

# SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021  
THE FEAST OF THE  
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Please note that public Masses are suspended temporarily as Fr Michael is now shielding.

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Jan - Weekday in OT

Tue 12<sup>th</sup> - St Aelred of Rivaulx

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Jan - St Hilary, Bp D.

Thur 14<sup>th</sup> Jan - Weekday in OT

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Jan - Weekday in OT

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Jan - Our Lady on Saturday

17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021  
SECOND SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sunday Readings Year B

Weekday Readings Year 1

## LATEST NEWS

**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** Today's Feast is the conclusion of the liturgical season of Christmas. It is a feast of transition from Jesus' hidden life to that of His public ministry. It echoes the theme of the Epiphany as the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of his first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist.

Jesus did not need the baptism of John. John was baptizing as a call to repentance. Jesus had no need to repent as he was sinless. By accepting the baptism of John, Jesus affirms all that John has said and done and affirms his sacred role of preparing the way for Jesus and for a new era of grace. Therefore, the Baptism of Jesus acts as a bridge between the Old Testament prophets (of which John was the last) and the New Testament era of grace and truth. When Jesus entered the waters of baptism, he was not baptized by the waters, rather, his Baptism was one in which all the created waters of this world were, in a sense, "baptized" by Him. By entering into the waters, Jesus sanctified water and poured forth His grace making all water the future source of salvation.

The Baptism of Jesus is also an epiphany. It was a moment of manifestation or showing. As he emerged from the waters, "Heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from Heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" This manifestation of the sonship and divinity of Jesus took place in a physical, audible and visible form so that all present would know, without question, that Jesus was the Son of the Father. Thus, his baptism is a way in which the Father introduced his Son and his Son's mission to the world. As we prepare to begin Ordinary Time on Monday, we might reflect upon these words of the Father at the Baptism of Jesus. Hear the Father speaking to us about the divinity of his Son. Let us turn our eyes to Jesus and prepare ourselves to follow him and to heed every word he speaks. He was sent into this world to draw us to the Father. Pray that we may allow him to fulfil that mission in our own lives today.

**THE CELEBRATION OF MASS** Father Michael has sadly been asked by the NHS to shield once again as someone clinically extremely vulnerable to Covid 19 and will be isolating. After consultation with Bishop Declan and the Dean, it has been decided that it would be putting at risk some of our elderly clergy if they were asked to come and supply. Bishop Declan also mentioned that it is probably not possible for parishioners in Corsham to go to other parishes who are having to limit their own numbers due to social distancing. It is still important that Sunday is observed as a Holy Day and the Bishop encourages parishioners to set aside time on the Sunday to reflect upon the Sunday readings and have a quiet time of personal prayer. The Sunday readings are made available each week in our online bulletin together with a prayer for spiritual communion. Please note that the obligation to attend Sunday and Holyday mass is still suspended during this present crisis. We are considering the possibility of a Sunday celebration of the Liturgy of the Word (the first part of the Eucharist with readings). As this will require scheduling leaders, stewards and cleaners, would you please let Fr Michael know if you would be interested in attending. We all need to be extra vigilant at this time as the virus is present in the town and pray that we are all able to receive our Covid vaccinations very soon.

**MASS & LIVE STREAMING** A reminder that Mass is live streamed from Clifton Cathedral each day and is available on our web site. Many already have their favourite places to 'go to Mass' on the web and some in some very exotic places around the world! Please do continue to tune in to these live streams during these challenging times. Fr Michael will continue to offer Mass whilst shielding and remembering you all at the altar. If you wish a Mass celebrated for any intention that is still possible. Please email Fr Michael with the details.

**IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF CORONA VIRUS ON YOUR MENTAL HEALTH YOU ARE NOT ALONE** The COVID-19 pandemic is a new and uncertain time for all of us, so it is only natural that it will affect our mental health in different ways. However you are feeling right now is valid. With the right help and support, we can get through this. Visit <https://youngminds.org.uk/> for more information and material both for parents and children.

**GET A SUNDAY MISSAL FOR £1.99** During this difficult time when many people are unable to get to Mass, with churches in some parts of the UK forced to close and vulnerable people told to shield, the CTS want to support the church by offering you a Sunday missal for just £1.99. For details go to <https://www.ctsbooks.org/product/cts-sunday-missal-2021/>

**RETROUVAILLE** Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings even more challenges...you just can't cope, would be better apart you wonder. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on 25th- 28th February 2021 Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443. Email: [retrouvailleinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleinfo@gmail.com) – or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**COULD YOU BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR** Clifton Diocese is seeking to recruit people to serve on school governing bodies. If you believe in Catholic education, have enthusiasm and commitment, then you can make a valuable contribution to the governing body of a Catholic school. It also provides the opportunity to use your life/work skills and experience, for the benefit of the children in our schools. Please visit <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/could-you-be-a-school-governor/> for more information and to complete an online nomination form or contact [bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com) or 07710094976 – he would be delighted to hear from you. Your support for our schools would be much appreciated.

**RUH** If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

## **Saint Patrick's Community at Prayer**

*'The earnest prayer of a righteous person*

*has great power and produces wonderful results.'* James 5:16.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

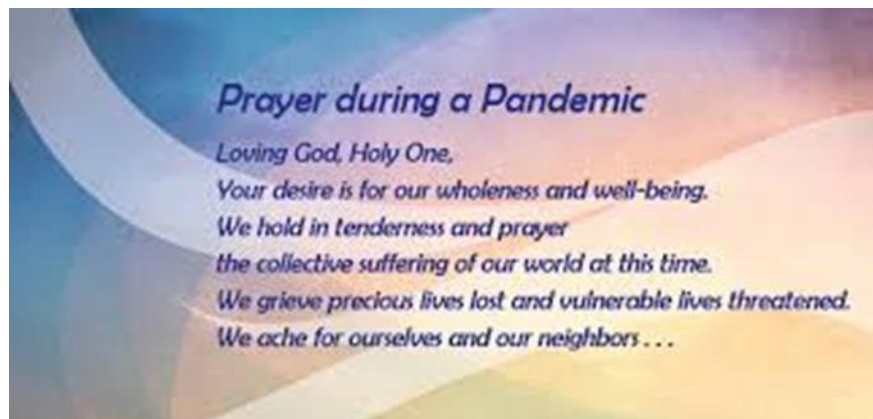
**The Sick:** Richard Keat, James Gallagher, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, John Hunt, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price and Christopher. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**Pope Francis January Prayer Intention:** Human Fraternity: That the Lord give us grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Thomas More, Bradford-on-Avon

**Christians in Corsham Prayer Link:** The Anglican Communities

## **Prayers in time of Pandemic**



***Strength for this Challenging Time***

We pray for your love and compassion to abound  
as we walk through this challenging season.

We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load  
of making decisions with widespread consequences.

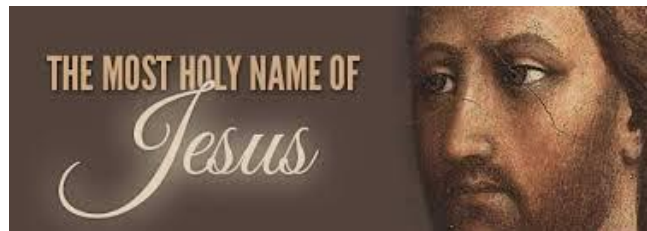
We pray for those who are suffering with sickness  
and all who are caring for them.

We ask for protection for the elderly and vulnerable  
to not succumb to the risks of the virus.

We pray for misinformation to be curbed  
that fear may take no hold in hearts and minds.

As we exercise the good sense that you in your mercy provide,  
may we also approach each day in faith and peace,  
trusting in the truth of your goodness towards us.

## January - Month of the Most Holy Name of Jesus



*"In the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth" (Phil 2:10). Christ's name is chosen in heaven, and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he appears to the Blessed Virgin at the Annunciation: "Behold you shall conceive in your womb and bring forth a son, and you shall call his name Jesus". It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means "Saviour." The very name speaks of the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us. The celebration of the Holy Name of Jesus falls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January, which this year is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas.*

### ***Prayer to the Holy Name – St Bernardine of Siena***

Jesus, Name full of glory, grace, love and strength! You are the refuge of those who repent, our banner of warfare in this life, the medicine of souls, the comfort of those who mourn, the delight of those who believe, the light of those who preach the true faith, the wages of those who toil, the healing of the sick. To You our devotion aspires; by You our prayers are received; we delight in contemplating You. O Name of Jesus, You are the glory of all the saints for eternity. Amen.

## A Prayer of Spiritual Communion



“My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Let me never be separated from You.”

## An Act of Contrition



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen. I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



### **First reading**

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

**Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7**

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.  
I have endowed him with my spirit  
that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
or make his voice heard in the streets.  
He does not break the crushed reed,  
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed  
until true justice is established on earth,  
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;  
I have taken you by the hand and formed you;  
I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

The word of the Lord.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

*The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

**Psalm 28(29):1-4,9-10**

O give the Lord, you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court.  
The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,



the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever.

## **Second reading**

**Acts 10:34-38**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

The word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

cf Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:  
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

**Mark 1:7-11**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said:  
'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.