

## The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

*“In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son”. Christ, the son of God made man, is the Father’s one, perfect, and unsurpassable Word. In him has said everything; there will be no other word than this one.” (CCC 65)*

Today, we continue our study of our Catholic faith and what it means to be a Catholic Christian in this Year of the Eucharist and the Parish.

**Revelation:** The act of revealing—to make known—Disclosure—Exposure—Illumination—Proclamation of.

*“In the Beginning”* man and woman—Adam and Eve—walked and talked with God in the Garden. They saw Him, they knew Him, they loved Him. One-on-one. His revelation of Himself was personal. We know “the rest of the story.” Man—in his humanness—by his own free-will turned from that revelation, separated himself from the vision. He forced God to find another way to once again reveal Himself to humankind.

For the next 4,000 years, God worked to make Himself known to mankind, to illuminate His abiding love for men and women. He would restore the earth by the flood. He would lead His people out of captivity and slavery. He would disclose His law through Moses. He would choose Judges and Kings to lead the people in His ways. He would speak to His people through the prophets—Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeramiah and many others. His chosen prophets, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, would write down his law, his promises and covenants for the proclamation of His love, His mercy and His justice for all mankind. Still, man would continue to be blinded to God. Mankind would turn inward to himself, leaving God out of the equation.

Catholic art, literature, architecture and music stand to recall the things of God in world and still He is forgotten, ignored, or looked to only in time of crisis or defeat.

God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, would make one more attempt to expose Himself to man. We have just celebrated the blessing of the coming of God’s greatest revelation of himself. On that first Christmas, 4000 years after creation began the revelation of God; He would take for Himself the continence of man He Himself had created in His image and likeness. He would, in the incarnation of His only Son, walk through creation, once again in the presence of man.

There have been many private revelations since His Son walked this earth and those who were his closest companions have died. His Blessed Mother, the saints and angels have appeared from time-to-time, to remind us of God’s longing for man.

The greatest revelation of God--by the life, death and resurrection of the Son remains with us. This revelation remains with us as we are reminded of Him in the Eucharistic celebration at every Holy Mass. From the Sacrifice on the Altar, we take the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of this revelation into ourselves. Today, as we once again receive him, let us open our minds and our hearts to this amazing revelation.