

## SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

### MATTHEW 3:13-17

1. The Baptism of Jesus marks a turning point in his life and the start of his public ministry. Recall moments when your life changed and you moved into a new phase.
2. The experience was one in which Jesus had a new sense of his own identity. What have been the experiences which have helped shape your sense of who you are?
3. How have you come to an awareness of being a child of God, beloved by God, and one on whom rests the grace of God?
4. It is surprising that Jesus, the Saviour of the world, asks to be baptised by John. The request symbolises his desire to identify with us. At the same time he is filled with the Holy Spirit. That step of identifying with us is an important element in his being able to help us. Have you ever found that when someone identifies with you, it is easier for him/her to help you? Has your ability to identify with others had any impact on your effectiveness in helping others?

**John Byrne OSA** Email: [john@orlagh.ie](mailto:john@orlagh.ie)

### MUSINGS:

The Baptism of Christ is a painting by fifteenth-century Italian artist Piero della Francesca. It is in the National Gallery in London. It is remarkable for its light quality. Its lightness of tone reflects a time when baptisms were concluded at dawn and the newly baptised, once washed in the font, were dressed in white robes. A dawn light suffuses the figure of Christ, including sky, landscape and water. Piero worked on a white gesso surface which had a marble-like finish and his paints were tempered with egg to create translucency and a whiteness relevant to the theme of Baptism. The setting for the painting is

Italy of his time, not ancient Jordan. As Christ is being baptised delegates are arriving from the east to negotiate a healing of the Churches East and West. A trio of angels have gathered in a conciliatory circle.

When we honour Christ's Baptism on this day we are reminded to work on our own disunities.

**Fr David O'Riordan**

### FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF JESUS:

We celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, today at 11:30 Mass. We will have a special celebration when those who were baptised during 2016 will attend.

**PARISH ENVELOPES 2017:** Parish Envelopes for 2017 have been distributed. We acknowledge all who give to the Parish in whatever way that suits them. We also encourage you, if you can, to consider giving through the Envelope System as the Parish receives tax refunds based on your contribution. Anyone who wishes to join the Envelope System should contact the Sacristy.

**FAMILY MASS:** Our monthly Family Mass will be held next Sunday 15 January at 11.30.

**MASS TIMES:** Evening Mass will be held on Monday and Tuesday at 5.45pm

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The next meeting of the PPC will be held on Tuesday 17 January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. If anyone is interested in joining this group please contact the sacristy and leave your name.

## ST JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY (A society of lay people organised in parishes and work-places throughout Ireland)

St Joseph's Young Priests Society **THANK YOU** for your support of the Society's work in the past. The need for more priests to carry out Christ's work is as real now as it has ever been. Our purpose is to promote the vocation of the priesthood by prayer, financial help and the witness of our Christian living. With your generous support we have been able to assist in 2015/16 - 111 Irish Students, 590 Overseas Students and 120 ordinations to the Priesthood with €816,922 expenditure.

**BEREAVEMENT COURSE AT MILFORD:** Are you interested to learn about Grief and Loss and how to Support the Bereaved? An information evening for the programme is taking place on 11 January at 7pm in Milford Care Centre, Castletroy. For more information contact Geraldine Aherne at [G.Aherne@Milfordcc.ie](mailto:G.Aherne@Milfordcc.ie) or Stephen Sperber at [S.Sperber@Milfordcc.ie](mailto:S.Sperber@Milfordcc.ie) or at 061 485800

**Our Lady of the Rosary Bereavement Support Group.**

**URSULA STOKES AGENCY** will commence classes from Saturday 21 January at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Centre. 'Club Pitter Patter' (Girls 5-8 yrs) Sat: 3-4pm & 'Pre Teen Club' (Girls 9-12 yrs) Sat: 4-5pm. Modelling, Deportment & Personal Development Classes will commence on Monday 23 January 6.45pm to 7.45pm & 7.45pm to 8.45pm.

Enrolment by phone only to 087-2569244, log on to the website homepage under the heading latest news. [www.ursula.stokes.com](http://www.ursula.stokes.com)

**REFLECTION:** Wherever I am, nothing is wasted. If I am in sickness, perplexity or sorrow, these things can serve the Lord. God does nothing in vain, therefore I will trust in the Lord. Amen.

*John Henry Newman*

### Parish Website

[www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie](http://www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie)

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825

Fr. Tom. Ryan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733

Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at *Church Sacristy*  
Tel: 325288

Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays  
09:00-12.30 Sunday

### Mass Times: Weekends

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

### Weekdays:

Mon. to Fri. 10:00

Mon. & Tues. 17:45

Saturday 09:45

**Baptisms:** Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	18:00	Sheila & Joe Kirby (A) Liam O'Leary (M.M.)
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Kathleen Hegarty (1 <sup>st</sup> A)
	11:30	Lilly O'Brien (A)
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Jennie McDonald (Rec.Dec.)
	17:45	Purgatorial Society
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Maura Spaight (Rec. Dec.)
	17:45	Aidan Boucher (A)
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Bernard Eivers (A)
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Brenda Fitzgerald (A)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Liam O'Leary (Rec. Dec.)
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	09:45	Mary O'Gorman (Rec. Dec.)
	18:00	Michael, Willie & Bridie Ryan (A) Special Intention
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Paddy Quilligan (A)
	11:30	Liam O'Shanahan & Family (A) Christy Hallissey (A) Nuala McGelligott (A) Anne O'Sullivan (M.M.)

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