

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

YEAR B

You are my Son, the Belovèd.

The Holy Spirit came down upon Jesus, the belovèd Son of God, at his baptism in the River Jordan. The same Holy Spirit comes down on each one of us and helps us to live our lives so that we are faithful to our baptismal calling.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your belovèd Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: The Prophet Isaiah 55:1-11.
Come to the water. Listen and your soul will live.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6.
RESPONSE: **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

SECOND READING: The first letter of S. John 5: 1-9.
The Spirit and water and blood.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:7-11.
You are my Son, the Belovèd; my favour rests on you.

Preacher: Father David Humphies
Retired Assistant Priest

MASS INTENTIONS

The response in the prayers to: May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

Great God of all time and space, fill the Church with such joy in believing that all Christians overflow with love, compassion, generosity and humility. Let us walk your way and live your life.

Silence May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

Great God of power and justice, fill the arenas of leadership and conflict with sharpened consciences and with courage, so that wise decisions are made, needs met and wrongs righted.

Silence May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

Great God of gentleness and truth, fill every home with new insight and greater understanding. Break down the divisive barriers and build up our capacity to love.

Silence May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

Great God of attentive caring, fill us with your practical compassion; may all who suffer be heard, comforted and cared for. Heal both their situation and our hardness of heart.

We pray too and in particular for the sick known to us:

Christine	Peter	Enzo	Ezekeiel	Jean
Margaret	Sue	Joan	Guy	Michael
Frank	Herta	Susan	Pauline	

We pray for all those who are suffering from the Covid-19 virus, particularly those in our hospitals and in intensive care, and ask the Lord that we, our families and our community may be brought safely through this pandemic.

Silence May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

Great God of unending being, fill death with your life and the dying with hope in you. Prepare us all for life which lasts for ever.

In particular we pray for the members of our own families, the recently departed: Rosemary Donnelly and Lesley Franklin and for all those whose anniversary falls at this time, namely:

10th James K. Allen, Frank Leslie Douglas, Joan Couldwell, Joyce A Perry.

11th Terence Harrod.

12th Olive Louisa Sollors, Clara Barker.

13th Robert McFarlane, Dorothy Heaton, Freda Lilian Mickley

14th Albert Ransome, John Ingram, Edgar Charles Ralph, Mary Barber.

15th Sophia Rawlinson.

+ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord;
May they rest in peace;

**and may light perpetual shine upon them.
and rise in glory.**

We bow our heads and remember in silence our own personal intentions and the intentions of those who have asked for our prayers.

Silence May the Spirit of God: **fill us to overflowing.**

We are all reliant on the intercessions and prayers of others.

Therefore we join our prayers with those of your saints;

S. Philip and S. James and Mary, the Mother of God, as we say together:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessèd art thou amongst women

and blessèd is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Great God of all creation, fill our mouths with praises and our hearts with gratitude, for all the glory that surrounds us.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.