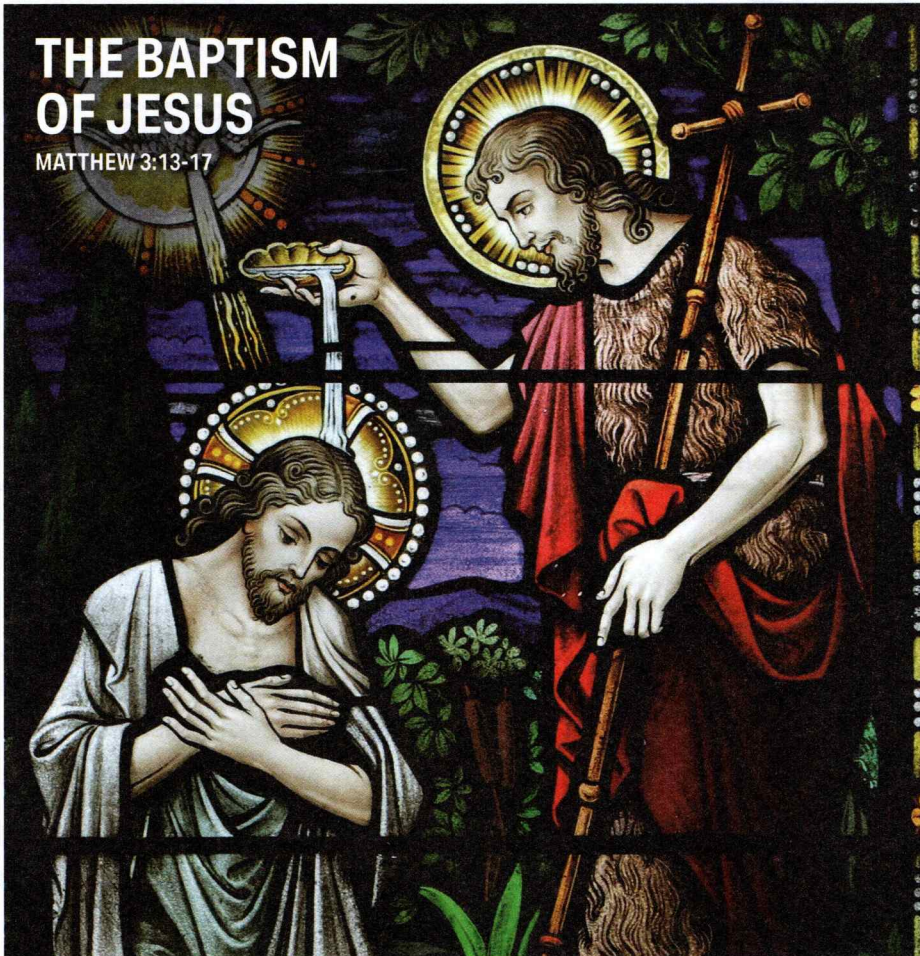


Sunday Message

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE WORD

Year A • 11 January 2026 • Psalter Week 1



THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

MATTHEW 3:13-17

This passage tells the story of Jesus being baptised by John in the River Jordan. At first, John doesn't want to do it – he feels unworthy. He knows Jesus is far greater than he is. But Jesus insists. He says, "Let it be so for now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness."

What does that mean? It means Jesus chooses to stand with us – with sinners, with the broken, with those in need of mercy – even though He Himself is without sin. His baptism is an act of humility and love. He doesn't need cleansing, but He enters the water to bless it for us all.

As Jesus rises from the water, something amazing happens. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit comes down like a dove, and the voice of the Father is heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

This moment shows us the Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – united in love. It also shows us our true identity in baptism: we are God's beloved sons and daughters. Just as the Father delights in Jesus, He delights in us too. The baptism of Jesus reminds us that God comes close, not to judge, but to save. ■

DO

Take a moment today to remember your baptism – maybe bless yourself with water or say a prayer thanking God for making you His beloved child.



REFLECT

Why does Jesus come to be baptised? John the Baptist is confused – and so are we. Jesus is without sin. He doesn't need to repent. But He comes to the water anyway. Not to be cleansed, but to bless the waters of baptism for all who will follow.

This moment reveals something beautiful about Jesus. He doesn't stand apart from us – He steps into our mess. He chooses to stand with sinners, with the poor, with the broken. He begins His mission not with glory, but with humility. In His baptism, Jesus shows us the heart of God – a God who walks beside us.

And then, something holy happens. The heavens open. The Spirit descends like a dove. And the voice of the Father says: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

That voice is not just for Jesus. Through our baptism, it becomes a voice for us, too. God calls each of us His beloved. No matter our failures, our fears, our doubts – God looks on us with love.

So today, remember your baptism. You are not just someone in the crowd. You are known. You are loved. You are God's child. And like Jesus, you are called to live in that love, and to share it with the world. ■

LEARN

Jesus' baptism shows us that God loves us deeply and wants to be close to us. It reminds us that through baptism, we become God's beloved children called to live in His love.

SAY

Heavenly Father,
at Jesus' baptism, you declared Him
your beloved Son.
Help me to hear your voice calling
me your beloved too.
Fill me with your Spirit and guide
me to live with faith and love every
day.
Amen.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*After the Lord was baptised, 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.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Or

O God, whose Only Begotten Son
has appeared in our very flesh,
grant, we pray, that we may be inwardly transformed
through him whom we recognise as outwardly like ourselves.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

'I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b. 9b-10. R. 11b

R: The LORD will bless his people with peace.

1. Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness. *R.*
2. The voice of the LORD upon the waters,
the LORD on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the LORD full of power;
the voice of the LORD full of splendour. *R.*

3. The God of glory thunders;
in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!'
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits as king for ever. *R.*

SECOND READING Acts 10:34-38

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand
that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears
him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word
that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus
Christ – he is Lord of all – you yourselves know what happened
throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that
John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the
Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing
all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL cf. Mark 9:7

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:
'This is my beloved Son; listen to him.'

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to
be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I
need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus
answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil
all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was
baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold,
the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God
descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a
voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am
well pleased.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the offerings
we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son,
so that the oblation of your faithful
may be transformed into the sacrifice of him
who willed in his compassion
to wash away the sins of the world.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



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TF1 3AP

THE BEACON

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Clergy: Fr Joe Donlan, Fr Michał Łatuszyński M: 07926 044405 E: stafford@pcmew.org

Safeguarding: Moira Shrimpton M: 07540 723614

Our Lady of the Rosary
& St Luke's Church
Church Road, Trench
TF2 7HG

Parish Office: The Presbytery, King Street, Wellington, TF1 3AP E: ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com T: 01952 – 242423

Sat	10th	17:30	Margaret & Patsy Garvey RIP	St Patrick's
Sun	11th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
The Baptism of the Lord		09:00	John D R Bergin – Special Intention	Our Lady's
		11:00	Georgina Manning Anniversary	St Patrick's
Mon	12th	Ferial		
Tues	13th	Ferial		
		12:00	Peter Vaughan (RIP)	St Patrick's
Wed	14th	Ferial		
		12:00	Service of Word and Communion	Our Lady's
Thurs	15th	Ferial		
		19:00	Service of Word and Communion	St Patrick's
Fri	16th	Ferial		
		09:30	Service of Word and Communion	St Patrick's
Sat	17th	17:30	Klaus Fikeis Anniversary	St Patrick's
Sun	18th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time		09:00	Barbara Ann Chrzanowska – (98 th Birthday)	Our Lady's
		11:00	Deceased members of the Nugent & Puiu Families	St Patrick's

SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

RIP: TV Joseph. We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time.

BAPTISMS: Forms are available from the porch. Please hand your form to Fr Ravi.

Weekly Offerings: Total: £1521.17- Standing Orders £705.87 (£542 Gift Aided), Envelopes £375 (£247 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £422.30 (Not Gift Aided). Dona - £18. We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

Holy Places Collection - £475.50

Bank details:

SRCDT 234025
St Patrick Wellington
Sort Code: 30-15-52
Account Number: 54546760

SRCDT -234025
Our Lady & St Luke Telford
Sort Code: 30-15-52
Account Number: 54582160



Please scan this QR code to donate to your parish online. You can register your card for gift aid to be added to every donation

ROTAS (W, EM, C)

Sat 5.30: Denzil & Jo, Nicky, Nigel & Bernadette. **Next week:** Lynne & Lewis, Ann, Anne & John

Sun 9: Katrina & Ria, Catharine D, Bruce & Mick. **Next week:** Vanessa & Tony, Catherine K, Laura & Edith

Sun 11: Jennifer & Paul, Jarmila, Moira . **Next week:** Evangeline & Shreya, Anna, Kate & Geraldine

Would you like the Newsletter emailed to you?

We can add you to the weekly mailing list, send your request via email to us at

ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com

If you need a notice in a future newsletter, email the exact wording to the email address above by
4pm each Wednesday

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)

DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

LIVESTREAM: Our Masses from St Patrick's are available online at <https://churchservices.tv/wellington>

JOB VACANCY , Parish Secretary For Our Lady & St Patrick's Parish: Details are available from the Diocesan website at

<https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/>

SUPPLY: Fr Joseph Jacob will celebrate our Sunday Masses on the weekends of 17/18th January & 24/25th January. When available Fr Joe Donlan will celebrate Tuesday Masses at 12 Noon (13th, 20th & 27th January). Fr John Paul from Shifnal will attend to pastoral emergencies. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

REGULAR GIVING TO THE PARISH: You can give regularly by standing order, by envelope and online via Dona. If we can identify your donation and you have completed a gift aid declaration we can claim an extra 25% from HMRC from tax you have already paid to them at no further cost to you.

Standing order forms and gift aid declarations can be found in the porches in the white drawers. (You can also set up a standing order in your banking app using our account details). When complete please post the forms in the post boxes. If you would like a supply of weekly envelopes, please leave a note in the box and complete a Gift Aid form if you can.

CLEANING AT OLoR AFTER MASS: SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY. The Baptism of the Lord (celebrated on 11th January) marks the "end" of Christmas time as we move into ordinary time. Given we'll need to remove all Christmas "decorations": it would be an opportunity to give the church a deep clean and tidy. **Please stay if you can and help - many hands make light work!**

AFTERNOON TEA: Friday 23rd January at 2pm: traditional sandwiches, savouries and sweet treats Our 2025 autumnal afternoon tea events were enjoyed by all: thanks to those attending. Donations to cover costs are always gratefully appreciated. In 2026 we'll be offering **bi monthly gatherings**. If you'd like to attend - complete your name and give details of any food allergies on the sign up sheet in the porch in both churches: closing date **Sunday 18th January: numbers limited to 32**. If you can help with baking or serving on the day - please speak to Dianne/Pauline/Suzi or Denise.

DIOCESAN YEARBOOKS are available for £8 each. Please put cash or cheques in an envelope and leave it in the locked box in the porch.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026 - Friday 6th March

A planning meeting to organise the service is on Sunday 11th January 2026, 2.30pm at Wombridge Church Wombridge Road, Telford TF2 6HT.

Email paulineheffernan60@gmail.com for more details or see Pauline after 9am mass at OLoR

1906 - 2026 – 120 YEARS OF ST PATRICK'S

OUR SPECIAL JUBILEE MASSES: On **Tuesday 17th March at 7pm** there will be a special Reunion Mass for all those who have attended St Patrick's Primary School and BRJ. There will be refreshments afterwards in the meeting room. On the following weekend Two more Special Masses will be celebrated. On **Saturday 21st March 5:30pm**, Mass will be dedicated to our deceased parishioners and priests who have served the parish. **Sunday 22nd March 11am** Mass will be a Mass of Thanksgiving presided over by Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury. After this Mass there will be a reception at Wrekin College Hall for everyone. Priests who have served the parish are invited to take part in the weekend's celebrations. We are announcing well in advance to give a chance to invite your family and past parishioners scattered throughout the world.

In preparation of the 120 years celebration St Patrick's will be undergoing refurbishment and will be temporarily closed from 2nd February to 2nd March whilst the works take place. The refurb will cost in the region of £25,000. Anybody who feels able to contribute towards this cost should let Fr Ravi know. Any donations can be given by cheque made out to St Patrick Wellington or paid directly into St Patrick's account (SRC DT-234025 St Patrick Wellington. Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account No. 54546760) and you should use the reference REFURB.

Wrekin College Chapel: St Patrick's weekend Masses in February & on 1st March as well as on Ash Wednesday Mass on 18th Feb, 7pm will take place at **Wrekin College Chapel, Sutherland Road, Wellington, Telford, TF1 3BH** at the same times as usual. There is space for all and plenty of parking on car parks. Nobody should park on the surrounding roads. The Chapel will be accessible from 30 minutes before each Mass.



A big "Thank you" from Moira for all the kind words, gifts and cards which were very much appreciated.