

# ✠ Baptism of our Lord ✠ Sunday 11th January

## COLLECT

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted  
children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

(Isaiah 42.1-9)

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.' This is what God the Lord says – the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it.' I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING:

(Acts 10:34-43)

A reading from the Book of Acts:

Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

(Matthew 3.3-17)

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ was revealed in flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.' Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Heavenly Father,

as we bring these gifts, renew us by your Spirit,  
who descended upon Jesus at his baptism.

May these offerings serve your kingdom

and draw us closer to Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity,

you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as  
Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:

by the power of your Spirit

complete the heavenly work of our rebirth

through the waters of the new creation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



## PARISH CONTACTS

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## BLACKBURN DIOCESE CENTENARY

### ✠ ST GEORGE'S CHORLEY ✠

#### NOTICES FOR 11th JANUARY 2026

**WELCOME** - as we gather together to hear from God in His word, and to receive God in the Sacrament and encourage each other in the faith.

#### ST GEORGE'S CONTACTS

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Church Hall

**PCC Meeting reminder** – the next meeting will be at 7:30pm this Tuesday 13th January in the Church Hall.

**MORNING PRAYER FRIDAYS** – 9:15am. These have now resumed in the side chapel. Everyone is welcome to join us to pray for the parish and the community during the vacancy.

**PARISH PRAYER GROUP** – meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. Join us in praying for the parish and various activities. Check back here for details and venue of the next meeting.

**CANDLE WAX APPEAL.** A reminder that soldiers are still fighting in the trenches in Ukraine; so please save the ends of your candles over the festive period.

**PARISH PASTORAL VISITING TEAM** – if you know of anyone who would like a visit from the team or a Home Communion, please contact Carol Pearson either by phone or email: [carolpearson@outlook.com](mailto:carolpearson@outlook.com) or call 07981 021288.

**ST GEORGE'S QUIZ** - The latest edition entitled "Gi'e Us A Job!", about occupations, is available at the rear of Church or direct from Bill Walker. Entries (£1) should be returned by 8th February 2026.

#### CASHLESS DONATIONS, ST GEORGE'S CHURCH –

One-off or regular, please use these bank details:-  
Account Name – St Georges Parochial Church Council  
Sort Code – 160039 Account Number – 16383850  
We also accept cashless donations via the Give A Little Platform (bank transfers do not incur fees). See the separate QR Code. If eligible, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form, available at the back of church, allowing us to reclaim tax on your donation. Thank you.



#### Our hymns this morning

Processional. **609** Songs of thankfulness and praise  
Gradual. **684** Thou, whose almighty word  
Offertory. **259** Hail to the Lord's anointed  
Communion Choir: *Tye – O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace*  
**417** Lord of our life, and God of our salvation  
**797** Father welcomes all his children  
Post Communion **137** Crown him with many crowns

**MEMORIAL CHORAL EVENSONG** - everyone is welcome to join with us on Wednesday 14th January, at 7:30pm at **All Saints' Church**, in a service of remembrance for loved ones we have lost but not forgotten. This beautiful service will be led by St. George's Choir and Choirmaster Mr. Gordon Blackledge, in which we have the opportunity to remember and reflect. If you wish for your loved ones name to be written on a star and placed on our memorial Christmas tree, we recommend a donation of £5, for more information please contact Rev Jordan at:

[curate@stgeorgechorley.co.uk](mailto:curate@stgeorgechorley.co.uk)

**FRUITFUL APP** – Blackburn diocese have a handy app you can download which contains numerous events, videos and information about the diocese. Scan the QR code below.



#### VACANCY PRAYER

You are encouraged to please use this prayer daily.

**Heavenly Father,**

**In this time of waiting, we place our trust in You.**

**Keep us unified as a parish and faithful in prayer.**

**Send down your Holy Spirit to guide those responsible for choosing our new incumbent.**

**May the one chosen be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, build us in faith and grow our church family.**

**We ask this in Jesus's name. Amen.**

Please remember in your prayers:

**Marian Crossthwaite, Harold Dunseath, Linda Eubank, Richard Wilk, Jonathan Yates, Margaret Salisbury, Simon Newell, Norman Whittaker, Dorothy Treadwell, Margaret Beaumont, Betty Hurley, Marjorie Baxendale**

also the families of the recently departed:

**Nicole Gorton, Martin Bolderson, Joyce Riley,**

**Betty Purcell, Fionnghuala Shearman**

Also for those whose years' mind falls at this time:

**Fred Williams, Marjorie Barrett, Annie Smith,**

**Alice James, Margaret Mort, Geoff Gibbs,**