

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

Opening of the Jubilee Year 2025

Presider: Today's Bidding Prayers are based on the six pastoral themes for the Jubilee Year – care for creation, food poverty, modern slavery, managing debt, forgiveness, rest and worship.
The response to the intentions is on the Mass sheet.

Deacon or Reader:

- 1 Let us pray that we may be good stewards of the creation entrusted to us: sharing what we have and being mindful of those who will come after us.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 2 For those who have little or nothing to eat.
May the governments of the world share the rich harvests God provides for us so that all may have what they need.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 3 For those caught up in modern slavery, especially young people used for sex, asylum seekers and refugees exploited in homes and workplaces, and all victims of human trafficking.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 4 For those who are burdened by the unbearable weight and shame of debt.
May the world's financial systems, too often absorbed by selfishness, overspending and greed, give way to Christ's values of generosity, kindness and trust.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 5 Let us pray that we may experience the forgiveness of God in our lives and be able to share it with others by refusing to condemn, judge or hold grudges.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 6 In our busy and demanding world, let us pray for the gift of rest – to take time to look after ourselves so that we may be healthy, whole and happy.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 7 Finally, let us pray for our own personal intentions;
for Jean Birmingham, Cathy Spencer, Joan Flanagan and David Searle who have died; and for those we are remembering this weekend, especially Colette Ross, Frank Heeley and all the people of this parish community.
Lord of all hope. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 8 Now let us ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to pray for us all: **"Hail Mary..."**

Presider: Gracious God,
tear the heavens open and come down.
Pour out your Spirit upon us
and help us to follow you with all our hearts.
Through Christ our Lord.