

Thoughts on the Daily Word

Christmas Season. Thursday 2nd January. Readings: 1 John 2:22-28; Psalm: 97; Gospel: John 1:19-28.

We often talk about the Sacrament of Baptism as being a power to belong, to enter into a new relationship. It is symbolic of being reborn into something new but also has the implications of crossing the Red Sea, a liberation, to become the People of God. John the Baptist does this to symbolise a renewed relationship with the Covenant. In the Gospel he indicates that something more powerful is needed, an actual incorporation into God's own life. This is enacted in the Incarnation that we have been celebrating. This is not just a memory of a past event but a celebration of our incorporation or even 'incarnation' into the new life of Christ. Once again this is not just a change in ourselves but a renewed entry into the Body of Christ, the People of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit.