

January 12-13, 2019
The Baptism of the Lord
(First Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Isaiah 42:1-7 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17

The Baptism of the Lord....is it the ENDING of the Christmas Season or the BEGINNING of Ordinary Time? Can something be both, an ending and a beginning? Borrowing a bit of mind twisting, truthful imagery, from the song, 'Closing Time' by Semisonic, *'Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end...'*, we are individually mindful of all the fresh beginnings that have been spawned in our own lives from the endings of things with which we may have become comfortable and whose endings we resisted or fought. Yet, in hindsight, we perceive the rightness of the endings segueing into beginnings, and if we are wise, we will recognize that all the things with which we are presently comfortable will likewise end... and so the rhythm goes. As people of faith, this weekend marks the transition from the cuddly imagery of an infant Jesus being lauded by Magi, or a twelve-year old Jesus being left behind in Jerusalem; today we encounter an adult, 30-year-old MAN-Jesus, who has a mission and three years in which to live it. Having reflected on how we are different today from whom we were a year or five years ago, how have we had to LET THINGS DIE so that something NEW could begin? How tightly have we held onto (resisted) something (someone) whose time had come and gone? January is filled with fresh beginnings...but letting go is necessary if we are to have room to embrace what is to come. What might we have to leave behind if we are to fully hear and embrace the Jesus of 2019?

Thank you for sharing these January days with our Santa Clara community. Please keep a close eye on your mailbox for the NEXT installment of our SCDA DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN, the booklet should be arriving in a week or so. If you are NOT Registered here at Santa Clara, please consider filling out one of our Registration forms so that you can receive all our mailings. (In like manner, if you know of any parishioners who have departed our area or changed parishes, please drop us a note so that we can remove them from our Registry.) Next weekend, in preparation for their January 27th OPEN HOUSE, we will host special presentations regarding St. Francis School at all our masses. Please take a Bulletin home with you and, as always, please know, even in the cold of winter, you are loved. FKB