

PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE



www.sjhnparish.org.uk

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SUNDAY 9TH JANUARY 2022

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptised with water, but that someone will come and baptise with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another “epiphany.” On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	St Patrick's	6.00pm	Bobby & John Green RIP
Sunday	St Mary's	8.30am	Holy Souls in purgatory
	St Mary's	10.30am	Mrs Margaret Parkinson
Tuesday	St Patrick's	10.00am	Jude Harris RIP
Wednesday	St Mary's	10.00am	Angela Riley RIP
Thursday	St Mary's	12.10pm	Bridie Hughes
Friday	St Patrick's	10.00am	Bridget Bertwistle
Saturday	St Mary's	10.00am	Mr & Mrs Ruscillo
	St Patrick's	6.00pm	Chris, Daniel & Ruairi Lambert RIP
Sunday	St Patrick's	8.30am	Bailey, Bridget & Morgan families
	St Mary's	10.30am	Mr & Mrs Blaikie

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturdays - St Mary's, **10.30am to 11.00am**
- St Patrick's, **5.20pm to 5.45pm**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Rev Brian Burns, Rev Jim Murphy, Julie McCann, Winnie Coupe, Vincent Murray, Zoe Jarman, Matthew Hoey, Mary Bland, Alan Anderson, Karen Guerrero, Dorothy Chadwick, Donald and Margaret McQuaker, Win Cowell and the sick and housebound in the parish and those in local hospitals and nursing homes.

1st ANNIVERSARIES:

Please pray for Michael McGee and all those whose anniversaries occur between 16th and 22nd January.

ANNIVERSARIES: I am sure that you have all noticed over recent times how long the anniversaries list is becoming; for this reason we will put on the newsletter only the 1st anniversaries of those who have died. We will, however, produce a monthly list of anniversaries which will be displayed on the prayer intentions board each month. We will arrange for a prayer intention board at St Patrick's Church.

LATELY DEAD: Marian Tillotson, Fredrick Riley and Susan Smith.

FUNERAL DETAILS:

Susan Smith - Lancaster & Morecambe Crematorium, Tuesday 18th January 2:30pm

Fredrick Riley - Lancaster & Morecambe Crematorium, Wednesday 19th January 11:30am

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

PARISH NEWS

Welcome back: to our teachers, staff and children at our schools, please keep them all in your prayers and they continue to work together under difficult circumstances to educate our children.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING: after the 12:10 Mass on Thursday 13th January, to discuss events for the coming months.

PARISH COUNCIL: I am currently in the process of forming a parish council, which I hope to have completed in the next few weeks.

FABRIC AND FINANCE: I have now formed the parish Fabric and Finance committee, this committee will meet for the first-time next week, more information will follow.

Volunteers needed:

- We need a couple of volunteers to look after our website and social media.
- We are looking for some volunteers to clear out the old boiler room at St Patrick's, this will include taking items to the tip.
- We are looking for someone who is familiar with selling on Facebook Marketplace or something similar, as we have several office items to sell.
- We need a couple of volunteers each week to set up tables and chairs after the 08:30 Mass for the tea and coffee after the 10:30 Mass.

If anyone feels that they have skills and time to volunteer for other roles in the parish, please see Fr Darren.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP: I was recently approached by someone asking if it would be possible to form a bereavement group in the parish. If anyone feels that they would benefit from such a group, please see Fr Darren. The group would simply be people meeting together on a regular basis for a cup of tea and a chat, just a way of supporting each other at a time of loss.

CUPPA AND CHAT: Monday 10th January, 10:30 at St Patrick's. All welcome!

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022: These have arrived for those who ordered them. As other people have been asking for more copies, I have ordered another ten which should arrive soon. Please see Fr Darren.

WRITING A CHEQUE TO THE PARISH: A few people have recently written cheques to the parish which, regrettably, we are unable to bank because they have been made out to the Church name, for example 'St Mary's parish'. All cheques should be payable to **St John Henry Newman Parish**. If you have recently written a cheque, please could I ask that you contact me to arrange a new cheque? Many thanks, Fr Darren.

THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP): There will be a meeting in the coming weeks for all those who have shown an interest in being part of the SVP.

HISTORY & ARCHIVES: There will be a meeting for those who have shown an interest.

DAY BY DAY: books for February are now available. The parish is charged 80p per book – donations welcome.

TEA AND COFFEE: will be available after the 10:30 Mass on Sundays at St Mary's, commencing today, Sunday 9th January.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF: Arthur and David Holman, Julia Heaney, Allan Mitchell, John Omer, Isabel Kelly, the Le-Warne family, David Le-Roux, Joe Murphy, Jude Harris, Mary Buckley, Lilian Audrey Morris, Pamela Ann Murphy, the Brownlee family and the Rodgers family, John & Paul Kenny and Tony, Elizabeth Green family.

THANK YOU: To all those who removed the Christmas tree and decorations, especially **FREDDIE**.

OTHER NEWS

EXPLORING PRIESTLY VOCATIONS: A day, without any expectation of commitment, for men (aged 18+) who are open to a priestly vocation. Saturday 22nd January, Our Lady and St Joseph's, Carlisle, 10:30am-4pm. For more details contact Canon Luiz Ruscillo (frruscillo@carlislecatholicchurch.org) or speak to Fr Darren.

ALTAR SERVERS RETREAT: 14th -15th January at Castlerigg Manor, Keswick. For children Year 5 - age 16. Details at <https://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/altarservers>