

SAINT JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Burton Road, Derby DE1 1TJ

Week beginning the 9th January 2022

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: PSALTER WEEK 1



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FATHER KEVIN SAYS...

“Dear Friends, on this feast day of the Baptism of the Lord, we find the Lord Himself being baptised by his cousin John in the river. As we remember from the popular story, John knew the limits of his own baptism, which was a variant of Jewish washings and intended as a symbol of repentance and willingness to be remade - what we sometimes call contrition. John knew of a coming Baptism that was more powerful, for he says in the gospel reading today that the One Who was on the way would baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire. Our first reading today is from the prophet Isaiah, who speaks of God coming to His people as a Saviour and a Shepherd, after the sin of Israel has been forgiven, after her punishment is at an end. So, John's baptism was to effect that spirit of contrition and bring forgiveness, thus preparing the way for God's redemption in Christ, through Whom God would arrive as a Shepherd. As we know, contrition and forgiveness are very fickle for human beings, and we frequently fall back into old sins, old lifestyles, where we look for comfort from a world of distress. Saint Paul speaks in the second reading of the requirement for a virtuous life of self-restraint, in keeping with the identity we have as Christians of being Children of God. It is through baptism and sacramental confession that we remain washed clean throughout our lives, constantly examining ourselves before God and so in our own ways preparing the world for the Second Coming of Christ, while ourselves being christos to a world in need.”

Father Kevin presently blogs on the parish website, where you could find small articles on the Catholic Faith:

<http://www.stjosephderby.org.uk/>

Mass intentions

N.B. NO NEED TO BOOK FOR MASS

6 pm	The Baptism of the Lord	Intentions of E Mc
<i>Sunday the 9th</i>		
8.00 am		Priest's Intentions
10.30 am		People of the Parish
<i>Monday the 10th</i>	Feria	
10.30am		Holy Souls
<i>Tuesday the 11th</i>	Feria	
10.30am		Augustine Paily RIP
<i>Wednesday the 12th</i>	St Aelred of Rievaulx	
10.30am		All sick & suffering
<i>Thursday the 13th</i>	St Hilary	
10.30 am		Vocations
<i>Friday the 14th</i>	Feria	
10.30 pm		Holy Souls
<i>Saturday the 15th</i>	Our Lady's Saturday	
10.30 am		All Health Service Workers
6.00pm		All struggling in the world
<i>Sunday the 16th</i>	Second week of Ordinary time	
8.00 am		People of the Parish
10.30 am		Tony Leckey RIP
Next week	Second Collection	Sick & Retired Priest Fund

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

As we are unable to attend daily Mass, you might like to use this prayer to express our faith in Christ and His Presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite Himself with us.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
 come at least into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
 and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Many thanks to all of you who so kindly remembered me and my household here at S. Joseph's this Christmas. Our profound gratitude to you for all your cards and gifts. You are naturally always in my prayers especially on Thursdays, when my daily rosary is said for the intentions of my Benefactors in all my years in seminary and as a priest.

Please keep in your prayers Mr. Patrick Stanton, who died recently, and his family and friends at this difficult time. Please also remember all those who are sick in whatever way around the world especially those in our parish, all those in hospital, nursing homes and being looked after at home. Also remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur around this time. Most importantly all those who work in the NHS striving heroically to keep us all safe, the emergency services, the drivers & supermarket staff, postmen, refuse collectors and all those helping to keep the country going. We have been asked to pray also and in particular for the Nigerians, especially in the south of Nigeria, who are experiencing a great deal of social strife, with young people being slaughtered on almost a daily basis.

Our school on the hill has kindly provided us with a regular newsletter, which I have now made available from the parish website (PDF format). You may find it on the download tree at the top left-hand corner of the website; steer through 'school newsletters.' It is always good to see what the school community is up to, especially in these challenging times.

Cleaning teams Now that more people are becoming more comfortable in returning to Mass we need to reinstate our cleaning teams. Some of those who previously carried out this important ministry for our parish have indicated their willingness to continue, thank you. However, we need more volunteers please. As you will be aware the more people/teams we have the fewer times you will be needed. If you are able to offer your support in this please either email the parish parish@stjosephderby.org.uk or let Fr Kevin know, please provide your contact details.

From Monday 19th July 2021, many of the restrictions imposed by the Government over the past year and a half were removed last month. The Bishops have confirmed that there will be no need to book for Mass, stewards will no longer be required but **hand sanitising and the wearing of masks remains**. You will no longer be required to sign in but you **may** scan the QR code, if you use the NHS telephone applications and if you wish to do so. Please remember that not everyone will be comfortable with close proximity with others, so please keep this in mind as you take your seats.

Confirmations 2022. We have a date for Confirmations in February, and the weekly programme has started, working up to that date. Some of your children have already participated in part of the course before the pandemic hit and closed us down and have already confirmed you wish your child to continue; I would like to ask them to attend with everybody else, although it may seem repetitive to a degree. This is because I don't know most of the candidates and I must be able to certify them as prepared when the Bishop arrives, especially in the absence of the usual catechists. If you haven't already applied or wish to apply for the first time, please contact us at parish@stjosephderby.org.uk so we can begin the process.

Confessions at the church. I have been hearing confessions, either on the driveway outside the church or in the seclusion of the parish centre, since I arrived in March 2020. I do understand the argument for anonymity during confession. Having observed the practice of other parishes in the deanery, I have restored the confessional in church. There is now at least half

an hour for confessions before every Sunday Mass, as well as an hour for confessions after the 10.30 Mass on Saturdays. You may still call at the house, of course, if you wish (preferably calling ahead to make certain I am available).

The Old Mass (TLM) will continue to be offered at 8.00 am on Sundays, through the generosity of the Bishop. This is the Mass as it was until roughly 1970 and is offered in the Latin language. There are some aids for following the Mass in Latin and a simple online aid is this website: <https://divinumofficium.com/cgi-bin/missa/missa.pl>.

Planned giving boxes As the restrictions have been lifted, we are now able to put the boxes out for you to pick up. **Please take yours from the table near the entrance.** Please note that your number has changed and only your name will be on the box. This will enable us to leave them available under GDPR. There are still a number of boxes unclaimed so please check if you are expecting a box. Thank you to all those who have continued to make your offerings and have contributed to keep the parish going through these difficult times.

Tea and Coffee after Mass This has been going on for several Sundays and we would like to restore what we had before the lockdowns. And we would like to have more volunteers, if possible. If you would like to support this, please let us know via an email (parish@stjosephderby.org.uk). There will be a rota sign-up sheet in the parish centre if anybody wishes to commit. Please note that we also meet for tea and coffee after some weekday Masses, and especially on Wednesdays.

Mass Intentions. If you would like to have a Mass Intention please email us (parish@stjosephderby.org.uk) with the details, we will endeavour to meet any requests for specific dates where possible. You can send your offering either by cheque or by using the bank details below. Request envelopes are available in the entrance porch. I am attempting to restore the office of Reader/Lector at Mass and I would like to invite parishioners who would like to read as in the past to come up and see me, or to contact us by e-mail: parish@stjosephderby.org.uk.

Bible study. Some of our parishioners had expressed an interest in a regular bible study session last year, and the only way this could be done seemed to be with video-conferencing. **This now takes place regularly on a Thursday evening at 19.00, live, in the parish centre.** This continues this week and we have just begun to work our way through the story of the Judges of Israel, coming up to the prophet Samuel and King David. If you would like to join in (with the study, not the invasion), feel free to come up or call the house for more information.

Weekly rosary via Zoom. Call at the house or send e-mail if you would like to join in. This takes place on Zoom every Wednesday at 19.00.

Do you know of anyone who does not have a computer and therefore no access to our website and newsletter? If so, please let us know or ask them to contact us by phone (343777) so we can take their details and communicate with them in an alternative way. We're prepared to mail newsletters around, so let us know if you would like that. All precautions will be taken with the handling of papers that are mailed out.

OUR PARISH SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) CONFERENCE

The SVP exists as a particular Catholic response to the prevalent forms of poverty and indigence in our society at large. The work of members of the society extends beyond the provision of financial support to individuals and families, focusing very much on visiting people who are sick, lonely, in prison or suffering from addictions. Person-to-person contact is essential, and spending time with those who wish it, very much in the spirit of the great French priest, Saint Vincent de Paul.

The work of the Society has been affected, like so much else, by the present public health crisis, and our rather young conference at S. Joseph's had to end their meetings early last year. Our members would like to re-establish old contacts and find new ones, as we return to work. At the moment, the best approach seems to be using telephones, while keeping to data-protection regulations. **We would like to know therefore of anybody who would benefit from friendly telephone conversations at this rather difficult time, and if they would be pleased to provide their contact details to that end.** Please contact the presbytery in the usual ways, by telephone, e-mail or post, and relevant information will be communicated to the SVP group.

If you would like to join the parish SVP group, please contact us in the usual ways and you will be redirected. If you would like to give towards the costs of the work of the SVP, please use these details: SVP St Joseph – Derby, acct 51256029, sort 60-60-04. **There is now a bin near the entrance of the church, to receive dried foods or tinned food for distribution to those who may need them.**

Stay safe, everyone!