

Gospel

Mk. 1:4-11

✠ The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

(First Sunday after the Epiphany)

7th January, 2024



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Sentence

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; and he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

Acts 10.38

Prayer of the day

Eternal God,
at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan
you proclaimed him your beloved Son,
and anointed him with the Holy Spirit:
grant that all who are baptised into his name
may keep the covenant they have made,
and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour;
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

First Reading

Gen.1:1-5

A reading from the Book of Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29 — *A.P.B.A. page 248*

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven:
ascribe to the Lord glory and might.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name:
O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord upon the great waters.

- 4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation:
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees:
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 He makes them skip like a calf:
Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash:
the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert
the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees,
and strips bare the forests:
in his temple all cry 'Glory'.
- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood:
the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.
- 10 The Lord will give strength to his people:
the Lord will give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading

Acts 19:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptised?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptised with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — altogether there were about twelve of them.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:
This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Alleluia!