



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD -
YEAR A

*A living, vibrant
faith community*

Vol 14 : No 08

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION:

To build a faith community
centred on the loving relationship
of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
expressed in personal lives and
communal parish activities.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

MASS TIMES

• VICTOR HARBOR

Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;
Sunday 11.00am.
Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday 9.00am

• GOOLWA

Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom my soul
delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit
that he may bring true justice to the
nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,
or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed,
nor quench the wavering flame.
Faithfully he brings true justice; he
will neither waver, nor be crushed
until true justice is established on
earth, for the islands are awaiting his
law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve
the cause of right; I have taken you by
the hand and formed you; I have
appointed you as covenant of the
people and light of the nations, to
open the eyes of the blind, to free
captives from prison, and those who
live in darkness from the dungeon.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 28:1-4, 9-10

*The Lord will bless his people with
peace.*

1. O give the Lord, you sons of God,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of His
name. Adore the Lord in His holy
court. <R>

2. The Lord's voice resounding on the
waters, the Lord on the immensity
of waters; the voice of the Lord,
full of power, the voice of the Lord,
full of splendour. <R>

3. The God of glory thunders. In His
temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The
Lord sat enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits as king for ever. <R>

SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his
household: 'The truth I have now
come to realise' he said 'is that God
does not have favourites, but that
anybody of any nationality who fears
God and does what is right is
acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the
people of Israel, and it was to them
that the good news of peace was
brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus
Christ is Lord of all men. You must
have heard about the recent
happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of
Nazareth and how he began in Galilee,
after John had been preaching
baptism. God had anointed him with
the Holy Spirit and with power, and
because God was with him, Jesus went
about doing good and curing all who
had fallen into the power of the devil.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The heavens were opened and the
Father's voice was heard: this is my
beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!*

(Continued page 4)

**VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA
CATHOLIC PARISH**
NGARRINDJERI and
RAMINDJERI land

CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211
Telephone: 8552 1084 (*Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap*)
Email: catholicvhg@bigpond.com
Web: www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• **PARISH PRIEST**

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran (8552 1084;
in an emergency - 0429 098 802)
Email: Vinh2511@bigpond.com

• **PARISH MANAGER**

Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)
(Monday & Thursday: 10am - 12 noon)
Email: Parish_manager@bigpond.com

• **PARISH ENCOUNTER**

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - 8552 1084, catholicvhg@bigpond.com
(All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening)

• **PARISH TREASURER**

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)
Email: parish_treasure@bigpond.com

• **INTEGRITY & SAFEGUARDING**

We are a safeguarding Organisation which is committed to the care, well-being and protection of children, young people and adults at risk.

- Andy Nicholls
(VH/G contact - 0475 893 521 or andrewnicholls6@gmail.com)
- Integrity and Safeguarding Dept
(8210 8150 - select Option 2)
- CSHW SA (Work, Health and Safety) please contact Jim Dabinett
(0460 033 529)



(Continued from page 1)

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Jordan River runs the length of Israel, from north of the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea in the south, and is the lifeblood of the land.
- The exact site of the baptism of Jesus by John is unknown, but the traditional site is at el-Maghtas, about ten and a half kilometres north of the point where the river enters the Dead Sea.
- The word baptism comes from a Greek word meaning 'to plunge'.
- The first Christians were baptised by being plunged into running streams or rivers, following the practice of John. Later, large fonts were built in churches, and baptism of the faithful, usually adults, was by full immersion.

EXPLORING THE WORD

This text introduces Jesus in the first public moment of his adult life. It is significant that the public mission of Jesus begins with his baptism. He has made decisions about his future action, which begins with a long and arduous journey spanning the length of Israel from Galilee to the deep south. This is not a random act. Jesus makes that journey with a single purpose: 'to be baptised by John.' In light of Matthew's presentation of Jesus as the fulfilment and perfection

of all that is good in Israel, the conversation between these two figures is fascinating. The Baptist recognises Jesus' greater role in God's plan. He has played the part of the Old Testament prophet in preparing the way. Now that the main player has appeared on the stage, is it not fitting that the Baptist bows out of the action? But Jesus is aware of a bigger picture and insists that things remain as they are 'for the time being' so that the demands of righteousness can be satisfied. Both Jesus and John show an openness to accept God's plan, and in reward, God himself enters the story with words of affirmation and love for the Chosen One. Heaven and earth have met in the person of Jesus.

LIVING THE WORD

Like Jesus, every Christian enters the waters of baptism, or have them poured over them. The symbolism, especially apparent in the practice of full immersion, is that of the tomb. The person enters into the depths and darkness of the tomb and rises to a new life in Christ, symbolised by the white garment worn at baptism. This symbolism also recalls our physical birth from the waters of the womb. In baptism, we are reborn into the life of faith.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(12 - 18 January)

- **Monday, 12:** Weekday Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20)
- **Tuesday, 13:** Weekday Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28)
- **Wednesday, 14:** Weekday Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 3:1-10; Mk 1:29-39)
- **Thursday, 15:** Weekday Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45)
- **Friday, 16:** Weekday Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22; Mk 2:1-12)
- **Saturday, 17:** St Anthony (1 Sam 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17)
- **Sunday 18:** 2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0429 098 802.