Year B - The Baptism of the Lord
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

Everyone became excited and wondered,
"Could John be the Messiah?"
John said, "I am just baptising with water.
But someone more powerful is going to come,
and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals.
He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."
After everyone else had been baptised,
Jesus himself was baptised.
Then as he prayed, the sky opened up,
and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in the form of a dove.
A voice from heaven said,
"You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you.

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What happened at your baptism?

Introduction

- John the Baptist was a prophet, he had a special job to tell people that the Messiah, Jesus was coming. When Jesus arrived he pointed people to Jesus and even baptised him!
- A lot of us here would have been baptised when we were a baby. It's what happens when your parents say, I want to welcome our child into a family of faith - the Catholic Church.

Message

- When Jesus was baptised he went into the water at the River Jordan, and John the Baptist baptised him as a sign of a new life.
- When we were baptised, the priest poured water over our heads and baptised us in as a sign of new life as well. What we do at our baptism is very similar to what Jesus did at his.
- But as babies, we are too little to know what is happening and how important it is, so our parents and our godparents make some *promises and professions* on our behalf.
- They promise to care for you, to help grow your faith and protect you from sin.
- And they profess their faith, they say they believe in God.
- As we get older and we learn more about God and our faith it becomes our job to say those promises and professions for ourselves, to follow God and believe in him.

Discussion

- What do you know about your baptism? Do you know who your Godparents were or where it was?
- What do you think about our baptisms being similar to Jesus' baptism?
- Do you think you could make those promises for yourself today?