## **Reflection Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> week Christmas 2024**

Wouldn't we all wish to hear God say to us "You are my (child), you are beloved; my favour rests on you." In baptism this is what happens to us even if the words spoken are not necessarily said in the same way. All the baptised are beloved of God and are blessed with God's graces, God's favour!

Jesus' baptism foreshadows the Christian sacrament of baptism and prefigures a more profound baptism in the Holy Spirit. Through our Christian baptism, we identify with Jesus, experience a spiritual cleansing, and receive the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry. It is a moment of transition, a break from the past and a step into a new era. We also experience moments of transformation in our lives that mark new beginnings that are ushered in through experiences of grace and affirmation through the Holy Spirit.

Let us allow this event in the life of Jesus to inspire us to truly live our Christian virtues better. As we welcome this new year, let us take the opportunity to make it a new beginning by seeking to be humble in the example of John the Baptist and by acknowledging our need for the graces of the Holy Spirit to help, inspire and guide us. Let us open our hearts and minds to receive the Holy Spirit's transformative power. Let us journey through this new year, not just with outward resolutions, but with a deeper commitment to inner change and seeking a stronger connection to the divine, to Jesus our saviour!!

Why was the snowman embarrassed when he was spotted rummaging through a bag ofcarrots?He was caught picking his nose.

What is Santa's favourite kind of pizza? One that's deep-pan, crisp and even.