



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD **SUNDAY 9th JANUARY 2022**

Having a clear purpose in life

During a pilgrimage to the Holy Land I and some friends stood up to our knees in the river Jordan, to renew the promises of our baptism. It was a moving experience as we remembered the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus just after HIS baptism. By being baptised into him we are counted as members of God's beloved family. United with Jesus, we are made like him, God's own daughters and sons. Others who stood that day in the Jordan will remember that moment today and use it to renew their commitment to Jesus. But all of us were baptised somewhere, sometime, and we can claim that baptism fully as our own.

Our Lord's baptism is a vital moment in our story of salvation, where he joined with humanity in the humble outreach to God, and where the Father and the Spirit are seen and heard to be there with him. Our gospel says that "the heavens were opened," a powerful statement of the point of contact between heaven and earth. Later on, as Jesus completes his life-journey on Calvary, we read how "the veil of the Temple was rent in two," a symbol that we are not completely free to enter the Holy of Holies. Today's gospel has Jesus beginning a journey which each of us is asked to travel. It is a journey full of purpose, a journey of intent. We need a sense of purpose and pattern to our living. St Peter summarised the purpose and pattern of Christ's life when he said, "went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." We are each invited, personally, to make this purpose our own.

A little story about finding direction: A Dubliner was down the country travelling along by-roads where the signposts were few and far between. After a while, unsure of his directions, he decided to ask the first person he saw. When he came across a farmer driving his cows home for milking he stopped the car and asked if he was on the right road to Mallow. The farmer told him that he certainly was on the Mallow road. The driver thanked him and was about to move forward when the farmer added, in a nonchalant way, "You're on the right road, but you're going in the wrong direction!" Let's look into our own lifestyle today, to see if our direction is right.



Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (C)
Sunday 9th January 2022

Liturgical Calendar

Lectionary: Week 1 of the Year - Cycle C (Sundays); Year 2 (Weekdays)

Sunday 9th January Second Sunday After the Nativity

Season of the Year before Lent

This season does not celebrate any particular aspect of the mysteries of the Christ, but rather the mystery of Christ himself in his fullness is recalled especially on Sundays.

During this ordinary time (winter), i.e., up to the Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth; Openness to the word of God; Christian unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who work to Combat it; The Unemployed.

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 9 th January	10.00 am	Kate Sharma – Intentions (Donor – English Martyrs)
	6.30 pm	
Monday 10 th January	9.00 am	The Sheridan Family
Tuesday 11 th January	9.00 am	James Poddington R.I.P/ Birthday (Donor: Maria Poddington)
Wednesday 12 th January	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 13 th January	9.30 am	
Friday 14 th January	9.00 am	
Saturday 15 th January	9.00 am	
Sunday 16 th January	10.00 am	
	6.30 pm	

Parish Notice Board

A Huge Big Thanks

“A Big Thank You to All of You for your Christmas Cards, Gifts and Christmas Offerings. I am truly grateful to you!” Fr. Britto

We wish to sincerely Thank James Scully and Tony Farrell for their yearly support in preparing the Crib and transforming our Church in to a little Bethlehem. May God bless them both and their families.

Parish Finance

19.12.21

GA: £204; LP: £113.13; Total: £317.13

25.12.21 (Christmas Offerings)

GA: £759.00; LP: £620.64; Total: £1,379.64

26.12.21

GA: £43; LP: £0; Total: £43

02.01.22

GA: £75; LP: £100.30; Total: £175.30

Second Collection (Christmas)

GA: £195; LP: £251.81; Total: £446.81

We thank Marion and Rosita for their dedicated service toward Counting and Banking and supporting the Finance Ministry of the Parish.

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

Kathleen Clifford, Anna Heneghan, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Rachel, Mary Scully, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

Communication Desk

Faith Lift Day at Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood on Saturday 14th January. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book. The programme for the day is as follows: 12.00 Mass; 1.00 Bring your own lunch (tea and coffee provided); 2.00 Prayer; 2.45 Talk; 3.20 Break; 3.45-4.45 Holy Hour/Confession/Prayer Ministry. Do share the news with friends and family and we look forward to seeing you all once again.

Gidea Park Study Day: The Evolution Of The Mass

On Saturday 15th January 2022 Professor John Morrill will lead a Study Day on 'The Evolution of the Mass', tracing the development of the Eucharistic liturgy from the earliest centuries to the present day. He will explore in particular the teaching of Trent and Vatican II, and the latest papal instructions on the celebration of Mass. To access this free live stream event simply go to www.whatgoodnews.org The event begins at 11.00 GMT and ends by 13.30. No prior registration is needed. To be added to our mailing list simply follow the instructions on the home page of the website.

Thresholds of Hope Questions: What is the point of canon law? will be given by Fr Gary Dench, assistant priest at Brentwood Cathedral on Sundays 9th and 16th January 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

Be part of the Walsingham House Team 2022/23: If you are 18+ and looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young Catholic Community, working with thousands of young people from Essex and East London. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and are also looking to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge. For more information, please contact Joseph Beattie, manager of Walsingham House, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is more information about our work on our website (www.bcys.net) and social media @Brentwoodcys (From Claire Bailey Director of Youth Ministry, Diocese of Brentwood)

Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis and Youth Ministry: The Bishop's Certificate is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. The course is

online and taught through engaging, short videos with expert interviews. The course will begin on the evening of 24th February, with an introduction and welcome evening, held at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For more information, please see our website: <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/> or email your expression of interest to bishopscertificate@dioceseofbrentwood.org by Monday 22nd February.
(From Claire Bailey Director of Youth Ministry, Diocese of Brentwood)

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

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 Parish website:
<http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/>

Founded 1955

Diocese of Brentwood

Registered Charity No. 23409