



ST TERESA'S CHARLBURY

COMBE, DUNS TEW, ENSTONE, GAGINGWELL, GLYMPTON, MIDDLE BARTON,
RADFORD, RAMSDEN, STEEPLE ASTON and STONESFIELD

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2020
Sunday Readings: Year B

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
Divine Office week IV

Please pray for the sick and the housebound of the parish: Paula Biggs, George Huxley

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Dear Parishioners,

With the increased way the pandemic is moving many must be feeling that it is like one step forward and two steps back! However, let us keep the bigger picture in mind. The vaccines are on the way to all parts of the country and the immunisation programme is underway. I have been very heartened recently to meet elderly couples and individuals who have received their first or even second jab for which they are very grateful indeed. It is their fervent prayer and hope that everything will go smoothly and safely as the programme unfolds nationally. Prayer, hope and patience remain very much the order as we go forward.

Today the Church keeps another lovely Feast, **The Baptism of the Lord**. It marks a transition from the Season of Christmas to what is termed the Ordinary Time of the Church's Year of worship. Some may be aware that the eastern Church has always observed the Baptism of Jesus as part of their celebration of the Epiphany. Also they include the miracle of the water becoming wine at Cana in Galilee recorded in the Gospel of John where Jesus 'let his glory be seen'. For us in the western Church our minds are directed to the Baptism of Jesus as the pivotal moment when his true nature and purpose are made known. The Spirit descends in the form of a dove and a voice is heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him'. After the hidden years of his life, Jesus is now empowered to go forth on his public ministry as the Servant, foretold by Isaiah, to carry out his heavenly Father's will. Fundamentally that mission is to bring into being a new humanity centred on Jesus and bound together in Christian faith, hope and love. These virtues are sometimes called 'theological' because through the grace that is inherent in them they bind us to the Father in and through Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is a fundamental understanding of what the Church is called to be in every age.

Going forward in our lives now, let us confidently ask the Lord to strengthen those virtues within us and enable us to be servants in some way to a humanity around us that is very much in need.

God bless and keep safe,

Father Tony.

Your prayers please for parishioners who are not well at this time. In particular we remember George Huxley (Church Enstone) who is in hospital but non-Covid.

Father Hudson's Care. This is the umbrella Social Care Agency of our archdiocese which is involved in a great many projects. We had set aside the **Crib Offerings** this year as a means to give some financial support. Unfortunately, the pandemic has drastically reduced parishioners ability to come to church and give such help. We will therefore have a second collection for them this weekend or people may wish to send donations that can be gift aided. Thank you.

Weekday Mass in St. Teresa's Monday - Friday.

Sunday Mass suspended at St. Teresa's during the current lock-down

NEXT WEEK

Monday 11 January
Weekday of Ordinary Time
Mass 9.30am
Tuesday 12 January
St Aelred of Rievaulx,
Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 13 January
St Hilary, Bishop
Mass 7pm
Thursday 14 January
Weekday in Ordinary Time
Mass 9.30am
Friday 15 January
Weekday in Ordinary Time
Mass 9.30am
Saturday 16 January
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass today
Sunday 17 January
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
No Mass today

For Confession at St. Teresa's, please contact Fr. Clive

St. Teresa's Mass times this week:

No Sunday Mass at St. Teresa's during the current lockdown

Weekday Mass (no need to book):

Monday and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (followed by exposition on Friday) 9.30am

Wednesday 7pm (followed by exposition)

SAFEGUARDING: If you ever have any concerns regarding safeguarding please contact our Safeguarding Rep Sharnalee Foster on 01608 678731.