



Image: Wall painting, Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist - I Yesus Church - Axum (Aksum) - Ethiopia. Photo by Adam Jones from Kelowna, BC, Canada, CCA-SA 2.0, WikiCommons.

EPIPHANY—BAPTISM—CANAN

Traditionally, there has always been a strong connection between these three events. This is clearly demonstrated in this year's cycle of readings, when they are read on consecutive Sundays. They are all "epiphanies" or "manifestations" of Jesus' glory.

Here is an extract from a homily by St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop of Ravenna, written c.440AD, in which he references all three events as happening together. Note how often he uses the word "today".

"Today the Magi find, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as he shone in the sky. Today the Magi see clearly, in swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as he lay hidden among the stars.

"Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die. So the Gentiles, who were the last, become the first: the faith of the Magi is the first fruits of the belief of the Gentiles.

"Today Christ enters the Jordan to wash away the sin of the world. John himself testifies that this is why he has come: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

"Today a servant lays his hand on the Lord, a man lays his hand on God, John lays his hand on Christ, not to forgive but to receive forgiveness.

"Today, as the psalmist prophesied: The voice of the Lord is heard above the waters. What does the voice say? This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.

"Today the Holy Spirit hovers over the waters in the likeness of a dove. A dove announced to Noah that the flood had disappeared from the earth; so now a dove is to reveal that the world's shipwreck is at an end for ever. The sign is no longer an olive-branch of the old stock: instead, the Spirit pours out on Christ's head the full richness of a new anointing by the Father, to fulfil what the psalmist had prophesied: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

"Today Christ works the first of his signs from heaven by turning water into wine. But water has still to be changed into the sacrament of his blood, so that Christ may offer spiritual drink from the chalice of his body, to fulfil the psalmist's prophecy: How excellent is my chalice, warming my spirit."

See the hymn "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" for a similar treatment.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, MASS/SERVICE TIMES, AND PRIEST'S INTENTIONS
 CONFESSIONS — 5.30PM SATURDAY, (OR AFTER WEEKDAY MASS ON REQUEST)
 TEA/COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MORNING MASS IN PARISH HALL

SUN 12 JANUARY	BAPTISM OF THE LORD, YEAR C	VIGIL (SAT) MASS	6.00PM 10.00AM	+Ted Nash Holy Souls
Mon 13	St Hilary	No Mass		
Tues 14	Feria, week 1	Mass	10.00am	+David Watts
Wed 15	Feria, week 1	Mass	10.00am	Peace in the World
Thurs 16	Feria, week 1	Mass	10.00am	Good Health of Family Member
Fri 17	St Anthony of Egypt	Mass & Rosary	10.00am	+Tony Thorpe (Anniversary)
Sat 18	Feria, week 1	No AM Mass		
SUN 19 JANUARY	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C	VIGIL (SAT) MASS	6.00PM 10.00AM	+Brigid Horan +Elisabeth Sebastian

11/12 Jan	Reader	EMHC	18/19 Jan	Reader	EMHC
Vigil (Sat)	AB	MH, BD	Vigil (Sat)	BD	MH, KD
10.00am	SS	JN, LE, LD	10.00am	CB	JN, JT, JP

PARISH GIVING: Please use this QR Code if you would like to support the parish further and/or contribute to our Second Collections.



PARISH COMMUNICATION GROUP:

As part of our centenary preparations, we would really like to engage with people who are not likely to visit a website—anyone under 40! Do you have experience running *Facebook*, *Whatsapp*, or *Instagram*? We would like to form a small group of innovative, savvy, and experienced communicators who could help us achieve our aim. For younger people, this project could be a very useful addition to a CV. Please email Fr Bill on his direct email if you are interested. Thanks.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY:

Centenary Fund.

LOL FAÇADE CROSS: We were going to put up a new cross as part of our Centenary celebrations in 2027.

However, it has been suggested that we could make it a Jubilee Year project (i.e. this year). Does anyone have an opinion either way? Please have a word with Fr. Bill. Thanks.

PEOPLES' SUNDAY MISSALS: CTS

edition now available in the sacristy for those who ordered, in return for £20. Redemptorist edition should be here soon.

PRAYER CORNER: Our prayers are asked for the following who are sick and/or housebound: T Steeles, Madelaine Newland, Robin Hockey, Dave Youngman, Barbara Williams, Joan Miller, Malcolm Davies, Nicholas Donnelly, Churcher Family, Elouise Sargent, Evelyn Merifield, John Allen, Marie Doolan, Paul Gordellier, Mary Tanner, Gill Norris, Mary Dene, John Hamon, Philippe Hamon, Catherine d'Espagnac, Doreen O'Halloran.

LYMINGTON BASICS BANK: With a serious cold spell expected over the next few days, this puts an extra strain on families and old people. Any gifts you are able to donate to people less fortunate than ourselves will be very much appreciated. Tinned items, dry foods, e.g. pasta and rice, sanitary items. All welcome. Thank you!

CRIB OFFERINGS: The Crib will remain up until 2 February, Candlemas. Any donations left by it will go to good causes in the Holy Land, administered by the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

THANKS: To Brian, Katherine, and Anne for taking down the Christmas tree.



Images www.ciudadredonda.org (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 ES)

PARISH INFO-BAR

The Presbytery, 15 Mount Avenue, New Milton. Hampshire. BH25 6NT

General enquiries, Mass Intentions, and Hall Bookings

Lizzie Davies
 Wed & Friday, noon-4.00pm
 01425 614 968
[@ololnewmilton](http://ololnewmilton)
[@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Priest

Fr Bill Wilson
 01425 614 968
[@wwilson](http://wwilson)
[@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Safeguarding Minister

Jill Parsons
safeguarding.newm
[@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)
 In emergency, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator on 02394 216 486

Live streaming

<http://churchservices.tv/newmilton>

Parish website

ourladyoflourdes.co.uk

Diocesan website

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Part of Portsmouth RC Diocese
 Registered Charity 1199568