

OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER



Sacred Heart Parish
Caterham Whyteleafe Godstone

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

11th January 2015



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Sunday: 1st Vespers of the
following Feast Psalms of
the Epiphany

Mark 1:7-11

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Reflection

If the idea of Christ being baptized does not strike you as odd, then it ought to. Even granted that the baptism of St John the Baptist was not the sacramental baptism that Christians undergo today, but only an external sign of repentance for sin, the fact that our Lord received it is distinctly peculiar. What sins did he need to repent? We know that he was like us in all things but sin, and therefore we might reasonably expect that he would undergo anything except Baptism. But here we have him, not disassociating himself in any way with all those crowds who had come to acknowledge their repentance before God.

This question has occupied many minds wiser than ours. St Matthew's Gospel alludes to it—the only one of the four evangelists to do so, by the way; the others simply record the baptism—and has the Baptizer asserting that it would be more appropriate if our Lord baptised him. Indeed so, and the authors of many apocryphal gospels also address the issue, often at length.

If we are to look for an answer to this puzzle, it must lie in our Lord's insistence that the reception of Baptism is absolutely essential for the Christian life. We cannot be a proper Christian without it; in other words although faith may justify us without the rite of baptism in certain circumstances (baptism of desire or baptism of blood, for instance), we cannot live the Christian life without the sanctifying grace that flows from the sacraments, and from baptism above all into the source of this grace, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ himself, members of whose mystical body we become.

Secondly, we are reminded by St Paul that 'For our sake [God] made [Jesus] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.' 2Cor 5:21 In other words, our Lord took upon himself all that was human, even, or most particularly, our sinfulness, though he, of course, had no sin himself. So, our leader and founder in faith goes before us in all things, into the baptismal font, through a virtuous life to death and a glorious resurrection. Where Christ our Saviour goes, we hope to follow, and not just parts of his journey, but it all, from baptism to eternal life.

Baptism, then, stresses our entire dependence on the mercy of God, and we know that an active acknowledgement of this is a prerequisite for salvation. Let us pray that God renew the grace of our baptism in each one of us today, that we, too, may be led after our death to a glorious resurrection.

Today we will have the annual White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child will take place

What a wonderful start to the New Year for the January winners of the Double C Club

£70 Ros Walker
£50 Phil Taylor
£30 Pat Magnus

If anyone would like to join, membership is £24 per year which can be paid annually, half yearly, quarterly or monthly please give me a ring and maybe your name will be in the newsletter as a winner. Sue 01883 346399

New Years's Lunch

Parish elders are invited to attend a New Year's Celebration Lunch on Saturday 17th January at 1pm in the Centenary Hall. For enquiries please contact Karen Rattigan on 07775 996012

Redshirts 2015

Calling all students in school years 10 or 11 (or equivalent age). Would you like to spend 10 days next summer in the south of France? Would you like to meet other young people from around the diocese? Would you like to deepen your faith and understanding of God in your life? Would you like to make a difference in other peoples lives? Would you like to have a pilgrimage experience of Faith, Fun, Friendship....and Food? If you have said yes to any of the above then being a Redshirt in 2015 could be just the thing for YOU! Dates are Wednesday 29th July to Friday 7th August.

For successful applicants there will be two gatherings before the pilgrimage to get to know each other and to find out more about The Redshirts on Pilgrimage. If you are interested please email ray mooney (Redshirt Coordinator) abredshirts@gmail.com. Further information can be found on www.ablourdes.org

Festival 50 Pilgrimage

This is being planned as a one off massive pilgrimage starting at Arundel Cathedral to arrive at the Amex for the 50th celebrations of the Diocese on Sunday 5th of July 2015. We would welcome every parish, school and organisation possible to make and bring a banner that represents them, for a pilgrim commissioning service. The banners will be blessed and then brought on pilgrimage to the Amex stadium for the 50th celebrations.

For more information and booking form go to www.dabnet.org/Festival50

Diocesan Festival 50 Volunteers Required

The Diocese is looking for volunteers to help with Festival 50 in 2015. Volunteers are needed on the day and in the preparation of the Festival. Do you have any skills from Event Promotion to Music, from Face Painting to Flower Arranging that you would be happy to offer? Would you like to be a Welcomer and Host on the day? There are many jobs and all offers gratefully received. To offer email festival50@dabnet.org or write to Festival 50, DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP. More information on the [Diocesan website](#)

PEACE SUNDAY 2015

The Bishops of England and Wales invite us to make **18th January** a day of prayer for world peace and to reflect on the theme chosen by Pope Francis for the annual World Day of Prayer for Peace:

'Slaves no more, but brothers and sisters'.

The theme will be reflected on next weekend in the parish and there will be a retiring collection for the work of Pax Christi.

On 17th January 2015 6pm to 7pm you are cordially invited to a **Peace Vigil** of prayer, readings and reflection in the church – **open to all**. This is being organised by the Liturgy Group. Please join us if you can.

In recent years we have begun to recognise many new forms of slavery alongside the older ones – the child soldiers in many foreign wars, for instance, and (more shocking still) people trafficked for domestic service, for sexual exploitation and for the drugs trade hidden within our own communities. Come together to reflect Pray and Learn how we can Act to help our sisters and brothers.

Christmas Friends of the Holy Land Appeal

Archbishop Peter Smith has endorsed a request from FHL that parishes donate their crib box collections to help our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, specifically in and around Bethlehem and the Holy Family Parish in Gaza. Every penny collected is distributed by FHL to named families in the greatest need to help them with their day to day living, to supply medicines and fund operations (there is no social service in this area), to repair houses of Christian families damaged in Gaza from the recent war and to support Christian children at the parish school with a special programme to overcome the trauma of the recent conflict. For more information on the work of FHL, please visit our website www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Offertory Collection

Sincere thanks for your generosity last weekend:
Offertory: £856.76 (Gift Aid £352.17)

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK



- Sun 11th: CHILDREN'S liturgy at 9am & 10:45am Mass
Teas & Coffee after Mass
9:30am First Holy Communion Children's first
Session (Cent Hall)
- Mon: After Mass Teas & Coffee (Old Hall)
- Tues: 9:15 - 11:15am Toddler Group (Old Hall)
- Wed: 8pm Journey of Faith (Sacristy)
- Sat: 1pm New Year's Lunch (Cent Hall)
- Sun 18th: CHILDREN'S liturgy at 9am & 10:45am Mass
Teas & Coffee after Mass

A request from CAFOD

If you have not yet disposed of your Christmas cards, please let us have them! A small group of parishioners are planning to create special, handcrafted cards for Christmas 2015 and to donate the proceeds of the sale to the work of CAFOD. There will be a box in the church porch this weekend and the following one to receive your cards. Thank you for your support with this project.

First Holy Communion 2015



Dates for your diary:
11/1/15 - Children's 1st Session
25/1/15 - Enrolment Mass

If you have any queries, please contact Anne Marie Young either via email fnc.sacredheart@gmail.com or by phone 07949 938984.

Safeguarding

A safeguarding rep will be in the Parish Office after both morning Masses on Sunday 18 January. Please email the team if you would like to someone to get in touch, please provide your contact details at safeguardingreps@gmail.com

This Week

Fr Seán will be away part of this week (until 16th January when he returns for 7pm Mass). During the week, instead of daily Mass, there will be Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion, together with the other customary devotions (Exposition/Rosary). There will also not be confessions on Saturday 10th. We warmly welcome Fr Gerard Bradley who will celebrate all of our Sunday Masses with us.



Your Prayers are requested for the following persons who are ill or housebound.

Pat Knight; Kathleen & John Saunders; Helen Keogh; Daisy Hill; Christopher Browne; Kit Monk; Krista Thompson; Jane Hill; Rosemary Whale; Pam Weaver; Jimmy & Bridie Mullen; Bernie Horrocks; Margaret Robertson; Heather Tordimah; Jenny Rower; Elizabeth Daley; Eileen Lattimore; Bryan Smith; Rose Knight; Oliver Farrell; Richard Richardson; Seeta Pillay; Christopher Miles; Pat McCoy; Olive Wood; John Dunlop, Elise O'Connor, Malcolm Bowen & John Gilford.

Advance notice

Caterham Churches Together joint service for the week of Christian Unity at St John's Church of England church in Caterham Valley, Sunday 25th January at 6.30pm

The next meeting of the 9am Leaven Group is at 10am following the 9am Mass TODAY. If anyone has anything they would like discussed then please talk to one of the Group Members. - Pat Magnus, Mark Ryland, Moira Brohier, Joy Cutler, Richard Williams, Valory Williams, Rosemary Kinman, Tree Dodington, Emma Brooks or Cheryl Daly.



The funeral of Jim Horrocks will take place on Thursday 22 January at 1:30pm.

Please remember in your prayers the souls of all those who have died recently.

Dealing with Temptation

You are warmly invited to the first Chilworth Abbey Study Day, Dealing with Temptation: monastic insights, given by Fr John Seddon OSB, on Sat, 17th of January 2015. The day begins with Mass at 9.00 am. Three talks will divide the Day, with refreshments and lunch, concluding with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and departures at 4.30 pm. Come to part, or all of the day, as it suits you. Bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee is provided. St Augustine's Abbey, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth, Near Guildford. GU4 8QR Online information: www.chilworthbenedictines.com

Mass Intentions

Please don't forget to add your Gift Aid number to your Mass Intention envelopes. Thank you.

CONTACTS**Parish Office:**

Leila Merrett (Mondays & Wednesdays :
9.30 am - 12.30 pm)
info@sacred-heart.co.uk
01883 343241

Centenary Hall Hire

Anne Marie Young
07724 613407
thecenthall@gmail.com

Baptism Preparation:

John Baron 0208 763 2144

Marriage Preparation:

(6 months notice required) - Fr Seán

Journey of Faith (RCIA):

Peter Lovat 01883 345749
peter_lovat@yahoo.com

Chair of Liturgy Group:

Eliz Wood
elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com

First Holy Communion

Anne Marie Young
07949 938984
fhc.sacredheart@gmail.com

Confirmation

Allison Pullin 01883 382506
al.pullin@ntlworld.com

Safeguarding:

Dee Hall and Jacqui Voorbach
e-mail: safeguardingreps@gmail.com

Gift Aid:

Peter Kelly 01883 330684
peterf_kelly@o2.co.uk

Chair of Parish Finance:

Geoff Walker - ghw360@gmail.co

Tuesday Toddlers 9.30-11.00:

Kelly Coyne: 07921 030991
kelly.coyne@btinternet.com

Parish Youth Clubs:

(First Friday during school term. 7pm)
Mel Flaherty
youthclubsacredheart@gmail.com

5th Caterham Scouts

Paul Lovell: 07712 436591
paul_lovell@rocketmail.com

Chill Club

(Last Friday during school term. 7pm)
Veronique Wood

St. Francis Primary School:

Head teacher: Maria Wheeler
01883 342005

THIS WEEK—SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 11th	<i>The Baptism of The Lord</i>
9:00am Mass	Tom Hill RIP
10:45am Mass	People of the Parish
5:15pm Mass	Bridget Barrett (J Tippen)
Monday 12th	
10:00am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Only
Tuesday 13th	
10:00am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Only
Wednesday 14th	
10:00am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Only
Thursday 15th	
10:00am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Only
Friday 16th	
7:00pm Mass	Altar Servers (Foundation)
Saturday 17th	<i>St Anthony</i>
10:00am Mass	Cora Edward (AR Edward)
Sunday 18th	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Times</i>
9:00am Mass	Jo Mattos' Ints
10:45am Mass	Lawrence Family (Tomlin Family)
5:15pm Mass	People of the Parish



Confessions every Saturday 10:30 – 11:00am

Lauds Mondays at 9:45 am

Rosary Wednesday & Thursday at 9:40am & Friday at 6:40pm

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesdays: 9am - 10am; Saturdays: 9am – 11am