

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 13 January 2019: The Baptism of the Lord

6.30pm (Saturday) Nora Keane RIP
9.00am Br Ambrose's intentions
11.00am Parishioners
5.30pm Rita O'Mahoney RIP

Monday 14 January

7.30am Br Loarne's intentions

Tuesday 15 January

7.30am *In honour of St Anthony*

Wednesday 16 January *St Berard &*

7.30am *Companions* Kieran Hughes

Thursday 17 January *St Anthony, Abbot*

7.30am Friars & Benefactors

Friday 18 January

7.30am Holy Souls

Saturday 19 January *St Wulstan*

8.00am Br Lucjan's intentions

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11.30am-12 noon; 5.30-6.25pm

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick.

Pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:

Francis Brannigan, Richard O'Brien, Michael Reeghill, Beatrice Bennett, William Zelly, Antoinette Barry, Rebecca Heels, Henry Sundar, Eileen Mulherne, Ellen McAvoy, Lisa O'Farrell, Patrick O'Mahoney, Patrick Joseph Haren, Marriott & Margaret Blay.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS:

No Second Collection this week or next week

Last week's collection:

Offertory £479.10 *Gift-aided* £102.00

Gift-aided donations by standing order for November 2018: £1180

SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Sunday 13 January 2019: The Baptism of the Lord

With the Holy Spirit and with Fire

The Holy Spirit comes down on Jesus in the form of a dove, which seems nice and gentle. But John the Baptist had previously said that the Holy Spirit would come with fire, which is a wilder and more threatening image. In other places the Holy Spirit is likened to water, or to a breath, or to a mighty wind. It could all be confusing. The paradox is that the Spirit of God is both burning and soothing, both gentle and fierce, both wild and loving.



1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Response: **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22

Entrance Antiphon: After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Friary news

This Sunday the friars welcome a new member of their fraternity – Br Antony Kurian, who will be studying here for a few years.

First Holy Communions 2019

Preparation classes will start this Sunday, 13 January, at 10am—please meet in the church porch. Those who have signed up should have received letters or emails with details about the course.

Confirmations 2019

Preparation classes for confirmation candidates restart today, Sunday 13 January.

Oxford Winter Night Shelter

This year our church is part of the Oxford Winter Night Shelter (OWNS). Every night during January, February and March, two church halls will be available for 10 rough sleepers. On Tuesday nights our own hall is one of those venues. The first session, this past week on 8 January, went well. Thanks to all who donated bedding or other items.

OWNS have linked us with a church called St Andrew's, Linton Road, which has also provided donations of food and bedclothing.

If you are interested in getting involved more directly, please see the OWNS website: <https://www.ownsoxford.org.uk/volunteers>.

This week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of Group B: Sam and John. Thank you.

Tuesday 15 January: Bible Study

The Bible Study Group will meet on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Friary (182 Iffley Rd). Please read beforehand chapters 6 & 7 of the Acts of the Apostles. It is an opportunity to discuss Scripture in an informal setting: you are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 16 January: St Berard & Companions

St Francis of Assisi sent some of his friars to preach to the Muslims in Spain; they moved on into Morocco, where they were martyred for their evangelistic attempts.

Thursday 17 January: St Anthony, Abbot

Not to be confused with the Franciscan friar St Anthony of Padua, this Anthony came about 1000 years earlier. He went into the Egyptian desert to lead a solitary life of prayer; but eventually his holiness drew many visitors and gained him disciples. He lived to over 100 years old and is seen as the father of monasticism.

Friday 18–Friday 25 January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Every year Christians throughout the world make a united effort to pray for the full unity, to pray that the divisions between us will be healed. The theme this year is from Deuteronomy 16:18-20 – “Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue...” Resources for

prayer and reflection can be accessed on the Churches Together website: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-resources>.

Also on Friday 18 January: Holy Rosary

Every Friday evening we pray the Holy Rosary in the church at 7pm. All are welcome.

Saturday 19 January: St Wulstan

Wulstan was Bishop of Worcester in the mid-eleventh century and campaigned vigorously against the slave trade operating through the port of Bristol.

Looking ahead:

26–27 January: ‘Mission @ Home’ Weekend

BCYS and the Companions of the Order of Malta invite young adults (18–35) to host afternoon tea and classical recital for homeless guests on Sat 26th Jan. Meet at 11.30am, St. Giles' CofE Parish Hall (OX2 6HT). On the evening of Sun 27th, Mission @ Home projects from across the Diocese come together for Mass, the Pope's homily, and food. Return transport to Mass provided. Call 07462 915 810 or email stephen.harris@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk for more info.

Starting on Sunday 27 January: Alpha Course

In this New Year, we offer a new beginning for your faith. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. They will be held in the church hall at 10am on Sundays, between the 9am and 11am Masses. All are welcome – why not bring a friend?

15–17 Feb: Vocations Weekend for young women

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more, have a look at the poster on our noticeboard or visit www.fcjsisters.org.



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School: Admissions for September 2019

The school invites parents to come and see their outstanding Nursery setting and Early Years provision. To arrange a visit please email coralreefsgp@dbmac.org.uk or call 01865 749933 ext. 263.

Used Christmas Cards

Please consider donating the Christmas cards you have received to be recycled for charity. There is a box in the porch where you can leave your cards.

Home visits

If you would like someone to visit your home to bless it (or indeed for any other pastoral purpose), please speak to one of the friars or contact the parish office.

Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member—whether or not you are a Catholic—please complete a registration form, which can be found in the porch. May the Lord bless you and your family.