 14 January and then is closed until Monday 2 February. The answering machine will be checked regularly so please feel free to leave a message on 9489 3221 or email holynname@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Masses This Week

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| Monday | 12 January | No Mass | | | | Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 |
| Tuesday | 13 January | Mass | 9.15am | | | Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 |
| Wednesday | 14 January | Mass | 9.15am | | | Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 |
| Thursday | 15 January | Mass | 9.15am | | | Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 |
| Friday | 16 January | Mass | 9.15am | | | Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 |
| Saturday | 17 January | Mass | 5.00pm | | | St Anthony, abbot |
| Sunday | 18 January | Mass | 8.00am | 9.30am | 5.30pm | 2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME |

Please Remember in your Prayers

RECENTLY DECEASED: *Daisy Chiu (longtime parishioner, sister of Lily Wong, mother to Celine, Bernard and Felix, died 6 January), John Bourke (uncle of Rosalie Belsey, brother of Pat Baxter, died 8 January), Nancy den Hertog (died 14 December), Judith (Judy) Allan (died 6 December, mother of Philippa, Vincent and Sonia), Sharon Ogden (died 3 December aged 79yrs), Marie Maloney (Mary Weaver's Mum, died 18 November aged 92), Angela Wodzga (life long friend of Linette Sardinha, died 17 November).

ANNIVERSARIES: Tim O'Brien (son of Paul and Jenny, 10th anniversary on 8 January), Carl Shannon (Christine Shannon's father, 32nd anniversary 8 January), Felicidad Lizardo (Francis' mother—anniversary 15th January, Patricia McGrath (3rd anniversary, 17 January, wife of John, mother to Catherine, Julie, Lynette, Anthony, Sean and David), Muriel Molnar (10th anniversary, 21 January), Helene Babski (aunt of Monica Caly, 3rd anniversary 21 January), Patricia (Pat) Lynch, 9th anniversary, 23 January, Toufic Kassis (brother of John, 6th anniversary 20 January), Joseph El-Daher (Denise Kassis' brother, 65th anniversary on 21 January), Cheble El-Daher (father of Denise Kassis - 39th anniversary on 23 January), Sylvester 'Ves' McGrath (4th anniversary 26 January, father of Dominic, Damien and Justin), Eileen Goldstein (mother of Pam Gallagher, anniversary on 29 January).

FOR THE SICK: George Ozelins, Peter and Jan Van de Velde (Jacqui's parents), Jannette Mary Cameron (sister of Tom Gait), Peter Dewar (good friend of Reg Gibbons), Jenny O'Brien, Lawson Wynter (grandson of Marilyn Orrock), Jenny Southam, Alison Robinson (daughter of Vince and Bev), Tammy Ibda (friend of Dominic McGrath), Ray Kassis (brother of John Kassis), Yvonne Malouf (mother of Joanne Klostermann), Noeline Mannix, Tina Northcott, Mark Vinson Vallarta, Margaret Du Moulin (Edwina Potiris' mum, friend of Dominic McGrath), Conor and Leila McCreton, Margaret and Pat MacMillan, Jonathan Tighe (nephew of Caroline Montouro), Henry Alan Field (grandchild of dear friend of Cecilia Kean), Judy Ford (sister in law of Irene King), Pam Gallagher, Geoff Deacon (brother-in-law of Irene King), Margaret Anderson (sister-in-law of Frank and Jo Waldron), Norma Higgins, Davin and Sharon Ho, Leanne (Sharon's sister).

*Funeral for Daisy Chiu

The Requiem Mass for our dear long-time parishioner Daisy Chiu will be celebrated on
MONDAY 19 JANUARY at 11:00am.

Light refreshments will be served in the Sunroom following the service for those unable to attend the burial at Macquarie Park Cemetery.

Magical Musical Moments at Holy Name



R: **The Pop Up Choir** with Father Gaspar after singing the African Noel on Christmas morning, with William Belsey playing the traditional djembe drum. A lovely surprise for Fr Gaspar!

L: **James Goldrick** deputised as organist on the feast of the Epiphany on 4 January. James, who is Director of Music at Christ the King in Little Rock, Arkansas, was back home visiting his parents Chris and Chrissie for a few days after Christmas.

