

Family Page

The work of bringing the Good News of God's love to all people was to begin with the baptism of Jesus. This gospel should remind you of your own baptism, when you became members of the family of Jesus. Make or buy a special candle to be lit on the anniversary of each family baptism. On that day, plan a special meal and light the candle to symbolize the light of Christ received in baptism. Initiate that tradition this week with a celebration in honor of Jesus' baptism. Say the simple creed below.

I believe in God the Father,
 maker of our world so wide;
 I believe in Jesus Christ,
 who for me was crucified.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 sent by God to be my guide.
 I believe in the Catholic Church
 and all the saints in heaven too.
 I know that God forgives my sins
 and helps me to begin anew.



EXPLAINING GOD'S WORD

January 10, 2021 (B)

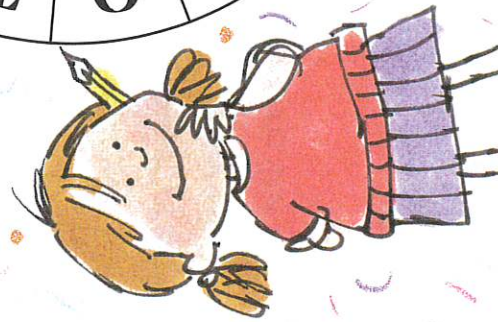
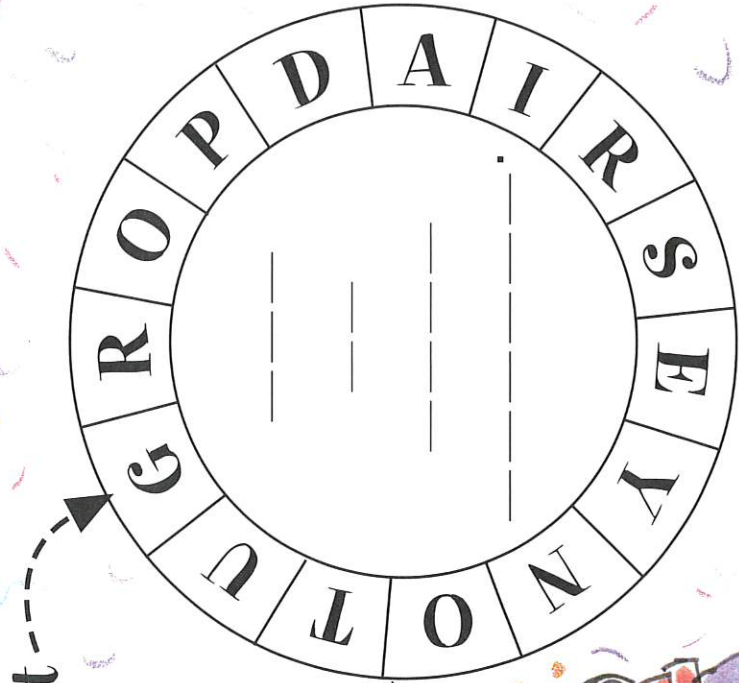
Baptism of the Lord



Mark 1:7-11

Jesus Your Brother

You and Jesus have something very special in common. Starting with the arrow, read every other letter around the magic circle and see what that something special is.



Special Families

Every living creature made by God belongs to its own special family. All dogs belong to the canine family. From your own little puppy to the fox in his den, all canines love to chew with bone-crunching teeth. All cats belong to the feline family. From soft purring kittens to great roaring tigers, all felines like to scratch with needle-sharp claws. You belong to the human family. From the people next-door to the rulers of the land, all human beings are a whole lot like you.

But you belong to another family too – the family of God.

In this week's gospel story, Jesus is baptized by John. God speaks from heaven: "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests." Jesus is exactly like God.

When you were baptized, you became a child of God, a brother or sister to Jesus. You were given the Spirit of Jesus, which means that you are like him in a very special way.

You can be just like Jesus, in the way you love and live. You can love like Jesus loved without expecting anything in return. You can help those who need you the way Jesus always helped others. You can share with others the way Jesus shared. You can be like Jesus because his Spirit lives in you.

