

# Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin



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## MASS TIMES

### Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15

Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

### Weekdays

9.30am

### Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

### Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &

7.30pm

The Baptism of the Lord - 9th January, 2022 - Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

## ENABLING SPIRIT

In recent weeks, we have been exploring and celebrating WHO Jesus is; Son of God, Mary's boy, the promised Messiah. This weekend the emphasis suddenly switches to WHAT Jesus came to do; to open up the treasure of God's love for each of us; to build a world family of respect, justice, equality, reconciliation, hope, joy, worship and peace.



Of course, both aspects of the Jesus' life are important always, but it often helps us to focus on one or other aspect to deepen our appreciation of the wonder of who God is and what God does in us, for us and through us by letting His enabling spirit live with us and among us. This weekend we celebrate this spirit flourishing in Jesus himself at His baptism by John in the Jordan.

John the Baptist was a powerful preacher whose appeal brought crowds to the Jordan to undergo the water ritual of his baptism which signified a commitment to leave despair and sin behind and to make a new beginning in living as God's people. It was a lifestyle choice individually and communally. Jesus joined His peers in the ritual.

John, Elizabeth's boy, must have been truly astonished when it was confirmed for him that his cousin Jesus was the promised Messiah. For Jesus, it was a key moment when filled with the enabling spirit, He responded to the Father's call to begin the three years of public ministry. He began by calling together a little company of disciples to support Him in the challenging task of forming a community of believers that was to grow into what we call the Church today.

For each of us, our own baptism is the key moment when God plants the seed of His enabling spirit and presence in us, to take root, grow and blossom throughout our lives. It is a gift that is nourished each time we respond to His promptings in prayer, in care and service to each other and especially in the Eucharist.

Our baptismal anniversaries can be memorable stages in our life journey as we grow in intimacy with the Lord Himself and become co-builders with Him of cells of goodness, joy, peace and love wherever life takes us. Such is our calling.

Enabling Spirit of the living God, fall upon each of us today and every day.

Fr. Tom Clancy.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## PARISH BULLETIN

The Parish Bulletin is available **weekly** on the Parish Website: or can be e-mailed by forwarding your e-mail address to the Parish Office.



## Diocesan Needs

The quarterly collection for Diocesan Needs will be taken up at all Masses next weekend - 15th / 16th January, 2022