

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened,
and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Or

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

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

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.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b. 9b-10. R. 11b

R: The LORD will bless his people with peace.

1. Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness. **R.**
2. The voice of the LORD upon the waters,
the LORD on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the LORD full of power;
the voice of the LORD full of splendour. **R.**

3. The God of glory thunders;
in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!'
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits as king for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING Acts 10:34-38

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL cf. Mark 9:7

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:
'This is my beloved Son; listen to him.'

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

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.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

January 11th, 2026

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

AFTER MASS TODAY WE HAVE OUR BRING AND SHARE LUNCH IN THE HALL. IF YOU HAVE BROUGHT FOOD WITH YOU TO SHARE, PLEASE TAKE IT TO THE HALL BEFORE MASS BEGINS.

St Matthew's recounting of the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist contains two important details, not included in the baptism narratives of the other gospels, which help us to understand the great significance of the event. This first of these is John's reticence to baptise Jesus at all. "I need to be



baptised by you, and do you come to me?" And the second is Jesus's rather strange response, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." John is saying that he is far less important than Jesus, and that his baptism, a baptism for repentance,

cannot be compared with the baptism that Jesus will offer which will be a baptism "with the Holy Spirit and fire" as John himself says in the previous chapter of Matthew's gospel. So, the reticence of John to baptise Jesus is in reality a reticence about offering a baptism of repentance to a man who is 'without sin'. But Jesus's response seems to be saying that this isn't a problem. Even if it *looks* (let it be so now) as if John is cleansing Jesus from sin and thus making him righteous, which of course he already is as the Son of God, the deeper reality is different.

Entrance Hymn

200 Crown him with many crowns

Offertory Hymn

74 Hail to the Lord's anointed

Recessional

466 Forth in the peace of Christ we go

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THIS WEEK (Year A[2]; Psalm week 1)

12th: Monday of 1st week in Ordinary Time. No services in church; Offices said privately.

13th: Tuesday of 1st week in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association 1700.

14th: Wednesday of 1st week in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700.

15th: Thursday of 1st week in Ordinary Time. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700.

16th: Friday of 1st week in Ordinary Time. No services in church.

17th: St Antony, Abbot. No services in church.

NEXT SUNDAY

18th January: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass 1000.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Mr & Mrs DeGale, and Wioletta Dębska. (If you have a name for the list, please give the details to Fr Josiah or Fr Stephen.)

RECENTLY DEPARTED

Gloria

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

11th: Tony Bernard

13th: Bill Keyte

14th: Violet Hall

15th: Harriet Attwood, George Lipscomb

17th: Olive Hudson, Alan Ernest Hurst

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work at the end of mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During December 2025, our income was £1,216.77, and our outgoings were £2,169.03. This was a much more difficult month for the church's bank balance, but there are some extenuating circumstances.

Bank opening times over Christmas and New Year were more restricted and not all the collection cash could be banked before the end of the month. We also have some large bills at this

time of year. And the current cold weather will inevitably result in higher bills for heating. So, do please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church or make a one-off donation. Flash the QR code to get started!



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PLEASE JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR OUR BRING AND SHARE LUNCH, WHETHER YOU'VE BROUGHT ANYTHING WITH YOU OR NOT!