

St Wilfrid's Family Focus

7th June 2020 – The Baptism of Jesus

Welcome to this week's Family Focus! A weekly opportunity for you to gather together as a family and spend some time with God. A usual there is a story to read, some things to wonder about, a song to sing and some suggestions for activities and prayer. Use them in whatever way works best for you. We pray that you will know that God is with you as you meet together today, wherever you are. Have fun!



Story – The Baptism of Jesus

Today in the church we celebrate Trinity Sunday. Trinity means three in one, so today we remember that our one God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit – three in one! In today's story as Jesus, the Son, is baptised, we hear the Father's voice spoken over him and see the Holy Spirit come down to rest on him. You can find this story in several places in the Bible, including Mark 1:1-11. Or you can find a 5 minute video, telling the story from Matthew's point of view, here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88JYcN2-FiQ>



I wonder...

It's great to ask questions about Bible stories, and talk about what we think God might be saying to us as we read them. Here are some things you might like to wonder about together

- I wonder which part of this story you like best?
- I wonder how the people felt when they went under the water as they were baptised by John? I wonder how they felt when they came out of the water?
- I wonder why Jesus wanted to be baptised by John?
- I wonder what Jesus felt when he heard the voice from heaven and saw the Spirit coming down like a dove?
- I wonder if you have been baptised? If you have, I wonder if you know when and where?
- I wonder what this story tells us about what Jesus is like?



Song - To God Be The Glory/Doxology

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OKfmvSswiU>

A Doxology is a short hymn of praise to God, and the words of this particular Doxology, 'Praise God from Whom all blessings flow' have been sung in worship since the late 1600s! Here they have been combined with another famous hymn, and set to a beat which you can jump around to. Why not see if you can make up some actions?



Prayer time

For a time of prayer today, you might like to play this song, which is a prayer asking God to help us draw near to him:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUSbgFc_WXw

While it's playing, you could:

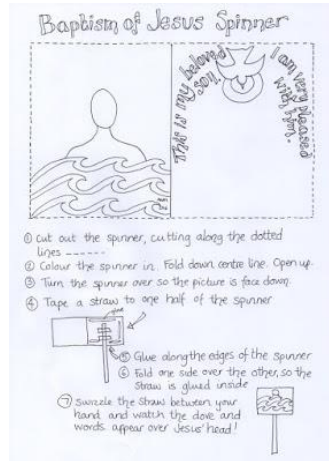
- Draw or write down your prayers to God
- Use play dough to make a model of the people/situations you want to pray for
- Light a candle and focus on it as you pray
- Use the colouring sheet on the final page of this Family Focus to help you spend some time with God
- Simply sit in God's presence and listen to the words. God might bring something to your attention while you do so. Perhaps you could share with one another afterwards anything that occurred to you.

You could do all of these things without this song too, or whilst listening to another song/piece of music of your choice!



Activities

Baptism of Jesus Spinner



Follow this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0RweH-3RyI0Qkc4MWJGSTZUSnM/view> to print off and make this Baptism of Jesus spinner. All you will need is a straw, glue, scissors, sticky tape and something to colour in with. Once it's finished, see if you can tell the story to someone else in your house using the spinner.

Source: Flamecreativekids.blogspot.com

Imaginative Play



Get creative, and use toys and everyday objects from around your house to create and act out the scene of Jesus's baptism. Here we have used crushed cereal for the sand in the desert, Tupperware and water for

the river, toy figures for Jesus, John and the people, and cotton wool for the dove landing on Jesus, but you could use whatever you like!

Source: Susanna Wall @ Bible Play Facebook Page

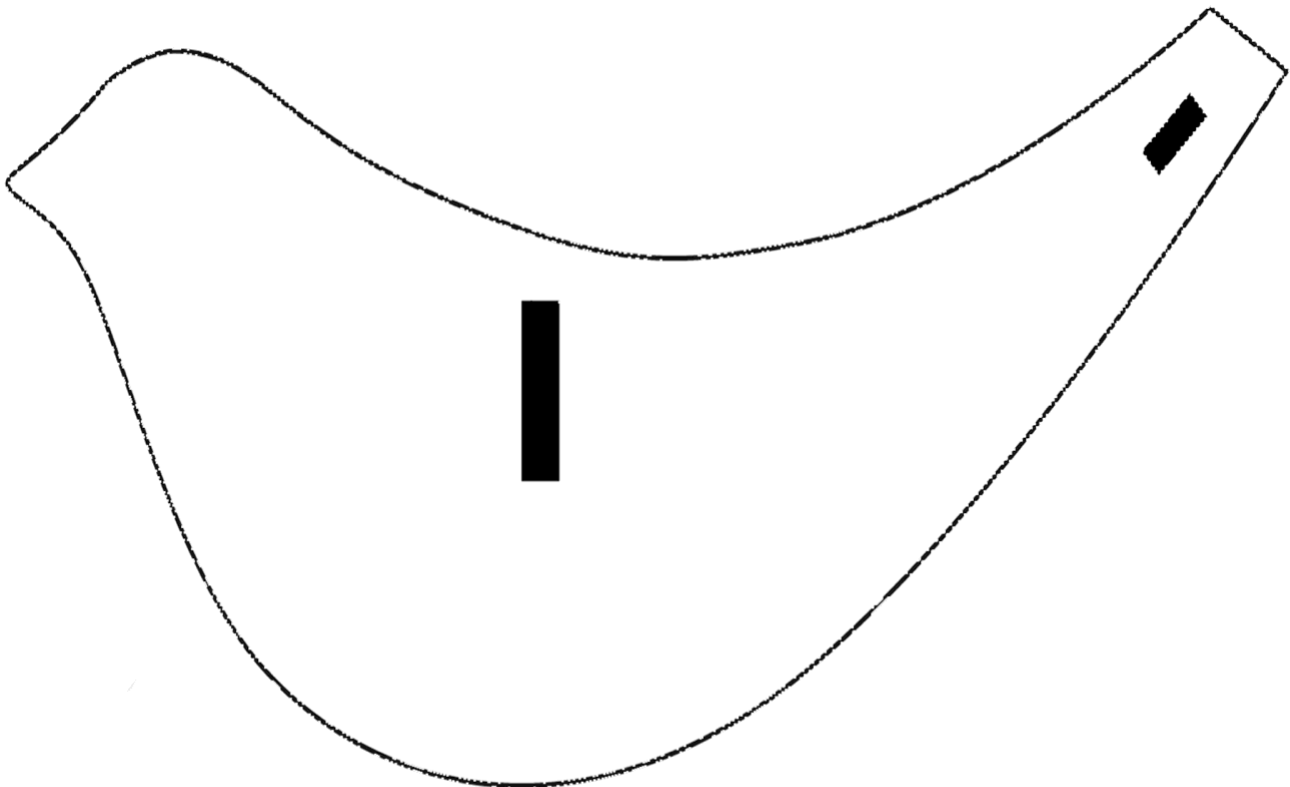
<https://www.facebook.com/Bible-Play-106289694338379>

Create a Dove



There are lots of different ways that you can create a dove to remind you of the Holy Spirit coming down and resting on Jesus as he was baptised. You could do some handprints in white paint on coloured paper and turn them into doves, or you could create a dove from paper. You'll find a template for the body below, and for the wings you simply need a rectangle of white paper, which you can fold into a concertina or fan shape (see right hand picture above) and then thread through a slit in the body of the dove.

Why not hang your dove up somewhere where you can see it, to help you remember that God's Holy Spirit *is with you?*







Sources: <https://funhandprintartblog.com/handprint-dove-peace-day-craft.html> and

<https://www.crafts.org.uk/getdoc/fba3c065-5fd9-47e2-9dda-4888a74ce424/1--Dove-template.aspx>

String and Yoghurt Pot Telephone

Jesus heard the voice of God saying, 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'
Why not make a telephone out of string and empty yoghurt pots or cups (we would suggest paper rather than plastic if possible!), and then use it say the words God said to Jesus to each other from a distance. The instructions are below. What do you think the voice of God might have sounded like? Maybe you could try different voices to see what you think!

	<p>1</p> <p>You will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two plastic cups• Drawing pin• Long piece of string• Pencil		<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make a hole in the bottom of each plastic cup using the drawing pin.
	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a pencil to make the hole bigger.		<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thread the end of the string through one of the holes.• Tie a large knot to stop the string falling back through. Repeat with the other cup.
	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your telephone is now ready to use! Ask a partner to hold one of the cups to their ear. Then, standing as far away from them as possible, speak into the other cup. Can they hear you?		

Source: <http://images.scholastic.co.uk/assets/a/7b/9a/activity-sheets-victorians-2-578219.pdf>

Colouring sheet

See below for a colouring sheet based on the story of Jesus's baptism, and one that you could use as part of your prayers as well.



You are my son, the one I love. I am very pleased with you.

Luke 3:22

The grace of
our Lord
Jesus Christ
the love of God
and the
fellowship of
the Holy Spirit
be with us all
evermore.



Amen

