



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

9th January 2021

Baptism of the Lord

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Mass Times

Sunday (streamed)	10.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07:30
Friday	09.00
Saturday vigil	18.00



Mass Intentions

- Sat 09: Frank Hastie
- Sun 10: Joseph & Shelly Glanville
- Mon 11: Special Intention
- Tue 12: Teresa Marney
- Wed 13: Martin Morrissey
- Thu 14: Holy souls
- Fri 15: Catherine Flannery
- Sat 16: Cole Family
- Sun 17: Parishioners

Homily Notes

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus was baptised by John in the river Jordan. It was a moment that would mark the rest of his life. He heard a voice from heaven saying, "*you are my beloved son*". That was a deep experience of being treasured by his Heavenly Father.

And when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus, he became aware of what the Father was calling him to: *to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to heal the broken hearted*. The same Spirit empowered Jesus to start his mission.

For Jesus, his baptism was truly a moment of transition, from his life with Mary and Joseph in Nazareth, his hidden life, to his public life of preaching and healing.

Today's feast is also a day to reflect on our own baptism and to remember that what happened when Jesus was baptised, happens also when we are baptised: God's love is poured out over us and we too are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses of the Gospel.

How we need the Holy Spirit to persevere during the coming weeks! We need the Spirit as well to distinguish the truth from lies, to distinguish well informed sources from fake news and hoaxes. Above all we need the Spirit to continue to care for ourselves and for others. At this time, an important way of caring is, when we are given the chance, to take the vaccine!

Many people truly care, in so many ways, caring for the sick, sending a message or making a phone call to those who are alone, supporting families in need, acting responsibly. Let us continue to do so, with the power of the Spirit!

Ferdinand

Covid Thoughts

From one point of view, we should be grateful to the Government for listening

to us after the first major lock-down and for allowing us to keep the churches open and to celebrate the Eucharist each day. Others, though, might think us selfish and ignorant for gathering indoors in such a way as to put ourselves and others in danger of falling sick and then seeking hospital care by the long-suffering and over-stretched medical professionals. We are in a bit of a dilemma.

At SVP, we opted to keep the church open and to celebrate our daily and Sunday Eucharist, allowing all of you who so wish to join us. We are aware of how much this helps many of us cope with the isolation and the mental tensions of being cut-off from our necessary and life-giving contacts with others. There are those who find the weekly meeting of fellow Christians and friends is the support they need to cope. Others, finding Facebook and Zoom beyond the pale, need to come to pray in the church as the only place they can be present to God. You are welcome to come along, as long as we are permitted to meet in the church.

Although we offer this opportunity to pray and to meet fellow members of the parish community, you need to feel that there is no expectation on you, no pressure on you to come and join us. For some, it would be folly to come. It is right and better that they stay at home and we hope that our on-line prayer and Eucharistic Celebration will help you stay in touch with your friends and with God.

As I write this, the medical profession is talking of how over-stretched our hospitals are and how virulent is the new strain of the Corona Virus. We must take heed of their warnings. We do all we can to avoid catching the virus ourselves and passing it on to others. This too is a Christian responsibility and a sign of our love for others.

May God protect us from all evil and keep us safe.

Terry

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

The winning numbers for
3rd January are:
01 02 04 06 09 14

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Financial Council ZOOM

Tuesday 12th Jan 16h00

Parish Council ZOOM

Thursday 14th 18h00

*If you have any points to bring
before either council, please
contact your councillors
before the meeting*

Use this Lock-Down time to improve your knowledge of Holy Scripture.

There are many opportunities
for **Scripture study** online –
look at
thegodwhospeaks2020.org.uk
for details of monthly sessions
from Menevia Diocese, also a
Dom Henry (Universalis
App) livestream from
Brentwood on 23 Jan.

*A little humour for when we
can't figure out ZOOM!!*



St. Vincent de Paul Church Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday 11.00 – 13.00

Sacrament of Reconciliation

is available during this time and between
17h00 and 17h30 on Saturday
(in St. Joseph's Chapel).

All are Welcome

Pastoral Associate Update:

I have been so heartened by the number of emails, texts and phone calls received from people as far afield as the US and Japan (!) who along with many "locals" enjoyed the Advent Service – many thanks once again to all who contributed to this wonderful uplifting moment. I wonder if we can work on something for Lent? If you are interested in being part of the planning team, send me a text/email.

We're running a seven week **ZOOM SCRIPTURE SESSION** on David McLoughlin's **Echoes of God** – looking at the coming of Jesus echoed in Old and New Testament scripture. It will be facilitated by some of the Pastoral Associates, is open to all online and should see us through this lockdown: it's friendly and informal – you don't need to have profound insights; we share what we are comfortable with at all levels. Watch this space for details.

The St Hugh's FCJs will be facilitating a reading/discussion group on Pope Francis' *Let us Dream* online Fridays from 15 Jan at 4-5pm – all are welcome.

Contact : fjcentresthughs@gmail.com.

The J&P Memorial Lecture is on 17 January 2-3:30pm on Zoom with Mary Colwell: writer, producer, conservationist, public speaker – a great chance to hear a powerful speaker on *"To prepare a future full of hope amid chaos and uncertainty"*. Register at jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk God Bless,
Helen

Offerings on 3rd January

Envelopes £48.00

Plate £94.40

Candles £46.70

CAFOD £57.30

Received with Thanks

Pope Francis'

Prayer Intention for January

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions praying for one another, open to All.

* * * * *

In this new year that begins, the Holy Father proposes a new challenge to us: to be more fraternal. "Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all."

God our Father,
You love each of your children and you don't stop taking care of them and looking out for their good, help me to be the image and the example of this love of yours. May I find in each person a brother or sister and truly love them, welcoming them despite any differences we may have, respecting them in their dignity, regardless of their origin or faith. I pray that in the hearts of all your children, the seed of human fraternity is cultivated, to build your kingdom together on this earth.
Amen

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Lesley ANDERS, Judy BLOWER, Catherine BOWLES, Colin BOWLES, James CARR, Maureen COOK, Rita DOWNEY, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Tony EDWARDS, Jean ENNIS, Joan FORD, Joseph & Lisa HEALEY, Stella HUGHES, Kathleen McGOVERN, Tracey McLEAN, Sean & Rachel MIDSALTER, Alfie MONTGOMERY, May MURRAY, Teresa NALL, Danny POWER, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD, Cathy SILKER, Geoff STABLER

Also for the intentions of: Joe ANDERSON, Anne & Joan BAXTER, Gill DAVIES, Lilly FLANNERY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Madeleine McCANN & Family, McGOVERN Family, MIDGHALL Family, Joey MORGAN, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, SCOTT Family, STABLER Family, Teresa SWIFT, Terri VALIANT, WILLIAMS Family

And for those who have died: Craig G Dixon