SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Cf. Mt 3: 16-17***
After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened,
and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Collect
Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved 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,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7***

Thus says the LORD:
Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

'I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 29(28)***

The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness.

The LORD will bless his people with peace.

The voice of the LORD upon 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 LORD will bless his people with peace.

The God of glory thunders;
in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!'
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits as king for ever.

The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Second reading: ***Acts 10:34-38***

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all – you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

Gospel Acclamation
Allelula, allelula.
The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:
'This is my beloved Son; listen to him'.
Allelula.

Gospel: ***Matthew 3:13-17***

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

Prayer over the Offerings
Accept, O Lord, the offerings
we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son,
so that the oblation of your faithful
may be transformed into the sacrifice of him
who willed in his compassion
to wash away the sins of the world.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon: ***Jn 1: 32, 34***
Behold the One of whom John said:
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Prayer after Communion
Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 11th January 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This Newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A
Weekay Mass Readings
Ordinary time week 1, Year 2
Divine Office
Psalter Week 1

For children, download a weekly sheet:
http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 11 Jan	**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Alejo Ramirez Jnr. RIP
8.30am	Bosco Fernandes Intentions
9.45am	Tom & Eileen Haugh RIP
11.15am	Eric Duffner RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 12 Jan	**feria**
9:30am	Fr Clement Russell RIP
Tues 13 Jan	**feria**
9.30am	Martin McDonagh RIP
Weds 14 Jan	**feria**
9.30am	Tom Carey RIP
Thurs 15 Jan	**FERIA**
9.30am	Philomena Rowan RIP
Fri 16 Jan	**Feria**
9.30am	Michael Moran RIP
Sat 17 Jan	**S. Anthony Abbot**
9:30am	Dot Brady RIP
Sun 18 Jan	**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Dot Brady RIP
8.30am	Peter Drewett RIP
9.45am	Baptist Fernandes Intentions
11.15am	Errol Mark RIP
5.30pm	Fernandes Family Intentions

TODAY'S MASS



The baptisms that John perform prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptizes for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the Baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptizing you with water . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire". The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

First reading: ***Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7***
The servant of the Lord shall bring justice to all.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 29:1-2,3-4,9-10***
The Lord will give peace to the people.

Second reading: ***Acts 10:34-38***
God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: ***Matthew 3:13-17***
The Spirit of God comes upon Jesus as he is baptized by John.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure."
St. John Paul II

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: *(awaiting appointment)*
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary: Mrs. Mary Walsh sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel 07751804978
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.
HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*
DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.
ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Noel Gill, Christopher Browne, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, John, Aaran Thayaparan, John, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Larry Sicat, Ramzan*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Lyra Rose Mae Castillo, Zephyr Billy James Castillo*

RECENTLY DEPARTED:

RECENTLY MARRIED:- *Karlene & Alexis*

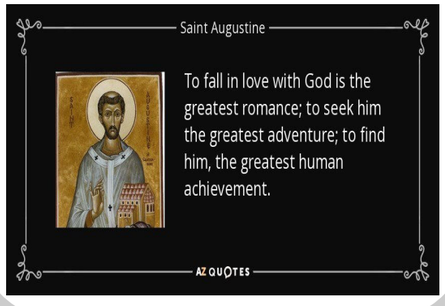
RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *Tom Carey (1st), Fr Clement Russell (1st Parish Priest), Eric Duffner (23rd),*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Naty Valmoria Get Well Intentions

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Naty Valmoria Get Well Intentions

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for January
For prayer with the Word of God
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



The Baptism of Jesus can seem a strange event in the life of Christ. Why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit himself to John's baptism? In this humble submission we see a foreshadowing of the "baptism" of his bloody death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. Jesus submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love he consented to this baptism for the remission of our sins.

The Father proclaimed his entire delight in his Son and spoke audibly for all to hear. The Holy Spirit, too, was present as he anointed Jesus for his ministry which began that day as he rose from the waters of the Jordan river. Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all who come to believe in him. At his baptism the heavens were opened and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, signifying the beginning of a new creation.

How can we enter into the mystery of Jesus' humble self-abasement and baptism? Gregory of Nazianzus, a seventh century Church father tells us: *"Let us be buried with Christ by Baptism to rise with him; let us go down with him to be raised with him; and let us rise with him to be glorified with him."*

In this new year do you want to see changes in your life? And do you want to become a more effective instrument of the gospel? Examine Jesus' humility and ask the Holy Spirit to forge this same attitude in your heart. As you do, heaven will open for you as well. The Lord is ever ready to renew us in his Spirit and to anoint us for mission. We are called to be "light" and "salt" to those around us. The Lord wants his love and truth to shine through us that others may see the goodness and truth of God's message of salvation. So this week simply ask the Lord to fill you with his Holy Spirit that you may radiate the joy of the Gospel to those around you. The Lord never disappoints!

NEWS UPDATE

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery.

HORRAY! The heating in the church has now been repaired and I hope you will be a bit warmer in this cold spell. Sorry to everyone as it was very cold last weekend.

MORE GOOD NEWS. Last year water poured into the children's room and left much of the paintwork peeling and blistered. We are now having the room redecorated making it a fitting place for our young children and their families.

WELCOMERS - We are seeking **new volunteers** to join our team of helpers **welcoming people to Mass**. For further details or to express an interest please contact our Welcomers Coordinator, **Lucille Thomas**, at **lucille.thomas@gmail.com**. The commitment would involve welcoming approximately once a month.

A NEW ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER was announced just before Christmas. Pope Leo has appointed Bishop Richard Moth, at present bishop of Arundel and Brighton (in the south—Surrey & Sussex). He will formally take up his appointment on 14th February 2026. Please pray for him as he prepares to come to Westminster.

PRESENTS UNDER THE TREE The **Catholic Children's Society** would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to our parishioners for their wonderful generosity and kindness this Christmas. They are so grateful. The presents will be distributed soon making many disadvantaged children very happy.

ALL THE DECORATIONS HAVE COME DOWN however, it might be a surprise that Christmastide doesn't formally end until 2nd February, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of Christ in the Temple or, more commonly, 'Candlemas'. All the churches in Rome, and in Catholic countries and homes, still keep the Crib up until Candlemas. You should have taken down the cards and decorations on twelfth night (Epiphany) but the Crib can stay until 2nd February as the focus of our family prayer and daily devotions.

SO THERE IS STILL TIME to visit our Crib, now with the arrival of the three Kings. Do please take the opportunity to look at our beautiful crib, and maybe for a moment before it, offer a prayer. All Crib offerings (donations) made will be sent to the Catholic Children's Society, for their important work with children. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this cause.

THANK YOU TO OUR PRIESTS who have helped out over the last months trying to keep our Mass schedule going. We are grateful to all of them.

HELPING WITH HOSPITALITY - Might you consider helping with **teas & coffees** after the **9.45am** Family Mass. For further details, or to express an interest, please contact our **Pastoral Assistant** at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.** The commitment would be no more than once a month.

CONFIRMATION 2026 - Young people in **Year 10 & above** who are **registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish** are welcome to join our Confirmation Preparation Programme in 2026. Young people wishing to be confirmed must attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer in the Parish Centre on **Monday 12th January at 7.30pm** when Registration Documents will be provided. Please note that a copy of one's Baptism Certificate (and a translation if it is not in English) is also required for Registration.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Part 2 of the FHC Programme begins with a **Session for Parents/Carers only** in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday 13th January at 7pm**. Thank you for ensuring you make **childcare arrangements** well in advance so you are able to attend.

SYCAMORE is an informal course about the Catholic faith and its relevance to life today. All are welcome to join us in the Café Bar on **Thursday 22nd January 7.30pm** when we will be reflecting on **Forgiveness, Healing & Mission.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **January's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 26th January 2026.**

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of February. Please contact the Parish Office.

SOUTH VALE PRE-SCHOOL admissions open for January 2026. We are now taking children from 18 months old. Funded places available. For more information, please contact us on Tel: 07745 860 794.

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S CLUB Lots of people and great fun too! Why not join them? All over 60's welcome—just turn up on Tuesday in the Café Bar in the Parish Centre at 1pm. Come along and bring a friend. You don't need to be Catholic!

SIGNING FORMS ETC. Please <u>always</u> make an appointment via the Parish Office if you want school forms, passport forms or pension forms countersigned/witnessed by the clergy. Please also know if you want an English passport witnessed or naturalisation form signed, we must have known you for a minimum of 3 years.