

## The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 11 January</b> Vigil Mass for The Baptism of the Lord	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Souls in Purgatory and <i>pro populo</i></b>
<b>Sunday 12 January</b> The Baptism of the Lord	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Monday 13 January</b> Monday of Week 1	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 14 January</b> Tuesday of Week 1	6:30pm	Mass: <b>Michael &amp; Veronica Cavanagh</b>
<b>Wednesday 15 January</b> Wednesday of Week 1	9:30am	Mass: <b>Margaret Halliday</b>
<b>Thursday 16 January</b> Thursday of Week 1	9:30am	Mass: <b>Sr Catherine O'Reilly</b>
<b>Friday 17 January</b> <i>St Anthony, Abbot</i>	7:00am	Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 18 January</b> Vigil Mass for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: <b>John McGough and <i>pro populo</i></b>



**St Patrick's R.C. Church**  
*A Parish of the Finchale Partnership*

**Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Co. Durham, DH7 8JJ**

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## The Baptism of the Lord

## 12 January 2020

### “And a voice spoke from heaven...”

ONE OF MY FAVOURITE activities as a priest is baptising infants. This is not to say that I don't enjoy the privilege of baptising older people, but there is something of an additional joy at a baptism involving an infant; people are already celebrating the presence of a new life when they bring their baby along to further celebrate that gift within a religious setting. The atmosphere in the church is one of overwhelming happiness.

Like other sacraments, there is always at least one scripture reading at a baptism and one of the most common gospels read is the one we hear at Mass today of the baptism of Jesus, be it from Matthew, Mark or Luke. I believe that for many who come to witness a baptism, often not familiar with the Christian faith, there is a wonderful opportunity to talk about what they hear in the gospel and what they are about to witness. Clearly, the two events, a parish baptism and the baptism of Jesus, are distant in both time and space. I like to point out that though we will not hear a voice speak from heaven at the parish baptism as happened at the baptism of Jesus, nevertheless the sentiment expressed in them is the same for the child shortly to be baptised in the church as it was for Jesus at the River Jordan: “This is my child, loved by me; my favour rests on him/her.”

It is interesting that in all three gospels that mention the baptism of Jesus, there is no detail given of the baptism itself. In Matthew's gospel we hear John give in to Jesus's insistence that he be baptised, and the very next sentence conveys what happened after the baptism takes place. This does not mean that Matthew is attempting to underplay the importance of the baptism but is rather emphasising the significance of the revelation that happens after Jesus rises out of the water and the voice of the Father is heard, affirming Jesus's identity.

When someone is baptised, we can say the same thing: what is important is what happens *after* the ceremony. Certainly, the baptism ceremony is a great sacrament to witness and the day itself is important, but if we leave it at that we are failing to understand the significance of what happens in the cleansing waters of baptism. At baptism we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit and are admitted into the body of Christ, the Church. We are born again and are privileged, via anointing with Chrism, with the likeness of Christ, to enable us to live out our mission of preaching the Good News to the world via our words and deeds.

The baptism of Jesus is one of three revelations of Jesus to the world after his birth: the first was the Epiphany, then his baptism, and finally the miracle at Cana. Our baptism ceremony, lasting only about half an hour, was the beginning of a lifetime commitment to reveal Jesus each day through our manner of living. Let us recommit ourselves to this mission, as individuals and as a Christian community.

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead,*  
Fr Robert



## Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

### MINISTRIES

#### Saturday 11 January

##### Eucharistic Ministers

Helen Musham, Jane Smith  
Wilf Lavery

##### Readers

Brendan Payne  
Pat Middleton

##### Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths  
Michelle Dennis

##### Welcomers

Angela Harmston  
Christine Tracey

##### Music

Bill Wilkinson & Choir

### MINISTRIES

#### Saturday 18 January

##### Eucharistic Ministers

Ambrose & Pauline Burnside  
Harry Curran

##### Readers

Marie Paily  
Stella Foody

##### Children's Liturgy

(No Children's Liturgy  
this weekend)

##### Welcomers

Pat Middleton  
Mary Kitching

##### Music

Bill Wilkinson & Choir

Baptism of the Lord

Should you have any items for the bulletin or wish to have it emailed to you, please contact the parish via phone or email. Contact details are on the front of the bulletin. Items for publication need to be submitted by **12:00noon on Thursday.**

### We pray for our beloved deceased, including....



Souls in Purgatory

Sheila SIMPSON

Kamilla CROOKS

*Please remember in your prayers those who are sick and housebound in our parish....*

*John Byrne, Jack Tobin,  
Margaret Pouton, Mary Spears,  
Frances Harland, Sylvia Kelly,  
Rose Crick, Frank Moran,  
Doreen Carroll, John Pepper  
and Tom Taylorson*



### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £187 Loose Plate: £177

**TOTAL: £364**

Mass Attendance: 138

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE  
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



# What's going on...?

**Ordinary Time:** After this weekend the Church returns to Ordinary Time where green will be the dominant liturgical colour. This will last until Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on 26 February this year, and Easter Sunday falls on 12 April.

**My Favourite Hymn:** It's back! Your chance to nominate hymns for our choir. Forms are at the back of the church.

**Sunday of the Word of God:** On 26 January, we celebrate the first "Sunday of the Word of God". Pope Francis has declared that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time be devoted to 'the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God'. It is very timely that this first celebration of it falls in our national 'Year of the Word: the God Who Speaks'. One way that it could be marked in our parish is with a blessing of bibles. I encourage you to bring along your bibles for a blessing in two weeks' time.

**White Flower Appeal:** We will take up a retiring collection next weekend for the White Flower Appeal, with funds going to SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children). You can see the poster on the noticeboard urging you to sign a postcard, available near the doors of the church, which SPUC will send to Westminster to help protect the unborn.

**Twitter:** Please don't forget St Patrick's has a Twitter account and something is tweeted each day. These tweets are both of a spiritual and practical nature. Simply search for **St Patrick's Langley Moor**.

**Church Photos:** If you haven't looked at the parish website lately, I would encourage you to do so as there are some stunning photos that were taken a couple of months ago with a drone, both inside and outside the church building. They are on the homepage and if not already, will soon be under the "Gallery" tab.

**Nativity Scene Donations:** Thank you for your donations to the Friends of the Holy Land over the past few weeks. A total of **£204.40** was donated.. Thank you for your generosity.

**Remembering the Sick:** With regard to our responsibility to care for the sick and housebound, there is a basket on the table at the rear of the church which has a book for names of those regular parishioners who have not been able to attend Mass for some time. A card will be organised for delivery to the named person to remind them that they are not forgotten and are being remembered in prayer.

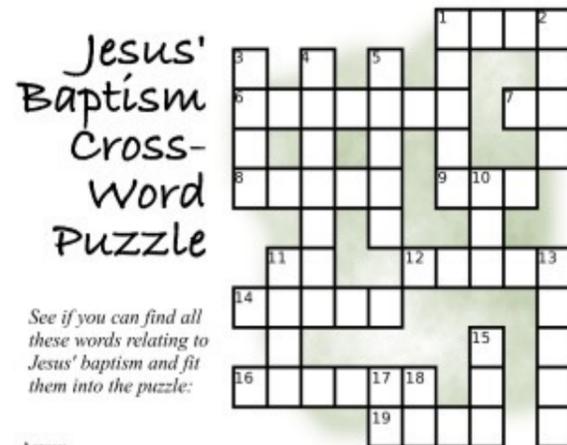
**Vacancies:** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

**Cleaner – St Hilda, Sunderland**  
6 hours per week. Closing date: 17 January 2020

**Cleaner – St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle**  
10 hours per week. Closing date: 13 January 2020

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

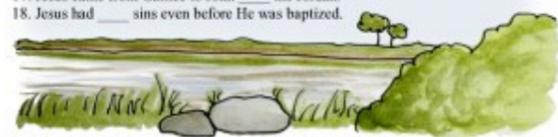
## The Kids' Bulletin



See if you can find all these words relating to Jesus' baptism and fit them into the puzzle:

- Across:
1. What was the name of the man who baptized Jesus?
  6. The \_\_\_\_\_ opened and the Holy Spirit came down.
  7. John said to Jesus, "You should baptize \_\_\_\_\_!"
  8. John baptized with \_\_\_\_\_.
  9. "This is my beloved \_\_\_\_\_ with whom I am well pleased."
  11. "This \_\_\_\_\_ my beloved Son..."
  12. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus was baptized He came out of the river.
  14. Once John had said about Jesus, "I am not worthy to \_\_\_\_\_ His sandals!"
  16. What was the name of the river where Jesus was baptized?
  19. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ John that it was fitting for Him to be baptized.

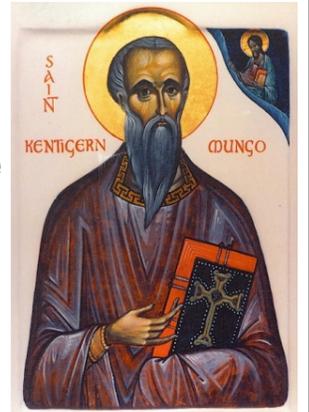
- Down:
1. Who had never done a sin but was baptized anyway?
  2. John said, "I \_\_\_\_\_ to be baptized by you!"
  3. Jesus did this to \_\_\_\_\_ as how important baptism is.
  4. The John in this story is called John the \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. They \_\_\_\_\_ a voice from Heaven.
  10. John came \_\_\_\_\_ of the desert to preach and baptize.
  11. When we are baptized, the Holy Spirit comes \_\_\_\_\_ our soul.
  13. Jesus was baptized in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  15. The Heavens opened and the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ appeared.
  17. Jesus came from Galilee to John \_\_\_\_\_ the Jordan.
  18. Jesus had \_\_\_\_\_ sins even before He was baptized.



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St Kentigern (a.k.a. St Mungo) - 13 January

Kentigern was born in about 518. At the age of 25 he went as a missionary on the Clyde. A community grew up around him, known as "Clasgu" ("dear family"), and this is now the city of Glasgow. He was consecrated as bishop in 540. A strong anti-Christian movement forced him into exile in Wales, where he founded a monastery at what is now St Asaph's. After 573 he spent eight years at Hoddam in Dumfriesshire before returning to Glasgow in 581. He died there on 13 January 603.



(Information taken from Universalis)

### Pope Francis' Mission Statement for January

May all Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill, promote peace and justice in the world.

"Blessed are those who believe and who have the courage to foster encounter and communion."



### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly **Prayer Group** will be held here at **St Patrick's** on **Tuesday 21 January**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments from 9:15am.

The next **Bible Study Group** will meet on **Monday 13 January** at **St Andrew's Methodist Church, Brandon** from **3:30pm - 4:45pm**.

All are welcome at these events and all events organised by Churches Together!



## Next Week's Readings

### Second Sunday of the Year

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

John 1:29-34



"Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God."

## "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Today Christ entered the riverbed of the Jordan, to wash away the world's sin: John himself bears witness that he came for this: 'Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.' Today the servant holds the Lord, man holds God, John holds Christ: holds him, as about to receive, not to grant forgiveness."

**St Peter Chrysologus** (c.380 - c.450)  
Bishop and Doctor of the Church



## SCHOOL NEWS

### New Term

On Tuesday, we welcomed our children to the start of a new term and are happy that four more pupils have joined our school. A very warm welcome to Mackenzie, Brooke, Millie, and Poppy.

### Statement to Live by

This week's Statement to Live By was, 'I try to follow our school and classroom rules'. We shared the story, from the Book of Exodus, of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. We reflected on the importance of laws and rules, in order to guide our lives and help us live happily together.

### First Holy Communicants

Children preparing for First Sacraments will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the school chapel next week. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers - Bartosz, Carys, Claudia, Emma, Graye, Kiahna, Lewis, Lilly, Millie, Osahenrhunmwun, and Victoria.

### Forthcoming Celebrations

The following celebrations will take place over the next couple of weeks:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will attend Mass in church on **Thursday 16 January** @ 9:30am

Reception will lead a liturgy in our school chapel on **Wednesday 22 January** @ 3:00pm

Years 3 and 4 will attend Mass in church on **Thursday 23 January** @ 9:30am  
All are welcome!

### Ofsted Report

Following our recent Ofsted inspection, we can confirm that the report is now available on our school website (under "School Performance") and on Ofsted's own website.

### Twitter

Don't forget that, you can always follow us on Twitter - @StPatsLM - and see some of the things the children are doing in school.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR....** the following intentions during the Advent and Christmas seasons, as requested by Bishop Robert: **Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.** Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

