

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them; My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

The Readings

Matthew's Gospel Chapter 28, Verses 16-20 Read by Paul Galloway

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

A Reading by Michael Birkin

The Homily - The Reverend Tim Novis, Senior Chaplain

The Decision

Baptism involves turning away from sin and giving allegiance to Christ.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject all rebellion against God?

Parents & Godparents: I do.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Parents & Godparents: I do.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

Parents & Godparents: I do.

Let us affirm together our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All: I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All: I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God,
and makes Christ known in the world?

All: I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All: This is our faith.

***We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.***

Prayer over the Water

The water is poured into the font from a jug and the Reverend says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
All: Who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
Was baptized in the Jordan,
We thank you for the gift of water
To cleanse us and revive us.
We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
You led your people out of slavery
To freedom in the Promised Land.
We thank you that through the deep waters of death
You brought your Son
And raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that Ivy Mei and Mia Catherine who are washed in it
May be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection,
To be cleansed and delivered from all sin.
Send your Holy Spirit upon them,
Bring them to new birth in the household of your faith
And raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;
For all might, majesty, authority and power are yours,
Now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Baptism

Ivy Mei, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Mia Catherine, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All: Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Commission

Ivy Mei and Mia Catherine, today God has touched you with his love
and given you a place among his people.

God promises to be with you in joy and in sorrow,
to be your guide in life, and to bring you safely to heaven.

In baptism God invites you on a lifelong journey.

Together with all God's people

you must explore the way of Jesus and grow in friendship with God,
in love for his people, and in serving others.

With us you will listen to the word of God
and receive the gifts of God.

Hymn

He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster,

Let him in constancy

Follow the Master.

There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent

His first avowed intent

To be a pilgrim.