



Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church

January 13, 2019
The Baptism of The Lord

<https://www.sasjrcc.org>



Saint Anne

216 East Liberty St.

Fax: (803)778-1644

Confession:

Sat:3:00-4:00pm

(or by appointment)

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:30pm

Sunday:8:00am,12:00noon



Saint Jude

611 West Oakland Ave

Confession:

Sat: 4:30-5:30pm

(or by appointment)

Mass Times

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:15am, 5:00pm

12:00pm (Spanish)

*Diocesan Office of Child
Protective Services*

Bonnie Sigers
843-261-0430



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

- Lk 3:21-22a

Pastor : Rev. Giovannie Nunez, CRM

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Rufino C. Madrideo, Jr., CRM

Deacon Stephen Frye

Sacramental Emergency Contact Number (803) 934-1204

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School Principal:

Mrs. Kristi Doyle - kristidoyle@sasjcs.com (803) 775-3632

Dir. of Faith Formation: Nicole Macedo Nicole@sasjrcc.org

Youth Minister: Frank Costas Frank@sasjrcc.org

Parish Receptionist: Tina Couture Tina@sasjrcc.org

Ministry Coordinator : Donna Kearney Donna@sasjrcc.org

St. Lawrence Cemetery - John Macmaster (803) 968-3466

The Parish Office (located at St. Anne) (803) 773-9244 (803)773-3524

Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 4:00pm Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The RCIA, the process for welcoming adults into the Catholic Church, has started for St. Anne & St. Jude and Our Lady of the Skies (Shaw AFB). We meet Wednesdays, 7 to 9 PM in the St. Jude Parish Center at 611 W. Oakland Ave. Please call Jackie Francis, our RCIA Coordinator, at 803-469-4584 if you have any questions. The doors are open to all who want to know more about the life and teaching of the Catholic faith. Come and join us!

**Wednesday – January 16: Holy Orders;
Who Shepherds the Church?**

Presenter – Father Rufino Madrideo, Jr. CRM

¡El Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (RCIA) Comenzará! ¿Has pensado en completar tus sacramentos para tener participación plena en la Iglesia Católica? ¿Quieres saber más sobre la Fe? ¿Fuiste bautizado en la Iglesia Católica pero has recibido la Eucaristía ni la Confirmación? RICA, el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, proceso que da la bienvenida a adultos dentro de la Iglesia Católica, El curso se lleva a cabo cada domingo antes de la Misa en español, empezando a las 10:15 a.m. y terminando a las 11:45am, diez minutos antes de la Misa, en la última aula del pasillo exterior del Centro Parroquial de San Judas. Si estás interesado o sabes de alguien que se interese por favor llama a Ma. Elena Ferrell, nuestra coordinadora de RICA en español, al 803 840 5149, o habla con alguno de los Padres.

Saint Anne Sunday Adult Education

Join the St. Anne Sunday Adult Ed group as we explore various aspects of our incredible faith. We meet after the 8:00 am Mass in the Adult Ed room (the old Kindergarten). Come by and be enriched by the faith, fellowship, and our donut ministry. For info contact Charley Francis at cfrancis@ftc-i.net or 803-469-4584.

January 20 – Martin Luther

SASJ Bible Study

Mission: To bring the Scriptures to life for our parish community. Come journey with us as we discover who Jesus was and is. All are welcome.

We will begin a series on catholic beliefs, a deep look at the Nicene Creed

We meet on Sundays at 10:30 am in St Jude Conference Room.

Facebook: SASJ Bible Study

questions? Please contact Greg at (803) 406-0201 or gtavarez@sc.rr.com



The 521 Project

To find out the latest on Our New Church, check out the SASJRCC.org website and click the "Our New Church" tab on the top right of your screen. The Steering Committee is working to move us forward and give our new church life. Stay in the know with monthly meeting minutes and updates. Have a question or suggestion for the committee?? Email it directly to them using the website. Check it out!!



The next Women's Guild Meeting will be **Sunday, January 13**. All Ladies of the parish are welcome. We meet in the Saint Anne Parish Center 1:30pm to 3:00pm!

**Women's Guild Annual Yard Sale
Saturday January 19, 2019
Saint Anne Parish Center
7 AM – 11 AM**

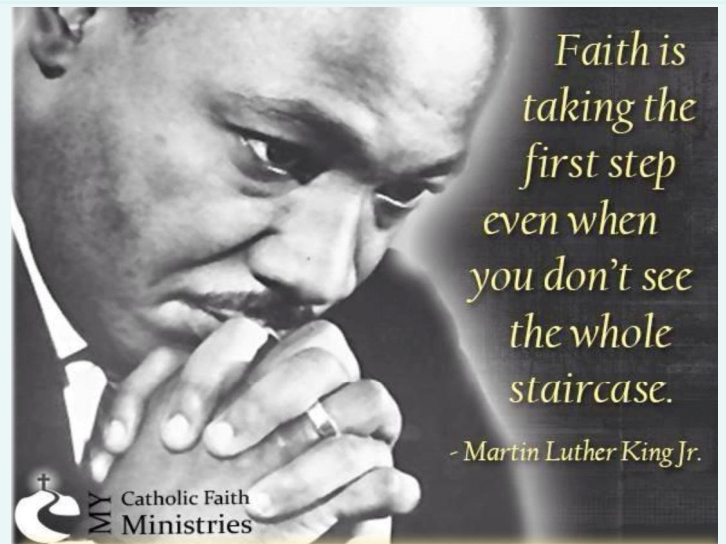
Drop off items at the hall.

Saturday (Jan. 12) 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday (Jan 13) Noon – 4 pm
Monday-Thursday (Jan 14-17) 9 am-4 pm
Tuesday & Thursday (Jan 15 & 17) 4-7pm
Accepting all items including clean clothes.
(No undergarments Please.)



The Feast of the Santo Nino

Everyone is invited on Friday, January 25th to Saint Anne for the Mass and celebration of the Feast of Santo Nino Beginning at 6:00pm with Mass, you are invited to bring you images and statues of the Infant Jesus/Santo Nino to be blessed. A fellowship will follow in the Parish Hall after the Mass. You are ALL encouraged to attend this beautiful parish event



Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

- Martin Luther King Jr.

The Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver invite the parishioners of Saint Anne and Saint Jude to join them in a celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. There will be a reception in the Parish Hall at Saint Jude following the 9:15 am mass on Sunday, January 20TH Please come and share in the contributions made by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

St. Lawrence Cemetery and Columbarium

The columbarium is located in a beautiful garden setting in St. Lawrence Cemetery and provides a reverential place of interment for the cremated ashes of our beloved deceased. Please Contact John MacMaster (803) 968-3466 for more information.

Tuesday Adoration at the Saint Jude Location

Weekly Adoration is open to everyone. If you would like to sign up for specific time slots, the points of contact are Calvin Glisson (803) 521-3812 and Ray Blanchette (803) 481-5690.

First Friday Devotion / Adoration will begin at 6:30pm in St. Anne's Little Chapel February 1st.

Rito del Martes de Adoración al Santísimo

La adoración semanal está abierta a todos. Se expone el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar todos los martes en San Judas dependiendo desde las 8am a las 6:30 después de rezar el Rosario. También los animamos a participar en la adoración mensual que se hace cada Viernes primero del mes de 6pm-8am. Se les invita a todos a asistir. Adquirirán gracias especiales por sus esfuerzos. Demos le gracias al Señor!!



Knights of Columbus

In solidarity with our priests; supporting our parish and community through works of charity. Help us to help others by becoming a Knight. Call Chris Hilditch, Grand Knight, 803-316-6283 for more information. www.sumterkofc.org. Council meetings take place the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM Council Hall located at 2325 Camden Hwy.

The Sumter Cursillo Movement

Interested? Contact Noreen Wall 803-506-4408 Or Andrea Marcella 803-481-4269

Charismatic Prayer Group

Meets every Wednesday from 7:00pm-8:30pm in the Library at Saint Jude. Everyone is welcome!

Prison Ministry Interested?

Contact Richard Boisvert 803-406-0653.

Ministerio de la Prisión

¿Estás interesado en servir en este ministerio? Llama a Ma. Elena al 803 773 5606.

Knights of Peter Claver And Ladies Auxiliary

Your Invitation to Catholic Action To support parish and community activities. To provide charitable support to worth while causes. To provide social and intellectual fellowship. If you are interested, then become a Knight or Lady of Saint Peter Claver. For information call (803) 883-7113.

Baptism: Please call the Parish office to make instruction arrangements for parents & godparents.

Baptism in English Usually available on the 4th Saturday of the month

Baptism in Spanish usually available on the 3rd Saturday of the month

Matrimony: Couples planning to marry in the church should contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

Reconciliation (Saint Anne) : Saturday 3:00-4:00pm prior to the 4:30pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Reconciliation: (Saint Jude) : Saturday 4:30-5:30pm prior to the 6:00pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the Priest if you are admitted to the hospital.



PARISH YEAR FOR PASTORAL CARE

**Christ's Mercy & Charity
in works of pastoral ministry**

**Launches: First Sunday of Advent 2018
Culminates: Solemnity of Christ the King 2019**



www.adornofathersfoundation.org

Adorno Fathers Foundation

Sumter Catholic Young Adults: Flock17

Who's it for: Basically anyone 18-39ish, Single or married, Student, Professional, Military, or between jobs. Doesn't matter

keep up with us on Facebook: **FLOCK17**

contact G reg at (803) 406-0201 or
gtavarez@sc.rr.com



THURSDAY GAME NIGHT

January 17, 2019 & January 31, 2019
WHERE: ST JUDE LOCATION
STARTING AT 6:30PM AND ENDING 8:30PM.
(Adults Only Please)



Check out the media in the Lighthouse Kiosk. There is something for everyone !!

Sacramentos:

Bautismos - Favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial para obtener instrucción de arreglos para padres y padrinos.

Bautismos en Español - Estarán disponibles el tercer sábado del mes

Matrimonio - Parejas planeando casarse en la Iglesia deben contactar al Pastor al menos seis meses en anticipación.

Confesiones (San Judas) - Los sábados de las 4:30-5:30pm antes de la misa vespertina de las 6pm o por cita.

Unción de Enfermos - Favor de contactar al Sacerdote si lo ingresan a usted o a un familiar en el hospital.

ST. ANNE & ST. JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HOME OF THE GUARDIANS

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE IN ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN



Kristi Doyle, Principal
principal@sasjcs.com

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School Grades K-12
11 S. Magnolia Street Sumter, S.C. 29150
(803) 775-3632 FAX (803) 938-9074

*There is a conversational Spanish class being offered beginning on Monday, January 28th and continuing every Monday until the end of the school year. The cost is \$16.00 per person. We will meet in the Parish Hall at Saint Anne. Please call the school office (803-775-3632) if you are interested.

SASJCS is in need of a qualified 2nd Grade Teacher, a Part-time Spanish Teacher, & Individuals willing to donate 30 minutes per week tutoring lower school students. Contact the school with any questions.

*Saturday January 26th, Progressive Dinner

Americana Theme. Appetizers, beer and wine from the United States, Brisket and pulled pork with sides and delicious desserts. \$25 per person, adults only please. Call the school office for more details.

Faith Formation 2018-2019 Religious Education

*No Class Session on Sunday, January 20th.

We encourage all families to attend the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration in the Parish Hall.

*The First Reconciliation Retreat and Sacrament will be held on Saturday, February 2nd from 10:00am—1:00pm in the Parish Hall at Saint Anne. This is for Students who are currently enrolled in the 2nd Grade at SASJCS, the Religious Education Sacrament Program and the RCIC Program .

JANUARY '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

20 No Class
21 M.L. King Day

FEBRUARY '19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Catholic Youth of Sumter

Haven't tried the Catholic Youth of Sumter Yet...Why not?? All Middle School and High School Youth are invited to Join us **Sunday, January 13th 6:00pm—8:00pm** in the Youth Building at St. Jude . We'll have some good food, a little fun and a lot of fellowship.

All About FAITH... All About FUN...All About YOU!!

It's time for us to start planning for the **High School Diocesan Youth Conference! HSDYC 2019** is just around the corner. This is a 3-day 2-night youth rally starting on Friday March 8th and ending with mass celebrated by Bishop Guglielmone on Sunday March 10th. Youth...are you strong in your Faith? A bit confused? Maybe you thought you had a clear picture of what you believe and something has happened to make you think twice? Maybe you are a 100% skeptic? If you answered YES to any of those questions, This weekend is geared 100% towards you. It is planned, performed, and executed by other youth in the diocese. Come and listen to the engaging speakers, take in the talent of the E-team with their funny and meaningful skits, enjoy the music and learn more and more about your Faith. This weekend is for you no matter where you are in your faith life. Mark your calendars and keep this event in mind as the one that will make you see things in a totally different way. Oh yeahand you'll have some serious fun too!

- We will have registration forms available in **mid-January**. Parents, it will be important to get these back to us before **February 15th, 2019**. The cost of this weekend is **\$145 per youth**. After February 15th the cost goes up to \$155 per youth and they will not receive a t-shirt. Please do not let cost be a factor in your decision to send your child. There are scholarships available. Please see Nicole Macedo or Frank Costas for information.

Check out the action from last year <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSNYB-sBOss>

January 19 / 20	Lector	Sacristan	EMOHC	Altar Server	Usher
Saturday, 4:30 PM	Mary Jones Donna Kearney	Donna Kearney	Cathy Sides Steve Kelley Louise Bock	Meagan Jamison John Jamison Lesley Jamison Amber Jamison	Bill Hartley Filipe Vergara
Saturday, 6:00 PM	Ray Blanchette	Calvin Glisson	Calvin Glisson Chris Harvey Rose Sestokas	Michael Marlowe Christian Harvey	Joe Casey Calvin Glisson
Sunday, 8:00 AM	Susanne Brotherton Lector Needed	Karl Selden	Christine Byrd David Marcella Dee Reiter	Jonah Reisenauer Adam Reisenauer Jessica Puccinelli Steven Russo	Frank Brown TG Manus Jack Reyling
Sunday, 9:15 AM	Cheryl Coleman Chris Hilditch	Chris Hilditch	Jaci Gibson Frances Summers Mary Ellen Gussio	Charles Johnston Aidan Hilditch	Hazel McLean Ernest Gamble
Sunday, 12:00 PM English	Denise Spivey Aida Sikora	Denise Spivey	Janie Stokes James Smith Rose Mary Dannelly	Nevaeh Little Dominic Neil Shannon Sieger	Ushers Needed
Sunday, 12:00 PM Spanish	Sandra Lizeth Rivera Manuel Ramon	Manuel Ramon	Irene Dunlap Paul Dunlap Mariel Ferrell	Santiago Rivera Alej Lujan Rivera Krystal Ortiz-Flores	Ricardo Sierra-Montes Maria Cruz Castillo
Sunday, 5:00 PM	Fatima Hernandez Greg Tavarez	Chris Black	Cindy Tavarez Chris Black Rose Sestokas	Austin Foddrill Noah Tavarez	Sammy Burrows Chris Black

Looking for more Catholic content?? check out the ever changing selections at Formed.org. Parish Code is **Y6RWDQ**

Please pray for:

Roscoe Pendry
Gail Johnson
Richard Fales
Francis McBride
Rose Schenkel
Lawrence Braswell
Roberta Legendre
Mary Johnson
Tam Pham
Marie Savio
Cindy Hogan
David McDonald
William Rickerd
Cherise Williams
James Van Frank
Richie Tallman
Christopher Rosa
Katharina Clark
Austin Youngers
Mary Anne Damuth
Michelle Briggs
Barbara Dupree
Amani Williams
Brian Conklin
Rita Gallahar
Kim DeBraal
Ursula Guest
Chelato Family
Marie Fernandes
Danita Russell
Sally Clark
Patricia Kohner
Jean Jose
Taylor Scofield
Shirley Johnson
Maryn Dault
Tony Wicker
Roberta Carter
Sterling Fisher
Charlotte McPherson
Nona Sewell
Paul Gober
Tonya Venezia
Daniel P. Lawless
Henry Langlois
Barry Ferrell
Amy Ferrell
Jan Ferrell
Pete Watcher
Hayes E. Baker
Timothy Subocz
Francine Cronia
Helen Scannapieco
Jack Hemming Sr.
Marnie Williams
Alyce Brunke
Talmadge Riddick
Andree Bessette
Walter Boone
Allen Primos
Alvin Fusetti
Nancy David
Flossie Brailsford
Seth Dyke
Estella Richardson



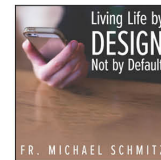
Living Life by Design Not by Default

By Fr. Michael Schmitz

Live This Year Intentionally

Fr. Michael Schmitz explains why and how we need to live an intentionally Christian life within this technological age. Discover how, with a few small steps, you can stop going with the flow and live by design.

[Listen on formed.org](http://formed.org)



"Father Mike always hits me in the gut with the simplest and most beautiful logic. So so good."

—Ryan H.

Thank You For the Continued Support !!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

January 6th

Offertory \$ 11,419.00
Online Giving \$ 1,325.00
\$ 12,744.00

Parish App!!

Still haven' downloaded the PARISH APP for your iPhone or Android Phone!! www.Myparishapp.com. If you would like help installing the App or a brief tutorial on the features please call the Parish Office.

Aplicación de la Parroquia ¿Todavía no has bajado la aplicación de nuestra parroquia? www.Myparishapp.com Si necesitas ayuda para instalarla en tu cel o quieres aprender cómo funciona llama a la oficina de la parroquia.



Online Giving

A Secure and Convenient way to contribute to your parish

<https://www.sasjrcc.org/onlinegiving/>

- No need to hassle with checks or cash
- 24/7 web based access
- Easily schedule recurring donations to coincide with your pay period
- Credit card option allows you to take advantage of rewards such as air miles or cash bonuses
- No need to share bank account information because you enter it directly into the Online Giving secure site
- Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend parish services
- Contribution amount is easily adjusted .

Please help us keep this list updated. If a name can be removed, PLEASE let us know.

773-3524

**United Mass Intentions
for the week of
January 12 through January 20**

Saturday	8:15am	Intentions of Gloria McMullan	Jennifer Sullivan
Saturday	4:30pm	Discernment of Charles and Luke Foyle	Foyle Family
Saturday	6:00pm	✠Joan Jordan	Grotzinger Family
Sunday	8:00am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	9:15am	✠John Hathaway ✠Nancy Hathaway	Hathaway Family
Sunday	12:00pm English	✠Larry Dannelly	Rose Mary Dannelly
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	5:00pm	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Monday	7:00am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Tuesday	7:00am	✠Dr. Carl Whetsell and family	Richard Boisvert
Wednesday	7:00am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Thursday	8:15am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Friday	8:15am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Saturday	8:15am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Saturday	4:30pm	✠Mary Hartley	Hartley Family
Saturday	6:00pm	✠James Briggs	Marie Briggs
Sunday	8:00am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	9:15am	Deceased Members of the Magpayo and Grace Families	Naida Grace
Sunday	12:00pm English	✠Mary Forsberg	Donald Forsberg
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	5:00pm	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	

**Mass Intentions can be booked through
the office Monday thru Thursday
9:00am – 4:00pm &
9:00am to 12 noon on Friday.**

Sunday, January 13

**St. Anne Eucharist - 8:00am, 12:00pm
Saint Jude Eucharist-9:15am, 5:00pm
12:00 noon (Spanish)**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

10:30am-11:30am

CATHOLIC YOUTH OF SUMTER

6:00pm-8:00pm

Monday, January 14

Saint Jude - 7:00am - Daily Mass

Tuesday, January 15

Saint Jude - 7:00am - Daily Mass

-Adoration-

Wednesday, January 16

Saint Jude - 7:00am - Daily Mass

Thursday, January 17

Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass

Friday, January 18

Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass

Saturday, January 19

Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass

Saint Anne Confession 3:00-4:00pm

Saint Anne Vigil Mass - 4:30pm

Saint Jude Confession 4:30-5:30pm

St. Jude Vigil Mass-6:00pm

Sunday, January 20

Saint Anne Eucharist - 8:00am, 12:00pm

Saint Jude Eucharist-9:15am, 5:00pm

12:00 noon (Spanish)

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

10:30am-11:30am

CATHOLIC YOUTH OF SUMTER

6:00pm-8:00pm



If you or a family member are admitted to a hospital or nursing facility, or are homebound and unable to attend Mass, YOU must notify the Parish Offices, Priest or Deacon.

Privacy Laws prevent hospitals or a nursing facility from notifying us directly.

Si tu o algún miembro de tu familia es admitido a un hospital, clínica de rehabilitación, residencia de ancianos, o está confinado al hogar y no puede asistir a Misa, tú debes notificarlo a la oficina parroquial o alguno de los Padres. Las leyes de privacidad no permiten que los hospitales y las demás instituciones médicas avisen a la iglesia directamente.

13 de enero de 2019 El Bautismo del Señor

La liturgia de la Iglesia concluye la Navidad con esta Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor. En su bautismo Jesús, pone el punto de partida para su misión ministerial. El Padre del cielo lo acompaña de manera especial. Se narra que se abrieron los cielos y que el Espíritu Santo bajó sobre él y se manifestó en forma de paloma...del cielo vino una voz: "Tú eres mi Hijo, hoy te he dado la vida" (Lucas 3, 21-22). En aquel tiempo, las personas que escuchaban la predicación de Juan y de Jesús tenían que elegir seguir a Jesús o seguir a Juan. Momentos de tensión surgieron. Ahora, la Iglesia nos invita a ver que el bautismo es un segundo nacimiento donde se abre la puerta para entrar a formar parte de la familia de Dios.

¿Has tenido la oportunidad de reflexionar lo que significa el bautismo? ¿Cuánta importancia le das al ser hijo o hija de Dios? El Papa Francisco nos dice lo siguiente acerca del Bautismo: "En el Bautismo somos consagrados por el Espíritu Santo. La palabra "cristiano" significa esto, significa consagrado como Jesús, en el Espíritu con el cual ha sido consagrado Jesús en toda su existencia terrena. Él es el "Cristo", ungido, consagrado, los bautizados somos "cristianos", es decir, consagrados, ungidos. Entonces, queridos padres, queridos padrinos y madrinas, si quieren que sus hijos se hagan verdaderos cristianos, ayúdenlos a crecer "consagrados" en el Espíritu Santo, es decir, en el calor del amor de Dios, en la luz de su Palabra. Por esto, no se olviden de invocar siempre al Espíritu Santo, todos los días". (Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, Capilla Sixtina, domingo 11 de enero de 2015). ¿Qué te impresiona del mensaje del Papa?

January 13, 2019 The Baptism of the Lord

Think of what it's like to wait a long time. Can you imagine what it would be like to wait for centuries? No one person lives that long, of course. But for the Israelites, they had heard the stories from generation to generation. They had been conquered time and time again, and now "the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ." They had been waiting for a Messiah, one who did miraculous deeds and said profound things; someone aglow with the glory of God. We all know what it's like to hope and be disappointed. But what if your hopes were fulfilled?

That day at the Jordan River, an audience had gathered.

Among the crowd for baptism was an unknown man.

Perhaps he was dirty from weeks in the desert. His hands had the calloused palms of a tradesman, a carpenter. He and John the Baptist may have embraced with the familiarity of the cousins they were. This man wades into the Jordan for a good, solid dunking. As he rises from the water, the One who breathed life into Adam gasps for air like any other man.

But then "heaven was opened." The clouds in the sky part miles above. "And the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove." An apparition with substance sails through the sky. It exudes gentleness and power all at once. "And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Can you imagine the sight? For the crowd, there is no doubting what they have seen, who they have seen. Can you imagine this encounter with our God who keeps His promises? What are you waiting for?

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: If Jesus didn't sin, why did he need to be baptized?

Answer: From the earliest days of St. John the Baptist, baptism has been a sign of repentance and forgiveness of sins. Now Jesus has instituted it as a sacrament, with real power to cleanse us from original sin and adopt us as children of God. But if Jesus wasn't affected by original sin, nor did he willingly choose sin, why would he need to be baptized?

The Catechism lists four primary reasons for the Incarnation. One is that "the Word became flesh to be our model of holiness" (CCC 459). St. John Paul II wrote that "all of Christ's life was a continual teaching." In other words, many of Jesus' actions were not only for the action itself, but to model certain things for us. In becoming man, Jesus is not so loft that he expects things of us he isn't willing to do himself. We see this most poignantly in his passion and death. In his baptism, Jesus identifies with sinners and gives us a model of what we ought to do - repent, be cleansed, and receive the grace of God!

VIVIR LA LITURGIA - INSPIRACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Durante el bautizo de Jesús, se escuchó una voz del Cielo que decía: "Tú eres mi Hijo, el Amado, mi Elegido." La identidad de Jesús como el Hijo de Dios se revela y se entiende a través de su bautizo. Él está muy consciente de quién es. El bautismo hace lo mismo para nosotros. Nos da nuestra identidad como hijos e hijas de Dios. Nosotros tenemos la misma oportunidad de compartir en una relación íntima con Dios, así como la tuvo Jesús. Ser hijo o hija de Dios significa que tenemos una misión única y enfocada que debemos de llevar a cabo. Nuestra identidad, así como la de Jesús, está arraigada en Dios. Esto es un hecho simple que todos debemos aceptar. A través del bautismo, tenemos el mismo poder y habilidad de ver y actuar, así como Dios lo haría. Esto no es algo fácil, pero nos llevará a la verdad y a la felicidad plena.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

At the baptism of Jesus, a voice came from heaven saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Through Baptism, Jesus' identity as God's Son is revealed and understood. He knows very clearly who he is. Baptism does the same for us. It gives us our identity as daughters and sons of God. We have the wonderful opportunity, given to us as a gift, to share in the same intimate relationship Jesus has with God his Father. Being a daughter or son of God gives us a unique and focused mission to which we must be faithful. Our identity, as with Jesus, is rooted in God. This is a simple fact we all must accept. Through Baptism, we are given the power and ability to see the world as God sees and to think and act as God would think and act. This is a tall order but one that will lead us to truth and ultimately to happiness.