

 Baptism of the Lord (A) Mass Times and Intentions Divine Office – Psalter Week 1 		
Saturday 10 th January	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11 th January	11.00am	Bob and Kath Taylor
Tuesday 13 th January	9.30am	Rosemary Eychenne
Wednesday 14 th January	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday 15 th January	9.30am	Mary Conroy
Saturday 17 th January	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 18 th January	11.00am	Ann Ray

Sunday Liturgy

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The Holy Father's Prayer Intention 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.

January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus, and the Feast of the Holy Name is celebrated on 3rd January. "All beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld should bend the knee at the name of Jesus, and every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:10)

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The Baptism of the Lord (A)

11th January 2026



The Baptism of the Lord

It may seem a little unusual that having just celebrated the birth of Jesus, we now suddenly jump to marking his baptism as an adult. The reason for this is that the gospels are not a chronological history of the life of Jesus.

So what does the baptism of Jesus mean for us today? The word 'baptism' means to immerse or to wash - the sacred ritual of 'baptism' has existed in many religious beliefs for countless centuries. It requires that the person go down into water; to be totally immersed, to be washed and cleansed in order to become a new person. This was also a part of the Jewish culture to which Jesus belonged.

When Jesus is baptised by John, the voice of God is heard to say; 'This is my Son, the

beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' In this way, Jesus begins his public ministry. His baptism publicly confirms his very personal relationship with God. He is in God and God is in him. He is not here by or for himself; he has been sent by God. He is here to proclaim the Kingdom of God, not his own.

Through our own sacred baptism, we too are connected to Jesus and to God. When we were baptised, whether as a child or as an adult, we became members of God's family - we became sons and daughters of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus. Through our baptism we are immersed in God, we are cleansed and we become a new creation. As Jesus' unique relationship with God is confirmed through his baptism, so too our relationship with Jesus is established through our baptism. As God loves Jesus, so too Jesus loves each of us; 'As the Father loves me, so I love you; abide in my love.' (John. 15.9). Today, let us take a moment to remember and appreciate our own baptism through which we became sons and daughters of God. May we be faithful to our Baptismal promises and let us thank God for the privilege of being joined to his mission of preaching the 'Good News' by living Christian lives of love, mercy, service and forgiveness.



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

Gathering for Parish Helpers

There is a letter at the back of Church for all those who help out in our Parish in any way. This includes Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans, Flower Arrangers, Musicians, Cleaners, Counters, Catechist, Shop helpers and many others. Do please take a letter if you help out in our parish in any way, and respond by Sunday 18th January.

Deanery Mass with Archbishop Sherrington

Archbishop John Sherrington is going to celebrate Mass for all the parishes in the Knowsley Deanery to enable him to meet as many people as possible. This Mass will take place at 7.00pm on Friday 30th January at the church of St Agnes, St Mary's Road, Huyton, L36 5ST. Refreshments will be served afterwards and you are warmly encouraged to come and meet our new Archbishop.

50 Plus Group

The first meeting of the 50 Plus Group this year is on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 2:00pm in the parish church hall. Look forward to seeing you.

Exposition and Benediction

We will have a short period of Exposition after the 9.30am Mass this coming Thursday during which we will offer prayers for peace in our world, something that is so much needed at this present time. The service will end with Benediction.

The Portico Knitters and Stitchers Group

We intend to start a knitting & stitching group for Parishioners, here at Our Lady's. So, how about sharing your skills to complete various Church projects? If you are interested please come to an initial meeting to discuss projects, which could include new Altar cloths and other Church linen. Meeting in Church Hall on **Thursday 29th January at 2pm**. Looking forward to seeing you. Angela Steward & Lynn Jones

Peace Sunday

Peace Sunday will be held on Sunday 18th January. The Bishops' Conference encourage us all the use the day to reflect on the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace on the 1st January. Pope Leo has said that the theme for his message which will be 'Peace be with you all: towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace'.

Confirmations in 2026

Anyone in Year 8 or above can now register to be Confirmed in 2026. Register: www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

Feast Days This Week

Sunday

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – This feast concludes the Christmas Season. At the Jordan Jesus, himself the giver of baptism, receives baptism from John the Baptist and is revealed as the beloved on of the Father in terms that echo Isaiah's prophecies of the Suffering Servant. Thus a link is thus drawn between our celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas and the Easter mystery.

Monday

St Aelred of Rievaulx – The son of a married priest, he was born in Hexham, Northumbria, in the year 1110. His father sent him to the court of King David I of Scotland, in the ancient Scottish capital of Roxburgh, and he rose to be Master of the Household before leaving at the age of twenty four to enter the recently founded Cistercian monastery at Rievaulx Abbey in Yorkshire. He became Abbot of a new house of his Order at Revesby in Lincolnshire, and later returned to become Abbot of Rievaulx itself in 1147. Vocations increased to 150 monks and 500 lay brothers. He wrote several books on spirituality, including *The Mirror of Charity*. He also wrote seven works of history, his most famous being *The Life of Edward, King and Confessor*. He died at Rievaulx in 1167.

Tuesday

St Hilary of Poitiers – Living in the 4th Century, he was Bishop of Poitiers and regarded as an eminent doctor of the Western Church. He spent much of his time fighting the Arian heresy, which was rife in Europe at that time, and was an outspoken champion of orthodoxy. He wrote many theological works combating heresy and upholding the true Faith. Towards the end of his life he founded a monastery at Liguge in his diocese, and he died in the year 368.

Wednesday

St Kentigern (Secondary Patron of the Archdiocese) – He was born about the year 416. Brought up in the discipline and piety of St Sernus, Abbot of Gilross, he was sent to Glasgow and became Bishop there. Known as Mungo, "one dearly beloved", he was vigorous in defence of the faith against Palagianism, and he was outstanding in piety and missionary zeal. For a time he had to flee Glasgow, and he lived with St David in Menevia. He built a monastery and a school, which he left in the care of St Asaph. He returned to Scotland and ruled as Bishop for the next 40 years, until his death in the year 601. He is an eminent saint of the ancient Church of North Britain.

Thursday

St Paul the Hermit – Born in Egypt in 229, he was left an orphan at the age of 15. At age 22 he went into the desert to prevent a planned effort by his brother in law to report him to the authorities as a Christian and gain control of his property. Paul found that the eremitical life was suited to him, and he remained in a desert cave for the rest of his long life. His contemplative existence was disturbed by St Anthony, who visited the aged Paul. He is regarded as the first Christian hermit.

Friday

St Fursey – The brother of SS Foillan and Ulan, he was born as a noble on the island of Inisguia en Lough Carri, Ireland. He founded Rathmat Abbey, which is now probably Killursa. In the year 630 Fursey and his friends went to East Anglia, where he founded a monastery near Ugremouth and land donated by King Sigebert. In later years he went to France to build a monastery at Lagny, near Paris. He died in 650 and was buried at Picardy. St Bede and others wrote about his mystical experiences.

Saturday

St Anthony – The outstanding father of monasticism who took the Gospel at its word. He was born in Upper Egypt about the year 250, and after the death of his parents he gave his worldly goods to the poor and went into the desert to live a life of penance. Although he sought solitude in the desert, the example of his holiness attracted many disciples to him from the surrounding towns and villages. He worked for the Church, supporting the confessors of the Faith during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian, and St Athanasius in the struggle against Arianism. He died in 356 and is regarded as the patriarch of monks.