

Baptism of Jesus Liturgy 2008

Liturgy of Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community

Dr. Jane Via, Pastor



Opening Song

Welcome and Greeting

Kyrie

God of Life, we long for your presence within our lives.

[R] *Help us to live our baptism.*

Jesus, we gather to hear the Good News that we are all children of God.

[R] *Help us to live our baptism.*

Spirit of God, we open our minds and hearts to the fire of your light and love in our world.

[R] *Help us to live our baptism.*

May the God of Life and Blessing forgive us our unresponsiveness to the Spirit and open our hearts to freedom and grace. [R] *Amen.*

Opening Prayer

First Reading

The Word of our God. [R] *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 98

Second Reading

The Word of our God. [R] *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

The Gospel according to...

[R] *Glory to You, O God.*

The Gospel of our God.

[R] *Praise to you Jesus the Christ.*

Homily

Profession of Faith

(by Sister Joan Chittister, OSB; edited version)

We believe in God who made us all, and whose divinity infuses life with the sacred. We believe in the multiple revelations of God, alive in every human heart, expressed in every culture, found in all the wisdoms of the world.

We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who leads us to the fullness of humanity, to what we are meant to become. Through Christ, we become new people, called beyond the consequences of our brokenness, lifted to the fullness of life.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God on earth, who keeps the Christ vision present to souls yet in darkness, gives light to hearts now blind, infuses energy into spirits yet weary, isolated, searching and confused. We believe in God who is life.

Amen to courage, to hope, to spirit of truth, to nature, to happiness, to wholeness, to the partnership of women and men in God's plan, to the Christ who calls us beyond the boundaries of ourselves, to forgiveness, and to everything that stretches our hearts to the dimensions of God. In all of this, we can surely believe, as God does.

Prayer of the Faithful

Presentation of the Gifts & Offertory Song

Preparation of the Bread and Wine

Blessed are you, O God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. *Blessed be God forever.*

Blessed are you, O God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink. *Blessed be God forever.*

Pray that our offering is one that God desires.

We gather as Your people. Help us to be aware of Your presence in our midst.

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you. *And also in You.*
Come to the table with thankful hearts.
We open our hearts to God, and to one another.

Presider God of Life, we give You thanks as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, Your Beloved. Draw us near to You. Baptize us with faith and hope in Your calling us to be the body of Christ in Your world.

Voice 1 Let the clarity of Your vision for the world take hold of us. Let Your love enfold us and all creation. In trust and thanksgiving, we join with all creation and sing our song of unending praise:

Sanctus

*Holy, Holy, Holy God, God of Spirit and Life.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are all who come in Your name.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Presider Jesus, we rejoice in Your baptism. In You we see the fullness of human possibility: to make God visible in our lives. In You we see our God, Creative Word, Breath of Life and Wisdom, come to expression in human form.

Voice 2 Jesus, we acknowledge Your incarnation, a sign to us and to all the world of Your divine presence in all people and all creation. Lead us to discover the sacred in the ordinary: in the crowd, in the lowly, in everyday life, in human yearning to be better people, and in being neighbor to one another.

Voice 3 God of Life, we rejoice in Your love and wisdom that sets us free to realize that we live in You and that You continue to live and love through our lives.

Voice 4 We open ourselves to Your Spirit who sanctifies and transforms these gifts to become You in us, the body and blood of Christ, as we now fulfill your command of love.

Presider We remember that...

All: *...on the night before Jesus died, while at supper with his friends, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them saying: "Take this, all of you and eat. This is my body. Do this in memory of me."*

[Pause]

In the same way, Jesus took the cup filled with wine. He said the blessing, gave the cup to his friends, and said, "Take this all of you and drink. This is my blood. Do this in memory of me."

Presider Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Jesus lived in the Spirit.
Jesus died in the Spirit.
Jesus lives in us in the Spirit.*

Voice 5 God of Life, as we celebrate and remember the baptism of Jesus, and our own baptism in the Body of Christ, we remember all people who touched our lives with the Spirit of Your love. We remember all people everywhere, who work to kindle the fire of Your Spirit and love in others.

Voice 6 Let Your Spirit touch the souls of our leaders and keep them in communion with the life and teaching of Jesus, and with Your Church, the Body of Christ.

Voice 7 Be with all those who are sick and those who suffer. Be with all who have died. Be with us in our struggling attempts to be Your faithful daughters and sons. Be with us as we seek to live the Gospel. and be bearers of forgiveness, tolerance, and understanding.

Presider God of Life, we are mindful of your call to live generously and faithfully. We commit ourselves to allow Your Spirit of generous love that took flesh in Jesus, to take root in our lives. With the help of Your Spirit, strengthen us to live in ways that bring You honor and glory.

Great Amen

Through Christ, may all creation unfold. With Christ, may all creation be one. In Christ, may all divisions be healed. In the unity of the Holy Spirit, may all glory and honor be Yours, forever and ever.

[See the song sheet if the "Amen" is sung] Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus

Loving God, in whom is heaven, may Your name be honored everywhere. May Your kingdom come, May the desire of Your heart for the world be done in us, by us and through us. Give us the bread we need for each day. Forgive us. Enable us to forgive others. Keep us from all anxiety and fear. For You reign in the power that comes from love which is Your glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Sign of Peace

May the peace of God be with you always. *And also with you.* Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

[See the song sheet if the "Lamb of God" is sung]

*Lamb of God, you call us to spirit-filled living.
Lamb of God, you call us to spirit-filled service.
Lamb of God, you call us to be Your spirit in the world.
Grant us peace.*

Presider

Made one in the Spirit, we are God's body.
We are happy and blessed to share in this celebration.

Communion Song

Commissioning of the Community Council

Assembly *[left side]:*

*God of love and service, we thank you for all the gifts you have given to our Community Council members. We thank you for their willingness to help our community become better witnesses of your love and compassion for the world. We celebrate these gifts to be shared for the good of all.
Amen.*

Assembly *[right side]:*

*God of every grace, we thank you for the indwelling of your Spirit in this community. Let your Spirit activate the gifts of leadership and administration in our Community Council so that they may guide us in our efforts to follow the call of Jesus in our lives. We celebrate these gifts to be given for the good of all.
Amen.*

Presider God of faithfulness, we pray today for each Community Council member and for the council as a whole. Support them and bless them in their work. Make them willing and capable servants of You as they work in and for our community. *Amen.*

Prayer after Communion

Closing Blessing

Closing Song