

St Francis de Sales Church
 Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash Common,
 Newbury RG14 6NH
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory Road,
 Hungerford, RG17 0AF
 Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number 246871
 Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
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Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR A

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Feast of the Day</i>	<i>Mass Intention</i>
Sat Jan 10	5:15 pm 6:00pm	St F	Adoration & Rosary MASS	Bill Tyler RIP 15 th Anniversary
Sun Jan 11	09:00 am	OLOL	MASS	The People of the Parish
	11:00 am	St F	MASS	
Mon Jan 12				
Tues Jan 13	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	St F	NO MASS	
Wed Jan 14	9:30 am	OLOL	NO MASS	
Thurs Jan 15	9:30 am 10:00 am - 10:30 am	St F	NO MASS	
Fri Jan 16				
SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A				
Sat Jan 17	5.15 pm 6:00 pm	St F	Adoration & Rosary MASS	The People of the Parish
Sun Jan 18	09:00 am	OLOL	MASS	
	11:00 am	St F	MASS	Private Intention

**The Popes Intention
January**

For prayer with the Word of God
 Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be
 nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in
 our communities, helping us to build a more
 fraternal and missionary Church.

Please help us to continue God's work by
 supporting us financially Lloyds Bank 30 93 04
 a/c number 00882993 CDP Newbury StFrancis
 de Sales Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday,
 Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm Parish
 Administrator Yvonne Eaton

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tom
 Postlewaite who died last Monday

Matthew 3:13-17 Fr Adrian Graffy

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings the Christmas season to an end. The Solemnity of the Epiphany led us to reflect on the mission of the Lord to bring salvation to all nations.

Now we see that mission begin with the reporting by the evangelists of a most significant action of the adult Jesus. John the Baptist, who has been baptising and preaching repentance as well as instilling hope in the people to look forward to the 'one who is to come', now comes face to face with the Messiah. Jesus, although he is sinless, nevertheless wishes to undergo with the people the baptism of repentance. It is not surprising that John is perplexed and initially unwilling to comply.

The words of Jesus that they should do 'all that righteousness demands' suggest that we are dealing here with the fidelity of the Son of God to enter fully into our damaged humanity.

As in the other synoptic gospels (Mark and Luke) the baptism of Jesus by John is accompanied by a vision and a voice. Jesus sees the Spirit descend on him. It is the Spirit mentioned by Peter to Cornelius in our second reading when he says that 'God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and power'. The words addressed to Jesus, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him', echo the words of God in the first reading from the book of Isaiah. This passage is known as the first 'Servant Song'. The prophet presents to us the qualities of true servanthood, qualities which are amply lived out in the life and mission of Jesus. The baptism of Jesus is a clear expression of his will to stand alongside sinners in order to bring us the fulness of life.

Please pray for Lily Brooke, Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Mary Dykes, Chris Dykes, Emma Dykes, Joe Emery, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Elizabeth Sage, Arthur Mitchell, Malcolm Higgins, Sofia Joseph, Corbert Joseph, Gillian Spencer, Krzysz Zablocki, Margaret McGuire, Sean Early, Tony Lavers, John Huckle, Eveleen Softley and Fr Pat who ask for our prayers. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Sunday 11th January **First Holy Communion course Lesson 5** at 12 noon

Sunday 18th January **First Holy Communion course Lesson 6** at 12 noon

Thursday 22nd January 7.30pm Ninth **meeting of the RCIA, Journey in Faith** programme in the Parish Hall. This meeting will be led by Fr. Peter and will look at the ways that God communicates

Annual Parish Meeting / **Patronal Feast** Sunday 25th January 2026

Lent Reflection Day Douai Abbey, Saturday 28th February 10.00 am - 4.30 pm. Suggested contribution £20. Bring a packed lunch

Thought for the Week



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly. And going into the house, they saw the child with his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and myrrh." (Matthew 2:10-11 ESV-CE)

GREGORIAN CHANT COURSE A Gregorian Chant Course is starting in 2026, to be held at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. This unique series of workshops offers an opportunity to immerse yourself in the timeless art of Gregorian Chant, led by Dominic Bevan, professional music director, alongside Monastic instructors. Three one-day workshops: 10 January, 14 February, and 14 March, open to adults and children (7+), suitable for beginners and experienced singers, of all backgrounds and faiths. See poster on our noticeboard or find out more details here.

2026 Pilgrimage to Assisi, 14th - 19th June: This pilgrimage/holiday offers the opportunity of enjoying both the city of Assisi and the beautiful countryside of Umbria. Visits and excursions to religious and cultural sites in the area. Cost: £1075 per person (sharing) / £1195 per person (single occupancy) inclusive. Flights are Heathrow - Perugia return (20 minutes from Assisi). Full details from Fr Michael by email if requested