

3 Churches News

www.3churches.org

Christ the King
Newborough Avenue
CF14 5AA

St Brigid's
Crystal Glen

St Paul's
Cyncoed Road
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Canon Matthew Jones and Fr Andy Bord
St Brigid's Presbytery, Crystal Glen, Cardiff CF14 5QN
Assisting Fr Peter Davies

Contact for the priests, general & St Brigid's / St Paul's enquiries:

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Website and live-stream 3churches.org

YouTube "3 Churches in Cardiff"

Sunday January 8th 2023

Baptism of the Lord (YEAR A)

Issue 1/23

"BETHANY BEYOND THE JORDAN"

The hottest place I have ever been must be, I think, a spot in the Jordan Valley in the Palestinian Territory near Jericho that we visited on pilgrimage in 2014. This is where St John's Gospel says St John the Baptist started his ministry, "Bethany beyond the Jordan" and here Jesus came and was baptized. Now most pilgrims to the Holy Land visit another "Baptism site", very beautiful, and near to the Sea of Galilee, but hardly anyone nowadays believes that to be the actual spot. Tradition says that the Jericho site was a goal for pilgrims from the earliest days, that many of John the Baptist's followers stayed in the area, churches were built, and monks lived in nearby caves, but centuries later, when the time of the Byzantine Empire and Crusades ended, the site became neglected and pilgrimages eventually stopped.

In 1897, a scholar from Jerusalem discovered the Madaba Map, a 6th century mosaic depicting the Middle East, and study of it led to interest in the exact location of the Baptism. Pilgrims started to return hoping to find clues, and a church was built, but the World Wars and the conflicts in 1948, 1967 and 1973 made the site a no-go area for most of the 20th century. It became a militarized zone, full of mines, until Jordan and Israel / Palestine. A member of the Jordanian royal family got interested in the eastern, Jordanian half of the site. This led to excavations which discovered mosaics and ruins of a church, and later many more archaeological remains. Altogether the remains of five different churches, built at separate times, have been found.

Ancient pilgrims' accounts show how closely their descriptions matched with what has been discovered. In AD 530 Theodosius wrote of 'the place where the Lord was baptized there is... the church of St John the Baptist, which the Emperor Anastasius built: this church is very lofty, being built above large chambers, on account of the Jordan when it overflows.' The remains of the piers over which this church was built were now discovered. Also in the 6th century Antoninus added that there were marble steps descending into the water, and these were found too.

I remember staggering back to the coach in the heat on that afternoon, where signs to left and right of the fenced track warned of still buried mines. But I wouldn't have missed for the world the very spot where today's Feast of the Baptism actually took place.

Fr Matthew



~~~~ Baptism of the Lord (Sunday 8 January 2023) ~~~~



Response to Psalm **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:**

**This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him. Alleluia!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Acts 10:34-38 Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17**

St. Brigid's and Christ the King are parishes of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. A Registered Charity No. 242380.

**Parishes of Christ the King, Sts Brigid and Paul Page 1**

## 3 Churches

### **BAPTISM**

We welcome Lara Hulme through the sacrament of Baptism at Christ the King next Saturday, and remember her parents, family and godparents in our prayers.

### **WHITE FLOWER APPEAL**

Next weekend we will take the White Flower Appeal collection in our 3 Churches.

### ***Christ the King School PFA***

Christ the King School PFA has been nominated for Asda's Green token appeal, which offers charitable donations to members of the community.

If we have the most votes, we will receive £500 towards our fundraising goal!

[www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens)

It takes 3 steps to register the vote:

1. Select *Cardiff Coryton*
2. VOTE *Christ the King PFA*
3. Confirm your vote via a link sent to your email.

You can vote once EVERY 7 DAYS. Voting runs until 30 April.

### **Mass Intentions**

These should include the name of the person (or occasion) for whom the Mass is to be offered, any specific date requested for the Mass, as appropriate the name of person making the request and any Mass offering - with any cheques made payable to Canon Matthew Jones. For St Brigid's and St Paul's Mass requests should be sent to St Brigid's Presbytery or put through the letterbox. Requests for Christ the King Masses should be sent to the Parish Office or put into the white box by the Parish Centre door.

### **Sick List**

Requests for names to be added to / removed from the list in this newsletter can be sent to the editor, Luke Todd

([luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk))

If the person making the request is not an immediate family member they should check with the family first and confirm in the request that this has been done.

### **January Baptismal Course**

The next 2 week baptismal course will take place at 7pm on Tuesdays 17 & 24 January. The course will be held in the sacristy in St Brigid's, entry via the front door of the church. Should you have any queries or require further information please contact Ann Martin

([stevenmartincardiff@gmail.com](mailto:stevenmartincardiff@gmail.com))

The next 2 week course after January, will take place in St Teilo's Church in March. Details of this course will be published closer to the March dates.

### ***First Holy Communion 2023***

Applications for First Holy Communion for St Brigid's, Christ the King and St Paul's will open on Friday 27 January for children born before 1 September 2015. You will be able to apply via our webpage - [www.3churches.org/first-holy-communion](http://www.3churches.org/first-holy-communion).

Classes will begin in March.

For more information, please email Clare,

[threechurchescommunion2023@outlook.com](mailto:threechurchescommunion2023@outlook.com)

### **Seeds for the Future (Lesotho)**

Thank you to those who supported our Christmas raffle or gave 'Gift of Education' donations. We raised £550 which will go towards continuing support for the community of Ramabanta in 2023.

### **2023: A Year of Positivity**

January: Start the year positively - write down (so you don't forget!) three little, personal pledges you are definitely going to achieve this year.

For ideas, visit [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

### **Peace Sunday**

Next Sunday 15 January, is World Peace Sunday.

"Our greatest and yet most fragile treasure is our shared humanity as brothers and sisters, children of God. None of us can be saved alone."

~ Pope Francis on the World Day of Peace, 1 January 2023.

You can read more at

[www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace-Sunday-2023](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace-Sunday-2023)

### ***Read the Bible in a Year. New Year Resolution?***

You can begin at any time.

If you get behind, don't worry! Just pick up where you left off.

Find out more at - <https://readthecatholicbibleina-year.wordpress.com/>

### **Pantomime**

12 - 14 January 2023

Tickets are on sale for *Jack and the Beanstalk* at St Peter's Church Hall, Roath; a show full of fun for the whole family.

Tickets £9 adults and £7

concessions. Discounts available for large group bookings.

To book contact Peter (07779

088623 or email [info@tbetc.com](mailto:info@tbetc.com))

## Other events

### Cardiff Bach Choir

The Cardiff Bach Choir will be performing Handel's Messiah in St Andrew's URC, Roath (on the corner of Penylan Road and Wellfield Road) on Saturday 14 January 2023 at 7pm. Tickets will be available at the door: £17.50 (under 16s free), students £8

## A Prayer for the New Year & for Peace

### Building for the Future

May the memory of wars strengthen our efforts for peace;  
May the memory of those who died inspire our service to the living;  
May the memory of past destruction move us to build for the future;

*O God of Peace, O Companion of our souls,  
O Builder of Love and Justice in this world.*

Lord, we commit our time, our energy, our talents, our gifts, even our limitations, failures and very selves to the cause of justice, peace and human development.

We join our lives with those who support the struggle for life.

Amen

(Linda Jones / CAFOD)

## Christ the King

### **50 Club**

In 2023 contributions from the 50 Club will be used to support the 'Warm Space' project planned to run in the Parish Centre one day a week from January.

Subscriptions of £12 for the year from those paying in cash or by cheque will be collected at the back of the Church after the Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday morning on the weekends of 14 / 15, and 21 / 22 January. New subscribers are especially welcome. You can pay in cash, with a cheque or by bank transfer - account details will be available.

There will be a monthly draw with three prizes each month.

Thank you for your support.

For further information contact Sheila Drayton (07979 456598)

**Please note that Mass next Sunday will be a Family Mass and will take place at 9.30am**

### Junior Club

The Junior Club will return on Friday 13 January, 6.30 - 7.45pm in the Parish Centre

### **Baby and Toddler Play Group**

The Baby and Toddler Play Group will return on Monday 9 January.

### Living Faith

The new Living Faith booklets are now available at the back of the church priced £1

### **Year Books**

The new diocesan year books are available in the porch priced £4.

### Thank you

The family of John Flynn who died in September have sent a message of thanks to everyone at Christ the King 'for being a friend to our Dad and for showing us not only the impact the Church had on Dad's life but also the impact that Dad had on the Church.'

### **Quiz Night**

Our next Parish Quiz will take place in the Parish Centre on Thursday 12 January 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Bring along your own drinks / snacks - glasses and corkscrews provided! Come as a team or come along and join a team on the night. Everyone welcome.

### **Mass Sheets**

From 14 / 15 January copies of the sheets already in use at St Brigid's and St Paul's containing the readings will be available at Christ the King. The response to the Psalm and the Gospel Acclamation will no longer be printed in the newsletter. Those attending 6pm Vigil Mass are asked to return the sheets to the porch after Mass so that they are available for Sunday morning Mass

### **Communion**

If you or a family member needs communion to be brought to you in your bench, please let one of the welcomers know on your way into Mass.

### **Send your newsletter items to:**

[luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk) and if you would like to be included on the mailing list to receive an e-version of this newsletter, please contact the same address.

# WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

## Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup> Baptism of the Lord

|        |         |             |                                                                                  |
|--------|---------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun.   | 9am     | C the K     | <b>Helen &amp; Chris Stevens Golden Wedding (Stevens)</b><br>Baptism of the Lord |
|        | 9am     | St Paul's   | <b>People of the Parishes</b>                                                    |
|        | 10.30am | St Brigid's | <b>John &amp; Mary Kingston</b>                                                  |
|        | 6pm     | St Brigid's | <b>Special Int (Church)</b>                                                      |
| Mon.   | 9.30am  | St Brigid's | <b>Claire &amp; Donald Hawes (Daley)</b>                                         |
| Tues.  | 9.30am  | C the K     | <b>Helle Juul Davies (I Grey)</b>                                                |
| Wed.   | 9.30am  | St Paul's   | <b>Fred &amp; Peggy John</b>                                                     |
| Thurs. | 9.30am  | C the K     | <b>Private Intention (M Meades)</b>                                              |
|        | 7.30pm  | St Brigid's | <b>Holy Souls</b>                                                                |
| Fri.   | 9.30am  | St Paul's   | <b>CN Family St Hilary</b>                                                       |
| Sat.   | 9.30am  | St Brigid's | <b>McManus Family Int</b>                                                        |
|        | 11.30am | C the K     | <b>Baptism: Lara Hulme</b>                                                       |

## Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

|      |         |             |                                                                             |
|------|---------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat. | 6pm     | C the K     | <b>Maree McGee (M Taylor)</b>                                               |
| Sun. | 9.30am  | C the K     | <b>Edith Baker (R&amp;U Perera)</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time |
|      | 9am     | St Paul's   | <b>Maria Hertogs Munoz (Slowikowska)</b>                                    |
|      | 10.30am | St Brigid's | <b>People of the Parishes</b>                                               |
|      | 6.00pm  | St Brigid's | <b>Special Int (Church)</b>                                                 |

### 3 Churches Parish Council Chairs

#### Sts Brigid & Paul

Karen Sylvester  
sylvestercf  
@aol.com

#### Christ the King

Elizabeth Taylor  
2075 1401  
tayleat  
@gmail.com

#### Christ the King

Primary School  
Headteacher  
Mrs S Miles  
2075 4787

#### Corpus Christi

High School  
Headteacher  
Mr Patrick Brunnock  
2076 1893

#### St David's College

Principal  
Mark Leighfield  
2049 8555

#### Safeguarding Representatives

#### Sts Brigid & Paul

Pat Williams (St B)  
2061 7374  
Carl French (St P)  
2075 4418

#### Christ the King

Christine Williams  
& Neil Powell  
Safeguardingctk  
@gmail.com

#### Bereavement Support Group

07594 217098

Please send items to [luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:luke.todd@yahoo.co.uk) by Wednesday afternoon at the latest!

### Praying for our Neighbours

During the coming week, please pray for our neighbours in  
Trecastle Avenue

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

St Brigid's ~  
Saturday 10.00am  
Christ the King ~  
Saturday 5.40pm  
St Paul's ~  
Friday 10.00am  
Or by request...

### PRAYERS

Please remember the following in your prayers, who are unwell at this time:

Mary Amugan, Chris Babu, Bill Brown, EAB, John Campbell, Dennis Cooke, Corey-Jay Coles, Terry Culbertson, Sid Daw, Emily, Richard Evans, Norbert Flynn, Baby Francesca, Sheila Hanson, Maria Hill, Liz, Avirachen Mathai, Una Meades, Miranda Meldrum, Dominic Morgan, Sarah Morris, Kate Murphy, Niamh Murphy, Kieran Ollin, Steve Prince, John Reardon, Claire Richards, Anne Roach, Oliver Roberts, Adela Rogers, Shaun Stone, Hilary Tracey, Mike Tracey, Anne Wake, Gemma Ward, Emma Warlow, Dorothy Warren & Marie York.