

12th January, 2025, The Baptism of the Lord / C

## TEMORA MISSION AREA

### Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Aria Park

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### Sacred Heart Temora

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### St Therese Barellan

**In our Prayers:** Ben Cassidy, Barry Carroll, Robyn Richards, Neville Caldw.

**For our Deceased:** Frances Vince, Carmel Carroll, Deceased Family, Friends,  
Victims of war, violence, accidents and natural disasters

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#### January 18-19

Ariah Park 6.00 p.m. *Liturgy Sat*

Mass

Temora 6.00 p.m. Sat

Mass

Ardlethan **8.00 a.m.** Barellan 10.00 a.m.

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### Reflection

*My Favour Rests on You.* Through baptism we are members of Christ's body. God says to us: 'You are my beloved son/daughter; my favour rests on you.' Often we don't hear these words as clearly as Jesus did at his baptism. In this Liturgy and in the events of this day, let us listen for God's assurance that we are loved. Let us listen, that we may have life and joy in God.

### Baptism

Fr Richard Leonard sj writes, *"For all those baptised in Christ, a curious thing happens. As Jesus fully immersed himself in our world, so we are fully immersed in Christ. But we are not spared from the world as if we are initiated into a reclusive religious sect. We are sent out to the world knowing, because of Jesus, that we are loved by God and are pleasing to God. We are sent out with faith, hope and joy to fall into the arms of the world and discover that here, too, is where Christ dwells."*



# Today at our Liturgy reflect on what your Baptism —means for you?



## Mary MacKillop's Birthday

On Wednesday, 15 January, 183 years ago Mary MacKillop was born to her Scottish parents, Alexander and Flora (*MacDonald*) MacKillop. It was in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, close to the heart of modern Melbourne that Mary MacKillop was born. A few weeks later on 22 February, Mary was baptised Maria Ellen in St Francis' Church, Melbourne. The second name (*a form of Helena, the saint of the finding of the Cross*) was later treasured by the family as a portent.



*“May our dearest Lord bless you, each and all, my own dearest ones.” (Mary MacKillop)*

## IMAGINATION By Fr Tony Percy

Imagination is crucial in the spiritual and moral life.

We imagine the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordon River:

**The warm water refreshes. The dove brings beauty and peace.**

**The voice of the Father arouses confidence.**

What an experience for Jesus. Body, soul and spirit are immersed in the action of the other divine persons – Abba, Father and Holy Spirit. What does Jesus feel within when he hears the voice of the Father say?

**You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you (Luke 3).**

How do we feel when we realise that God the Father speaks these very words to us when we are baptised? But, not just our baptismal day, but every single day, for through our Baptism, we have become temples of the Holy Spirit – literally walking tabernacles. Can we use our imagination in response to this grace?

**We desire to give up some sin that lingers. Can we look into the future, imagine the scenario and see ourselves rejecting, say, the sin gossip?**

**Likewise, we desire to pursue and cement a better prayer routine in our lives. Using our imagination, we picture ourselves doing it.**

Suddenly, we are more human – more divine.

**Amen.**

Roster Jan 19th

Leader:

Reader: Tracey Passlow

Ex. Minister :