

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Preparing to Change



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 agony must he have undergone before appearing in front of John to ask him to baptize him. It is never too late for any of us to say, "yes" to God.

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 life changing 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. Can we really entertain any hopes of becoming braver if we have spent our whole lives avoiding confrontation? Can we really become kinder if we have spent our whole lives only thinking of our own needs? All of us can point to parts of our life that remain stubbornly unchanged year in and year out. 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."

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. This is an inspiring thought. Validating our baptism anew every day, knowing that we are filled with the Holy Spirit perhaps change isn't beyond us after all.

Bitesize - 'People often say that this or that person has not yet found himself. But the self is not something one finds, it is something one creates.' ~ *Thomas Szasz*



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 Safeguarding – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>
 Diocesan Website – <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>
 Daily Liturgy Website – www.universalis.com

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST. MARGARET MARY [Registered Charity 278742]

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt – Telephone: 01362 694066

Email: Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk

Address: The Presbytery, 35 London Road, Dereham NR19 1AS

Parish Website: <http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson: Tel: 01362 822590

Email: martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk

Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

Email: kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com

13TH JANUARY 2019 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – Year C

[1st Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 1]

Mass Times for the Week				Intentions
Sat. 12 th Jan.	6.00 pm	The Baptism of the Lord [Parish Mass Book p118]		Priest's Int.
Sun. 13 th Jan.	9.00 am			Priest's Int.
	11.00 am			People of the Parish
Mon. 14 th Jan.	10.00 am	Feria	Morning Prayer & Holy Communion	
Tues. 15 th Jan.	-	Feria	No service today	
Weds. 16 th Jan.	10.00 am	St. Fursey	Morning Prayer & Holy Communion	
Thurs. 17 th Jan.	10.00 am	St. Anthony	Morning Prayer & Holy Communion	
Fri. 18 th Jan.	10.00 am	Feria	Morning Prayer & Holy Communion	
Sat. 19 th Jan.	10.30 am	Feria	Priest's Int.	
Sat. 19 th Jan.	6.00 pm	2 nd Sunday in Ord. Time (Peace Day)		Priest's Int.
Sun. 20 th Jan.	9.00 am			People of the Parish
	11.00 am			Maria Alexandra Coita Pita

Music for Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord – *Setting:* The New People's Mass

Entry: 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 401 – God, at creation's dawn ...

Psalm is sung at 11am Mass this week: R: *The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

Offertory: Hymn 172 – Songs of thankfulness and praise ...

Recessional: 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 962 – Firmly I believe and truly ...

Anniversaries this week: Rachael McErleane, Cicely Harvey, Louise Bennett, Ellen Carey, Lily Rawding, Nell Jones, Stanley Meadows, Frances Kelly, Amy Garvey and Arthur Longhurst. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm, or by request/appointment

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

Hospital Visits: If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), 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 call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** David Peek, Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Peter Gormans, Sarah Chaudri, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Catherine (Kay) Garrard, Robert Nicol and Eileen Brocklesby.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £482.45 last weekend for the day-to-day maintenance of our parish. Thank you also for the additional £50 for the Christmas Offering.

130 Club Draw for December 2018 - Quarterly Prize £100 - Ticket No. 165; 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 79; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 155; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 72; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 162; 5th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 48.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Tues. 15 th Jan.	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Sat. 19 th Jan.	11.00am	Saturday Club - Emmaus Room

Retreat: I will be away on retreat in Birmingham this week with a group of priests from other dioceses around the country. I am looking forward to it immensely. In place of Mass during the week, I have scheduled Morning Prayer and Holy Communion beginning at 10.00am. The order of service should run like this:

Morning Prayer: Hymn, Psalms and Canticle as usual
 Reading from Mass of the day and Psalm Response and the Gospel.
 Benedictus
 Intercessions
 Lord's Prayer.
 Holy Communion begin with: Behold the Lamb of God.
 Distribution.
 Concluding Prayer from Morning Prayer.

One person should lead morning prayer and another read the Scripture and a Lay Eucharistic Minister distribute Holy Communion. In this way the community prayer of the parish continues. It would be good to have periods of silence during the Service too.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019, 18th - 25th January - Each day during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, CTBI (Churches Together in Britain and Ireland) provides a starting point, reflection, questions and a prayer based on the theme. Here you can turn your reflections into action with the charity's 'Go and Do' points. This is a great site with plenty of practical challenges on highly relevant themes. Visit www.ctbi.org.uk/goanddo/

From our Rome Correspondent - 'Christmas has come and gone, and no doubt we are now all focused on the year ahead. In my case, this means returning to Rome for my final few months there: my time at the Pontifical Beda College is nearly over, with the last day of the academic year being Wednesday June 12th. Bishop Alan has declared that my ordination to the priesthood, along with four other men of the diocese, will take place at the cathedral in Norwich on Saturday 6th July. All are welcome to attend, and please do come along if you are able: the people of the parish have supported me wonderfully throughout all of my formation, and I hope that you can share this special day with me. Please be assured of my prayers, and I look forward to seeing you all again before too long. *In Christ, Mike Brookes.'*

Union of Catholic Mothers – UCM members are asked to collect their minutes from the letter rack.

World Youth Day Prayer Vigil, 26th January at St. Oswald's Church, 933 Lincoln Road, Walton, Peterborough, PE4 6AE. Come and join the Ignite Team in prayer on the same night as the World Youth Day vigil with Pope Francis in Panama! The evening will start at 7:30pm and conclude at midnight. There will be Adoration throughout with people being welcome to come and go over the course of the evening. For more information please contact the Ignite Team at: igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP), Debt Counselling - Around 7.9 million of people say they are likely to fall behind with their finances in January after spending too much at Christmas. 'Christians Against Poverty' exist because nobody should be held hostage by debt and poverty. But the truth is that they are rife in the UK. In a society where people live behind closed doors, thousands are desperately poor. Unable to feed their children, incapable of paying to heat their homes in winter, the grip of poverty is relentless. The website is a good starting point for those looking for debt counselling. The charity is always looking for donations to set up more centres across the UK. Visit CAP at www.capuk.org.
"If money and material things become the centre of our lives, they seize us and make us slaves." ~ Pope Francis

The Angelus	
V.	The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. <i>R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary ...</i>
V.	Behold the handmaid of the Lord. <i>R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary ...</i>
V.	And the Word was made flesh. <i>R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary ...</i>
V.	Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. <i>R. That we may be made worth of the promises of Christ.</i>
Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by his Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.	