

Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## “The Baptism of Christ”

What is the fee for Baptism? (Acts 8: 15-24)

Were you baptised as an infant, or old enough still to remember your Baptism?

Read St.Mark 1: 1-8.

What were the purposes of John the Baptist?  
How many can you find?

How did John the Baptist actually perform his acts of Baptism?

Read Romans 6: 1-11.

In what way does the Baptism of Jesus enlarge the purposes of John the Baptist?

What would you say to someone who claims that Baptism is giving a child a name?

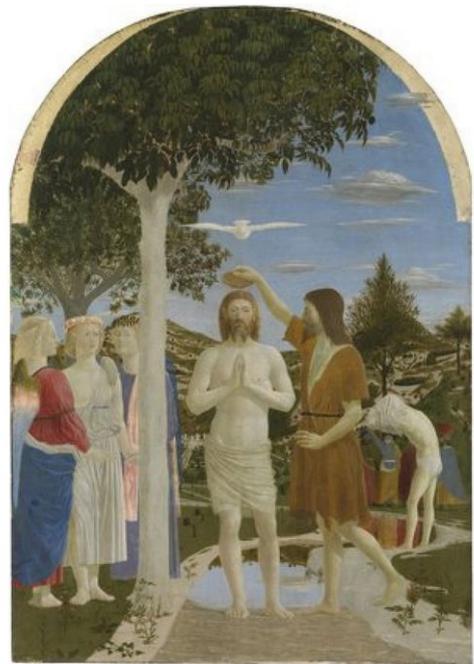
What would you say to somebody who says that Baptism is a way of giving a child a blessing?

In what way is “Baptism” a term more faithful to the Bible than the term “Christening”?

Martin Luther, in times of despair, would take a slate and write on it in chalk, “I have been baptised.”

Mervyn Stockwood said, “When I was only an innocent little child, my Maker took hold of me and declared that he loved me.”

What does your Baptism mean to you?



### Background

Nobody knows for certain where the practice of Baptism came from. It may have been inspired by the experience of Naaman (II Kings 5: 1-19; 17<sup>th</sup> October last) and become institutionalised by the Qumran community to whom we owe the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Matthew 3:15 features the only recorded piece of conversation between Jesus and his cousin John the Baptist. These are also the very first words spoken by Jesus in the whole New Testament. They may hide oceans of significance.

Albert Einstein, lecturing about a glass of water, said “If I could unlock the power that holds together every molecule of water in this glass, I could run the whole railways system of this country for a year.”