

## The Baptism of the Lord

January 13 2019

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Acts 10:34-38 Gospel Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Alternate 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Alternate 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Isaiah's readings are about proclaiming the good news.

In the letter to Titus, God appeared because of His great mercy.

In Acts Peter recognized that God shows no partiality calling the Gentiles as well as the Jews.

In the Gospel Luke tells us that the people were filled with expectation awaiting the Messiah. They looked to John but he affirmed "*...one mightier than I is coming.*" Finally, Luke reports that after "*...Jesus had been baptized and way praying heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended...and a voice came from heaven; You are my beloved Son with Whom I am well pleased.*"

Jesus is revealed to us in many ways. He is primarily revealed through the Sacred Scriptures. We can know a great deal about Him through our reading especially the Gospels. We can learn more by our quiet reflection on what we have read – His life, curing, miracles, teachings, suffering and death.

Perhaps we can learn most by what He says – what He deliberately teaches us – and mostly by His commandment and what He expects of us.

Jesus cannot be made manifest to us if we are not open to seek and find Him. Yes, God can do all things. He can infuse into us a great and magnificent knowledge and love for Him, just as He opened the minds of the two travelers to Emmaus about all the Old Testament had to say about Him.

But the normal manner to prepare for such revelation is to take up primarily the Gospels, read short passages and reflect on them. Our own efforts prepare the way for greater understanding.

Additionally we can come to a greater understanding of the lord through others, both by their words and actions as well as by our endeavors to serve others.

How do we come to know more about Jesus by serving others?

He is in all others.

Serving others, we serve Him.

Serving Him cannot but help us to know Him better.

Christ is manifested in many ways. He can be manifested to and through us. Do others see Christ in you?