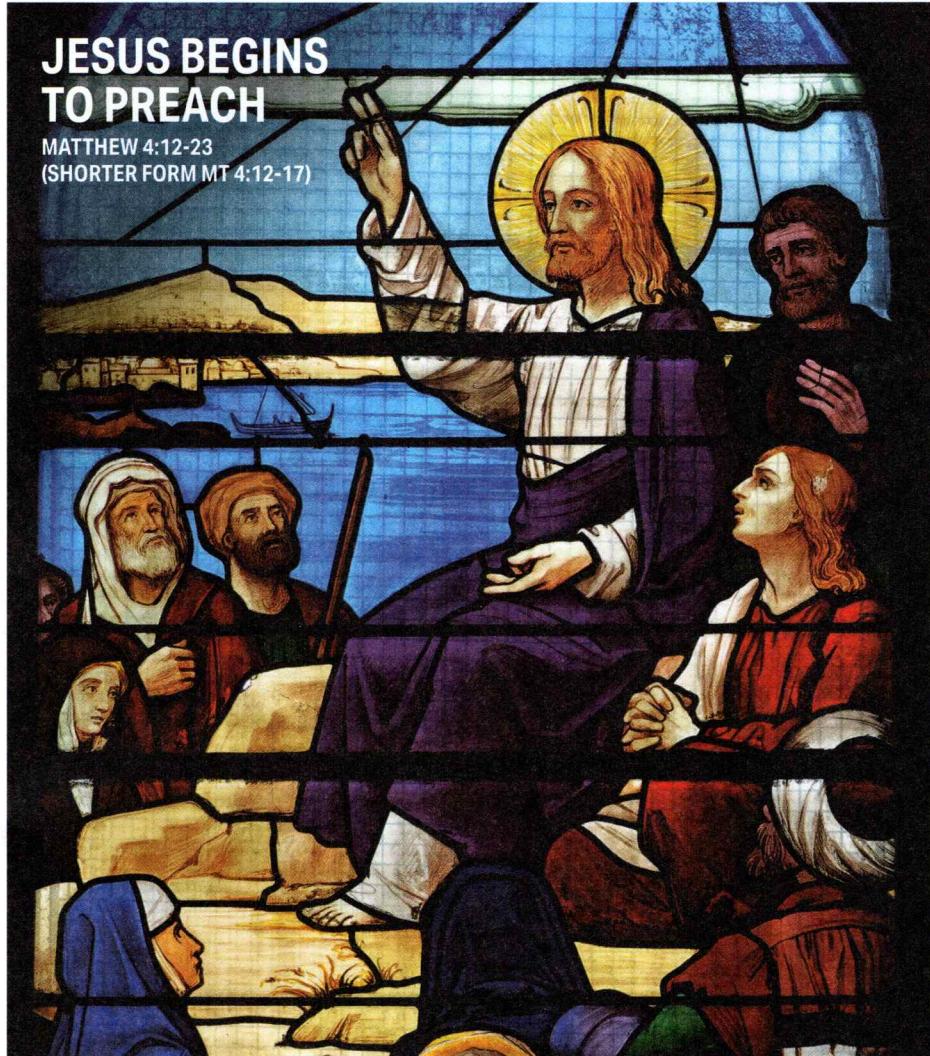


# Sunday Message

## THE WORD

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Year A • 25 January 2026 • Psalter Week 3



### REFLECT

**J**esus begins His ministry with a message that's both simple and challenging: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." That word – repent – can sound harsh, but it really means *turn around, change direction, come home to God*. Jesus doesn't begin with condemnation – He begins with an invitation.

Matthew tells us that Jesus brings light to those who sit in darkness. And we know that darkness – the darkness of fear, grief, failure, or loneliness. But Jesus enters into that shadow and brings hope. He comes to shine a light, not just for the world, but for each of us personally.

Then He calls His first disciples. They are fishermen – ordinary, hard-working people. Jesus doesn't ask for qualifications or perfection. He simply says, "Follow me." And they do. Not because they understand everything, but because something in His voice tells them this is the way.

Jesus is still calling today – not just the holy or the wise, but you and me. He meets us in our everyday lives, and says: *Come with me. I'll lead you into something deeper, something brighter.*

So if you feel stuck, tired, or uncertain – listen. His voice is near. The kingdom of heaven is close. And He is calling your name. ■

This passage marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. After John the Baptist is arrested, Jesus leaves Nazareth and settles in Capernaum, a town by the Sea of Galilee. Matthew tells us this fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah: "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light." Jesus brings light – hope, truth, and healing – to those who feel lost or forgotten.

From the very start, Jesus preaches a simple message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Repentance doesn't just mean feeling sorry. It means turning around, reorienting your life, and making space for God's presence.

Then Jesus calls His first disciples – fishermen at work: Peter and Andrew, James and John. He invites them with just a few words: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Amazingly, they leave their nets, their boats, even their families, and follow Him. They don't yet know the full journey ahead, but they trust the One who calls.

This Gospel shows us that Jesus meets us in ordinary places – by the sea, at work, in everyday life – and invites us to follow Him. His light still shines in our darkness today, and His call still echoes: "Follow me." ■

### DO

Read the Gospel passage slowly and prayerfully, then sit in silence for two minutes, simply saying in your heart: "Here I am, Lord – I want to follow You."

### LEARN

Jesus calls us to follow Him with open hearts, to leave behind what holds us back, and to trust that His light will guide us into something greater.

### SAY

**O** good Cross, made beautiful by Christ's body,  
you have been waiting for me.  
Jesus, I followed you from the shore  
when you called.  
Help me now to follow you always –  
with courage, with love, and with joy,  
wherever you may lead.  
Amen.



**ENTRANCE ANTIphon**

*O sing a new song to the Lord;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendour,  
strength and honour in his holy place.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,  
that in the name of your beloved Son  
we may abound in good works.  
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.**

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 9:1b-4

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shone.  
You have multiplied the nation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.  
For the yoke of his burden,  
and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 27(26):1. 4. 13-14. R. 1a

**R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
whom should I dread? **R.**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
only this do I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord,  
to enquire at his temple. **R.**

3. I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong;  
be stout-hearted, and wait for the Lord! **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13. 17

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgement. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each one of you says, 'I follow Paul', or 'I follow Apollos', or 'I follow Cephas', or 'I follow Christ.' Is Christ divided?

Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** cf. Matthew 4:23

**R: Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom  
and healed every affliction among the people.

**R: Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

(for shorter form read between > <)

> When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:  
'The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,  
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles –  
the people dwelling in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,  
on them a light has dawned.'

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' <

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

> The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. <**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,  
and in sanctifying them  
grant that they may profit us for salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIphon**

*Look toward the Lord and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.*

Or

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, receiving the grace  
by which you bring us to new life,  
we may always glory in your gift.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



St Patrick's Church  
King Street  
Wellington  
TF1 3AP

# THE BEACON

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Safeguarding: Moira Shrimpton M: 07540 723614

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

Sat	24th	17:30	Rosemary Walsh and Family – In Thanksgiving	St Patrick's
Sun	25th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		09:00	Eric Leary (RIP)	Our Lady's
		11:00	KC Chacko – 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St Patrick's
Mon	26th	<b>SS Timothy &amp; Titus</b>		
Tues	27th	<b>Ferial</b>		St Patrick's
		12:00	Rita Sterlini (RIP)	
Wed	28th	<b>St Thomas Aquinas</b>		Our Lady's
		12:00	Service of Word and Communion	
Thurs	29th	<b>Ferial</b>		St Patrick's
		19:00	Service of Word and Communion	
Fri	30th	<b>Ferial</b>		St Patrick's
		09:30	Service of Word and Communion	
Sat	31st	17:30	Robabe Razazadeh (RIP)	St Patrick's
Sun	1st	08:45	Mass in Polish	Wrekin College Chapel
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		09:00	Reg Wingfield (RIP)	Our Lady's
		11:00	John Gildert (RIP)	Wrekin College Chapel

## SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSON)

30 minutes before Masses

**RIP: Maura Charlton** (Funeral Service at Telford

Crematorium on 5/2 at 12:15pm).

**Matthew A McGarry** (Funeral Service on Friday 6/2 at All Saints, Wellington)

We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

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

**Weekly Offerings:** Total: £1493.64- Standing Orders £705.87 (£542 Gift Aided), Envelopes £260.50  
Loose Plate £464.27 (Not Gift Aided). Dona - £63. We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

### 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:** Lucy & Damien, Gail, Gay & Nicky **Next week:** Gail & Gay, Anne D, Maggie & Gail

**Sun 9:** Phillip & Bobbie, John, Bobbie, John & Nick **Next week:** Kevin & Joel, Francis, Catharine, Catherine & Felicity

**Sun 11:** Nancy & Stephen, Jane, Diane & Collette **Next week:** Marvellous & Melody, Stephen, Ann & Jane

### Notices for the Newsletter:

Email the exact wording to  
[ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com)  
by 4pm each Wednesday

### 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/>

### 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](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

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

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

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

## 1906 - 2026 – 120 YEARS OF ST PATRICK'S

In preparation of the 120 years celebration St Patrick's will be undergoing refurbishment and will be temporarily closed from **2<sup>nd</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March** whilst the works take place. A temporary home has been found at:

### WREKIN COLLEGE CHAPEL

St Patrick's weekend Masses in February & on 1<sup>st</sup> March will take place at **Wrekin College Chapel, Sutherland Road, Wellington, Telford, TF1 3BH** at the same times as usual. Ash Wednesday Mass on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7pm, will also be held there.

### CAR PARKING

There is space for all and plenty of parking on the college car parks. Nobody should park on the surrounding roads. The Chapel will be accessible from 30minutes before each Mass.

Mobility Parking is access via Constitution Hill and is a short walk to the chapel. All other parking at Wrekin College can be accessed via Stanley Road, off Sutherland Road. Please see the supplement with this week's newsletter

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 (SRCDT-234025 St Patrick Wellington. Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account No. 54546760) and you should use the reference REFURB.

**CELEBRATE** Join us after the Refurbishment to 120 years of St Patrick's with **3 SPECIAL JUBILEE MASSES**, all held at St Patrick's once it reopens:

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Saturday 21st March 5:30pm**, Mass will be dedicated to our deceased parishioners and priests who have served the parish.

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP 10+ - 25th January

We will be meeting in St Patrick's meeting room after 11am Mass (12-2pm) for games, snacks and a short reflection. Newcomers are very welcome. Come and share ideas about what you'd like to do this year.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE:** January's will be held on Monday 26th January at 1.00pm at Holy Trinity Church Wrockwardine Wood. The theme will be Justice & Peace.

All are welcome to come along. For more information, please contact [paulineheffernan60@gmail.com](mailto:paulineheffernan60@gmail.com).

### QUIZ NIGHT at OLOR – FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

Join us at OLOR for an evening of Trivia, Friendship and a Hot Meal. Raising money for HCPT & Church Funds.

Back by popular demand your Hot Meal will be Jacket Potatoes! with a new topping option as well. The choice of toppings this time will include: Cheese, Beans or Beef Bolognese (Vegetarian option can be available, please advise when purchasing tickets)

Poster with more information will be on each church notice board.

*A Jacket Potato and 1 topping are included with your ticket, additional toppings are 50p a portion.*

Tickets are £6 per person

### RAFFLE PRIZES

There will be a raffle at the Quiz night as well. If you can donate a prize, please drop it off at OLOR at Sunday Mass or bring it on the night. Prizes for future events are also welcome.

**DIOCESE VACANCIES** *Two vacancies have arisen within the Diocese of Shrewsbury.*

**Sales Ledger Clerk.** 20 hours per week, term time only contract. Hourly rate £14.60.

**Pilgrimage Booking & Customer Service Coordinator.** 20 hours per week, term time only contract with the possibility of some remote working. Hourly rate £14.60.

CV and covering letter should be sent to Pauline mcculloch [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Closing date: Friday 20 February 2026.

Further details can be found on the Diocesan website

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