

# Where's Your Chair?

Mark 1: 1-13



He reached down from on high and took me;  
he drew me out of the mighty waters.  
Psalm 18:17

## **Praising:**

When Jesus came to Jordan  
to be baptized by John,  
He did not come for pardon,  
but as his Father's Son.  
He came to share repentance  
with all who mourn their  
sins,  
To speak the vital sentence  
with which good news  
begins.

## **Reading:**

Mark 1:1-13  
Jesus is Baptised

Mark's Gospel has an instant  
pace and immediacy about it. We  
are plunged straight into Jesus'  
good news narrative with a  
reference from the prophet  
Malachi about the coming of one  
who would prepare Christ's way.  
And so John the baptiser is  
introduced and we find ourselves

at the River Jordan. Everyone  
knows the physical sensation of  
coming up out of water: catching  
our breath to refill our lungs,  
opening our eyes to see and re-  
orientate ourselves, feeling the  
water drip from our faces and  
bodies. But this is also an  
illustration of how new life in  
Christ should be for all of us. It's  
a combination of feeling  
cleansed, refreshed and  
invigorated, all in one, with that  
added momentary sense of alarm  
and energy as we emerge slightly  
disorientated – feeling that we are  
not completely in control.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

Lord you spoke words of love to  
Jesus at his baptism so we pray  
today

- for those feeling unloved by  
those close to them, forgotten  
by family, let down by friends
- for those feeling rejected by  
society, overlooked by the  
state, unprotected by the law
- for those who feel judged by  
religion, condemned by  
opinion, insulted by prejudice

Father: you love me as I am, in  
my frailty and inadequacy, my  
contradictions and confusions.  
Accept me Lord, and help me to  
live with what I am in you:  
forgiven, loved and free. Amen

## **Doing:**

Monday, 19 October 2015