

The Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes. In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world." Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

Pope Francis made a private visit to the Sistine Chapel on Christmas Day. The Holy Father visited the chapel alone to not only enjoy the new lighting recently installed, but also to have a few moments of prayer.

In addition to being Christmas Day, Dec. 25 was a special day for Francis for another reason: it was the anniversary

of his Baptism. He mentioned this recently, on a Dec. 14 visit to a Roman parish, where he spoke to a group of families with recently baptized children:

"I should be somewhat curious to ask a question, but I won't do so ... Or I will do so, but I won't ask for an answer ... How many of you know the day of your Baptism? No, don't say anything, don't say anything ... However, if you don't know it, go find out: call your aunt, your mother, your godmother: "When was I baptized?" Because it is a feast day, that is, it is the day that we encountered Jesus for the first time. This is a task for the home.

"When was I baptized? And this is beautiful, it's beautiful! I was baptized, precisely, on Christmas Day! Eight days after my birth, in fact on that day, because at that time it was the custom – at least in Argentina – to baptize children eight days after their birth. Remember this always. I pray for you. May you have joy, joy with these children, joy in the home, joy in hope, so much joy. And I give you my blessing."



## St Michael's Catholic Church

29 Banks Ave, Daceyville, NSW 2032

Parish Priest Fr. Jerzy Chrzczonowicz

Mob: 0411 125 357 [jerzy1junior@hotmail.com](mailto:jerzy1junior@hotmail.com)

Visiting Retired Priest: Fr. Anthony Simari

Tel: 93491292 Fax: 93140760

Email: [angelsville@bigpond.com](mailto:angelsville@bigpond.com)

Website: [www.stmichaeldaceyville.org.au](http://www.stmichaeldaceyville.org.au)

Mrs. Allana Vedder, School Principal

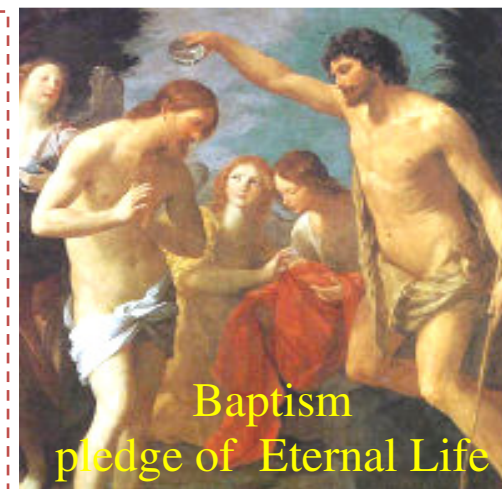
[www.stmdaceyville.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmdaceyville.catholic.edu.au)

CHILDREN's web: Google, EWTNKIDS

Deepen your faith-find answers on

Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments.

[www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au)



## 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2015 (B)

### Baptism of the Lord

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Isaiah 55:1-11

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** 1 John 5:1-9

#### **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!

**GOSPEL:** St Mark 1:7-11

Please buy  
The Catholic  
Weekly and help  
WYD 2016  
pilgrims with 30  
cents of each \$2.



#### **WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**

Sat. Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

#### **WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am

Wed: 6pm

Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Hostel)

**HOLY HOUR:** Wed: 5pm

#### **RECONCILIATION:**

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm

Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

#### **BAPTISMS:**

Sundays 9:30am Mass

#### **BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME & WEDDINGS:**

By appointment

#### **ANOINTING MASS:**

Quarterly: 1<sup>st</sup> weekend

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> SAT OF EACH MONTH:**

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

#### **PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:**

**100%** tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

#### **FAITH FORMATION:**

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sat Vigil:** †Luis Nunes

**Sun 8am:** Special Intention

**Sun 9:30am:** †Yolanda & Giuseppe Pappalettera

**Sun 5pm:** Pro Populo

**Mon:** Special Intention

**OUR SICK:** Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Josephine Helback, Moira Butler, Alan Sargeant and Minerva Alimario...

**Foley Gardens Self-care Retirement Village – accommodation is available now! For further details please call Joe de Andrade (Manager-Property) on 0438 696 396 or Parish Office on 9349 1292. (Patricia Low is Manager-Administration)**

**Happy Birthdays to: Fr Anthony Simari (10<sup>th</sup>), Daniel Jayasiri and Agnes Tjokrosetio (14<sup>th</sup>), and Bob Campbell (16<sup>th</sup>)**

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING** Your kind gifts will go to the Central Fund that attends to the needs of the priests and bishops of the Archdiocese. We are grateful for your generosity.

At the beginning of this New Year  
may a good guide on our side,  
the Star of Jesus  
which shows us safe road,  
fill our hearts with Divine Grace and Blessings.  
Best wishes for the New Year 2015 !!!

**.God's Word 2015 books - \$10 each now in the piety stall. Limited stock.**  
**AUSTRALIA DAY – MON 26<sup>TH</sup> JAN: Come celebrate with us in the Parish Hall. Lunch from 12noon. Please bring a plate to share. Coffee/tea provided.**  
**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion/Readers at Mass & Acolytes Courses** run by the Liturgy Office will be held at various times and places. Please ring Parish Office for details.

**This weekend: Vigil:** J Haggar (A) L Paquin, J Spora (R) G Hage, S Tjen (C) Thomas W (M)  
**8:00am:** G Diab (A) A Burke, G Guerrero (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) P Low (M)  
**9:30am:** A Varghese (A) M Tjokrowidjaja, Delwin T (R) N Jenner, L Jenner (C) A Burton (M)  
**5:00pm:** R Yang (A) Volunteers (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** G Haggar, M Wells

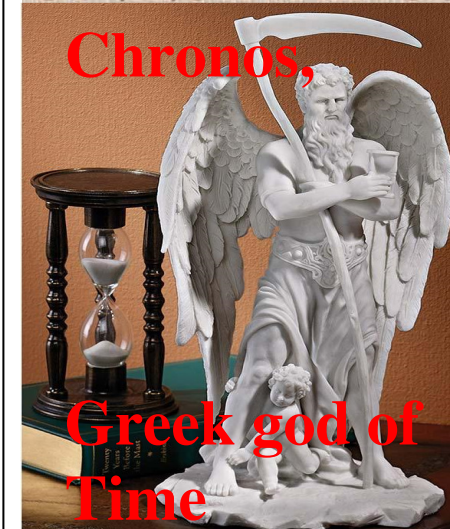
**Next weekend: Vigil:** J Haggar (A) J Spora, R Williams (R) M Wong, P Tjugito (C) Thomas W (M)  
**8:00am:** G Diab (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) Sr Betty, J Yong (C) P Low (M)  
**9:30am:** A Varghese (A) H Evening, K Wong (R) J Lie, I Lie(C) A Burton (M)  
**5:00pm:** R Yang (A) J Chandra, D Sarmiento (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** V Hage, G Hage

We came to the end of another year. The media is filled with commentaries on the year that is consigned to history, and speculative predictions on what lies ahead. The end of the year is always a reflective time; a time for taking stock of what we are doing with the time allotted to us. This grows particularly clear to me as I enter my sixties. Human beings have always marked time by significant events. The real question is not whether we will mark time, but how we will do so. What events and what messages are we proclaiming in the calendaring of time? How do we view time? Is it a tyrant ruling over us? Or, is it a tutor, teaching us the way to live our lives in this world so that they open into eternity? The Lord who created time, now gives us time as a gift. By entering into time He removed the curse it held over all men and women by defeating death. In Him, time now becomes a field of choice wherein we can grow in holiness, experience true happiness and find real freedom. We can begin to participate in God's loving plan to recreate the entire cosmos in and through Jesus Christ. Time is the road along which this loving plan of redemption proceeds in our individual lives and in the history of this world. We who have been baptized into Christ are invited to participate in this loving plan by living our lives in the Church, the seed of the eternal kingdom. The Church is not *some-thing* but *Some-One* into whom we were baptized. The Church is the Body of Jesus Christ. He is the Head of His Body - and we are members. (1 Cor. 12:27) The Apostle John recorded in the Revelation he received on the Island of Patmos, our use of time is meant to bear good fruit. We are called to bear a harvest which will accompany us into eternity. It will - if we have an intimate relationship with the One who both gives and governs time. Time is the opportunity for the Christian to bear fruit that remains. Jesus reminds us, "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another." (St. John 15: 16, 17).

May you always have walls  
for the winds,  
a roof for the rain, tea beside  
the fire,  
laughter to cheer you, those  
you love near you,  
and all your heart might  
desire.  
Happy and Prosperous  
New Year 2015!!!



JANUS  
ROMAN GOD  
OF BEGINNINGS



Chronos,

Greek god of  
Time