

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



### **New Beginnings**

What does Jesus' baptism say to us? Jesus' thirty years of preparation before his public baptism remind us that it takes time to get ready for God's mission. How many countless hours did Jesus spend in prayer? What study, what thought, what vision must he have undergone before appearing in front of John asking for baptism?

What do we learn from Jesus' baptism? January is a time for new beginnings and fresh resolution. John the Baptist was an expert on this. John's ministry was all about repentance and reform ... that's what his baptism was all about. But anyone who has ever seriously tried to change themselves will know how difficult change really is. We all fondly imagine that change is just beyond our reach, and all we have to do is reach that little bit further. Perhaps we would be more giving if we had more money. Perhaps we would be more helpful to others if we could manage our time better. Perhaps we would manage to be tidier if we had a home extension. Perhaps we could be happier if we found a perfect partner. Perhaps we could feel better fulfilled if we changed our job, passed a few more exams, moved to the country, lost weight, got a promotion, had a baby... the list goes on and on. Yet every January we find ourselves in much the same situation as the previous year. Those who were baptised by John were baptised as a sign of their intent to change from their old ways, but knowing how difficult change can be, we can't help wondering how successful they must have been. Perhaps John appreciated this too when he said "I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

When we look for change in our lives, perhaps we are looking in all the wrong places. Perhaps all we need to do is to ask the Holy Spirit for help. We are told that the same Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus at the outset of his ministry, is the same Holy Spirit that is given to us in our baptism. Validating our baptism anew every day, knowing that we are filled with the Holy Spirit ..... perhaps change isn't just beyond our reach after all.

**PARISH PRAYER - Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service; that your love might grow among us and your Kingdom come.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen**

### *Useful links:*

*Diocesan Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>*

*Notre Dame High School, Norwich Website: <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>*

## **PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt - email: [brendanmoffatt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brendanmoffatt@yahoo.co.uk)**

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**Parish website:** <http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>

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### **10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

#### **Sunday Masses – Page 118 of Parish Mass Book**

Saturday	6.00 pm	The Faulkner Family
Sunday	9.00 am	The People of the Parish
	11.00 am	Jim Tinney

#### **Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass**

**Entry 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 172 – Songs of thankfulness and praise ...**

**Penitential Rite Hymn 512 – Water of Life ...**

**Offertory Hymn 941 – There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord ...**

**Communion Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...**

**Recessional 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 887 – God, whose almighty Word ...**

#### **CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm**

#### **Weekday Mass Times (1st week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 1]**

Mon.	10.00 am	The McWilliams Family – Feria in Ordinary Time
Tues.	<b>No Mass today</b>	- Feria
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	<b>No Mass Today</b>	- Feria
Thurs.	10.00 am	Special Int. (Mealy) - Feria
Fri.	10.00 am	Pamela & John (Mealy) - Feria
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	10.30 am	Drury (Foundation Mass) - St. Fursey
	6.00 pm	Donor's Int. - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Peace Day)

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

**[Reg. Charity 278742]**

**Anniversaries this week:** Margaret Jones, Pamela Whigham, Nell Hunt, V. Rev. Canon Herbert Gray (1951 - 1<sup>st</sup> priest at Dereham), Harry Monk, Rachael McErleane, Cicely Harvey, Louise Bennett and Ellen Carey. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

**Hospital Visits** – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King's Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

**Sick List - Please pray for:** Michelle Redmond, Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Sheila Christie, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Rhonda Darby, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Eileen Brockleby and Pat Howe.

**Money Matters** – The collection last weekend was £466.73. Thank you very much.

**100 Club November Draw** – 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Pamela Evans. 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Suzanne Stone. 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 – Catherine Todd. 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 - Collette Barrow-Nessian. 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Joy Bussey.

**Diary Dates for this week –**

- Weds. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan – Please note there is no Mass today as I will be attending Ministry to Priests at Clare Priory
- Weds. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. – UCM meeting – 2.00pm in Emmaus Room. (Let's start the New Year with a smile - did something amusing/unusual occur during your Christmas celebrations?)
- Weds. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. – SVP meeting – 7.30pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. – Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room (Preparing for First Confessions on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan.)

**Open Parish Meeting** - So far this idea seems to have been received quite well. A suitable date might be in early February. I think it would be good if we had a shared lunch following the 11.00 am Mass. I have created a folder in my email for items on the agenda. So far there will be: Parish Priest's Reflection. Parish accounts. Parish Social life. I am asking that the various groups submit a written report which can be printed and distributed at the meeting rather than read out. Items can be sent to me by email and I will prepare the agenda from them. There will not be an 'open window' for unprepared discussion under Any Other Business.

**Diocesan Mass for the Sick** – Bishop Alan Hopes invites you to join him in a celebration of our Lady of Lourdes at a Mass for the sick (including the sacrament of anointing) on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 12 noon, in St John's Cathedral, Norwich.** Please let me know if there will be any wheelchair bound parishioners attending the Mass so that we can let the Cathedral know.

**CAFOD Day of Recollection** – CAFOD invite a couple of people from Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary to join a special day of recollection reflecting on the Year of Mercy. It is an opportunity to meet supporters from across the Diocese and hear about how we are helping people access safe and clean drinking water in Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe. **Date:** 30 January 2016 from 2.30pm – 6.00pm. **Venue:** Our Lady Immaculate and St Etheldreda, Newmarket. For more information, please visit <http://cafod-recollection2016.eventbrite.co.uk> or call Stephen Matthews on 01223 358552.

**The Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham - The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady in England "England's Nazareth" - Job Vacancy** - The Trustees of the Walsingham Trust wish to appoint a CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER to run the day-to-day operations of the National Shrine. The person appointed will work with the Rector of the Shrine, Mgr. John Armitage. The Job Description, Person Specification and Application Form are available to download on the Shrine's website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk). Any queries should be addressed in the first instance to Mrs Debbie Jones, either by 'phone: 01328 820217; or Email: [rcnationalshrine@walsingham.org.uk](mailto:rcnationalshrine@walsingham.org.uk), or by post to The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady, Pilgrim Bureau, Friday Market, Walsingham NR22 6EG. Forms should be returned by post or email by the 29th January 2016.

**Write a Letter .. and save lives** - Could you write to your elected representative to urge them to take up the cause of Christian Syrian and Iraqi refugees? The Barnabas Fund has provided a sample letter which you can download at [www.barnabasfund.org/news/magazine-nov-dec-2015-write-a-letter](http://www.barnabasfund.org/news/magazine-nov-dec-2015-write-a-letter). Your letter will be most effective, however, if you express your concerns in your own words. In the UK you can write to your MP at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA or contact them via the Find Your MP section of the Parliamentary website: [www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps](http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps).

**Pilgrimage in the footsteps of St Paul** - Fr Paul Maddison is leading a pilgrimage to Turkey from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October this year visiting many of the places associated with the life of St Paul. Cost is £1400 sharing a twin room with direct flights from London. For more information or to book a place please call 0800 6123423 or email him on: [info@pilgrimagepeople.org](mailto:info@pilgrimagepeople.org) before the end of January.

**Repository** – A reminder that the church shop has a variety of religious items for sale – missals & bibles, mass cards, First Holy Communion cards and gifts, new baby and birthday cards, rosaries, statues, children's books, candles, etc. All at reasonable prices. The shop is open after weekend Masses and weekdays. Contact Peggy Mealy on 01362 288499 for any help.

**Bite Size**

"Make your life a mission - not an intermission." *Arnold Glasgow*