#### MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

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Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Thurs & Fri 8.00am-2.00pm





# The Baptism of the Lord Year B 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit

Today's feast of the Baptism of Our Lord ends the season of Christmas. Coming after the Epiphany of the Lord, it is seen as a second manifestation of Christ, as the heavens are opened before the whole world. Through Christ's baptism, in which the entire Trinity is present (**Gospel** Mark 1: 7–11), the world is made into a second creation.

In the **First Reading**, from Isaiah (55: 1–11), we hear how God's word will bear fruit in us. The one we see being baptised in the Gospel *is* the Word and, by carrying out the Father's will perfectly, all creation is restored.

We can join with the **Psalmist** (Psalm: Isaiah 12: 2–6): 'With joy we shall draw water from the wells of salvation'!

St John develops this theme (**Second Reading** John 5: 1–9) when he says that because Jesus overcame the world by water and blood, so we, with the Spirit living in us, can be saved.

This week let us strive to deepen our trust in the Father, who is our salvation; to nurture our faith in the Spirit, who works in us to ensure we do not return empty-handed; and to strengthen our joy in the Son, through whose incarnation and baptism we are made into God's children.

<u>Mass Bookings:</u> Please contact the Parish Office, preferably by email, to book for the weekend masses. If you wish to book by telephone, please try to call during office opening times (Mon, Thurs & Fri mornings) and please do not call after 7.00pm if possible. Please do not call on a Wednesday.

<u>Fr Martin needs your help</u> with a number of jobs in the sacristy to prepare for masses. If you are able to offer help, please speak to Fr Martin or contact the Parish Office.

**Food Bank Collection:** The SVP can now recommence the foodbank collection and the basket will be in the porch for your donations. Thank you again for your support.

**Finances:** Please feel free to drop an offering into the presbytery or alternatively, you can make a payment into our bank account, either as a one off or by a regular Standing Order. The details are as follows:

Account Number: 51019058 Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Name: St. Mary Mother of God

If you have a gift aid number, please use that as a reference when you make your donation. Any donations are very gratefully received.

Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2021: These are now available to purchase at the price of £4.00 for a ringbound copy or £2.80 for a standard copy. If you would like to purchase one please contact the Parish Office or some will be available at the back of the Church. Please put the money in the 'Newspapers' box.

<u>Please remember in your prayers</u> Vince Finan, Ann O'Mahoney, Irene Brown & John Finan who died recently. Please remember the sick and housebound of the parish and those in hospital in your prayers. If anyone is seriously ill and needs the priest, please ring the Presbytery.

<u>RCIA Journey in Faith</u>: For those that are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please speak to Father Martin or contact the Parish Office.

Catholic Biblical Association: On 23<sup>rd</sup> January from 11 am until 12.30 Dom Henry Wansbrough will be presenting a live stream talk entitled 'The Adventures of a Biblical Translator'. Dom Henry is the editor of the *New Jerusalem Bible* and the recently published *Revised New Jerusalem Bible*. The event will be presented by Dr Sean Ryan, chair of the Catholic Biblical Association. The event can be accessed live by going to <a href="www.ssppilford.org.uk">www.ssppilford.org.uk</a> and will be available to download subsequently on <a href="www.whatgoodnews.org">www.whatgoodnews.org</a> Questions for Fr Henry, and other queries, may be directed to catholic biblical association. gb@gmail.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially: Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Angelina Busch, Grant Cambridge, Arturo Garzon, Sharon De Giorgio, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Mary Pickton, Rita Thompson, Josie Walsh, Evelyn Ward, and for all our family and friends who are ill. Please inform us if there is someone seriously ill and let us know if anyone on the list is no longer ill so we can remove their name from our list.

### <u>Memorae</u>

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

### Prayer to the Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard to rule and guide. Amen.

#### **Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel**

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

### **Daily Prayer**

The Bishops of England & Wales have asked us to pray each evening at 6.00pm for an end to this pandemic. Therefore I encourage you to come together as a family or individually so that we can be united in our prayer to the Lord.

# **MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.30pm	Margaret Myers / All Parishioners
Sunday The Baptism of the Lor	10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Rosie Young Int / Mary McCarthy RIP Richard Collins RIP Eamonn McManus Int
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	(Private Mass)	Norah Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.15am	Adie Family RIP
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.30pm	Richard Collins RIP / Fr Joe Farrell Int
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	( <i>Private Mas</i> 11.00-1.00	es)Donovan Family RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.15am	Louise & Mariella Clarke RIP
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.30pm	Dawson Families RIP / Thomas Fay RIP
Sunday Second Sunday in Ordin	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8.00am	Clare McGill RIP / Rosalee Young Int
		9.30am 11.30am	No Mass All Parishioners Frank Mollaghan RIP

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Please note the location of the fire exits