



ST AGNES', WEST KIRBY

St Agnes Church

16 Darmond's Green, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 5DU

Parish Priest: Father David Roberts

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Retired Deacons: Rev Basil Stephens Rev Peter Jackson

Parish Sister: Sister Monica Howes SND

Parish safeguarding representative: Maria Burchall telephone 0151 625 9759

Sunday 9th January 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

(Gospel: Luke 15-16, 21-22)

WEEK COMMENCING 9TH JANUARY 2022		Church	Intentions
Saturday 8th January: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Sunday 9th January: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Special Intention
Sunday 9th January: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Monday 10th January: 9.15am	Requiem Mass for Theresa Thompson	St Agnes	~
Tuesday 11th January: 9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Repose of the soul of Pauline Richards
Wednesday 12th January: 9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Thanksgiving: Paul Symes
Thursday 13th January: 9.15am	Requiem Mass for Josie Crowley	St Agnes	~
Friday 14th January: 9.30am	Requiem Mass for James Keaton	St Agnes	~
Saturday 15th January: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Gillian Prescott RIP
Sunday 16th January: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Fr Anthony Reynolds
Sunday 16th January: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Julie Brown

MASS READINGS can be found at universalis.com/mass.htm.

PLEASE PRAY for all who have died recently and their families especially: Anne Brady, Josie Crowley, James Keaton, Beryl Keningley, Helen Rafferty and Theresa Thompson.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick.



WE WELCOME Jacob Peter Moran to our parish community following his Baptism here last Sunday.

ONLINE MASS via Zoom is on **Sunday** at **9am**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84015861524>



GUIDANCE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MASS

Thank you for continuing to think of your fellow parishioners.

- please sanitise your hands on arrival and when leaving church.
- please continue to wear a face covering (unless exempt) and observe social distancing where possible.
- NHS Test and Trace contact sheet / QR code will still be available for you to use, however, this is not compulsory. Information will be kept by the Parish for 21 days and destroyed after this time.
 - please leave church promptly once Mass has finished.
 - please do not come to church if you are ill or showing symptoms.

 FRESH AIR

 TESTING

 FACE COVERINGS

 APP

 HANDWASHING

Diocese of Shrewsbury, a registered charity (N0 234025)

FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: From the account of Jesus' birth, Luke moves the narrative abruptly forward to John and Jesus as adults. There was some ambivalence on the part of the evangelists concerning the precise relationship of Jesus and John to one another. Nowhere is this clearer than in the accounts of the baptism of Jesus. Mark's account is terse and seems straightforward. He states that Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan. But on reflection we may well ask why Jesus needed to be baptized by John. John preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and Jesus was without sin. How did the evangelists deal with this embarrassing episode? In Matthew's gospel when Jesus comes to be baptized, John tries to prevent him. He only agrees after Jesus indicates that he should proceed in order to carry out God's will. We see a similar hesitation in Luke. In a peculiar move (left out of today's gospel account), Luke describes John's arrest and imprisonment for criticizing Herod before his account of the baptism of Jesus, thus leaving unclear who exactly baptized Jesus. Leaving aside these later Christian interpretations, we know that Jesus' baptism was a decisive moment. The craftsman from a small Galilean village would never again be seen in Nazareth. From then on, he would devote his life to a prophetic task that would amaze his family and friends. Accepting John's baptism meant that he shared John's vision of the hopelessness of Israel's situation; the people must go through a radical conversion in order to receive God's forgiveness and prepare for the encounter with their God. Jesus accepted baptism as a sign and commitment to a radical change. He heard the voice of God calling him to a new mission.

PEACE SUNDAY is next Sunday 16 January. This year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'. The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peacemaking? Which 'tools for building lasting peace' do you think Pope Francis might be talking about? In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media. Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022> Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

If you'd like your personal donation to be counted towards the parish contribution please give the parish name and town in the 'Additional Information – Order Notes' box on the checkout page.

ST CATHERINE'S PARENTS AND TOTS PLAYGROUP restarts this Friday (7th January) 1.30pm - 3pm in a Covid secure environment in the Parish Hall. All parents/carers and children (age 0-4) are very welcome.

A SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK led by Deacon Peter Jackson will take place on Tuesday 18th January at 11am at St Agnes. All welcome.



Do you have any items for the newsletter?

Would you like to receive the newsletter electronically each week? Please email Phoebe in the Parish Office. (stagneswestkirby@gmail.com).

Baptism of the Lord
Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

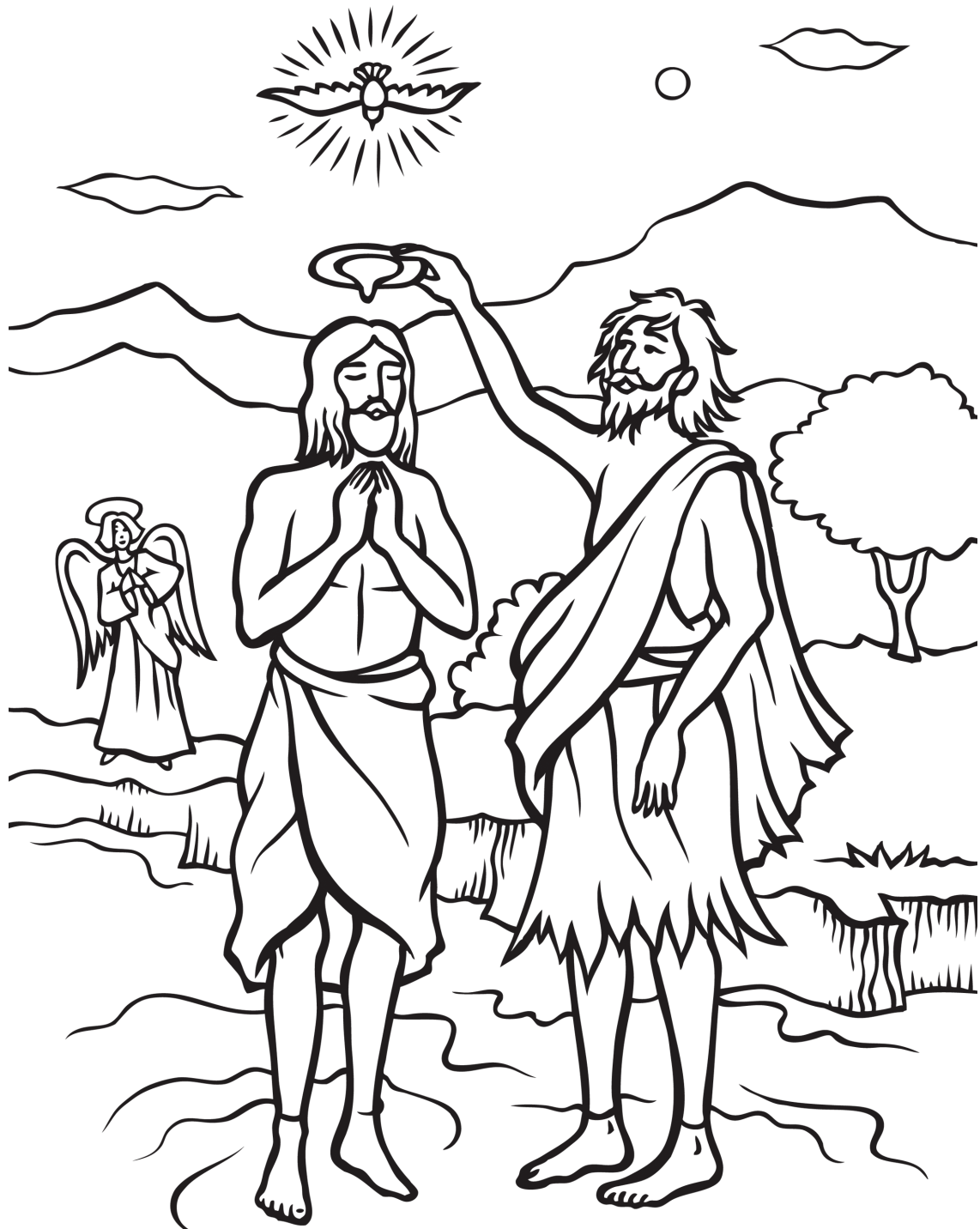


Illustration: Jane Smith. Charity no 1160384 and a company limited by guarantee no 09387398

Find more activities and prayers at cafod.org.uk/families

CAFOD Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

**no one
beyond reach**

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