THE Wednesday WORD™

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and a Happy New Year to all.

January is traditionally the month of beginnings – a time for making a new start. In Church this Sunday we celebrate a special feast – The Baptism of the Lord.

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist didn't see the need to baptise Jesus, because Jesus was sinless. But Jesus insisted because he wanted to stand alongside the community - to help them make a new start and give them an example to follow.

Wednesday 7th January 2026

Jesus, God's beloved Son, came for everyone: to draw us all into his family so that we can become more like him and joyfully share in God's own life.

Enjoy a special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's words, which are **NEW START**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." Saint Teresa of Calcutta



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 11th January 2026



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."

Adapted from Matthew 3:13-17
The Baptism of the Lord, Year A

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful. Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf

Good News for Everyone

Regardless of our past, God invites each one of us to make a new start, each and every day. Families who make a new start with God find that they grow closer together and begin to know and share the joy that Jesus brings.

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Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME

1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus went to the River Jordan to be baptised by John the Baptist. 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 saying: "This is my beloved Son and with him I am very pleased."

What happened when Jesus came up from the water?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.



Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Words...

"Every day we must begin anew. Have patience with all things – but first of all with yourself." *St. Francis de Sales*

NEW START

This new year presents an opportunity for us to make a new start. Each of you say what is the best thing that you've ever started. What did you like about it? Ask your child if they have made any new starts in 2026. If so, how is it going? It may help your child if you mention any new starts or resolutions which you have made for 2026 and tell them how it's going for you. How does your new start help you or others?

As we begin this new year, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God? Perhaps we can: always try to help around the home before having to be asked; remember to start each morning with a prayer and thank God for each new day and for each other; make a new start with church; be peacemakers and try to make friends with someone we've fallen out with. You may like to choose something new to start together that will strengthen your family.

3

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to be always ready to make a **new start** with you and with each other as we start this New Year. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

R	K	D	H	N	R	L	J	R	B	N	J
P	Y	E	O	V	H	V	O	I	C	E	Z
F	W	S	F	R	E	Y	H	V	S	V	B
T	S	I	T	P	A	B	N	U	S	A	E
D	O	T	S	P	V	A	S	Y	H	E	L
E	M	P	O	W	E	P	L	P	L	H	O
V	L	A	N	R	N	T	V	C	I	O	D
O	Y	B	H	B	Y	I	E	O	H	F	E
L	B	A	P	T	I	S	T	M	I	P	J
E	X	N	H	O	J	E	S	U	S	C	S
B	E	L	O	V	E	D	H	P	Y	Z	E
V	O	I	C	R	W	S	E	J	E	S	V

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- ☑ JOHN
- ☑ BAPTIST
- ☐ BAPTISED
- ☐ JESUS
- ☐ HEAVEN
- ☐ VOICE
- ☐ BELOVED
- ☐ SON

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **t k u** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

hueatvenk betlokvedu skonut voticuke

And a _____ spoke from _____ saying:

"This is my _____ _____."

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus makes a new start and begins his mission to the world. We can be sure that our efforts will always be rewarded when we take the time to make a new start with Jesus. Spending time with him (through prayer) helps us become the best we can be. Happy New Year!

FINDING THREE



Find and **draw** 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...

.....

Write a promise & **draw** a big smile on Smiley

More about the Catholic Faith: **wednesdayword.org** & **cbcew.org.uk**