

4. Help _____ parents, Godparents and family members to lead them to know and love God.
We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Suggested Scripture Readings

Psalms and

Prayers of the Faithful

for





Please choose a reading that you would like to be read at your child's baptism. Also look at the prayers of the faithful—you are welcome to write your own, using the ones in this book as a guide, or you can choose to use these ones.

When you have made your decision, please email the office or let the priest or Norma know what you have chosen. Email is info@stmaryswanganui.org.nz

Readings

(1)

A reading from the the Prophet Ezekiel 36:24-28

Clean water, a new heart, a renewed spirit.

The Lord says this: I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in a land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.

The word of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: My fellow Christians, let us ask the mercy of Jesus Christ, our Lord, for these children who will receive the gift of baptism, for their parents and godparents and for all baptised people.

Reader(s):

1. Through baptism make this child/children, God's own daughter/son
We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

2. Help this tender branch grow to be more like you, the true vine, and be your faithful follower
We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, hear our prayer

3. May _____ always keep your commandments, walk in your love and proclaim your Good News to others.
We pray to the Lord

All: Lord graciously hear us.

(8)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:44-47)

Everybody who believes has eternal life.

Jesus said to the crowd: `No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God: and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life.'

The Gospel of The Lord

(2)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6

One Lord, one faith, one baptism.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selfishness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all over all, through all and within all.

The word of the Lord.

(3)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (12:12-13)

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

(4)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
(22:35-40)

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

To disconcert Jesus, one of the Pharisees, a lawyer, put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first Commandment. The second resembles it. You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also'

The Gospel of The Lord

(5)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
(28:18-20)

Make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus came up and spoke to his disciples. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes to the end of time.'

The Gospel of The Lord

(6)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (10:13-16)

Let the little children come to me.

People were bringing little children to Jesus, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The Gospel of The Lord

(7)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (1:9-11)

The baptism of Jesus

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, "you are my Son, beloved; my favour rests on you."

The Gospel of The Lord