

Universal Prayer

11 January 2026 (Baptism)

Presider: Brothers and sisters baptised into Christ and anointed by the Spirit, let us bring all our prayers and intentions before our loving God.

1. **For the Church**—that we embody the Servant's gentleness, strengthening crushed reeds and rekindling wavering flames in our communities.
[pause] We pray to the Lord.
2. **For leaders in Australia and beyond**—that policies pursue justice without hatred, protecting the vulnerable and promoting the common good.
[pause] We pray to the Lord.
3. **For seekers and the unchurched in our neighbourhoods**—that, like the household of Cornelius, they hear the good news of peace in Jesus Christ and receive the Holy Spirit.
[pause] We pray to the Lord.
4. **For the sick and oppressed**—that Jesus, anointed with the Spirit and power, bring healing and hope through our care.
[pause] We pray to the Lord.
5. **For the faithful departed**—especially those recently deceased in our parish and all our loved ones: may they rest in the peace the Lord promises his people.
[pause] We pray to the Lord.

Presider: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
you delight in your Son and bless your people with peace.
Hear our prayers and pour out your Spirit upon us,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Community Greeter | 11 January 2026

Welcome everyone to St John's for our celebration of Mass today as we close the Christmas season and begin the Sundays of the Year.

We gather today on the lands of the Dharawal people. Our mission as a parish community is to know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours.

- My name is _____
- Our celebrant is Fr Darren // Fr John // Fr Richard
- Today we celebrate Jesus's baptism in the Jordan, when the Spirit descended and the Father declared: "This is my beloved Son."

We welcome anyone who is here for the first time, any visitors, and anyone who is new to the area. ***We are so glad that you are here with us!***

Let us now stand and unite as one to celebrate this Eucharist.

[Only if no music...]

Let us pray the entrance antiphon together:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened,
and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Penitential Act [Priest]

Before we celebrate the baptism of Jesus and our own baptismal calling, let us acknowledge the times we have failed to live as baptized, Spirit-filled people.

[All pause for silent prayer.]

Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself to stand in the waters of the Jordan with sinners:
Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you were anointed with the Holy Spirit to bring good news to the poor:
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Beloved Son who opens the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and lead us to the life of the age to come. Amen.