

Mass Text for The Baptism of the Lord

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: 103:1-2, 24-25, 27-30

Response:

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

MASS TIMES**Saturday 12th January****Vigil Masses for The Baptism of the Lord**

St John's: 5pm Pro Populo
(Preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.30pm)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Lech Wiczorek RIP
(M Logan)
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

SUNDAY 13th January**The Baptism of the Lord**

English Martyrs: 9:00am Pro Populo

St John's: 11am Robins family's intentions
(D Woodley)

Mass times for the coming week

(English Martyrs is open Tuesday to Friday mornings 9.15am-1pm, for private prayer)

MONDAY 14th January

No Mass this morning
(See www.thamesisis.org.uk for details of Mass times at St Mary's, East Hendred)

TUESDAY 15th January

St John's: 9.30am Holy Souls and deceased members of FOSS (D Kennedy)

Please remember to turn off your mobile phone during Mass.

WEDNESDAY 15th January

English Martyrs: 9.30am R Hynds RIP
(D Healy)
(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form Latin Mass

THURSDAY 17th January—St Anthony of Egypt

St John's: 9.30am Mark Graham's Intentions
(D Kennedy)

FRIDAY 18th January

English Martyrs: 9.30am
Marie Teresa Cooper RIP (H & T Cooper)

SATURDAY 29th December—**Our Lady on Saturday**

English Martyrs: 9.30am
Arthur Roland Harris RIP
(Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and reciting of the rosary)

Vigil Masses for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

St John's: 5pm Pro Populo

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Naughton family's intentions (D & J Woodley)

SUNDAY 20th January**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

English Martyrs: 9am Pro Populo

St John's: 11am Pat and Chris Watts RIP
(Foundation)



Thames ISIS
Catholic Pastoral Area

**PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**

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13th January 2019**The Baptism of the Lord (Yr C)**

The liturgy last week revealed the mystery of God's plan—that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the Magi, have been made “co-heirs” to the blessings promised Israel. This week, we're shown how we claim our inheritance.

Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of purification. He humbles Himself to pass through Jordan's waters in order to lead a new “exodus”—opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus today, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God (see [Genesis 22:2](#); [Exodus 4:22](#); [Psalm 2:7](#)).

Jesus is the chosen servant Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him “a covenant of the people,” the liberator of the captives, the light to the nations. Jesus, today's Second Reading tells us, is the One long expected in Israel, “anointed . . . with the Holy Spirit and power.”

The word messiah means “one anointed” with God's Spirit. King David was “the anointed of the God of Jacob” (see [2 Samuel 23:1–17](#); [Psalm 18:51](#); [132:10, 17](#)). The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest (see [Isaiah 11:1–2](#); [Daniel 9:25](#)).

That's why the crowds are so anxious at the start of today's Gospel. But it isn't John they're looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the angel earlier told Mary: Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever (see [Luke 1:32–33](#)).

In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters as fiery flame, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passageway to healing and freedom—a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

In your prayers, please remember:

Jenny Evans, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Terry Appleyard, Joan Russell, Audrey Edwards, Rosa Maria Santos, Laurence Turner, Margaret Healy, Nina Oakes, Jacob Oakes, Jidechi Ejiofor and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



Marriage Care is a faith-based charity which draws on its Catholic tradition and contemporary research to help couples in both good times and bad. We provide relationship counselling services to thousands of people across England and Wales each year and have local counselling centres in Oxford (Cowley and Headington) and Abingdon.



If you are facing a stressful time in your relationship, we can help. Whether you are feeling things just aren't quite right or whether you are encountering serious difficulties, our professionally trained volunteer relationship counsellors are here to listen and to support you towards a positive outcome.

You will never be turned away because you cannot afford to give very much but we do ask all our clients to make a donation at the start of each session and pay an initial registration fee of £10 to secure a place on the waiting list. Call us on 0800 389 3801 or for more information visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk

On Saturday 12th January, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives. This is the day before the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the Good Counsel Network, for details of our live saving work see; www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January 2019

We are living in changing times, and with change comes resistance. Of course some changes demand resistance, but other changes require us to look for new directions. The best people equipped to deal with change are our younger parishioners. Our youth look at the world with fresh and unbiased eyes. This month Pope Francis urges our youth to emulate the unerring, fearless and selfless example of Mary in steering our 21st Century church. Older parishioners are tasked with giving younger people platforms and opportunities. We are invited to join Pope Francis's prayer intention for January "...**That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.**"



Portsmouth Diocese Don Bosco Camp 2019:

28th July - 3rd August 2019 an opportunity for secondary school boys to have an exciting, activity-packed camping holiday in a safe but challenging countryside setting. Further information: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/youth/donbosco and contact: dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep

For all adult and child safeguarding issues, please call Stefania Harford Tel: 07846559700

CWTA Prayer Cycle

St Mary's Church, Wallingford

Cake Sale - Thank you to all who provided and bought cakes and jewellery before Christmas. £278 was raised in total between both churches (including a generous donation). The money will go towards the resources needed for the Confirmation Programme. Thank you also to everyone who helped.

The SVP would like to give a big thanks to the parish for all the toiletries donated. There were over 350 items of soap, lotions, toothpaste, and razors donated. We distributed the items to local nursing homes in Didcot and Wallingford. It was very much appreciated!

Seniors' Lunch—24th January, 12 Noon. Please put your name on the list at the back of English Martyrs if you would like to come.

SVP - DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Skittles evening on March 15th. A fun evening for all the family. More details to follow.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—week of 20th January. Please keep an eye on the noticeboard for times and places of prayer/services. More details to follow.

Peace Actions for January 2019

- Remember to pray for peace in the Middle East around Epiphany time.
- Mark **Peace Sunday on 20th January**. The theme for 2019 is "**Good politics serves peace**".
- Make a visit to another Christian church in your area as part of your commitment to **Christian Unity Week, (18th-25th January)**. The Christians of Indonesia prepared the resources for this year's celebration. They found this year's theme in the words of Deuteronomy, '**Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue...**'(see **Deut. 16:18-20**)
- Take time to learn about someone else's religion on '**World Religion Day**' (17th January)
- **Mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January**. Resources are available from Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre (www.bethshalom.com)

NEW WEBSITE—We have launched a new parish website which can be found here:

www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org

Please take a look around the new site—the weekly newsletter can be found here along with other information, including Mass times.

Telephone Number for SVP

If you know of anyone in need please call
01235 812338

*Last week's Collection:
£1305*

Thank you for your donations