



St Peter's Church, Surry Hills

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Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

Fr. Nicola Falzun OP, Priest in Residence for the *Missio ad gentes* of the Neocatechumenal Way

Feast Days – Ordinary Time - Year C

Thu 13 Jan Saint Hilary

Mass times effective 2 Jan 2022

Daily Mass: **Mon to Sat:** 10:00am

Sunday Mass: 10:00am

Confessions: **Sat:** 9:30am - 10:00am (during the holiday season) or by approaching Fr. John

Parish Office will be closed from 25 Dec - 10 Jan 2022 Inclusive

We Pray For

Our sick and injured – Nerisa Williams, Josephine Finneran, Ana Teresa Rodrigues, Mafalda Triolo, Aimi McEwen, Louise McCann, Nathan Essey, Marija Barclay, John Yo-un and Dan Southee.

Our deceased – Bro. Kevin Francis Guthrie (28/12), Robert Armstrong, Alan Davidson, Noel Allport (2/12), Peter Hanrahan, Marisa Mandelli (23/11), Robert Armstrong, Slyvia Abela (28/10), Coralie Hinkley, Katie Brincat (27/7), David Patrick Watson (18/7), Anne Kelly (Deborah White's mum (14/5), Betty Harkins (12/5), Frederick, Edward & Margaret M Hailwood, Margaret D Hailwood, Joyce Hailwood & Marge Heaney, Joan McEvoy and June Veronica Hailwood.

Our house bound elderly – Shirley Kennedy, Anna Maria and Myra Krcma

Partaking in the Eucharist commits us to others, especially the poor, teaching us to pass from the flesh of Christ to the flesh of our brothers and sisters, in whom he waits to be recognised, served, honoured and loved by us.

*Pope Francis
Catechesis on the Mass 2018*

COVID Safe Rules and Recommendations in NSW

QR Code check-in is still a legal requirement for entry to places of worship.

According to the NSW Government regulation, everyone attending Mass at Saint Peter's is **once again required to wear a face mask** and to maintain at least 1.5m **social distance**. By continuing to practise mask wearing and social distancing in church, we are also obeying core moral teachings of the Church concerning our care for ourselves and our care for the common good.

The Catholic moral principle of regard for the common good requires us to always weigh our individual rights against our care and concern for others. As the State and Church authorities continue to emphasise, the most important instrument in the protection of our own health and the health of the community is for all of us to be fully vaccinated.

Full vaccination also preserves the viability of our medical and hospital systems and reduces unnecessary pressure on our already fatigued medical and nursing professionals.

To this end, the Premier has asked everyone in NSW to take the booster jab as one of our New Year's resolutions.

The Trinity Displayed in the Baptism of the Lord

The Gospel of Mark describes the event:

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." (Mark 1:9-11)

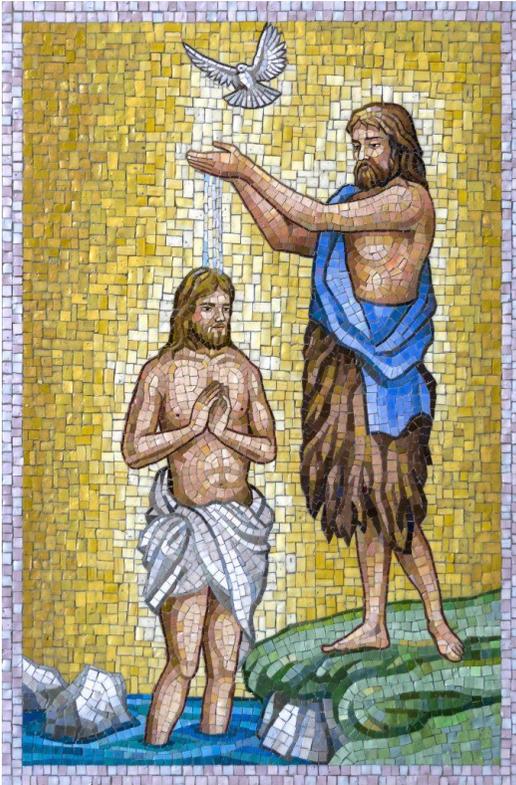
Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

Why Is Jesus Baptized?

When Jesus comes to John, John hesitates to baptize him. John's is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing for which he needs to repent. Why then does Jesus

insist on being baptized? By choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfils all righteousness – preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us.

The account in Matthew demonstrates this:



Then 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 fulfil all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. (Matthew 3:13-15)

[The Baptism of the Lord portrayed in mosaic tile in the Rosary Walk and Garden.](#)

What Does Baptism Mean for Us?

As we reflect on Christ's baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism. Pope Benedict XVI [said on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord:](#)

[Baptism] is communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God's family, means being in

communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death.

Thanks be to God, who has redeemed us from our sins and given us eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Prayer to the Holy Family



Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
I give you my heart and my soul;
Jesus Mary, and Joseph,
assist me in my last agony;
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
may I breathe forth my soul
in peace with you.