

8th January 2023
The Baptism of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Here is my servant in whom my soul delights.

Responsorial: Psalm 28

R. /: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Mathew 3:13-17

As soon as Jesus was baptized he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.

Let's Reflect...



You are beloved

Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist had a different meaning from ours. It was more a baptism of sorrow for sin and of forgiveness; in this plunge into the river, Jesus identified with his people in his baptism. At the baptism he heard the best words he could hear; *you are my beloved*. God led Jesus to John to hear these words.

One of us, one with us, he could now be one for us.

Joy flooded his heart as he heard these words. Something happened for Jesus at that moment that only he could know – like bells ringing that only he could hear. Have you heard it in your life? At times we face the huge mysteries love, beauty, friendship, birth, death. And we know in the middle of it all, that we are beloved.

Our call is to be fully involved in life and love. The Christian is called to be involved with others at the times of need, of depth and mystery. Jesus did that – plunging himself into our humanity and with all of us.

The feast of the baptism is something new for all. The son of God is one of us. We have a new way of knowing God not just in the laws of old but in the new Spirit of Jesus.

So let the bells of love ring for us in God; and wherever we find it; let's ring bells of love for all the most needy of God's people.

Let the word 'beloved' echo in your mind and heart.

This is God's word for you today.

Lord, thanks for calling me beloved.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Clergy: Fr. Joseph Kaduthanam, Fr Joseph Chacko CMI,

Fr. Tebin Francis CMI

SUNDAY, 08-Jan **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
Mass: 9.00am, 10.45am & 12.30pm

MONDAY, 09-Jan Mass: 9.30am

TUESDAY, 10-Jan Mass: 9.30am & 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY, 11-Jan Requiem Mass of Maturine Toussaint: 9.30am

THURSDAY, 12-Jan Mass: 9.30am & 6.30pm

FRIDAY, 13-Jan Mass: 12.00noon

SATURDAY, 14-Jan Mass: 9.30am, 6.30pm *Vigil Mass of Sunday*

SUNDAY, 15-Jan **2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Mass: 9.00am, 10.45am, 12.30pm & 7.30pm
4.00pm – *Tamil Mass*

POPE'S INTENTION - JANUARY 2023

For educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Domingo Fernandes and Catherine Stock that the Lord may lay His healing hands on them and bring them His peace.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

Maturine Toussaint who died on 12th December 2022. Her Requiem Mass will be at 9.30am on Wednesday, 11th January 2023 followed by the interment at Alperton Cemetery at 11.15am. We pray her soul rest in Peace.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

Brian Coelho who died on Sunday, 18th December 2022 and his Requiem Mass will be at 11:00 am on 20th January 2023 at Sacred Heart of Jesus and St John the Evangelist Church, Bushey followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium at 12:45pm. We pray his soul rest in Peace.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

Helen Gallagher who died on Monday, 19th December 2022. We pray her soul rest in Peace.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Grand Christmas Raffle draw will be held on **Sunday 8th January** after the **9.00am** Mass.

ST JOSEPH VAZ FEAST is on **Monday 16th January**. There will be a Konkani Mass at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING MASS will be on Saturday 21st January 2023 at 12 noon followed by a get-together. All parish volunteers are requested to join this service.

CONTACTLESS DONATION: We now have two contactless payments digital plates available at the church porch. Please ensure you opt for Gift Aid.

THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME FOR 2022-2023 will be commencing with a Parent's meeting on **Wednesday, 11th January 2023 at 7.15pm** held inside the church. At least one parent should attend (no requirement for the candidate to attend). Catechism sessions for all candidates will commence on **Saturday, 14th January 2023 at 5pm** in the Pastoral Centre.

2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

will commence on **Saturday 4th February 2023**. Prior to the sessions there will be a Parents meeting on **Friday 28th January 2023 @ 6pm**. At least one parent should attend (no requirement for the child to attend). There is a published list with the children's names on the Presbytery noticeboard for applications received on time. Should there be any queries relating to the programme, then email your queries to the Parish email available in the newsletter.

NATIONAL WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: There will be retiring collection on 14th and 15th January weekend Masses for **The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children**. This collection is an important source of income for SPUC, plus an educational opportunity, and a spiritual support from the many Catholics who keep our work in their prayers.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION - Volunteering for CAFOD: The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for volunteers to carry out their mission here in the Westminster diocese. You could volunteer and help raise awareness in either parishes or schools about their work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice. Find out more by joining one of their volunteer meetings in Lambeth London on Saturday 21st January or Oakwood, North London on Wed 1st February. Please contact Tony at CAFOD for further details. westminster@cafod.org.uk or 0208 449 6970

ADDRESS CHANGES It is important that parishioners inform us of their address change if we are to maintain correct records. This can only be done by filling in the Registration form ticking the address change box. Forms can be printed online and must be handed in or dropped in the presbytery letter box.