9 January, Baptism of the Lord Year C

TEMORA MISSION AREA

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Ariah Park

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In our Prayers: Barry Carroll, Neville Caldow, Ray Fairman,

Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: Deceased Family, Friends, victims of coronavirus, accidents and natural disasters, Neville Popple, *(anniversary)*

15—16 JanuaryAriah Park6.00 p.m. (Liturgy)MassTemora6.00 p.m.MassArdlethan8.00 a.m. Barellan

Latest Protocols see https://cgcatholic.org.au/

Reflection

The Cleansing Waters of Re-Birth. In Luke's Gospel, the baptism of Jesus marks the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of a new era, that of the saving ministry of Jesus. This feast, which occurs early in the new year, is a good time for us to resolve to begin a new era in our own lives. Putting the past behind us, let us commit ourselves to making a fresh start in our service and love of our brothers and sisters.

Baptism

Today in our liturgy we will **renew** our own **Baptismal Promises** – what are we renewing?

- Who is at the heart of our Baptism?
- How can we be true to our Baptismal calling?
- To what is God inviting me?

May our faith be strengthened as we continue to grow deeper in our relationship with God who has called us to Himself and says to us, **"You are my Beloved. My favour rests on you."**

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal

Thank you to the combined generosity of the Ardlethan and Ariah Park Communities \$577.95 was collected for the Archbishop's Appeal. What a wonderful response. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you

The crib was packed up and put away ever so quickly and quietly last week, thanks to those who completed the task with no fuss.

Drapes

Next Sunday we will return to Ordinary Time which means we hang green drapes. Thank you to those who can remain after our liturgy to swap over the drapes.

Jubilee Celebrations

6 January, a day of rejoicing for the Sisters of St Joseph who celebrated the anniversary of their profession. For some it truly was a day of celebration as they rejoiced in God's faithfulness to them over many years. You might like to share the joy of Srs Dawn Carey, Barbara Fogarty, Gerardine Agnew who celebrated their Platinum Jubilee (70 Years); Srs Doris Corbett, Carmel Drew who celebrated their Diamond Jubilee (60 years) and Sr Laraine Crowe celebrated her Golden Jubilee. Of course there were many other Jubilarians; let us rejoice and give thanks to God for the many graces that have come our way through their years of generous service and dedication.

Reflection

"You are my beloved Son; in you I am well pleased". "Who would not want to hear these words over and over? I would. The beloved of God! Jesus heard the voice from the cloud and went to the desert to ponder. Maybe by now he saw the implications. ... Temptation and suffering create an urgent need in a person to open up, to broaden the scope, to better understand what love is, to see that love does not mean God taking charge and making everything alright but rather God staying with the beloved, continuing to love and admire him or her, since love at its root means sharing another's life, not taking it over. To paraphrase the Father's words at the Jordan: receive my love that never runs away, never let go, even in the desert, even on the cross." *John Foley, SJ*

May this Eucharistic celebration make us worthy of the love lavished on us in Baptism and give us the courage to keep doing the appropriate things for the coming generations. *Richard Leonard si*

Remembering Mary MacKillop—Birthday 15 January, 1842

Sr Joan Healey rsj writes, "In 1891, during a worldwide depression, the people of Melbourne city suffered greatly. Those who were rich lost their investments, those who were poor lost their work, the poorest were homeless and slept on the streets. The Archbishop of Melbourne had a heart for the poor and he talked to Mary MacKillop, the new Josephite in his diocese, about his worries. A short stroll from the edge of Fitzroy, where Mary was born forty-seven years earlier, was the seedy part of Melbourne known as 'Little Lons'. Those who lived here were in dire need. During the depression the population of this block peaked. Archbishop Thomas talked to Mary about Little Lonsdale St, with its maze of lanes where families, children, homeless people, street girls and criminals lived crowded together. He then wrote to assure her that, while the need was overwhelming, one would have to live in the area to do anything worthwhile. He wouldn't ask the Sisters to live there. Predictably Mary replied, 'Of course I have no objection to the locality, it is there that the real work lies.' She and Sister Gertrude moved into two small houses which they called Providence. This was a name the Josephites coined when they had no idea where the money would come from. God would have to provide."

Roster 16 January

Reader: Volunteer

Welcomer: