

HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS MONDAY MISSION

THIS WEEK'S WORD:

Matthew 3:13-17

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented.

And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'



REFLECT

Just like all the other people who have come to hear John the Baptist's message, Jesus is baptised. Initially John objects, he knows who Jesus is and doesn't think he is good enough to baptise Jesus. But Jesus chooses to experience life as everyone else does and we see that he is totally accepted and loved by God the Father. This is the only place where we experience all three persons of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit is seen in the form of a dove coming to rest on Jesus, God the Son while we hear the words of God the Father.

The water of baptism is a sign of the new life he will have. After his baptism, Jesus will begin his ministry. In all he says and does from now on, Jesus will tell the world about God's love. Those of us who are baptised Christians have just the same job to do – to spread the Good News of God's love by what we say and do.

What does a new beginning mean to me today? We take a moment this week to reflect honestly on ourselves. Imagine Jesus looking at you with love. Ask Jesus to help you to recognise anything in yourself or your relationships where you need a new beginning. Know that Jesus will be with you as you make a new start.

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus,

Send us your Spirit to give us the strength to live as you ask.

Help us to follow your example, making the world a better place by acting justly and standing beside those whose are broken.

Move us into action, sharing your love with everyone we meet.

Amen

MISSION

Just as Jesus began something new after his baptism, we are invited to think about the new beginnings God wants to help us make.

Everyone has moments where they need a fresh start. Choose one thing you want to begin again this week, such as:

- Being kinder to someone
- Trying harder with your work
- Being more patient at home
- Saying sorry where needed
- Praying a little more each day
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Ask Jesus to help you with this new beginning.