



**12TH JANUARY 2014**  
**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD- YEAR A**

St. Bernardine's Church, Regents Park  
Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Park Ridge  
St. Catherine's Church, Jimboomba

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday to Friday 8.30am-12.30pm  
**Phone:** 3884 7600; **Fax:** 3800 2646  
**Emergency Number:** 3884 7600  
**Email:** brownpl@bne.catholic.net.au  
**www.stbernardinesparish.com.au**

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Anthony Girvan

**Administrative Officer**

Ms Nola Bamkin

**Finance Officer**

Mrs Barbara Malicki  
Email: fo.brownspl@bne.catholic.net.au

**Parish Liturgy Coordination**

Parish Liturgy Team

**Care and Concern**

**Coordinator:** Stephanie Adams  
Phone: 3884 7600

**St. Bernardine's Parish Primary School**

**Principal:** Mr Michael Aspland  
Phone: 3800 1854

**St. Bernardine's Parish School  
Outside School Hours Care**

**Coordinator:** Mrs Mandy Petrie  
Phone: 3806 9940

**Emmaus College, Jimboomba**

**Principal:** Mr Kevin Schwede  
Phone: 5547 9990

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

**St Bernardine's Conference**

For assistance, phone 5561 4702

**St Catherine's Conference**

For assistance, phone 3010 1096

**Gospel Reflection**

Our Christmas season's celebration ends with the theme of 'Epiphany', or 'Manifestation' – reminding us that in the coming of the eternal Son, 'the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour has appeared among us' (Titus 3:4). During the final week of Christmas time, the liturgy recalls three moments of 'manifestation' – to the Magi, representing the peoples of the world; through the 'first sign' worked by Jesus as the marriage at Cana; and in the dramatic moment when Jesus was baptised by John.

It is not surprising that Christ's entering into the waters of repentance – a fact referred to all four gospels – was difficult for the first Christian believers to square with their faith in Jesus as 'the Lord' himself, author of all holiness. Matthew echoes this bewilderment in the hesitations of John the Baptist. In the reply of Jesus – that this is something 'for the time being', in order that 'all righteousness may be fulfilled' – Matthew summarises the essential theme of his gospel. He is writing, as we know, for an audience with a Jewish background. In Jesus, the true spirit of Israel ('righteousness') will recognise the 'fulfilment' of all that was foreshadowed and promised in the Old Testament.

The Paschal Mystery has brought home to those Matthew is writing for the full significance of this moment that was the immediate prelude to the public life of Jesus - when he went down with the crowds into the waters of repentance. Our gospel passage expresses the fruits of their prayerful reflection. It was something appropriate 'for the time being', as Jesus showed that he identified with the traditions of his people, giving honour to the last prophet of old Israel (see Mt 11); but at that very moment the new order of fulfilment was being inaugurated by the words of the eternal Father himself. 'This is my Son, the Beloved' – these words echoed the theme whereby the kings of the Davidic line were seen as adopted 'sons of God': called to rule in God's stead (see Pss 2, 110 etc).

*continued on page 2*



*The name of Jesus is the glory of preachers,  
because the shining splendour of that name  
causes God's word to be proclaimed and heard.*

<b>Gathering Hymn</b>	<b>GA179</b> Baptised in Water
<b>Psalm Response</b>	The Lord will bless his people with peace.
<b>Recessional Hymn</b>	<b>GA514</b> We Are Called

## MASS TIMES

### ST. BERNARDINE'S CHURCH

25 Vergulde Road, Regents Park

**Mon 13th Jan** 7.30am  
**Wed 15th Jan** 9.00am  
**Sat 18th Jan** 5.15pm Reconciliation  
 6.00pm  
**Sun 19th Jan** 7.30am, 9.00am

### ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

74-76 East Street, Jimboomba

**Thurs 16th Jan** 8.00am  
**Sun 19th Jan** 5.30pm

### OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Corner of Stoney Camp Road and  
 Mt. Lindesay Highway, Park Ridge

**Sun 19th Jan** 8.00am

### ST. PAUL DE CHARTRES CHAPEL

12-16 Fedrick Street, Boronia Heights

**Mon 13th Jan** 9.00 am  
**Tues 14th Jan** 9.00 am  
**Wed 15th Jan** 9.00 am  
**Thurs 16th Jan** 9.00 am  
**Fri 17th Jan** 9.00 am  
 (Friday only— Hostel Community Hall)

Today's Readings:	Next Week's Readings:
Is 42:1-4, 6-7	Is 49:3, 5-6
Ap 10:34-38	Cor 1:1-3
Mt 3:13-17	Jn 1:29-34

*Gospel Reflection continued*

The words, 'My favour rests on him', are an echo of today's first reading from Isaiah, in which the Lord describes his 'Servant' as 'my chosen one in whom my soul delights'.

This passage is one of the Servant Songs, as they are called, written at the time of the Exile, pointing to the hopes that old Israel should cling to in their time of humiliation – hopes to be realised through someone who would give expression to all that Israel was called to be. In other words, Matthew's community is called to recognize - in the Risen Lord of the Paschal Mystery - the roles of Messiah-king and Suffering Servant. What is more, looking back

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### Sunday 12th January

*The Baptism of the Lord*

10.30am Baptism Preparation

~ St Bernardine's Church

### Monday 13th January

9.30am Prayer Group ~ St Bernardine's Church

### Wednesday 15th January

7.00pm Flame of Love Prayer Group

~ St Bernardine's Church

### Sunday 19th January

*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

10.30am Baptisms ~ St Bernardine's Church

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**We pray for those who have died**, especially Herminio Buenaventura, Bernadita Taroná and all our deceased relatives and friends, that they may enjoy the vision of God with those in heaven.

*'Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.'*

*Mother Teresa*

they can recognise that these roles were already foreshadowed in his baptism. The baptism of Jesus in the Jordan was a foreshadowing of his 'baptism', as he called what lay ahead of him. In the greatest of the Servant Songs we are told, 'ours were the sufferings he was bearing, ours the sorrows he was carrying' (Is 53). We share in Christ's mystery by being baptised in the name of the Trinity. Just as the Father, Son and Spirit were to be the great protagonists in the drama of the Paschal Mystery, so too they were present in this moment of anticipation on the banks of the Jordan.

Fr John Thornhill sm

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