

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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LATEST NEWS

SUNDAY 9TH JANUARY
THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM
OF THE LORD
9am Sung Parish Mass (*Pro Populo*)

Mon 10th Jan Weekday on OT
No Mass

Tue 11th Jan Weekday in OT
12.10pm Mass (Chippenham)

Wed 12th Jan St Aelred of Rivaux
11.30am Eucharistic Adoration
12noon Mass (Corsham)

Thurs 13th Jan St Hilary
12.10 Mass (Chippenham)

Fri 14th Weekday in OT
12noon Funeral Mass of Michael de
Long RIP (Corsham)

Sat 15th Jan Our Lady on Saturday

SUNDAY 16TH JANUARY
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
9am Sung Parish Mass (*Pro Populo*)

Confessions: After Weekday Mass

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

(Sunday Readings are available at the end of this bulletin)

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Near the end of a desperate period of exile, God calls the Jews to be his servant and gives them an unexpected mission.

Acts 10:34-38 In separate visions, God has called Peter the Jewish Christian apostle and Cornelius the pagan centurion to meet each other. It's an unlikely pairing and it breaks old precedents.

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 Like the gospel of John, Luke's account addresses a lingering question about the position of John the Baptist and the indisputable memory that Jesus submitted to John's baptism.

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Feast is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John. Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will. Why Is Jesus Baptized? When Jesus comes to John, John hesitates to baptize him. John's is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing for which he needs to repent, he is sinless. Why then does Jesus insist on being baptized? By choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfils all righteousness – preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us. "Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan

to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him." (*Matthew 3:13-15*) As we reflect on Christ's baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism. Pope Benedict XVI said on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord: [Baptism] 'is communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God's family, means being in communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death'. On Monday, Ordinary Time begins and continues until the Season of Lent. (Week 1, Weekday Readings Year 2)



SYNOD 2023 Pope Francis has asked the whole Catholic Church worldwide to engage in a process of discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This process is called a synod. It involves everyone in the Church – clergy, religious, and lay Catholics, each participating according to the gifts and charisms of their vocation. Our next PPC meeting on Thursday 20th January will be focusing on our own Parish approach to Pope Francis' invitation to journey together, listening to

the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the lives of the people we meet. We are currently exploring various ways in which we can engage with our wider Parish community, not just those who currently attend Mass, so that all are able to share their experience of the Church with us, including a possible on-line parish questionnaire. This will enable our parish to give a considered and unified response. In the meantime, the following Listening Events (both face to face and via Zoom), have been arranged by the Clifton Cathedral delegates: **CLIFTON CATHEDRAL LISTENING EVENTS** We aim to provide a range of events for you to choose from. The first three dates are consecutive and intended for you to attend all three if you can. The Saturday dates cover the same themes but over a three-hour period. The final three dates are consecutive but on Zoom. Three consecutive Tuesday evenings – 11th, 18th, 25th January: after Mass until 9pm in the Apostle Room; Saturday 15th January: after Mass until 1.30pm in the Apostle Room; Three consecutive Thursday evenings via Zoom – 13th, 20th, 27th January: 7.30pm – 9pm. To get your Zoom invitation, please register via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/clifton-cathedral-synod-listening-event-tickets-239466590017> Saturday 22nd January: after Mass until 1.30pm. There will also be opportunities for you to share your views outside of these meetings by talking to the delegates, or by writing to them at synod2023.cathedral@cliftondiocese.com

SHARING THE JOURNEY There is an opportunity for catechists to be renewed and refreshed by taking part in a series of on-line conversations with a variety of speakers from around the country. Each speaker will offer their own insights into different aspects of catechesis and evangelisation, followed a sharing of ideas. All are welcome to join. The next session on Thursday 20th January, we look at the significance of the Rite of Election with Sarah Adams. The conversations will take place on Microsoft Teams, 7.30pm – 8.45pm. To register your interest please contact: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com. A Microsoft Teams invitation will be sent out a few days before each talk.

CAFOD AFGHANISTAN Appeal -The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is deteriorating. Hundreds of thousands have fled their homes, compounding an existing crisis following drought and decades of conflict. As winter approaches, millions of people face hunger and extreme poverty. www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergenciesnews/Afghanistan-crisis

LGBT+ MASS is celebrated at St Nicholas of Tolentino, Bristol BS5 0RE on Sunday 16th January at 3pm. LGBT + family and friends welcome to this Clifton diocesan initiative.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to the Holy Land: Bishop Declan is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2022 (Monday 26th September to Tuesday 4th October 2022) staying three nights in Galilee, two nights in Bethlehem, and three nights in Jerusalem. The estimated costings indicate a figure of £1,879 per person (based on two people sharing). We currently have 19 places remaining on the pilgrimage, please do let us know as soon as you can if you are interested. If you are, then you can contact Sarah Adams in the Adult Education & Evangelisation department, at adult.education@cliftondiocese.com where we can send you a booking form or contact Gill Didino directly at Tangney Tours on 01732 886666

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The programme for first Holy Communion will begin shortly in school for those who have already registered. It is vitally important that we see our first communicants and their families at Mass as this is an integral and indeed the most important part of their preparation for the sacrament.

STAYING SAFE Thank you for continuing to sanitise your hands on entering the Church, wearing a mask, socially distancing and observing our one-way system. Let's continue to keep everyone safe.

STEWARDSHIP Some parishioners have asked how they can continue to support the Parish financially whilst unable to attend Mass. The donation 'button' that has been added to the homepage of our website enables donations to be made using credit and debit cards and via Dona. Thank you.

HOSPITALS 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. If you are going into hospital and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please see Fr Michael before being admitted. This does help to take the pressure of the hospital chaplains at this difficult time.

A WARM WELCOME to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors. If you are new to the Parish, you too are very welcome. Please introduce yourself to the priest after Mass so that we can properly welcome you!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

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

Recently Departed: Noel de Long (Funeral Mass 12noon 14th January)

The Holy Father's January Prayer Intention: For true human fraternity: For all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; that their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Ambrose, Diocesan Curia, Diocesan Services.

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: The Anglican Communities.

January – Month of the Holy Name of Jesus



January is the month of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. The feast of the Holy Name originated in the 1500s and was formerly celebrated on the second Sunday of Epiphany. It was restored in 2002 as an optional memorial on the first free day after 1st January. *“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 informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation: *“Behold thou shall conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son and thou shall call his name Jesus”*. It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means “saviour.” The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us.

**JESUS, yours is the name above all names;
We offer you our heartfelt praise and gratitude.
Deepen in us an abiding reverence
For your Holy Name.**

**Jesus, Saviour, heal the wounds within
That our sin and fear have inflicted.
Set us free from all that hinders us from
Rejoicing in your boundless love
And sharing your goodness with others.**

**Jesus, Friend, draw us ever closer to you.
We entrust all we carry in our hearts
To your abundant mercy.**

**Jesus, Lord, pour out
The Holy Spirit upon your people
That our lives may overflow with your grace,
Our days be filled with your love,
And all our actions shine with your light. 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

Also available to download in 13 different languages at www.virc.at



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

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

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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 1 Tim3:16

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

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16,21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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