

RECTOR'S REFLECTION

In the cycle of Jesus' life that we mark in the calendar, today is the day that we remember our Lord's baptism by John in the River Jordan. It's likely a good thing that, if Jesus really was baptised at this time of year, he was baptised in Palestine, because otherwise it would have been a polar plunge!

Over the last two weeks, we have celebrated Jesus' birth, naming and circumcision, the arrival of the wise men from the East, his presentation in the Temple, and even the episode in the Temple when he was twelve years old. All of these events (except the last one) likely took place in the first month of Jesus' life, but today, we're celebrating Jesus' baptism, which happened when he was around thirty. Jesus responded to the call that was given to him by going to see John to be baptised. We know the rest of the story (although this year's version from Luke has less detail than Mark or Matthew): Jesus asks John to baptise him, John protests, Jesus says he has to fulfil prophecy, John immerses Jesus in the river, Jesus comes up and the Holy Spirit, appearing as a dove alights on Jesus' head as God's voice says "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Jesus then proceeds into the wilderness, and upon his return, begins his ministry.

As I reflect on this episode in Jesus' life, it seems to me that it serves as a template for our lives. Jesus, called into his ministry, was baptised in water and by the Spirit, and claimed by God. Each of us, in some way, has heard the call of God, and responded by being baptised. The problem for us in this age of the Church is that we need to recognise that, like Jesus, baptism is not a destination, but merely a stop on the journey, perhaps even the beginning! Jesus owned his ministry beginning with his baptism and every one of us is called to do likewise. Our baptism is what equips us to do ministry—it's not just a rite of passage, but a real calling to participate as fully as we can in the life of the Church and the mission of God in the world. Let's not forget that we are all called to be ministers—it's not just the clergy who are ministers.

To frame this in a slightly different way, we can look at the passage from Isaiah. The prophet, speaking to an exiled Israel, offered consolation by reminding them that it was God who created and formed them. And that same God calls each of them by name, assuring them of their redemption. Just as God called the people of Israel by name, and called Jesus the Son, the Beloved, so too does God call each one of us by name, assuring us of our redemption and challenging us to serve God with the gifts we are given in the ministry opportunities we are afforded. God promises us that, despite the obstacles we may find in our lives, the waters shall not overwhelm us and the flames shall not consume us because we are precious and honoured and loved. As Jesus humbly followed the call he was given, let each of us this day renew our commitment to loving God as God has loved us.

Our mission, for the glory of God in Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, is to:

- Celebrate all that God has done for us through worship and witness with others.
- Respond to our call to be disciples of Christ by sharing our faith, rooted in the Word of God, with others and encouraging others to become followers of Christ through word and action.
- Practice good stewardship of our human, financial and environmental resources, working to ensure that all of God's Creation is viable for future generations.
- Grow ourselves and others by reaching out to our communities, following Jesus' example of generous caring, giving, and welcoming.

REGULAR SERVICES

All Saints', Tyendinaga

Sunday Celebration—8:30 a.m.

Christ Church, HM Chapel Royal of the Mohawk

Sunday Celebration—10:30 a.m.

Third Sundays Combined Parish Service

April to September—Christ Church—10:30 a.m.

October to March—All Saints'—8:30 a.m.

PARISH PRIEST

The Rev'd Brad Smith
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WARDENS

All Saints'

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THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF TYENDINAGA

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CHRIST CHURCH

HER MAJESTY'S CHAPEL ROYAL OF THE MOHAWK



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

TYENDINAGA

Vision Statement

To be a Spirit-filled and life giving place where strangers become friends and friends become disciples.

**Sunday 10 January 2010
The Baptism of our Lord**

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn CP 385
Apostolic Greeting BAS 185
Collect for Purity 185
Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God)
Collect of the Day 348

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29 BAS 738



The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading Acts 8:14-17
Gradual Hymn CP 162
Alleluia African Chant: Maraire
Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Homily
Renewal of Baptismal Vows BAS 158
Prayers of the People
Confession and Absolution BAS 190
Peace

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn SB 26
Prayer over the Gifts
Eucharistic Prayer 3 BAS 198
Sanctus and Benedictus (Holy, Holy, Holy) CP 732
Lord's Prayer BAS 211
Breaking of the Bread 6 213
Agnus Dei (O Lamb of God) CP 747

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Bearer of our sin, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer, Redeemer of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion
Music: CP 647, SB 30

All are welcome to join in the Eucharistic feast. As you come forward for Communion, please take a moment to clean your hands with the sanitiser found at the front of the church. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please be assured that receiving the bread alone is considered making a full Communion. Please do not dip your bread into the wine.

COMMISSIONING AND DISMISSAL

Prayer after Communion BAS 214

Blessing
Closing Hymn CP 380
Dismissal (words below) BAS 215
**Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, thanks be to God, alleluia!
Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

**CP—Common Praise (Blue)
SB—Song Book (Green or Blue Folder)
BAS—Book of Alternative Services (Green)**

We give thanks to God that we were able to worship together today! If you would like a visit or phone call from the Parish Priest please let anyone know who is listed on the back panel of the bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting of Vestry—Anyone who usually submits a report for Vestry is encouraged to start thinking about it and turn it in by Sun 17 Jan. Vestry will meet on Sun 21 Feb 2010.

Parish Council—Wed 13 Jan at 7 p.m. at the QAPC.

Third Sunday Combined Service—A reminder that next Sunday there will be one service only in the parish at 8:30 a.m. at All Saints'.

Parish Fun Night—Wed 20 Jan at 7 p.m. at the QAPC. Bring a game, a snack, and a friend! **Note:** Fun Night is now being held on the 3rd Wed of the month.

Vital Church Planting Conference 2010—"Proclaiming the Gospel Afresh...Developing a Mixed Economy Church" is the theme of this year's conference held 2-4 Feb at St Paul's, Bloor St, Toronto. For more info, please visit www.vitalchurchplanting.com.

2010 Canadian Church Calendars—buy yours today for only \$5.00!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper—Tue 16 Feb, 5 to 7 p.m. at the QAPC. An old tradition in the Church, symbolising the last "luxury" meal of fatty and sugary foods before the beginning of the Lenten fast. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for kids 6-12 and free for kids 5 and under.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy—Wed 17 Feb, 7:00 p.m. at Christ Church. Mark the beginning of Lent, the season of our preparation for Easter, in a traditional way with the Imposition of Ashes (receiving an ash cross on your forehead) and a celebration of the Eucharist.

Baptism—Anyone wishing to be baptised or who knows someone who might wish to be baptised is invited to speak to Brad to arrange preparation for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter on Sat 3 Apr.

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Thanks to Kate Stamm
01-14-2009
THE DAY THE MOSES/JOHN THE BAPTIST TURF WARS BEGAN

BIBLE TRIVIA

Last Week's Answer

Before the birth of his sons, Eliezer of Damascus was to receive Abraham's inheritance (Genesis 15:2)

This Week's Question



True or False? Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah the priest, was herself of a priestly family.

Prayers this Week

Anglican Communion
The Church of Bangladesh
The Rt Rev'd Paul Sishir Sarkar, Moderator

Diocese of Ontario
The Rt Rev'd George Bruce
Parish of St Paul, Kingston
The Ven Dr Bob Hales
The Rev'd Winnie Forte

Companions
St Ann's Episcopal Church, Amsterdam; the Revd Christopher Smith
HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, the Revd Denis Mulliner

Parish of Tyendinaga
Intercessors
Families of: Marion Green, Peter Green, Sandra Green (Justin, Murney, Terra), Tim & Elizabeth Grew, John & Margaret Hall

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11