

**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023**

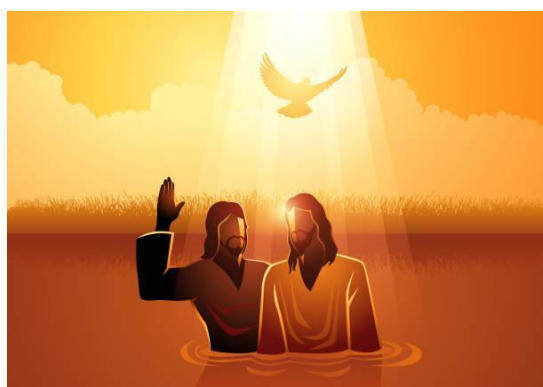
**Baptism and the New Creation**

Today marks the end of the Christmas season. Matthew describes the baptism and anointing by the Holy Spirit of the adult Jesus in a richly symbolic way that expresses Jesus' acceptance of the mission that the Father has given him as God's suffering servant. Jesus' baptism unfolds in the form of a drama in two parts. The first part focuses on Jesus' acceptance of his mission. Jesus comes to John to be baptised, but John objects: "I need to be baptised by you" (Mt 3:14). Although Jesus is the Lamb of God who is without sin, by this action, Jesus, as the Lamb, identifies himself with humanity in order to take away the sins of the world (see Jn 1:29). Jesus' baptism looks forward to his death. When saying that by accepting baptism he "fulfils all righteousness" (Mt 3:15), Jesus submits himself to his Father's will, consenting to a path leading to suffering, death and resurrection for the forgiveness of humanity's sins.

The second part of Matthew's drama focuses on the Father's response to Jesus' acceptance. God identifies Jesus unambiguously as "my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3:17).

Finally, "the heavens were opened" (Mt 3:16) at Jesus' baptism, reversing what happened through Adam's sin. Adam's rejection of God destroyed the intimate relationship between humankind and God. Now Jesus' baptism restores God's relationship with humankind intended at the beginning of creation.

By accepting baptism, we embrace what Jesus accomplished for us. Through the waters of baptism, we become a new creation, our sins are forgiven and we enter an intimate relationship as a beloved child of God, Father, Son and Spirit, together with all who, like us, have become a new creation through the waters of baptism.



**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**  
**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January (Cycle A)**

**Parish Diary**

Sunday Masses	10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Masses	9.00 am
Wednesdays	9.00 am – Eucharistic Service
Friday	Adoration following 9.00 am Mass
Holy Days of Obligation	9.30am & 7.30pm
Confessions	Saturdays 9.30 am - 10.00 am
Legion of Mary	After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)
Baptisms	By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)

**Liturgical Calendar**

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	The Baptism of the Lord (A) - Feast
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

**Masses & Intentions This Week**

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	10.00 am	Kate Keanley – RIP/Bday (donor – Maria Poddington)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	11.30 am	Funeral – Anne Pitt – RIP
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00 am	
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	10.00 am	
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

**Parish Notice Board**

**Christmas Offering - Thank You**

Thank you so much for all your generous contributions to the Christmas Offering, and also for all the presents and cards I received over the Christmas period. Fr Britto.

**RIP**

Please continue to pray for the family of Anne Pitt. Her funeral mass will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 11.30am here at English Martyrs.

**RIP**

We were very sorry to hear of the recent passing away of Mary Wright and Kathleen Browne. Please pray for the repose of their souls and remember their families in your kind prayers. Mary's requiem mass will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 12pm. Kathleen's requiem mass will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 10.30am, both here at English Martyrs.

## Parish Finance:

### Last week's collection 25.12.22

Gift Aid: £ 613.10    Loose Plate: £ 1,008.23    Total: £1,621.33

Crib BCCS £5

## Communication Desk

### Study Day On The Apostle Paul

The next Gidea Park Study Day will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 from 11 am until 1.30 pm at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. The speaker is Dr Sean Michael Ryan, chair of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain, and research associate at the Margaret Beaufort Institute in Cambridge. Dr Ryan will speak about 'The Gospel according to St Paul'. The event is either in-person or live-stream. Coffee will be available for those attending in-person from 10.30 am. Please bring a packed lunch. Gidea Park Station (Elizabeth Line) is five minutes from the church. For those attending via live-stream simply go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) on the day. Recording of the talks will be made available after the event on the same website.

### Ukrainian Emergency Winter Appeal

Ukrainians remain resilient despite the circumstances of the war, but they are in the throes of a harsh winter. For that reason a new Emergency Winter Appeal was launched to provide food packages for the most vulnerable on the frontlines and in recently liberated regions in East and South Ukraine which is suffering from a severe humanitarian crisis.

The cost of one food parcel, providing enough food for two people for a week costs approximately £16. Each package contains the basics (grains, flour, pasta, meat and fish preserves, oil, canned vegetables, sugar, tea coffee, biscuits, etc.)

It is hoped that £160,00 can be raised allow the supply of 10,000 food parcels to those most in need and I ask that you and your parishioners will consider supporting this Emergency Winter Appeal.

Funds can be remitted to:

Account Name: Ukrainian Catholic Church Central Fund

Account Number: 20927317

Sort Code: 20-92-60

Or by cheques made payable to Ukrainian Catholic Church referencing *Winter Appeal* in both cases. The address for cheques is Ukrainian Catholic Church in Great Britain, 22 Binney Street, London, W1K 5BQ

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com))

Wishing all our Music Friends a very HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

We are delighted to invite you to a New Year's Concert here in Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 4pm to 5.30pm. Once again we are delighted to welcome eight year

Violinist Hermione Duan who will be accompanied by members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Many of you will remember Hermione's wonderful performance for us in August of last year and we are very excited to have her and the RPO back here again.

The Programme will consist of the following pieces:-

Handel	La Réjouissance
Bach	Violin Concerto in A minor Soloist – Hermione Duan
Mascagni	Intermezzo from Cavallaria Rusticana
Vivaldi	Double Violin Concerto in A minor Soloists – Hermione Duan & Jennifer Christie
Vivaldi	The Four Seasons
	Spring          Hermione Duan
	Summer        Joana Valentinaviciute
	Autumn        Jennifer Christie
	Winter         Tamás András

Admission is FREE.

Should you be interested in attending, if you have the chance, do email us at [music@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:music@dioceseofbrentwood.org) to let us know!

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:**

John Buckley, Maureen Chaliss, Shirley De Silva, Rosaleen Grimwood, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Margaret, Eileen McCaffery, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Sheila Nugent, Mary O'Hagan, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

<b>Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs &amp; Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Pastoral Team Leader: Graham Daniels (07542 588763)</b>
<b>Steward of the Gospel: Mandy Meadway (07801 470516)</b>
<b>Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465)</b>
<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825 293308)</b>
<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Church &amp; Hall Caretaker: Mike Dineen (07415 727926)</b>
<b>Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370)</b>

**The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)**  
**Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ**  
**Parish Tel.no: 01708 507020**  
**Parish email: [hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**