



**The Order for Mass on  
the Feast of the  
BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 10.30am**

Parish Priest  
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*Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.*

*Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys.*

*There are two further play stations in the side aisles. Older children are invited to join Children's Church, who go out to their own activities after the first hymn, and return before Communion.*

*A toilet is at the back of church, behind the screen. After Mass, please join us in the hall for refreshments. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.*

*Mass setting: Dom Gregory Murray, A New People's Mass.*

*Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn 69:*

**Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining,  
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall:  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and monarch and Saviour of all.**

**Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,  
Odours of Edom and offerings divine?  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure;  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.** *Reginald Heber (1783-1826)*

*The priest sings:*

*Priest* In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The priest introduces the Mass, sends Children's Church to their activities, and invites the people to recall and confess their sins:*

*Priest* In order to fulfil all righteousness the Lord submitted to John's baptism of repentance. To celebrate this Mystery let us come with penitence for our sins to him with whom is the well of life, and the waters of salvation.

*People* **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*Priest* May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

*People* **Amen.**

*Remain standing to sing the Kyries:*

*People* Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

*We all sing the Gloria.*

*People* **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Then the priest prays the collect:*

*Priest* 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 recognize as outwardly like ourselves. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Now sit to listen to the first reading:*

*Reader* A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. (*Isaiah 42; 1-4, 6-7*).  
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.’  
This is the word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 29 follows the reading. Remain seated to sing:*



- 1 Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams | unto ' the | Lord :  
    ascribe unto the | Lord\_ | worship ' and | strength.
- 2 Give the Lord the honour due | unto ' his | Name :  
    worship the | Lord with | holy | worship.
- 3 It is the Lord that com- | mandeth ' the | waters :  
    it is the glorious | God that | maketh ' the | thunder.
- 4 It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; the voice of the Lord is mighty in |  
    oper- | ation :  
    the voice of the Lord is a | glo- | \_rious | voice.
- 9 The Lord sitteth a- | bove the | water-flood :  
    and the Lord re- | maineth ' a | King for | ever.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength | unto ' his | people :  
    the Lord shall give his people the | bless-\_| ing of | peace.

*Remain seated for the second reading:*

*Reader*      A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (Acts 10: 34-38)

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.’

This is the word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand for the gospel acclamation after a brief pause for reflection.*

*Choir* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Choir* The heavens opened and the Father’s voice resounded: ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’

*People* **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Priest* The Lord be with you,

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
*(Matthew 3; 13-17).*

*People* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Priest* 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please sit for the Homily from Fr Owen.*

*All stand to say the Nicene Creed:*

*People*

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and  
invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son  
of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from  
God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,  
not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him  
all things were made. For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was  
incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our  
sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered  
death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in  
accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into  
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He  
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who  
proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the  
Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has  
spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy,  
catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for  
the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the  
resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to  
come. Amen.**

*Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.*

*Priest* let us pray to the Father of lights, that he may send forth his Spirit and make all things new.

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy, / Lord, hear us.

*People* **Hear our prayer. / Lord, graciously hear us.**

*At the prayer for the departed,*

*Reader* Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

*People* **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*When the prayers of the saints are asked,*

**Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

*In conclusion to the prayers:*

*Priest* Grant, Lord, that being renewed in the spirit of our mind we may walk worthily of our discipleship. Merciful Father,

*People* **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Please sit, as the Choir sing “Bethlehem Down” by Peter Warlock (Philip Heseltine) (1894-1930), and bread and wine are brought to the altar.*

Stand to sing hymn 72, as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.

**The sinless one to Jordan came,  
To share our fallen nature's blame;  
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled  
And chose the path his Father willed.**

**Uprising from the waters there,  
The voice of heaven did witness bear  
That he, the Son of God, had come  
To lead his scattered people home.**

**Above him see the heavenly dove,**

**The sign of God the Father's love,  
Now by the Holy Spirit shed  
Upon the Son's anointed head.**

**How blessed that mission then begun  
To heal and save a race undone;  
Straight to the wilderness he goes  
To wrestle with his people's foes.**

**Dear Lord, let those baptized from sin  
Go forth with you, a world to win,  
And send the Holy Spirit's power  
To shield them in temptation's hour.**

**On you shall all your people feed  
And know you are the bread indeed,  
who gives eternal life to those  
That with you died, and with you rose.**

*George Boorne Timms (1910-97) © 1975 OUP.*

*The Priest says*

*Priest*      Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

*People*    **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

*Priest*      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.

*People*    **Amen.**

*The Priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:*

*Priest*      The Lord be with you.

*People*    **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:*

*People* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution.*

*Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:*

*Priest* The mystery of faith.

*People* **Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:*

*People* **Amen!**

*Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.*

*Priest* At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to sing,

*People* **Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

*Priest* Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our day, that by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we

await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*People* **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.**

*Priest* Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Now sing the Agnus Dei*

*People* **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (repeated)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*Then kneel.*

*Priest* Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*People* **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

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

*The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.*

*During Communion hymn 541 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.*

**O Love, how deep, how broad, how high!  
How passing thought and fantasy  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake.**

**He sent no angel to our race  
Of higher or of lower place,  
But wore the robe of human frame,  
And he himself to his world came.**

**For us baptized, for us he bore  
His holy fast, and hungered sore;  
For us temptations sharp he knew;  
For us the tempter overthrew.**

**For us to wicked men betrayed,  
Scourged, mocked, in crown of thorns arrayed;  
For us he bore the cross's death;  
For us at length gave up his breath.**

**For us he rose from death again,  
For us he went on high to reign,  
For us he sent his Spirit here  
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**

**All honour, laud, and glory be,  
O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee,  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete. Amen.**

*Latin 15<sup>th</sup> century tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-85)*

*All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:*

*Priest* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

*Please sit for the notices.*

*Then stand for the blessing and dismissal*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* We have come to Christ, the living water. Go in the peace of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus.*

*Priest* The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

*People* **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

*Priest* Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

*People* **Be it unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary...**

*Priest* And the word was made flesh,

*People* **And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...**

*Priest* Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

*People* **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

*Priest* Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel,

so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People*      **Amen.**

*Remain standing to sing hymn 74 as clergy and servers depart:*

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed!**  
**Great David's greater Son;**  
**Hail, in the time appointed,**  
**His reign on earth begun!**  
**He comes to break oppression,**  
**To set the captive free;**  
**To take away transgression,**  
**And rule in equity.**

**He comes with succour speedy**  
**To those who suffer wrong;**  
**To help the poor and needy,**  
**And bid the weak be strong;**  
**To give them songs for sighing,**  
**Their darkness turn to light,**  
**Whose souls, condemned and dying,**  
**Were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers**  
**Upon the fruitful earth,**  
**And love, joy, hope, like flowers**  
**Spring in his path to birth:**  
**Before him on the mountains**  
**Shall peace the herald go;**  
**And righteousness in fountains**  
**From hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,**  
**And gold and incense bring;**  
**All nations shall adore him,**

His praise all people sing;  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All-blessing and all-blest:  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever;  
That name to us is Love.

*James Montgomery (1771-1854)*

*The organist plays “Trumpet Voluntary”, op.5, no.1, by John Stanley.*

*Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.*

**Collection: we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.**

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