

NEWSLETTER

St Catherine's | St John's | St Luke's

The Baptism of Christ

Isaiah tells us that God calls God's sons and daughters by name from the ends of the earth. Today we come together in response to that call, joining in worship, prayer and praise with generations of Christians.



Collect of the Day

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 43:1-7

The prophet assures the people that they belong to God, who will accompany them through fire and water. The people are precious, honoured and loved in the sight of God, and God will gather them from all corners of the earth.

Second Reading Acts 8:14-17

The people of Samaria have accepted the word of God and been baptised in the name of Jesus. Peter and John are sent from Jerusalem to lay hands on them, so that they also receive the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

When people mistake him for the Messiah, John confronts them, telling them that the more powerful one is coming to baptise them with the Holy Spirit and fire. After Jesus' baptism the heaven opens, the Holy Spirit descends in the form of a dove and the voice from heaven proclaims Jesus as "my Son, the Beloved".

St Catherine's: 4.00 pm Messy Christingle

St Luke's: 10:30 am Sung Mass and celebration of Fr Mark's ministry in Canton

Today's Hymns: 609, 622, 610, 332

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia, opening our hearts to him, singing Alleluia, alleluia, Jesus is our King!

Next week's readings: Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalm 36: 5-10; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11; John 2: 1-11

Evensong: Psalm 96; 1 Samuel 3: 1-20; Ephesians 4: 1-16

Fr Mark writes: Despite it being about 3 months since I broke the news of my departure from Canton, the time to say farewell seems to have come around rather quickly and suddenly. Today is officially my last Sunday in the Benefice. Today's service will be followed by a lunch. I am deeply grateful to all who have contributed to the lunch and made it possible to celebrate on such a large and lavish scale. Thank you too, to everyone who has come along on this very special occasion. We don't have a date for moving house yet but I will be Installed and Licensed as Canon Precentor by Bishop June at a special service of Choral Evensong in the Cathedral on Sunday 10th February at 3.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and I will be delighted to see as many of you as can be at that service.

Newsletter: for any items to be included in this newsletter please email Sue Jones (office@beneficeofcanton.org.uk) Deadline is 12 noon on Fridays. For an email copy of the newsletter please contact Sheila at mgsmkelly1@gmail.com

Messy Christingle: today at 4 pm in St Catherine's. Come along and help our young people to shine the light.

St Catherine's Notes:

Hall Bookings: Please note a change of email contact for booking St Catherine's Hall. Bev can be contacted on hall.stcatherines@beneficeofcanton.org.uk

Midweek service: Holy Eucharist Wednesday 11.00 am

St John's Notes:

Ty Bronna: We are collecting tins and packets of soup throughout January. Please leave in the box in church.

Midweek Service: Holy Eucharist Thursday 10.30 am

St Luke's Notes:

Midweek Masses: Said Mass Tuesday 10.00am; Friday 6.00 pm; Saturday 10.30 am

Recently departed:

Diocesan and Anglican Prayer Cycle

Sun Jan 13 th	THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST Baglan: Stephen Jenkyns (PinC)	<i>the Anglican Church of Australia</i>
Mon Jan 14 th	Cwmafan: Elaine Jenkyns (PinC)	<i>Lexington (The Episcopal Church); Southwell & Nottingham (England); Gogrial (South Sudan)</i>
Tues Jan 15 th	Kenfig Hill: Jonathan Durley (PinC)	<i>Liberia (West Africa); Southwest Florida</i>
Weds Jan 16 th	Retired Clergy Society: Chaplain: Canon Edward Dowding	<i>Lichfield; Southwestern Virginia</i>
Thurs Jan 17 th	MARGAM: Edward Dowland-Owen (V)	<i>Limerick & Killaloe (Ireland); Spokane (The Episcopal Church)</i>
Fri Jan 18 th	Newton Nottage, Porthcawl: Canon Philip Masson (R)	<i>Lincoln; Springfield; Goma (Congo)</i>
Sat Jan 19 th	Port Talbot, St. Theodore: Mark Williams (V)	<i>Litoral Ecuador; St Albans; Gombe (Nigeria)</i>

Team Rector: Canon Mark Preece

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rector@beneficeofcanton.org.uk (Day off: Monday)

Team Vicar: Rev'd Emma Rees-Kenny

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vicar@beneficeofcanton.org.uk (Day off: Wednesday)

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