



Jan 14, 2021

Welcome back to our Spring Semester of classes. It seems strange to call it a 'spring semester' when it definitely does not look or feel much like spring outside, (it's snowing here as I write this), but we are aware that the semester begins in the middle of winter, and ends about four months later in early spring.

This past Sunday was the ***Feast of the Baptism of Jesus***, and it marks the end of the Church Year. One of the well-known facts about Jesus' life was that He was baptized by John the Baptist near the Jordan River. You might want to notice that **all three persons of the Trinity** were there at Jesus' baptism: (Mk 1:7-11; Mt.3:13-17; Lk 3:22)

- they **heard the Father saying**: "*This is my beloved Son*";
- they **saw the Son** as Jesus walked over to be baptized by John; and
- the heavens were opened and **the Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove**.

Hence, all three persons of the Trinity were present at Jesus' baptism.

It is interesting to notice, also, that **nearly all** of our Gospel writers tell about Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist. That tells us how important this event must have been for the gospel writers, since nearly all tell of it. In this week's gospel, Mark quotes John the Baptist by saying: "*One mightier than I is coming after me... I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.*" I believe Mark is telling us in that passage that we are to watch for **someone even greater** than John the Baptist. Who do you suppose John is referring to? Could it be Jesus?

Blessings on your new semester of classes and God bless you!

Sister Marilyn Dunn, PBVM (srmarilyn.dunn@presentation.edu)

Assistant in Student Affairs & Mission

Presentation College, 1500 N. Main Street

Telephone: (605-226-9812)

