

St Saviour's Church

12 January 2020 - The Baptism of the Lord (OT1)



IN THE Orthodox Church calendar, the Baptism of Christ is the central focus of Epiphany. Jesus's baptism is the occasion of a second, and more dramatic, manifestation (*epiphaneia*) of his glory. Like the visit of the Magi, it foreshadows his paschal sacrifice and triumph. John's baptism resembled the practice of proselyte baptism for Gentile converts (the word *baptizein* meaning to make someone or something go down into water). In extending this practice to the Jewish people and their leaders, John was "in effect declaring that everyone stands in need of conversion, signalling their repentance and turning to God" - Anna Case-Winters, *Belief — A Theological Commentary on the Bible: Matthew* (from this week's Church Times).

Parish Notes:

Year of Pilgrimage 2020 - Launches this afternoon in Llandaff Cathedral. It would be good if St Saviour's was represented. It starts at 3.30pm. Please let Fr Phelim know if you are able to attend and be a representative for our community.

Fr Graham Francis RIP - We will have a votive Requiem Mass for Fr Graham in St Saviour's next Saturday at 11am. This is open to everyone and especially those who cannot make the funeral. Fr Graham will be sorely missed in our community and diocese. His funeral mass will be in St Mary's on Wed 22 Jan at 12noon. His body will be received into church on Tuesday 21 at 7pm. We offer our prayer and support to Eleri and her family at this time.

Choir Practice - Meeting to look at music for the coming few months in St Saviour's on Tuesday 28 January at 6:30pm. Open to everyone.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020 - this year's theme focuses on the hospitality of God 'Unusual Kindness'. This year we hope to have a nightshelter based joint service. The week of prayer is from 18-25 January 2020. The joint service will be in St German's on Wednesday 22 January at 6:30pm.

I Ffordd Tangnefedd - Starts on Sunday 26 January 2020. A new contemplative service to begin in St German's on Sundays. Services will begin with coffee at 6pm followed by reflective prayer and then a visit to a local pub for fellowship.

Recently Departed: Fr Graham Francis, David Pugh, Joan Irene Grady, Kenneth Vivian Parry *RIP*.

This week:

Sun 12: Baptism of the Lord

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Mon 13:

6pm Mass (St G)

1pm Funeral (St S)

Tues 14:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 15:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 16:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 17:

No Mass

St Antony, Abbot

Sat 18:

11am Requiem Mass for

Fr Graham Francis (RIP)

(St S)

Sun 19: Epiphany 2 (OT2)

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 42:1-4, 6-7

Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3b+9b-10

Acts 10:34-38

Matt 3:13-17

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 49:3, 5-6

Ps 40:2+4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10

1 Cor 1:1-3

John 1:29-34

PSALM RESPONSE

The Lord will bless his
people with peace.
(vv.3)

COLLECT

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we who are born again by water and the Spirit may rejoice to be called your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GATHERING:

1 Alleluia! Alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

2 Christ is risen,
Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield:
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

3 Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
alleluia to the Savior,
who has won the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity.
Alleluia! Alleluia
to the Triune Majesty.

OFFERTORY:

Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine
own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it,
Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
til earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat
consuming;
And let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round,
the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become
mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power
of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
till they become the place
where-in the Holy Spirit
finds a dwelling.

COMMUNION:

Purify my heart, Let me be as
gold and precious silver.
Purify my heart,
Let me be as gold, pure gold.

**Refiner's fire,
My heart's one desire
Is to be... holy;**

**Set apart for You, Lord.
I choose to be... holy;
Set apart for You, my Master,
Ready to do Your will.**

Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from within
And make me holy.
Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from my sin, deep
within.

FINAL HYMN:

I the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin,
my hand will save
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord, is it I Lord
I have heard you calling
in the night
I will go Lord if you lead me
I will hold your people
in my heart*

I the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away
I will break their heart of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send?

I the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Isa 42

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Acts 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

O give the Lord, you sons of God,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Adore the Lord in his holy court.

The Lord's voice resounding
on the waters,
the Lord on the immensity
of waters;
the voice of the Lord, full of power,
the voice of the Lord,
full of splendour.

The God of glory thunders.
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!
The Lord sat enthroned over the
flood;
the Lord sits as king for ever. *R/*
Psalm 29

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Matt 3