

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**Sunday after January 6**  
**(First Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

In dioceses where the Epiphany is transferred to a Sunday that falls on January 7 or 8,  
The Baptism of the Lord is transferred to the Monday immediately following.

Only one reading before the Gospel is then used.

**Years A, B, C**

Reading 1

*Citation: Isaiah, Chap. 42, Verses 1-4, 6-7*  
*Isaiah 41: 1-4, 6-7*

### **A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,  
upon whom I have put my spirit;  
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,  
not crying out, not shouting,  
not making his voice heard in the street.  
A bruised reed he shall not break,  
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,  
until he establishes justice on the earth;  
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you  
as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to bring out prisoners from confinement,  
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

**The word of the Lord.**

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**Year C**

**(OPTIONAL)**

Reading 1

*Citation: Isaiah, Chap. 40, Verses 1-5, 9-11*  
*Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11*

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

Comfort, give comfort to my people,  
says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her  
that her service is at an end,  
her guilt is expiated;  
indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD  
double for all her sins.  
A voice cries out:  
In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!  
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!  
Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill shall be made low;  
the rugged land shall be made a plain,  
the rough country, a broad valley.  
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together;  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up onto a high mountain,  
Zion, herald of glad tidings;  
cry out at the top of your voice,  
Jerusalem, herald of good news!  
Fear not to cry out  
and say to the cities of Judah:  
Here is your God!  
Here comes with power  
the Lord GOD,  
who rules by a strong arm;  
here is his reward with him,  
his recompense before him.  
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;  
in his arms he gathers the lambs,  
carrying them in his bosom,

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and leading the ewes with care.

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**Years A, B, C**

Reading 2

**Citation: Acts, Chap. 10, Verses 34-38**  
**Acts 10: 34-38**

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered  
in the house of Cornelius, saying:  
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.  
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly  
is acceptable to him.  
You know the word that he sent to the Israelites  
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all,  
what has happened all over Judea,  
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,  
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,  
for God was with him."

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**Year C**

**OPTIONAL**

Reading 2

**Citation: Titus, Chap. 2, Verses 11-14 to Chap. 3, Verses 4-7**  
**Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7**

### **A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus**

Beloved:

The grace of God has appeared, saving all  
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires  
and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age,  
as we await the blessed hope,  
the appearance of the glory of our great God  
and savior Jesus Christ,  
who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness  
and to cleanse for himself a people as his own,  
eager to do what is good.

When the kindness and generous love  
of God our savior appeared,  
not because of any righteous deeds we had done  
but because of his mercy,  
he saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,  
whom he richly poured out on us  
through Jesus Christ our savior,  
so that we might be justified by his grace  
and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

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**OPTION #1**  
GOSPEL

*Citation: Matthew. Chap. 3, Verses 13-17*  
*Matthew 3: 13-17*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan  
to be baptized by him.

John tried to prevent him, saying,  
"I need to be baptized by you,  
and yet you are coming to me?"

Jesus said to him in reply,  
"Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us  
to fulfill all righteousness."

Then he allowed him.

After Jesus was baptized,  
he came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,  
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon  
him.

And a voice came from the heavens, saying,  
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

### **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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**OPTION #2**  
GOSPEL

*Citation: Mark, Chap. 1, Verses 7-11*  
*Mark 1: 7-11*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

This is what he proclaimed:

"One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee  
and was baptized in the Jordan by John.

On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open  
and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens,

"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

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**OPTION #3**  
GOSPEL

*Citation: Luke, Chap. 3, Verses 15-16, 21-22*  
*Luke 3: 15-16; 21-22*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

The people were filled with expectation,  
and all were asking in their hearts  
whether John might be the Christ.  
John answered them all, saying,  
"I am baptizing you with water,  
but one mightier than I is coming.  
I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized  
and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying,  
heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him  
in bodily form like a dove.  
And a voice came from heaven,  
"You are my beloved Son;  
with you I am well pleased."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**