



Readings
for this
week:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 or 42:1-4,6-7
Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7 or Acts 10:34-38
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



Readings
for next
Sunday

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11



Liturgical Jottings

The River Jordan

The River Jordan is mentioned twice in the Sunday Liturgy: in the Collect and in the Preface as the place of Jesus' Baptism. The waters of Jordan are a figure of a vehicle "that takes one to heaven." St. Gregory of Nazianzus uses the image: "Baptism is the destruction of sin, the vehicle to carry us to God."

"On this day the element of water is consecrated; Jordan stops flowing and holds back its waters as it sees the Saviour purifying himself in them. O Christ, our King, as a man you went down into the river, hastening because of our sins to receive from the Precursor the baptism meant for slaves." Hymn of St Sophronitus

This is the feast of the Lord that we see today in the Jordan; we see him casting into the Jordan the death due us for our disobedience, the stinging goad of error, and the chains that bound Adam; we see him giving to the world the baptism that saves.

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Looking at the Readings

Surprisingly the place, time and agent of Jesus' Baptism are not mentioned in Luke's account of the Baptism we read today. Those details we have received from the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark and John. Luke takes us directly to the significance of the mystery-event.

First mentioned part was that Jesus was at prayer (3:21) indicating the importance of the event. For Jesus was at prayer before other important events: before he chose the twelve Apostles (5:16); before Peter's profession of faith (6:12); before the transfiguration (9:18); and before his own passion (22:41). Luke records another significant moment in Acts when the Apostles, Mary and other disciples were at prayer on the days leading up to Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them (Acts 1:14; 2:1). The descent of the Holy Spirit, in response to prayer, becomes the significance of the Baptism of the Lord.

Secondly mentioned in Luke are the words of the voice from heaven: "You are my Son, the Beloved, in you I am well pleased." The event becomes a second Epiphany - the manifestation of God. The word epiphany, from the Greek meaning "to show to" another word associated with it is "theophany": to show, to manifest, God to the world. Various Eastern Rite Churches unite the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the Miracle at the wedding feast of Cana into one celebration of the Theophany of Jesus. By coming into the world, Jesus has shown the kindness and love of God.

Prayer of the Day

Today the grace of the Holy Spirit descends upon the waters in the form of a dove.

Today the waters of the Jordan are changed into a remedy by the presence of the Lord.

Today the sins of men are wiped away in the waters of the Jordan. Today paradise is opened to mankind, and the Sun of Justice shines upon us.

Today the kingdom of heaven has become ours. (*St Sophronitus*)

Quote of the Day

The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism. *St Ambrose of Milan (340? - 397)*

On the Lighter Side

The local butcher and his wife presented their twin infants for baptism. The priest asked: "What are their names?" "Steak and kidney," blurted the nervous father. "Joe, you fool," whispered his wife: "It's Kate and Sydney."



 Please email or contact the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Dominic Muto, Phyllis Newman, John Flanagan
	Our sick and their carers	

NEXT TWO WEEK'S ROSTERS

Saturday 18th January 6:00pm

Commentator: Carol Coulston
 Reader: Denice Bourke
 Gospel Procession: Deb Turvey
 Gifts: J Caiafa & D Hamilton
 Screen Operator: Anne Hutchison
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 19th January 10:30am

Commentator: Mary Gale
 Reader: Debbie Worm
 Gospel Procession: Connie Serra
 Gifts: A Basile & L Mercuri
 Special Minister: Ross Kelly
 Screen Operator: Steve De Lai
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett
 Money Counters: S De Lai & M Gale

Sunday 26th January

Commentator: Debbie Worm
 Reader: Rob Miller
 Gospel Procession: Mary Gale
 Gifts: S Gregg & C Serra
 Special Minister: Steve De Lai
 Screen Operator: Lou Worm
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett
 Money Counters: E Worm & C Coulston

Thanks to all of our volunteers, we appreciate the support you give to your parish.

Plate Collection and Envelopes

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of parish.

May God bless you always.

Last week: \$715.70



Three Week Mass Timetable

Week Commencing 15th January

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 15th January 9:15am
 Friday 17th January 9:15am

Weekend Masses

Sat 18th January 6:00pm
 Sun 19th January 10:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 22nd January 9:15am
 Friday 24th January 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Sunday 26th January 10:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 29th January 9:15am
 Friday 31st January 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Sat 18th January 6:00pm
 Sun 19th January 10:30am

Monthly events

Anointing Mass every 1st Wednesday Mass at 9:15am
Italian Rosary every 2nd Friday at 2pm in the Church
Reconciliation every 1st Saturday of the month at 5:30pm
Saturday evening Masses: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

Ladies Cuppa & Chat

1st Wednesday of each month
 at 2pm in St Mary's Hall.
 All welcome.



**YOU ARE MY BELOVED.
 WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.**

LUKE 3:22



young-catholics.com

Our website: has the latest rosters, Bulletin and other information

You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

Luke 3:22

Today's Gospel shows us the Baptism of Jesus. He who is the Son of God, the Messiah goes to the Jordan River to be baptized. He lines up with the sinners, He shares our plight, He goes down into the river and at the same time into the wounded history of humanity to heal it. **Pope Francis**

In the Baptism of the Lord Year C, we see a special moment where the Trinity is revealed. The baptism of Jesus shows us the presence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This gives us a glimpse into the Trinitarian nature of God.

New Readers and Eucharistic Ministers There will be training for Readers and Eucharistic ministers in March. Please put your name on the list in the Narthex if you would like to participate – this is for new and current volunteers. Further details will come later.

Communion to the sick - training – volunteers needed. Training to take Communion to the Sick will also take place in March, please add your name to the list in the Narthex. A Working with Children Check (WWCC) is required to be do this.

ST SEBASTIAN'S MERRIGUM

It is with sadness that we announce the decision has been made and confirmed with the Bishops guidance, that St Sebastian's church Merrigum will be closed. The Bishop will be decommissioning the church on Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 12 noon. Please save the date and please share with past parishioners.

Discover how Raphael & Leonardo depicted the Eucharist



Visit Stanza della Segnatura in the Vatican & the refectory of the Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, and all without the need of a passport.

A ZOOM event Wednesday
15 Jan, 2025, 7.30-9.30pm.

Book before 9am Tues 14 Jan at:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CXUWY>

A Catholic School of Evangelisation free event.
Donations are gratefully received.

Keep up to date with our Facebook
Page: **Sacred Heart Parish Tatura**



**Sunday 9
February 2025
Mass – 5pm**



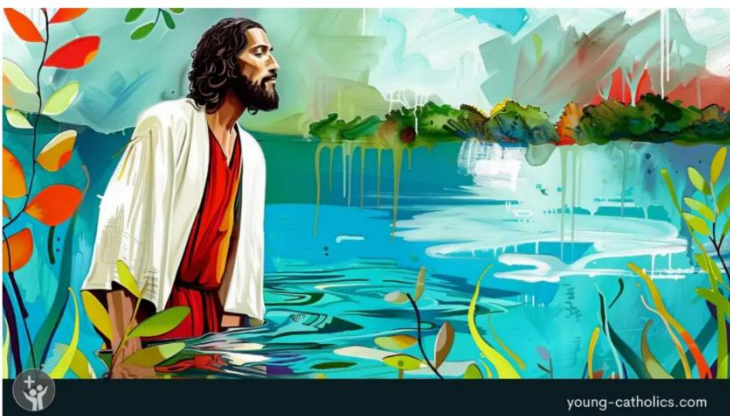
St Mel's Parish Church
18-22 Hamilton St Shepparton

Thanksgiving Mass

for Fr Rene Ramirez RCJ

Please join us in farewelling Fr Rene as he returns to St Mel's Parish as Bishop Rene, accompanied by Bishop Shane Mackinlay and Priests from the Sandhurst Diocese and the Congregation of the Rogationist

Following the Holy Mass you are welcome to stay for a picnic style BYO dinner on the Church lawn or order from the food trucks on site.



Through Jesus' baptism, we see how much God loves us. Jesus showed that he is with us in our joys and our difficulties. He came to save us and to show us the way to God. By being baptised, Jesus showed that he was one of us, sharing in everything we go through.

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for the gift of baptism. Help us to follow Jesus' example of love and service. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so we can bring hope and kindness to others. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice and reconciliation.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

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