

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	Jesus is baptized
Monday	Mark 9:2-8	Jesus is transfigured
Tuesday	Acts 9:1-19a	Saul's conversion and baptism
Wednesday	Acts 22:2-16	Paul describes his baptism
Thursday	Job 26:7-14	Job speaks of creation
Friday	Job 38:1-18	The Lord speaks of creation
Saturday	Psalms 104	A psalm of creation
Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

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Scripture Verse for this Week:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. – Genesis 1:1 (TNIV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord God, please give your Spirit to me. Amen. (Mark 1:10, Acts 19:6)

For Throughout the Day:

God of creation, make me new. Amen. (Genesis 1:1-5)

A Blessing to Share:

Child of God, May the Lord give you his Spirit and make you sure of his love. Amen. (Mark 1:10-11)

Mealtime Refrain:

"The voice of the Lord is powerful:
The voice of the Lord is majestic." (Psalm 29:4)

Mealtime Prayer:

God is great, God is good, So we thank him for our food. Amen.

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What do you know or remember about the day you were baptized?
- What happened when Jesus was baptized?
- What did God do for you when you were baptized?

Devotional Practices:

As part of your household devotional time this week, share a rite of baptismal remembrance. Gather a jug of water, an empty bowl, a large centre candle, and a smaller candle for each person. Pour the water into the bowl as these words are said (a leader says the words in *italics*, all say the words in **bold**).

For your gift of water: **We thank you, Lord.**

For the water of baptism: **We thank you, Lord.**

Now light the centre candle.

For your gift of light which warms and guides us:

We thank you, Lord.

For the light of Christ: **We thank you, Lord.**

Bible Reading – Romans 6:3-4:

'All of us were baptized into Christ Jesus. Don't you know that we were baptized into his death? By being baptized, we were buried with Christ into his death. Christ has been raised from the dead by the Father's glory. And like Christ we also can live a new life.'

Each person now lights their candle from the centre candle, as the leader says:

In baptism we were joined to the life of Christ.

Let us shine for him.

Household members may dip their fingers into the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on each other's foreheads, saying these words:

You are a baptized child of God. He is well pleased with you.

Service:

God calls us to help him in taking care of his creation. As an act of community service, take a few plastic bags and walk around your neighborhood picking up litter (remember to wear gloves).

Rituals and Traditions:

Go for a nature walk as a household. Take a digital camera or paper and pencils. When you return, make a poster using your pictures or drawings. Write the words of Genesis 1:1 in the centre. Place the poster in a prominent place in your home.

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