



From Rev Canon Maree



† **Parish Calendar for 2012:** If your group or organisation has any dates for inclusion into the Parish Calendar, please pass them on to Marion by email at: pmarnott@bigpond.net.au or if in hard copy form, please give to Rev Maree.

† **Baptism:** Today Abigail Grace DeZoeten will be baptised. We pray for Abigail, her parents, Sarah and David and her Godparents, Genevieve Wilkinson and Benjamin Arnall. We give thanks for Abigail and pray for her journey with Christ.

Blessings,

Rev Canon Maree



† **Holy Communion:** Home communion will be given today. Please pray for our extended faith community.

† **Mission Giving for January 2012 – National Home Mission Fund (Anglican Outback Fund).** They depend entirely on donations to fund ministry in various dioceses in the outback, there are no employees so 95 cents in every dollar goes directly to outback ministry projects. The Anglican Outback Church is faithful and scattered, people have been known to travel 100 km or more to worship in small congregations, and clergy travel huge distances. Members pay their own way when attending meetings. *The map indicates where projects were undertaken in 2011.*

† **Other Announcements in Newsletter:** If there is an item you would like included, please call the Rectory on 4957 1073 or email: pmarnott@bigpond.net.au. Items for the newsletter would need to be in by **5.00 pm on the prior Wednesday.**

† **Triple P Parenting Group:** 14th, 21th, 28th Feb, 6th Mar & 3rd April 6pm-9pm. Help required with serving supper. Contact Jim Parslow on 49525203 if available to help.

† **Reports** for the Annual General meeting are now due. Please email to jimparslow@optusnet.com.au or send on a flash drive or send in typed form to Jim Parslow by Tuesday 31st January so that it can be collated in time for the AGM.

† **Next Resourcing Team Meeting** Tuesday 17th January in Lambton vestry.

Readings: for today	Genesis 1 1-5	Acts 19 1-7
	Psalm 29	Mark 1:4-11

FOCUS ON WORSHIP NEW BEGINNINGS

The writer of the gospel of Mark identifies the baptism of Jesus as an acknowledgement of Jesus` divine-son ship, and as a starting point in Jesus` adult ministry. Both the voice of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit provide clear links with the additional scriptures.

In spite of the voice being heard only by Jesus, the message of Jesus character is clear...his is the son of God...and God is well pleased with him.

Question

How do we respond to the Divine Voice calling us to new directions in our lives?

Prayer

Thank you God for the stories we have of Jesus life as a child and as an adult. Today we are reminded of the origin of our sacrament Baptism, which draws us together as brothers and sisters, part of one family. May we learn to live in ways that are pleasing to you. Amen.

We pray for all who will be baptized in Jesus name today.

NEEDS

I would like the Parish to be praying and thinking about fundraising for the year.

If anyone could give some idea`s.... and also help with those ideas. Please see Rev. Maree

Fundraising is part of our commitment in the parish. Without funds we are unable to function and pay bills etc.

Please consider and help.

PRAYER LIST

Di	Dianne	Mark	Allan
Terry	John	John H	Tracy
Greg	Franca	Jan	Sel
Merv	Peter G	John	Marion
Zacharai	Maurie	Margaret	Jack F
Margaret D	Gladys	Robert	Pat
Amanda	Stuart	Bernice P	Jean S
Robin H	Dulcie	Bruce G	John
Tammy	Chloe	Mary	Neville
Tom	Sel	Robert	Greg
Franca			

PARISH OF LAMBTON

**St John the Baptist
Lambton**

**St Margaret
Jesmond**

8 January 2012

<p>Priest: Rev Canon Maree Armstrong Phone: 4957 1073 Mobile: 0412 473 123 Email: revmaree@bigpond.com</p>	<p>Pastoral Care Deacon: Rev Daphne Turnbull Phone: 4955 8284</p> <p>Rector's Warden: Bob Cowie Phone: 4950 2946</p>
<p>Address: 18 Morehead Street, LAMBTON NSW 2299 Website: www.lambtonanglicanparish.com.au</p>	

EXPLORING BAPTISM

Questions to think about:



To what extent have baptismal customs and traditions in our church changed over the years?

To what extent has your understanding of baptism changed from when you were a child or youth?

What about baptism remains a mystery for you?

What questions would you like to ask about baptism/

What do you think it means to `grow into` the gift of baptism?

In our church we have the opportunity to `renew our baptism vows` on Easter Sunday. What has that meant for you?

Today's Scripture Readings – The Baptism of our Lord

Genesis 1:1-5	Acts 19:1-7
Psalms 29	Mark 1:4-11

A BAPTISM OF LIFE-CHANGE

John the baptizer appeared in the wild, preaching a baptism of life-change that leads to forgiveness of sins. People thronged to him from Judea and Jerusalem and, as they confessed their sins, were baptized by him...into a change of life.

As he preached he said `the real action comes next: the star in this drama, to whom I am a mere stagehand...will change your life!!!!...i will baptise you in this river of water...turning your old life in for the kingdom life. His baptism...a holy baptism by the Holy Spirit...will change you from the inside out.`

God's beloved child.

All I want to say to you this morning is, `you are the beloved`...and all I hope is that you can hear these words as spoken to you with all the tenderness and force that love can hold.

My desire for you...is that these words reverberate in every corner of you being . Blessings Canon Maree