



CHURCH OF OUR LADY
MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE

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**NEXT BAPTISM
PREPARATION MEETING**
- will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 12th
January 2016, for the celebration of
Baptism on Sunday, 17th January.

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Gerry O'Donohue (1 st Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Pro Populo
	10.00 am	Margaret Corcoran (Rec. Dec.)
	11.30 am	Frank Quinn (1 st Anniv.) Martin Hayes (M. Mind)
Mon.	10.00am	Deceased members of the Dodd & Clarke families
Tues.	10.00am	Special Intention
Weds.	10.00am	Intentions of St. Anne's Ladies Club
Thurs.	10.00am	Tom Ryan (Anniv.)
Fri.	10.00am	Lillian, Charlie and Niall Brennan (Anniv.)
Sat.		No Saturday morning Mass

THE DEEP END • THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In St. Luke's account of the baptism of Jesus we hear that Jesus was at prayer after His baptism, when the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended like a dove. This is the main focus of St. Luke's account of this story - He is the only Gospel writer who says that Jesus was at prayer before 'heaven opened' and God's voice was heard. A call to do God's work can often be preceded by a deep prayerful experience of God. St. Luke's focus is on the experience of Jesus in this account but we are also called to see the revelation of God in ourselves and in others. Perhaps you can recall when you suddenly saw a divine spark in someone you know or noticed a change in yourself because of a deep experience.

We can recall moments in our own lives when we experienced God tenderly and lovingly saying to us, 'you are my son/daughter'; 'you are my beloved'; 'my favour rests on you'. Very often experiences such as these are simple events. They can also call us to a greater commitment to our faith and our relationship with God.

'The descent into the waters of our spirit, is a journey into the presence of divinity... all human beings are children of God but not all live in the awareness that there is 'that of God' within them' (W.L. Wallace)

Jane Mellett . Email melletti@gmail.com

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS - Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

1. The people were searching and John pointed them in the direction of Jesus. On your life's journey who have been the John the Baptist people for you - people who have pointed you in the right direction?
2. The Baptism of Jesus was a very special moment for Him which affirmed Him in His identity as Son of God and in His mission. Recall the experiences which have affirmed you – either in your sense of who you are, or in relation to the direction you were taking in life.
3. The Baptism of Jesus marks a transition point in His life - the start of His public ministry. Recall the transition points in your own life. Where did you see the grace of God at work in those times?
4. This experience of Jesus occurred when He was at prayer. What part has prayer played in opening you to being aware of God in your life? What part has prayer played in helping you through a transition point in your life?

John Byrne OSA e-mail john@orlagh.ie

**RAHENY AGE FRIENDLY
COMMUNITY CLUB - meets
next Wednesday, 13th January
at 10.30am in the Cara Hall.**

**READINGS Next Sunday
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is. 62:1-5
Ps. 95
1 Cor. 12:4-11
Jn. 2:1-11

