



St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
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 Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



The Baptism of the Lord

12th January 2020

You are my Son, the Beloved

Mass Times

- 11th Sat Saturday after Epiphany**
 9.30 All Souls
 10.00 Confessions
 17.30 Casper Cardozo Wellbeing
- 12th Sun The Baptism of the Lord**
 10.00 Lolita Delos Santos Thanksgiving
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 13th Mon Feria**
(First Week in Ordinary Time)
 9.30 Mrs McAloise +
- 14th Tue Feria**
 9.30 Peter Forsey +
- 15th Wed Feria**
 9.30 Holy Souls
- 16th Thu Feria**
 9.30
- 17th Fri St Anthony of the Desert**
 9.30 Holy Souls
- 18th Sat Feria**
 9.30 Bernard Devlin +
 10.00 Confessions
 17.30 Antonia Cafaro Rebecchini +
- 19th Sun Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 10.00 Irene Dionisio+
 15.00 (Royal Hospital)



The Baptism of the Lord

Christ's Baptism in the Jordan

Jesus' public life begins with his baptism by John in the River Jordan. This gospel text is rich in meaning for us. John preaches a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As we know John hesitates over baptising Jesus and tries to dissuade him. But Christ insists on being baptised. This baptism of Jesus is his formal acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering servant. He allows his humanity to show through and himself to be numbered among sinners. Although he is already the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, he is submitting himself entirely to his Father's will by consenting to this baptism of death on a cross for the remission of our sins.

The Father responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Holy Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to rest on him. The word Christ comes from the Greek translation of the Hebrew 'Messiah' which means 'anointed'. This baptism in the Jordan is also highly symbolic as the moment when, through being anointed with the Spirit, Jesus is revealed as the Messiah and the Holy One of God. It is one of the occasions when we see most clearly Christ's divinity and humanity together. We remember that through our own baptism we are cleansed of our sins and can really see Christ as the Messiah who comes to save us.

Father Alex

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

Sunday Readings: Year A **Weekday Readings:** Year 2

Cycle of Prayer, Ordinary Time before Lent:

Peace on Earth, Justice and Peace in the World, Christian Unity, Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat It, The Sick and Those who Care for Them, The Unemployed

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Luke

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest

A Celebration of Parish Life

During the 175th anniversary of the Parish we held a special evening with a wide range of entertainment provided by a number of Parishioners for the enjoyment of the whole Parish. On **Saturday 8th February** we plan to hold a similar occasion to celebrate the wide range of talents that our people have. We invite everyone to consider contributing to the evening whether it be song, music, performance, drama, spoken word, dance, cultural activity or anything else that celebrates the life of our Parish. Any money raised that night will go towards our organ repair fund. *We are getting nearer the time so please sign up so we can organise this important event in which we will celebrate the talents of our many and varied parishioners.*

Tickets are on sale after masses £10 Adult, children free. Includes buffet and wine afterwards.

Education is freedom



First Communion Classes

The next First Communion classes take place on 8th February, 7th March, 28th March, 25th April (First Confession) 9th May, 6th June (Practice) and the First Holy Communion will be on 13th June. It is expected that the children will attend the 5.30 evening mass on the day of the classes so that the priest can address them.

Christmas Crib

All gifts at the Crib are given to the Catholic Children's Society. Please support this work as generously as you can.

Beginning of Term Mass

The staff and Pupils of St Joseph's School will join us for mass on Monday 13th January at 9.30.

Movie Show

The Film 'The Book Thief' will be shown in the Corry Hall at 10.30 on Wednesday 15th January.

Borrow money from pessimists —they don't expect it back

Forthcoming Dates

Celebration of Parish Life..... 8th February
Ash Wednesday..... 26th February
Easter Sunday12th April

churches together

IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18th to the 25th January 2018. The Week of Prayer always concludes with the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. Please remember this intention in your daily prayers.

A Prayer for Christian Unity

Loving and merciful God, teach us the joy of sharing in your peace. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that the walls of hostility separating us may be removed. May the risen Christ, who is our peace, help us overcome all division, and unite us as members of his household. We ask this in the name of Jesus, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. Amen.

New Rotas

New rotas available taking effect on the 1st February.

Christians are not sinless, but they should sin less

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £613 Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

Today 12th January Organ Fund, 19th February Organ Fund, 26th January Organ Fund, 2nd February Organ Fund, 9th February Racial Justice Sunday.

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: E. Chavez, R Martella n/w L. Northeast M Ascensao

Readers: Sat: R & S Jackson, M Slade Sun: A Burnett, T Greetham, A. Kane Blanes n/w Sat: E & N Falcone, E De Souza, Sun: G Donaldson, L Brown, L Northeast

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: M & S Lee, Sun: G D'Monte, V Chima, A Kilcawley, R McMullan n/w Sat: E Falcone, D McGavin, C Kawesi, Sun: D Lyons, L Delos Santos, J Cato

Little Church: A Kilcawley, A Stacey n/w A Mann, J & N Neligan

Tiny Church: E Lueth n/w L Fernandes Ferreira

Flowers: A Robbins n/w V Barkho

Royal Hospital: C Kawesi n/w A Vanotti, M Lewis

Maintenance Team: 11.00 Saturday 11th January