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 **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** January 8th, 2023

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

Saturday 6.00pm St. Patrick’s church

Sunday 9.30am Christ the King church

Sunday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church

**WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES**

 Tuesday 10.00am Christ the King

 Wednesday 10.00am St. Patrick’s

 **Thursday: 10.00am Christ the King (Funeral Mass)**

 **Friday: 10.00am St. Patrick’s**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** any time on request

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Pat Kemp R.I.P., Bridget and John Reilly, Anne McCrossan R.I.P.,

**ANNIVERSARIES: January 8th – 14th:**

Maud Greenan, Percy Smith, James Fleming, Anna Mulhern, Annie Burton, Hugh McCann, David Stott, Irene Jackson,

Francis Michael Nicholson, Des Brennan, Veronica Smith, Nellie McCarthy, Eileen Nally, John Mulqueen, Evelyn Mulroy, Carol Coles, David Humble, George Albert Lockwood, Kitty Thwaites, Kathleen Darragh, Harry Roberts Goodwin, Elizabeth Darragh, Tony Stewart, Barry Woodhall, Steve Turner, Raymond Oliver Tait, Anne MacDonald, George McCann,

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Isaiah 42:1–4,6–7 Here is my servant in whom my soul delights

Psalm 28 ***‘The Lord will bless his people with peace.’***

Acts 10:34–38 God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power

Matthew 3:13–17 The Spirit of God descends like a dove.

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he Son of God is gradually revealed to the world. Isaiah speaks of the servant of the Lord

who brings justice and compassion. Peter preaches to a group of Gentiles, telling them that

God was with Jesus as he brought hope and healing to all people. Finally, we hear the Father’s

voice from the heavens at Jesus’ baptism: ***‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well***

***pleased.’*** May we see him revealed today in the Readings, in the Eucharist, and in each other.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 3 and Preface for The Baptism of The Lord

Just as God’s voice thundered over the waters of the Jordan, let our prayer resound in this holy place as we offer God thanks and praise.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **Mr. John Scott**, aged 75, from Thornaby, who died recently. His Funeral Mass will take place at Christ the King church this Thursday, January 12th, at 10.00am.

**ALSO, Mary Isabella Allison**, aged 94, from Thornaby, who died recently. Her Funeral Mass will take place on Friday, January 27th, at St. Patrick’s church at 10.00am. May they rest in peace.

**MESSAGE FROM CAFOD:**

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk

**I.T. DIGITAL DEVICES – URGENTLY NEEDED**, working or not – laptops, phones, tablets etc. If you have any devices you no longer need, they can be put to good use by disadvantaged families and children. Please contact Yacouba Traore on 07840 165462.

**“ORDINARY WEEKS OF THE YEAR”:** Now that the Christmas Season is officially over after this Sunday, we return to the “Ordinary weeks of the Year.” We begin this week on ‘WEEK 1’ and the weekday readings at Mass will be from Cycle 1 of the two-year Cycle. We return to the Green Vestments of Ordinary Time until Ash Wednesday on February 22nd.

***“When Jesus comes to be baptised, He leaves the hidden years behind,***

***The years of safety and of peace, to bear the sins of all mankind.***

***The Spirit of the Lord comes down, Anoints the Christ to suffering,***

***To preach the word, to free the bound and to the mourner comfort bring.***

***Our everlasting Father praise, With Christ, his well-beloved Son, Who with the Spirit reigns serene, Untroubled Trinity in One.”***

The Baptism of The Lord

**January 8th, 2023**

**First reading** Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,

my chosen one in whom my soul delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit

that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,

or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed,

nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;

he will neither waver, nor be crushed

until true justice is established on earth,

for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;

I have taken you by the hand and formed you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,

to free captives from prison,

and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

**Second reading**  Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: ‘The truth I have now come to realise’ he said ‘is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

 ‘It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.’

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens opened and the Father’s voice resounded:

‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’

Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading**  Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. ‘It is I who need baptism from you’ he said ‘and yet you come to me!’ But Jesus replied, ‘Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.’ At this, John gave in to him.

 As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.’