



Liturgical Theme for the week

Week Commencing

13th January 2020

"Chosen and Called"

"Everybody can be great because anybody can serve."

Martin Luther King Jr.



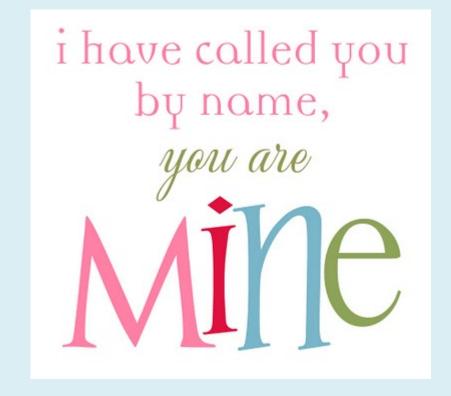
Pope Francis tells us:

"Love and charity, are service, helping others, serving others. There are many people who spend their lives in this way, in the service of others. When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love! And with the washing of the feet Jesus teaches us to be servants, and above all, servants as He was a servant to us, for every one of us."





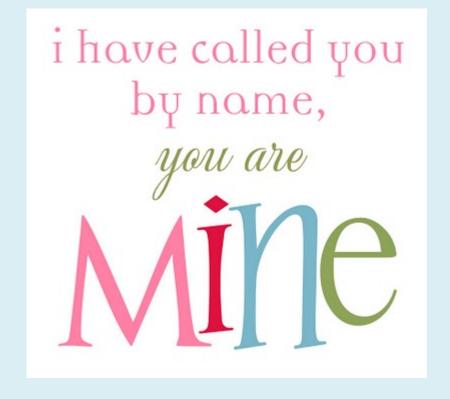
The Baptism of Jesus marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time in the church's calendar. It reminds us that we have to get back into our normal routines in life, to begin working towards the goals that we have set ourselves for this coming new year or to try and achieve the New Year resolutions that we have set for ourselves. We move into ordinary time with renewed life.







The baptism story is an initiation or commissioning story. Jesus is God's chosen one on whom God's Spirit rests. The voice of God commissions Jesus to bring forth justice, sensitively and without fanfare; to be a light to the peoples; to open the eyes of the blind and to set the captives free. A Spirit-filled life consists in fulfilling such a mission.

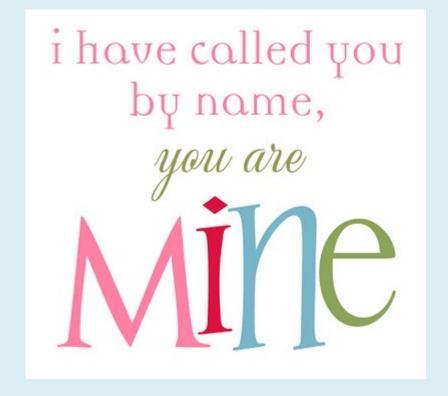






Each one of us can make a difference to the "ordinary time" of those with whom we share our life. The heavens are opened and the Spirit of God came to rest upon Jesus, the Spirit of God, rest upon each one of us, we are chosen and called to be part of God's plan for the ordinary times of our life



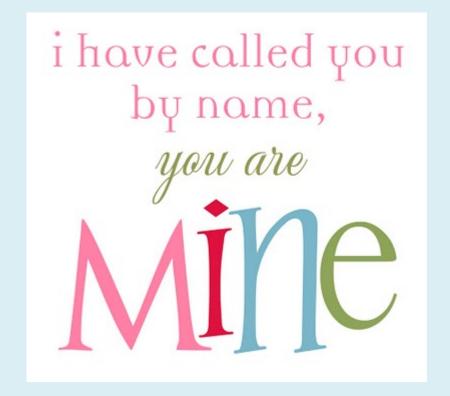






Jesus, the Chosen one, you trusted in the loving plan of God, deepen our faith and trust in you. Jesus, the Anointed one, you began your public ministry after your baptism, may we serve all we meet today with compassion and respect. Jesus, the Beloved one, you emptied yourself in love for the human family, open our hearts to the poorest and most abandoned Amen St John Plessington Pray for us





Other prayers:

Isaiah 9:6

A child is born to us!
A son is given to us!
And he will be our ruler.
He will be called, "Wonderful
Counsellor",
"Mighty God", "Eternal Father",
"Prince of Peace".

Jesus is described as the Prince of Peace.

Pray for peace in our troubled world. Think about how you can be a person of peace today.

A Welcome Blessing

May you meet God in every place, in every person and in the depths of your own heart.

Amen.

Dear Lord, we who are divided unloving prejudiced at times inclined to misunderstanding intolerant

Make us instead
united
loving
open to learning
understanding and forgiving
tolerant

May your Spirit be present in us as you are in all peoples. Amen

