

Consideration of our Christian Commitment: Baptism of the Lord



This Sunday we will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and this Friday our Confirmation Candidates will be completing their Christian Initiation begun at their Baptism. Our Confirmation Candidates are photographed above after celebrating the Sunday Eucharist at the Cathedral last weekend. We like to bring them there for Eucharist, a tour, and a brief summary of the history of the Church in the Greater Baton Rouge area to give them a larger vision of Church as they prepare in these final weeks for Confirmation.

Today in our first reading, Isaiah is called to give comfort to the people of God. He then begins to list the many ways in which God is to reach out to his people, how God will feed us, carry us and lead us. Paul in our second reading picks up where Isaiah leaves off. He tells us how the grace (undeserved gift) of God has appeared so that we might become heirs in hope of eternal life. Like Isaiah and Paul we are all called. Today is a good day to look for opportunities to be a light, a guide to others, to help them see and allow them to be light to us. In the Gospel, after the Lord's baptism, a voice came from Heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Can't the same thinking be said to us? "You are my beloved son." You are my beloved daughter."

We can show ourselves to be beloved sons and daughters in many ways – by reaching out, by sharing what we have first

received. When can I invite someone to hear God's call? How can I challenge someone who might be making a choice that does not glorify God? What are some ways I can support those who appreciate the truth and grace of our Messiah? And how can I be open to the guides in my life who have urged me to behold the Lamb of God?

Last month our sponsored Boy Scout Troop had another



Court of Honor and awarded many badges, signifying many goals which they had reached. We congratulate them, and thank Jim Holladay and all who work with our troop.

Let us also pray for one another and for our Confirmation Candidates, their sponsors and families. Love,

