

St Aidan's Parish Church

Mass Times

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm, Sunday 10.00 am and 12 Noon.

Holyday of Obligation Vigil 7.30pm, 10.00am and 7.30pm

Weekdays 8.15 am (Mondays to Fridays) and 10.00 am (daily)

Confessions After all Saturday Masses

Parish Ministers' Rota

20th December 2009

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
Vigil	B. Higgins, E. Lynn, S. Woods	P. Devine
10.00am	G. O'Dowd, A. McKee.	J. Sneddon, K. McGinley
12 Noon	W. O'Neill, L. Moon.	T. Grant, J. McKelvie.

Today's Readings

First Reading:

This is a typical Advent reading. It contains the theme of hope. It looks forward to the deliverance of God's people from their enemies. The Lord will do this as he renews his people by his love and rejoices in their salvation.

Second Reading:

Paul also strikes and Advent note as he declares that the Lord is near. And because of this, he exhorts the Christians of Philippi to be tolerant, not to be worried. Rather they should pray for whatever they need and God's peace will be theirs and will keep them always in Christ.

Gospel:

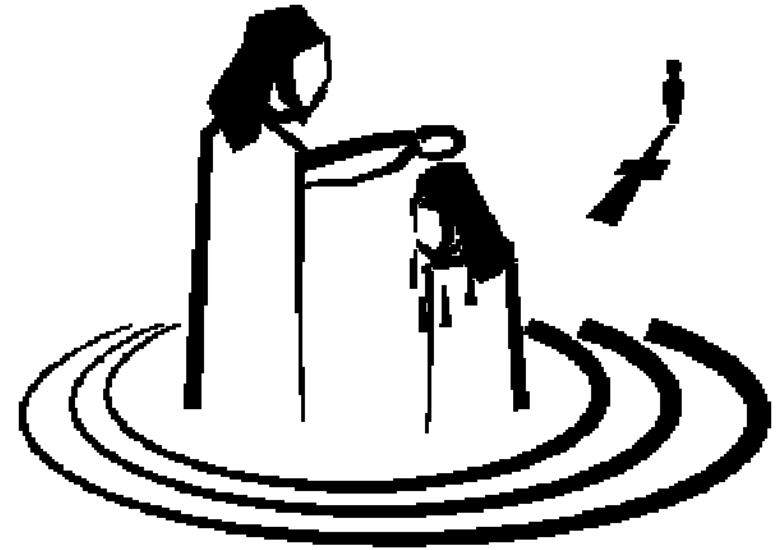
John the Baptist's ministry is central to this Gospel passage. As in last week's reading, John had made a deep impression on people by his preaching and baptising. But he is quick to dispel any idea that he is the Messiah, putting himself in a subordinate role to that of the 'One to come' - Jesus.

Fr Bill Cosgrove

St Aidan's Parish Bulletin

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

13th December 2009



**I Baptize With Water
But One Mightier
Is Coming**

Parish Priest: Rev. Joseph Clements

Rev Francis King Chaplain Wishaw General Hospital

298 Coltness Road, Wishaw, ML2 7EX. Tel. (01698) 384730

Scottish Registered Charity Number SCO 11041

www.staidanswishaw.org.uk

Email: staidanswishaw@live.co.uk

Weekdays in Advent

Monday 14th December Dedication of Motherwell Cathedral. The Church was built in 1900 and dedicated as the Cathedral of the newly formed Diocese of Motherwell in 1948.

Tuesday 15th December St John of the Cross, mystical theologian and poet. Born near Avila in 1542; a Carmelite friar and contemporary and friend of St Theresa of Avila. Co-founder of the order of the reformed (discalced) Carmelites

Wishaw Deanery Sacrament of Penance Christmas Reconciliation Services

Monday 14th 7.00pm

St Mary's Lanark Frs. J. Brannigan, H. Kelly, J. Naughton, T. Brady, Mgr. M. Conway.

St Aidan's, Frs. J. Clements, F. King.

Tuesday 15th 7.00pm

St Ignatius' Mgr Conway, Frs. H. Kelly, J. Brannigan, J. Naughton, F. King, Canon G. Boyd.

Friday 18th December ALL DAY

St Patrick's Shotts Frs. T. Brady, M. O'Keefe, F. King.

Monday 21st December 7.00pm

St Athanasius's, Carluke
Frs. J. Naughton, J. Brannigan, H. Kelly

Tuesday 22nd December 7.00pm

St Mary's Cleland Frs. J. Naughton, J. Brannigan, H. Kelly.

St Patrick's, Shieldmuir Fr. G. Chromy, Canon K. O'Farrell.

Children's Liturgy Group Christmas Crib Appeal 2009

The children will be invited to give a small gift at the crib at the 10.00am Mass on Christmas morning. These gifts will be sent to some of the poorest children in the world.

Suitable gifts: Basic school needs: e.g. pencils, jotters, writing pads, etc. Clothing and basic toiletries.

Gifts may be left at the crib after all other Masses.

Altar Servers: There will be a meeting of all altar servers this Wednesday the 16th December at 4.30pm in the side chapel to arrange the servers for Christmas Midnight Mass and Christmas Day.

Questions people ask

Q. How does one explain the difference in the preaching of John the Baptist and that of Jesus? John was far more severe and promoted the fear of an impending judgement.

A. There are two ways of correcting: the stick of punishment or the candy of reward for improvement. John the Baptist came from a people who expected a Messiah who would immediately rid the world of all evil and sin. Hence the need for complete renunciation of wrongdoing or else face instant condemnation. The approach of Jesus did not expect instant perfection. He put less emphasis on condemnation and more on fanning into flame the possibility of goodness hidden in people' *Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap*

Coming Soon - Christmas Carols

A new CD of Christmas Carols *in French*, sung by the pupils of St Aidan's High School and Local Primary Schools will be available for sale soon.

Please pray for:

The Sick:

Ann Marie Fagan

The Recently Deceased:

Mary Reilly, Robert Ross.

The Anniversaries and Month's Mind of:

Euphemia & John Arley, Mary Ann Doherty, John Kane, Hugh Connelly.

Parish Humour

A little boy returned from Sunday school with a new perspective on the Christmas story. He had learned all about the Wise Men from the East who brought gifts to the Baby Jesus. He was so excited he could hardly wait to tell his parents. As soon as he arrived home, he immediately began, "I learned all about the very first Christmas in Sunday school today! There wasn't a Santa Claus way back then, so these three skinny guys on camels had to deliver all the toys! And Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer with his nose so bright wasn't there yet, so they had to have this big spotlight in the sky to find their way around!"

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race appear?" The mother answered, 'God made Adam and Eve and they had children and so was all mankind made.' Two days later the girl asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved.

"The confused girl returned to her mother and said, "Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

Children's Corner

Betty: Hi Tom, we were at my new cousin's baptism!

Tom: Cool! What was it like?
Betty: It was a lovely day, the baby squealed really loud when the cold water was poured on her head!
Tom: Like a cold shower!! The Gospel today is about being baptised with holy water and with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist said that he baptised with Holy water and that Jesus would come with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit fills us with love and courage.

Betty: Wow! My baby cousin is filled with love and courage now! Maybe she will do something amazing with her life!

Tom: With the Holy Spirit we all can do something amazing with our lives, I'm off to score the winning goal with the team and guess who is helping me with that!!

How can you show others that you have been filled with the Holy Spirit since your baptism?

Christmas Services

Would Readers and Eucharistic Ministers indicate on the list on the notice board which services they will participate in on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day.

PARISH NOTICES

BINGO Live bingo in the hall every Sunday at 7.30pm

STALL In the hall after both Sunday Masses. Christmas Cards are now available.

MEN's CLUB meets in the hall every Thursday at 7.30pm. Men's Club monthly Mass is held on the 1st Thursday of the month.

Intimations for the sick, the recently deceased and anniversaries and all other items for the bulletin must reach the Parish priest by Thursday for inclusion in the bulletin for the following week. We acknowledge the assistance of *Intercom* in the preparation of the text for parts of this bulletin