

# The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

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## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

[www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk](http://www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk)

Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Christmas Feria</i>	11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass	Pat Macken (Ints.) and Pro Populo Stephen Thomas Curwen (RIP)
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	9.15am ( <i>St Jude's</i> ) 10.30am 12noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mandy Calder (RIP) Carol Ann Kinahan (RIP) Louise Doherty (RIP Anni.) Teresa Creamer (RIP)
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	John McCaul
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	<i>St Aelred of Rievaulx</i>	10.00am ( <i>St Jude's</i> ) 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Danny Robinson Winnie Sumner
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Madhu Sudanday
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Feria</i>	7.00pm	Holy Mass	Sheila Woodcock
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am 7.00pm	Holy Mass Low Mass - Latin Extraordinary Form	Patrick, Annie and John Brien (RIP) Steve (RIP)
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Our Lady</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Brian McDaid (RIP) and Prop Populo
		11.30am-1pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	Anthony Greene
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	9.15am ( <i>St Jude's</i> ) 10.30am 12 noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Maura Watson Anthony Morrissy (RIP) Joseph Power Olga Faye

**Today's feast of the Baptism of Christ** is the last day of the liturgical season of Christmas. Although today's feast marks the event of Christ's Baptism when he was thirty years old, nevertheless it is, along with the visit of the Magi, one of the 'showings' or 'epiphanies' when God revealed himself in the face of his beloved Son: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you' are the words we hear from heaven in the Gospel.

Although the Christmas trees will soon disappear, the Crib, though, will remain as a focus of prayer and devotion until the Feast of Candlemas (which was the traditional end of Christmas in ancient times) on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Thanks to all those who cleaned our churches and decorated them so that they did indeed look glorious on Christmas Day!

**Following the Prime Ministers statement** last week and the announcement of a new nationwide lockdown it was a great relief that public celebrations of the Mass will continue. This is testimony to the hard work and dedication of our stewards and cleaners who play their part in making Mass as safe as possible. As the virus is very prevalent among the wider community please make sure you keep the following in mind:

- Please use hand sanitizer when arriving and leaving.
- Wear face coverings in church unless age (younger children) or medical conditions preclude this.
- Keep social distance at all times – especially being mindful when moving about for Holy Communion or leaving church.
- Do not leave newsletters you have used in church but always take them home with you.
- Remove face covering immediately before receiving Holy Communion in the hand, and replace after receiving the Sacred Host.
- Do not gather in groups outside church with those outside your 'bubble' for conversation without keeping a good distance.

Some of these – especially the way of receiving Holy Communion and wearing face coverings – a few have found onerous. Nevertheless it is a price worth paying for the continuation of public worship.

**A huge and very heartfelt thank you** to the kind and generous members of St Dunstan's and St Jude's Parish who supported our venture to supply the makings of a Christmas dinner to families who are finding things difficult during these present times. Because of your wonderful generosity we were able to make up 112 hampers containing: turkey, potatoes, carrots, peas, stuffing, gravy, mince pies, tinned fruit, Chocolate Fingers, Jammie Dodger biscuits and chocolates. However awful 2020 may have been, you have made a difference in our little corner of the world.

**Crib Offerings** will this year be going to 'Let the Children Live'. This charity, founded from Our Lady's

Shrine at Walsingham, supports accommodation and education for street children in Columbia, and works to draw them away from lives of drug trafficking and prostitution.

### **Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound.**

Once again it would regrettably seem sensible to pause with sick and home communions during this special national effort to get the infection rate down. Hopefully some of our more elderly or frail parishioners will soon be receiving the vaccine which will make this ministry easier and safer. The sacraments for the dying are, of course, available at need.

**Queen Elizabeth and Birmingham Women's Hospitals and St Mary's Hospice.** Following Fr Charles' departure there is no fulltime chaplain at these places.

Therefore, with regard to the sacraments, if you know that you (or a family member or friend in the parish) will be going to hospital, it is important to have confession, the anointing of the sick and holy communion from one of the priests here before you/they go in to hospital as It will often not be available during your stay. Just have a word after Mass or ring or email the presbytery. This problem has been somewhat exacerbated by the pandemic as no casual visits by family or clergy are permitted - and then only on very specific grounds – to try and reduce the danger of infection to patients. There is a cover rota provided by priests around the area. This is for emergency use only when there is danger of death. Such visits are arranged from the hospital so that the priest on call will be allowed admission.

**For reference** - it's worth remembering that the sacraments should be received when a person is conscious and able to participate as much as possible. This is essential for holy communion - *and viaticum or 'last holy communion' (not anointing) is the sacrament of the dying* – along with confession.

Sadly a number of people think they need to wait until it is often too late. So if we can remember – and teach others – that such things should be done, when circumstances permit, with plenty of time.

**Government restrictions for funerals** stipulate a maximum of 30 attending.

**We pray for those who have died recently:** Ena Cole, Winnie Sumner, Susan Melvin, Margaret Hooper Peter Bartram.

**Government restrictions for Baptisms** stipulate a maximum of 6 attending.

**Confessions** are at the normal advertised times. Social distancing means using the side chapel at St Dunstan's. **Please keep the time spent in the confessional to a minimum (5 minutes max) to both make it as safe as possible, and so that others have opportunity for the celebration of this sacrament.**

**Church Cleaning** will take place on Wednesday after Mass. If you can help you will be very welcome.

**Please note that the toilets are presently closed** due to COVID regulations, and the side chapel will be out of bounds apart from for Confession.

**Weekly offerings** can be placed in the baskets in church or posted through the Presbytery letterbox. Please place offerings in either the usual Gift Aid envelopes or a plain envelope marked 'St Dunstan' or 'St Jude'.

**Stories by SIFA Fireside** is a short collection of treasured memories recorded on a CD. They pay tribute to Sister Sabina and the permanent place she holds in SIFA Fireside's hearts.

A special webpage has been dedicated to Sister Sabina with the audio from the CD available to listen to: website <https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/266-in-loving-memory-of-sister-sabina>

Alternatively, there are a limited number of CD's for people who would like a physical copy to be sent. Speak to Melissa or Eppie at SIFA Fireside on 0121 766 1700 Monday-Friday.

#### COLLECTIONS

##### St Dunstan's

<b>Gift Aid (27/12)</b>	£ 650.81
<b>Non-Gift Aid (27/12)</b>	£ 355.00
<b>Gift Aid (03/01)</b>	£1,928.75
<b>Non-Gift Aid (03/01)</b>	£ 625.28

##### St Jude's for 27/12 and 03/01

<b>Gift Aid.</b>	£ 406.30
<b>Non-Gift Aid</b>	£ 261.60

**The Parish Office** will be open from 9.00am until 5.00pm on Wednesday and Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

*If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests:* we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a re-arranged appointment.

*If you have an enquiry:* please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

*For those wishing to book Mass intentions:* please bring a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the intention details (person's name, required date etc) and include the offering inside. This can then be handed in at the office and if requested a Mass card be signed and given.

#### YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

#### THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.  
**And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**Let it be done to me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary....

And the Word was made flesh.

**And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

**That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. **Pour forth, we beseech thee O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his + passion and C'ross be brought into the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen**

FIRST READING

*Isaiah 55:1-11*

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **R.**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name! **R.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth – so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said:  
This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

*Mark 1:7-11*

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said:

'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'